

K & J CONVOY

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



If you've seen this guy around, there is a good reason! This is Bret Atkins and he has started a new CDL training business. To support educating more CDL drivers we are leasing him an office and space to train. If you know someone who wants to get their CDL, have them contact Bret at 605-789-7116. If they are interested in working for K&J, be sure to also have them contact Carrie!

OCT. ANNIVERSARIES

MATT JOHNSON - 1 (3 YRS)
MARSHALL JACKSON - 10 (4 YRS)
FRANCISCO PARRA - 14 (13 YRS)
COREY EVANS - 16 (3 YRS)
KELVIN WYNN - 20 (2 YR)
TOMMY TAYLOR - 20 (6 YRS)
MIKE HIGHLAND - 21 (3 YRS)
BILLY KILIAN - 26 (16 YRS)
JOHN GACKE - 27 (16 YRS)

OCT. BIRTHDAYS

JEFF WITTRICK - 11
MARK EAST - 12
BRAD HARALDSON - 17
JOE GERRY - 18
LARRY DEWALD - 20
ERIC CRUZ - 24
CHAD SHELTON - 27
JUSTIN OESTREICH - 28
RICK MEYER - 30

Winter and Warranties...

As it gets colder, make sure your batteries are tested and that they are in good condition. Make sure the water is removed from the bottom of your fuel tanks.

If you need new drive tires they are running \$500.00 to \$550.00 each. Let us know what you would like and we will make sure we get them on. Winter is the time of year where you should carry extra fuel filters with you, snow chains or tire socks, extra wiper blades, jumper cables, anti-gel fuel additive (especially if you aren't regularly getting fuel in our yard), extra blankets, food and water, and other necessary winter survival supplies,

Reminder! Extended warranties for Cummins engines increase by \$800 Jan 1, 2023. You need to let Mack know if you want to purchase an extended warranty by mid-December 2022 so you can save your hard earned money!

Ruiz Load Lock Policy Update

Ruiz is taking load locks very, very seriously! They are now charging \$100 per load lock if they have to add them to a load. I'd like to suggest taking a photo of the trailer when dropped at each drop facility: Dinuba, Denison, Denton, and Florence. Be sure to get the trailer # in the photo somehow, as well some background indicating its at that facility.

If we are charged, we will track the trailer back to the individual who dropped it, and ask for that photo. If I can't provide any proof to dispute the charges, they will then be applied to that truck/driver. Remember to leave two load locks at those locations.

Also remember, you can always replenish your load locks back here at the yard. I know it may take extra time, but it is beneficial time wise to also have the convenience of the drop and hook, so please take your time and the necessary steps to save \$200

OCTOBER 2022

A Note From Dispatch

Happy October everyone. What a beautiful time of year. Fall colors, Yellow, red, brown, and white. Agghh, the white stuff is coming! As in past years, if you're heading out west and the white stuff is imminent, contact dispatch to discuss out of route options. Our shippers with often help with pay on the out of route miles, **but we must contact them before** we veer off the straight line, so please contact dispatch.

Overall, the freight market feels decent/ ok / fair. Rates aren't fantastic, but we're moving the trucks. Freight is shifting of course from the summer freight to fall freight, including seed coming on for inbound, and the pork and ham season will start flowing with the holidays right around the corner for outbound. 4th Quarter is here. This is historically the best quarter of the year. If you can, go to work, and make the best of miles and freight you can get during the quarter.

In other news, Baker Boy has again been difficult, to say the least. We will do everything we can to get you a loaded trailer, and will charge detention when applicable. We hope they can settle in soon to a stable shipping schedule. Until then, please work with Nathan through the difficulties.

Lee has asked that I remind you, if you have an in town load you would like us to deliver please let us know by noon the day before so we can plan the schedule for our in town guys. Please do not assume we know you want this done!

I must once again stress the importance of putting in your arrival calls to shippers and receivers on Transflo. As I've said many times, our system talks to appx 80% of our shippers systems. Our on time delivery is marked in, and the detention process gets started when applicable with the arrival calls. Help us, help you, and swipe your arrivals,

Happy Trucking,

Mike & Dispatch

A Note From Safety

There is too much multi-tasking going on out there in the trucks. I am getting a lot of videos of following too close with speeding and running red lights with speeding.

When the light is yellow, next comes red. In a lot of the videos, it is yellow a half a block before you even got to the line marking the intersection while exceeding the speed limit.

Then there are some folks that get half a second behind someone while exceeding the speed limit by 5 or 6 or 9 mph with three vehicles in front of the one you are tailgating. What are you going to do, come up behind them and do a pit maneuver one at a time to get them out of the way?

These are not all 'newbies' doing this either. There are some seasoned drivers with years of experience. Unfortunately, you feel that you have seen it all, done it all and there is nothing that can come at you and surprise you anymore.

I do not want to have to call you and talk with you about your driving habits any more than you want to listen. But that is the next step in the process. After that, will come remedial training and I really know none of you want to sit through that.

Quit the Tailgating...Don't become a Space Invader.



Quit running red lights... You're not on the set of the next "Speed"



Safe travels and ducks in a row,

Jennifer