

BI-STATE NEWS

Newsletter for the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers

October 2018

Volume 5, Issue 10

President's Message

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Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Snow Removal Info	2
TLD Job Fair	3
Port Packing Day	4
Dates to Remember	4
Meeting Info	4

The keynote who later me

With Executive Director Dick Jones and Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo at the DOL offices in Trenton

As we enter the last quarter of 2018, I'm proud to report that Membership in the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers has reached an all-time high: we currently serve the largest number of member companies since our organization's founding in 2002, representing a majority share of the cargo volume that moves through the Port of NY & NJ.

Our organization consists of both General Members (trucking companies) and Allied Members (from a diverse cross-section of industries working within the transportation field), and we appreciate your strong and steadfast support.

Although our member meetings are held only once a month, the Executive Board and I devote many additional volunteer hours advocating for our membership, providing a strong, unified voice for intermodal carriers,

Him Warm Heart was an arrangement of the second of the sec

With DOL Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo and Bi-State Executive Board member Greg Scott of BBT Logistics.

and working to resolve issues that affect the entire port community. I thank the Executive Board members (*see box at left*) for their commitment and dedication.

As part of our continued efforts to support Workforce Development and foster community involvement in the TLD industry, The Bi-State attended a TLD Job Fair in Newark this month. We've stepped up our efforts to connect our member companies with qualified job seekers in the area, and have begun distributing a list of employment opportunities on a regular basis to interested applicants. *For more information on this initiative, see page 3*.

On October 10th, I attended the TLD Breakfast hosted by the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, an organization that does great work in our local community. The keynote speaker was Department of Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo, who later met with Bi-State representatives on October 23rd to discuss our concerns

about changes that were made recently to the procedures for determining the status of an independent contractor in New Jersey. Overall, we had a productive dialogue with the Commissioner and his staff on this issue, and will provide additional details at our November General meeting.

Next up: the Bi-State will participate in a field interview with FMC Commissioner Rebecca Dye in early November, providing information relating to the ongoing investigation into marine terminal demurrage and ocean carrier detention practices.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Member meeting, scheduled for November 13th at 10am.

—Jeff Bader, President Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers Page 2 BI-STATE NEWS Volume 5, Issue 10

Allied Member Spotlight: Scraper Systems Snow Removal

Allied Member <u>Scraper Systems</u> gave an informative presentation at the October Bi-State General Meeting, offering details on their line of snow removal equipment, as we all begin to prepare for the winter months ahead.

Designed to work with both truck trailers and box trucks, FleetPlow systems clear away snow in under 60 seconds. The plows can accommodate any truck trailer height up to 14', with portable, base-mount, and wide-span models available. Two levels of automation are also available, reducing the number of personnel needed to operate the plows, while assuring safety.

State law (N.J.S.A. 39:4-77.1) mandates that drivers of motor vehicles, including commercial vehicles hauling intermodal freight containers, must make all reasonable efforts to remove accumulated ice and snow from all exposed surfaces of the vehicle. FleetPlow snow removal systems help carriers comply with the law, and maintain safety on our roadways after an accumulating snow event.

For more information, visit <u>ScraperSystems.com</u> or call 888-340-4344.



State Grant Funding Available for Snow Removal Equipment

The Division of New Jersey Highway Traffic Safety has grant money available to help defray the installation cost of snow removal equipment, via the **Motor Vehicle Snow and Ice Removal Safety Fund**. Monies in the account are used to develop a grant program that private companies can use to purchase, install, and maintain equipment and technology to remove snow and ice from commercial motor vehicles.

Grants ranging from \$18,000 to \$31,000 have been awarded in the past, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year. For more information and to download an applications, visit https://www.nj.gov/oag/hts/downloads/DHTS_Snow_Ice_Grant_App_Form.pdf





Photos on page 2 courtesy of Scraper Systems

Payne School of Technology Hosts TLD Job Fair in Newark

A Transportation, Logistics & Distribution Job Fair was held on October 4 at Donald M. Payne Sr. School of Technology in Newark, hosted by the Council on Port Performance Workforce Development team. The event was attended by hundreds of job seekers from the local community, seeking work in the TLD industry.

The Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers and several of its member companies attended the fair to provide more information about opportunities that are available in the transportation field at the Port of NY & NJ, which generates close to \$8.5 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues, with local and state tax revenues of more than \$2.8 billion and federal tax revenues of more than \$5.7 billion, according to statistics compiled by the New York Shipping Association. The port industry in New Jersey alone accounts for nearly 400,000 jobs, a number that has grown rapidly over the past two years.



Bi-State Distributes Employment Postings to Local Job Seekers

As part of our ongoing efforts to encourage workforce development in the field of intermodal transportation, the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers has created an online signup page for those who wish to apply for openings at one of our over 170 member firms. Job postings from our members are compiled and distributed to this list of applicants on a regular basis, and include listings for CDL drivers, Dispatchers, Office Support Staff, Warehousing, Logistics, IT, Human Resources, Accounts Payable, and more. We also include links to a number of online job portals. Those interested in receiving these job postings can join our email distribution list by filling out the convenient online sign-up form at www.bistatemotorcarriers.com/jobs.

Bi-State Member companies who have positions available: please send job posting information to Bi-State Communications Director Lisa Yakomin at <u>LisaY@thebistate.com</u> for inclusion in our Job Postings Digest. (Please be sure to include any specific job requirements and contact information for the Hiring Manager).

Port Packing Day Scheduled for November 2nd; Volunteers Welcome



The <u>Seamen's Church Institute</u> will host its annual Port Packing Day event on November 2nd, when volunteers from the port community help create gift bags for seafarers who call upon the Port of NY & NJ during the busy holiday season.

Gift items include hand-knit hats, gloves, and scarves donated through the <u>Christmas At Sea</u> program, as well as travel-sized toiletries, candy, and other treats.

Last year, representatives from all facets of the port industry took part in the event, including USMX, Port Newark Container Terminal, New York Shipping Association, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, APM Terminals-Elizabeth. Maher Terminals, East Coast Warehouse & CES. the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, and the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers.



SCI Director Stephen Lyman and Bi-State Executive Director Dick Jones at last year's packing event

Individuals who would like to pitch in are encouraged to stop by 118 Export Street anytime between 9am and 4pm on Nov. 2nd. To reserve a time slot

for volunteer groups of 5 or more, please email portprograms@seamenschurch.org. Goody bag items are still needed; CLICK HERE to visit SCI's Amazon Wish List for details.





Join us for our next
General Member Meeting
Tuesday November 13 @ 1000 hours
NYSA Training Ctr. Auditorium
1210 Corbin Street, Elizabeth, NJ

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 31 Halloween

Nov. 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends

Nov. 6 Election Day

Nov. 12 Veteran's Day (Observed)

Nov. 13 General Member Meeting

Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Day