

# K & J CONVOY

A Newsletter for the Drivers of K & J Trucking, Inc.



Who wore it better? For Halloween this year, Jenny got Dave Underland's blessing (in fact she even got his advice!) to dress up as him for our competition. The results were stunning. Dave has been with us for 24 years and we adore his unique style!

## NOV. ANNIVERSARIES

STEVE SNOW - 2 (39 YRS)  
ROBBY HARKNESS - 15 (3 YRS)  
SCOTT PACKARD - 15 (3 YRS)  
STEVE HOLMGREN - 19 (1 YR)  
JASON VANLOH - 20 (2 YRS)  
JUSTIN HALVERSON - 20 (4 YRS)  
VIRGIL HANSEN - 21 (3 YRS)  
JEANNE DOOLEY - 21 (3 YRS)  
ANDY BOESE - 24 (16 YRS)  
JAYCE FELDMANN - 25 (2 YRS)  
ANDY JACOBS - 27 (9 YRS)

## NOV. BIRTHDAYS

RANDALL KUYPER - 1  
NEAL HINKER - 2  
BRUCE OLSON - 5  
DOC LOVE - 6  
MARSHALL JACKSON - 8  
ROBERT SPITZNAGEL - 13  
RICHARD CLIFFORD - 14  
JUSTIN HALVERSON - 15  
ZACH MINDER - 18  
CRAIG ELLINGSON - 19  
VIRGIL HANSEN - 23  
STEVE HOLMGREN - 25  
SCOTT PACKARD - 25  
JEFF ESCHEN - 26

## A Word From Accounting

There are a couple of things we need from you as we approach year end. First, if you have moved, please make sure we have your updated address in our system so that your W-2 or 1099 reach you.

For those who utilize company benefits, it is that time of year to be thinking about any changes that you would like to make to your insurance(s).

We will need everyone to fill out a new Benefit Selection Form for 2022 even if you are making no changes from previous year. In the next couple of weeks, you will find your form in your driver mailbox, in the front office, or we can email it to you.

Thank you,

*Pamela Lenz*

## ELD & Comm. System Change

February of 2022 will be the last time 20 of the PeopleNet units currently in trucks will communicate because of G3 being shut down. There are 38 units that will need software updates and 51 units won't be affected. We have 42 cameras that will quit functioning in Feb 2022 and another 51 that will not be affected.

We have been listening to you about your frustrations with the units. We have been also listening to other companies that have switched and what troubles they encountered. We think we have found another solution in GeoTab.

They specialize in nothing but tracking/ELD's. They piggyback with other systems for the in-cab communications. That system will be TransFlo. The same TransFlo that you use now for your scanning of paperwork and such. (continued on next page)

## TIS' THE SEASON FOR TAX PREPARATION...

Owner operators! This is a good time of year to project your annual income and start tax planning with your tax preparer.

## A Note From Dispatch

Greetings all from dispatch. Well, there went October... onto November we go. News from dispatch:

Please meet and greet our new dispatcher, Mike "Sully" Sullivan. He has plenty of experience, he fits our company culture and values, and will soon learn the K & J way. He will be working alongside Lee on the outbound, and eventually working into that outbound role. It will be a great asset for all of us to have two good people capable of the outbound role.

There is no set timeline, but once Sully's training is complete, Lee will move into the cheese dispatch and the other local dispatch. There will be a few other area changes as we progress towards a bigger, faster, stronger K & J dispatch team for you.



Also new is a home request form on the driver website, just below the truck maintenance request. This new home request is not mandatory! You may certainly still call in. But if you're sitting around in the evening and a home time comes up that you don't want to forget, fill it out, hit the submit button, and it will hit dispatches email in the morning. Its there for your convenience at anytime, and I hope you find it is useful.

Finally, just a reminder to the reefer drivers. For your health and safety, please do not help unload freight unless all options are exhausted. We want you healthy and capable to drive the truck on to the next load, and many loads there after. Please call dispatch and we'll work with our customer or broker for options to get that load off the trailer.

Happy Thanksgiving to all (its coming soon).

Thank you,

*Mike & Dispatch*

## ELD & Comm. System Change (cont)

(continued from previous page) The new system will be operational not only on your in-cab devices but also on your phones with the proper App! You will be able to get all your messages and load information through the app and can even log out of the truck on the app. No more return trips to the yard.

Another added feature will be that the in-cab display has an unlimited data plan attached to it. This will give you the ability to watch Netflix, etc. (if you subscribe) on your device when the truck is NOT IN MOTION. When the truck is moving the unit does lock down.

I know that some of you have just purchased new Kenworths and they have the current updated PeopleNet brain box in them from the factory. You are welcome to keep using them as well as the rest of you. We will run two systems until such time that there has been a complete migration to the new one. As the units die and go by the wayside the new system will be installed. There may be an uptick in the cost of PeopleNet monthly charges as the number of units on the account decreases. That is yet to be determined.

A new PeopleNet brain box if the truck did not have one from the factory is about \$767. A new system from GeoTab is about \$564. There is a savings there for the 20 that are going to be dead.

There's a downside. It's going to be about \$15/unit more.

I have been assured that the new system has way LESS disconnects and undocking issues. There is 24/7 support for the system as well. If all these things sound like something that will help with driver retention or your satisfaction on the road, I suggest the move be made sooner rather than later. Ultimately the choice is up to you, except for the 20 that are going to be left holding a skeet target come Feb of 2022.

There are going to be hiccups. Please present patience, no mass conversion ever goes with out an issue.

The cameras will be coming from another source. We have not signed on the dotted line yet but are looking at a company called Netradyne. More to come as we get closer there.

Regards,

*Jennifer*