# K & J CONVOY

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



Congratulations to Craig Ellingson and Josh Worthington for representing K&J well in the SD Truck Driving Championship. Craig is the winner of the 5 Axle sleeper class and headed to nationals. Josh got second in five axle van and got the Chuck Fjellen award for best score on the written test!

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

JOE GERRY - 6 (17 YRS)

DOC LOVE - 26 (2 YRS)

#### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

DYLE PARISIEN - 2
COREY EVANS - 4
JOHN HALL - 10
MATT JOHNSON - 12
MIKE ANDACHTER - 12
ANDY BOESE - 13
DARRELL DAMM - 13
JAMES KLIMPLE - 13
BARRY JENSEN - 14
ANDY JACOBS - 15
ZACH SHELTON - 25
TOM SOULEK -27
DARIN HACKETT - 28

#### **Road Construction Season**

As you know, with summer comes the many not only road construction slowdowns, but official detours.

We've had some late deliveries due to detours, so please please scope out your google maps to look at potential closures on your routes.

Detours and construction congestion are tough, so plan for that and attempt to avoid peak times.



## **Go Through June for Parts**

If you need a part from If you need a part from the parts room be sure you are going through June. Do not tell a mechanic or anyone else and assume that info will get passed on. We want to get parts to you, we just need to be sure we keep track of where they are going so we can stay on top of billing and inventory.

## Transflo Issues Update

We believe that the disassociation issue with Transflo has been fixed but there are still many other issues giving us grief.

It is vital that we know what the issues are that are causing you problems so that we can try to get it fixed in the interim while we continue to look for a new potential replacement system.

Please call Jennifer or Carrie with issues. We want to be sure we are making their company aware if things continue to go wrong.

# **A Note From Dispatch**

Summer is here, with that in mind, please get your home times in early so that we can make sure to accommodate everyone. Keep in mind, your return-to-work dates are actually just as important to us as your requested home date. The sooner we know you want to get back to work, the more time we have to obtain the loads you want.

Sometimes if we are working around home time requests, you may not go where you want to go, but please keep in mind we are trying our hardest to get you home with money in your pocket.

As you are experiencing, freight is still not what it was six months ago, but we are doing okay. We have been holding strong. There may be longer wait times to get those better paying loads or waiting for a customer load, but rest assured we've got your back.

We truly appreciate all your flexibility as we navigate these fluctuating times. Please keep doing what you're doing and do it well like you always do. We are committed to doing everything in our power to make sure everyone makes as much money as you can. We are on your side as much as you are on ours.

We have the best drivers and you provide top-notch service, which is what is keeping us competitive in the market getting you great loads. So keep up the great work!

With love from Dispatch (not including Mike who was on vacation).

Thanks for what you do.

Wife & Wispatch

# **Reminders From Safety**

We know you have to keep a lot of things top of mind when you're out on the road, but I have a few reminders of things that have been concerns lately.

#### **Trailer Damage**

There has been a lot of forgotten notifications of damages. Trying to remember something from weeks ago is hard when we can't even remember what we ate for lunch! But when you forget to let us know that you found some damage at a facility, or don't inspect for damage on-site, or don't notify Mack, Josh or myself, there is no other option but to charge that out. As an O/O that means it is charged to you. To fleet drivers that is charged to your employer, whether or not they share that loss with you is between you and them. For company drivers you'll lose your bonus. Granted it might just be a damaged trailer step, a door on a reefer unit a radius panel on the corner of a trailer, but \$700-\$800 here and there gets to be expensive when there are 220 some trailers out there.

Start with a complete thorough inspection when picking up a trailer or starting the trip out. Get a really good bright flashlight for the night hook-ups. If you need to put a sticky note on the inside of your truck as you exit to do a drop and hook, then do so.

#### **Backing Accidents**

G.O.A.L. means Get Out And Look. Do this before backing into someone or something. Here is a list of what has been backed into so far in this last Insurance year: a building, 3 other trucks, a fire hydrant, a brand new Mercedes, an old Toyota, and a dumpster. These completely preventable backing situations cost K&J over \$42,000 in total out of pocket and we are not quite 6 months into the insurance year. That is not a total from the insurance company, that is K&J money that can't be spent to make things better here for all (shower facility, etc).

It takes 30 days for a new procedure to become a worthwhile habit. Start a new habit today that will be financially beneficial to you and our whole team.

Safe travels & ducks in a row.

