

Queen of the Road on the High Seas



**1ST ANNUAL
LADY TRUCK
DRIVER CRUISE
2017**

Presented by

REAL
Women
IN Trucking

Welcome to the 1st Annual Lady Truck Driver Cruise and "Queen of the Road" Awards

Presented by the

REAL Women in Trucking, Inc.
a 501 (c)(6) Driver Membership Organization



Queen of the Road on the High Seas March 26, 2017 to April 1, 2017

THE MISSION:

To unite and honor women truck drivers ~
"Breaking the Silence"

Through engagement and compassion we grow stronger and flourish.

Women truck drivers have been around for the nearly 100 years that freight trucks themselves were developed around the time of World War I when Luella Bates worked as a test vehicle demonstrator for the Four Wheel Drive (FWD) factory in Clintonville, Wisconsin. It has only been in the past decade that women truck drivers have begun to be acknowledged by the trucking industry, though too often for exterior qualities and marketing purposes rather than their skill, fortitude, resilience, and courage.

"Courage is grace under pressure" ~ Ernest Hemingway

When women succeed, we all succeed. Did you know that women are more likely to "give back" and "pay it forward" into their communities? The REAL Women in Trucking organization urges the women of the trucking industry to adopt conduct that depicts an authentic portrait of truck driving while exercising compassion"

"As an advocacy organization we have developed a platform for truck drivers to share knowledge and voice concerns on sensitive topics. We encourage your involvement to help us improve the quality of the trucking industry standards for drivers. You can learn more about supporting our mission through membership, sponsorship or a one-time donation on our website.

www.realwomenintrucking.org

ORGANIZATION MISSION:

To Deliver Highway Safety Through Leadership, Mentorship, Education, and Advocacy

WELCOME MIXER

SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2017



**Allen and Donna Smith
from "Ask the Trucker"
Website and Blog Talk
Radio Program
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
in Henri's Night Club**

Join Us for an Open Bar and Hors d'oeuvres before dinner with **Allen Smith**. Allen Smith, the original CDL student advocate, is known for his extreme passion and conviction to warn new truck driver students about the scams involved in trucking CDL Schools and starter companies. His 2000 book, "The Truth About Trucking" revealed the questionable tactics of the student truck driver industry that still exist today; the unlivable low wages, the commercial drivers license mills (CDL Mills), false advertising in truck driver recruiting, the one-sided truck lease scams, and more.



ALLEN SMITH
"RAISING THE STANDARDS OF THE
TRUCKING INDUSTRY."



FIND AND FILL EMPTY TRUCKS

HaulHound is here to help shippers, brokers and owner-operators, wherever they find themselves on the road.

AGGREGATION – Search from carriers, owner-operators, load boards, and various other technologies in one place at one time.

SPEED – Algorithms instantly find, consolidate, and sort truck information from hundreds of sources simultaneously.

PRECISION – Conduct advanced searches based on specific criteria to instantaneously filter down to desired results on a user-friendly, intuitive interface.

PLAN – No need to wait until the last minute to search for the best on-demand backhaul rates. Prepare your shipping arrangements in advance by searching capacity that is available in the future.

DIRECT – Book directly with the carrier or trucker of choice.

COMPREHENSIVE – Accommodates local and long haul shipments of all equipment (truck) types.

FREE – Money never passes through HaulHound. What the carrier or trucker invoices is what you pay directly to them without any fee from HaulHound.



Streamlined Access To Empty Truck Logistics

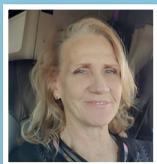


*“HaulHound is a Major Sponsor of the
1st Annual Lady Truck Driver Cruise and Queen of the Road Awards”*



WORKSHOPS

Monday 3/27/2017



8:00 AM

Health Walk with Lori Baker on Deck at the walking track



10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Welcome from REAL Women in Trucking President Desiree Wood A brief overview of the formation of the organization , the mission, information on harassment & discrimination that is occurring in the some of the training fleets, current court cases, other advocacy projects, future initiatives and member support. (Minimum \$5 Wifi package required)



11:00 AM - 11:45 AM

"Staying Safe Behind the Wheel - Using Women's Intuition, Awareness, Common Sense" presented by **Christine Gray**, a HazMat tanker driver certified in OSHA, HAZMAT recovery and spill cleanup. with 22 years of truck driving experience, a million and half safe miles.

BREAK FOR LUNCH



1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Women's Basic Self-Defense Introduction presented by **Allen Smith**, Allen is a 3rd degree black belt in Tae KwonDo (UTA) and 2nd Dan registered with the Kukkiwon: World Taekwondo Headquarters in Seoul, South Korea. (*Please Dress in Active Wear*)

BREAK

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Driver Advocates Round table to encourage drivers to become more educated and involved in our industry presented by Pat Hockaday and Desiree Wood

Dinner seating is at 6:00 PM - Dressy Casual to Elegant Attire Suggested

SPEAKER SPOTLIGHT



Jan Shelly

Jan Shelly Senior Trial Attorney from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Retired) will deliver a workshop to help interested individuals understand their rights as employees

and to help Human Resource professionals understand whether their company policies are complaint with the law.

Jan was part of the winning Plaintiff's legal team in the \$3.1 Million dollar settlement against New Prime, Inc for their discriminatory training policy and took depositions from alleged victims in the CRST Van Expedited sex harassment case.



Anne Balay

Anne is a former truck driver , Professor and published author. She is the author of the book Steel Closets: Voices of Gay, Lesbian, and Transgender Steelworkers and wrote the 2016 op-ed piece in the New York Times titled "Long-Haul Sweatshops" with Mona Shattell. Anne will be delivering an informal lecture about lesbians and T-girls who drive 18-wheeler's based on a series of 2016 interviews she conducted that will be published in her upcoming book on the topic. Her hope from this presentation of sharing stories is to create community, and convince other women to contribute their experiences as heroes of the road.

Ship has \$5 per day minimum Wifi package

Friends of Bill W / Jimmy K (A.A. and N.A. Support Meetings)
"Tenitively scheduled to be held in the Painter's Lounge, check the daily cruise events schedule for time and location changes"

"Ask Cruise Director Wendy about any LGBTQ events"

WORKSHOPS

Thursday 3/30/2017



8:00 AM

Health Walk with Lori Baker on Deck at the walking track



10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Hands ON! Social Media with Desiree Wood Please come ready with notes of what you want to learn and bring the device that you want help with. If you are setting up twitter please have your account set up already so I can show you how to improve your technique.



11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

Transitioning from Company Driver to Owner-Operator with Shannon Morris sponsored by Great Plains Transportation Services.

BREAK FOR LUNCH



1:00 PM - 1:45 PM

"Bold and Brave" Lesbians & TGirs who drive Big Rigs by Author and Professor Anne Gladys Balay



2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Know Your Rights and Compliance by Jan Shelly EEOC Senior Trial Attorney (Ret.) from New Prime Discrimination Plaintiff Team.

3:15 PM - 5:00 PM

Lady Truck Driver Round table Join us to talk about your truck driving job type to help others who are thinking about switching to a different level in the field. If you are interested in being on the panel please let me, Desiree, know. All are welcome to discuss their job sector, the pros and cons to consider.

Dinner seating is at 6:00 PM - Dressy Casual to Elegant Attire Suggested

QUEEN OF THE ROAD AWARD FINALISTS



Adriesue "Bitzy" Gomez

During the late 1970's Adriesue "Bitzy" Gomez found truck driving as a means to support her three daughters as a single mother.

A common practice she encountered was to be told that she would have to have sex with the instructor to pass her road tests. Rather than walk away from truck driving discouraged, she fought back by exposing the "Sleeper Test".

A founding member of the "Coalition of Women Truckers" that was formed under the NOW organization, Bitzy was interviewed by TIME Magazine, Women's World Magazine and numerous newspaper articles. She was known internationally, according to her daughter, Rita Delores.

The Coalition also pushed for women's restroom facilities at truck stops and walked picket lines to support other driver causes.

One night, Bitzy's babysitter's home was raided; her daughters were placed into foster care. Bitzy was on an over the road trucking job but returned immediately to begin a long battle with the State of California to get them back.

The State had deemed her job as unfit for a woman. According to Bitzy's daughter Rita Delores, it was not until her mother could afford representation from a young lawyer named Gloria Allred that they were able to live with their mother again.

During their time in foster care the girls were harmed emotionally and sexually which created lasting effects. Bitzy later was able to become a truck driver with the teamsters and work locally.

The Coalition of Women Truck Drivers ceased to exist after deregulation though at one time it had international membership and several state chapters. Bitzy is quoted as saying, "...a good truck is what a man should be, big and strong, and takes you where you want to go..." .

She died in April 2015 in Santa Ana, California while attempting to cross a busy street as a pedestrian where no crosswalk is marked. Her daughters are currently fighting the city to have a crosswalk put at the location. Bitzy was 72 years old. Bitzy was nominated by Idella Hansen.



Dee Sova

Her early years in trucking were difficult. As a women entering trucking over 20 years ago and being black, the challenges to keep her composure were great. However, losing her child to a drunk driver was by far the worst.

She was notified her Daughter had been hit when she was working for FedEx. Driven to make certain her Daughter was not forgotten, she did not allow her loss to debilitate her. Her deep faith in God and strong determination transformed the tragedy into a fuel source to become a volunteer speaker for the nationally known non-profit organization called, M.A.D.D. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). She rose to become the best speaker they ever had with conscious effort. Later, she joined the board of directors, holding the seats of both Secretary and President of the founding chapter from 2005 - 2007.

Today Dee drives over the road and uses her wisdom from her trucking experiences and her personal tragedy to provide a platform for women truckers to share their stories on her popular "Trucking Divas Rock – The BlogAZine" social media networks.

She is devoted to helping women understand they are not alone when it comes to life's challenges but it is possible to turn the pain into a passion and triumph.

Dee Sova was nominated by Donna Smith.



Daisy Delaney

Daisy exemplifies "shattered but not broken" determination. She experienced traumatic childhood events that separated her from her parents and as a Mother she endured the heartbreak of a nasty child custody case.

She may have given up but instead she has focused on becoming an exceptional driver and an emerging leader in our industry. Daisy sets goals for herself, and in a short time she has been able to move from being a new driver in a training fleet to a true open deck trailer owner operator.

She gives back to others in a number of different ways such as feeding the homeless, talking with other drivers who are experiencing loneliness on the road, and at one time had helped to create a shower credit exchange for drivers.

She shares her life on the road experiences on Facebook to help others who are looking for advice. Daisy can also be seen on the newly launched Transportation Nation Network as a panelist on the "The Drivers Lounge". Daisy was nominated by Dawn Ling, a driver with three decades in the business. Daisy she says is a "... extraordinary woman who has incredible energy and the fine qualities of a person who will give back to others unselfishly..." Daisy has also shown that she is sharp, perceptive and has a quickly developed a desire to help become a voice to improve the conditions for truck drivers in the industry.

QUEEN OF THE ROAD AWARDS



Purpose

To create a dignified recognition award for women who work as truck drivers that have overcome personal challenges and demonstrate a "Pay it Forward" approach to help others with gratitude.

Must be either a past or present Commercial Driver's License holder. Must have hands on experience to operate a tractor-trailer without assistance and ability to deliver freight. Must fit the R.E.A.L. criteria.

- R. Reaching Out
- E. Encouraging Others
- A. Achieving Personal Success
- L. Leadership

TRUCKING INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZER AWARD



Presidents Choice Award to recognize outstanding individuals that have served the trucking industry with distinction, dedication and professionalism.

Please Join Us for the

QUEEN OF THE ROAD AWARD CEREMONY

sponsored by HaulHound.com

Friday 3/31/2017

4:00 Pm to 5:30 PM in the Degas Lounge



There will also be a Raffle Drawings/Giveaways, and conclusion of our event with a Farewell song "Aloha Oe" sung by Cheryl Bean from Hawaii.





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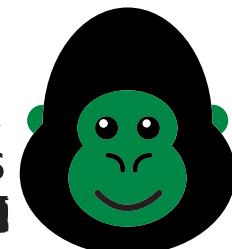
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FINALISTS

Allison Morris



Losing her mother, as a teen, set her on a troubled journey that lasted over a decade. For most people, there could be no return from the path that Alison took.

Thanks to a kind mentor that patiently provided her an introduction to truck driving, she was able to reinvent her life and was taught a marketable job skill she loves.

Today, Alison is an owner-operator who recently received her own authority. She hauls open deck trailers and is running her own business.

Each day she continues to grow as a human being, becoming a strong encouraging woman. "Alison has a huge heart who would give you the shirt off her back if you needed it" says Shannon Morris (no relation) who nominated Alison. Shannon is also an owner-operator that pulls an open deck trailer.

Candace Marley



In May of 2009 her trucker husband, Mike, was diagnosed with Stage 3 Malignant Melanoma.

Candace worked as a 3rd shift stocker at Walmart for \$8.00 an hour and was taking online classes for an A.A. Degree in Business Administration when he was diagnosed.

In order to support her family of four she decided to become an over the road truck driver, a choice that meant she would have to be away from her husband and kids to complete the training.

She completed her truck driver training at the same time she was completing her online courses.

She was only able to visit her Husband twice during the time he was undergoing therapy. Unfortunately, the treatments he received did not work. Candace turned in her truck on October 20, 2009 to bring her husband home from Washington where he was staying with his family while he received treatments. He passed away just two days later before she could get him home to Ohio. Over the next two years she wallowed in grief, unable to work or live any kind of significant life.

She began to realize though that she really missed being on the road. With the help of her mother's friend she was able to get back into driving by doing flatbed work. Eventually she moved onto Don Hummer Trucking where she is currently employed. In a short time she became one of only a couple of female trainers.

Candace has trained at least 14 women to become "Over-The-Road" (OTR) drivers. She says "Not once in all my life would I have EVER thought that I would become a truck driver and LOVE it" She says of her truck driving job: "It's the first one that has ever given me the feeling of job satisfaction, I look forward to being a driver as long as I am physically capable of doing so". Candace Marley was nominated by her friend Cassie Fletcher.

Janet Stevenson



Janet began driving around 1996. At her CDL school she was often called out by instructors to intimidate and humiliate her in front of her other classmates. She did not allow this ridicule to deter her. Time and again she showed she has what it takes.

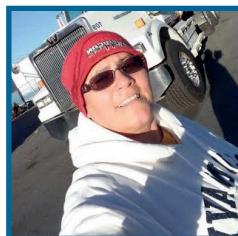
She graduated from her CDL training driving school and went straight to hauling tankers. For 2 years, she pulled a refrigerated trailer from Florida to California with produce.

Today, she drives a tanker locally and says it is the best job she has had.

-Janet is knowledgeable in all aspects of trucking and has served as a trainer to others including her Brother, Cousin and her best friend. She has a reputation for always going above and beyond what she must do and going out of her way to help rookies, not just women.

She has been known to stop to help drivers chain up in snow storms and has aided in accidents to offer whatever assistance she can. Her niece Kasi nominated Janet and calls her "...phenomenal person on and off the road. Whenever she sees a person in need she offers help and her prayers".

Naza Silvia



Naza overcame challenges from the moment she entered truck driving school. She said even her name created apprehension from some of the people she encountered in the trucking industry. Naza, who is from Brazil endured ridicule from fellow CDL students and an instructor that did attempted to discourage her from success.

Her male trainer told her that she should not become a truck driver because "trucking was not for women...that she should stay at home". In order to reinforce his control of her on the truck he refused to stop and allow her to have bathroom breaks.

Naza became a qualified driver nonetheless and started her Florida based business five years ago. She did not utilize any business or bank loans. She is a one truck, one trailer operation based out of South Florida. Sheer sweat of her brow is how she has succeeded. Naza always gives back by making herself available to mentor new people in the industry, giving advice, encouraging company drivers to become owner operators and is always helping others says her Niece Elizabeth who nominated her.





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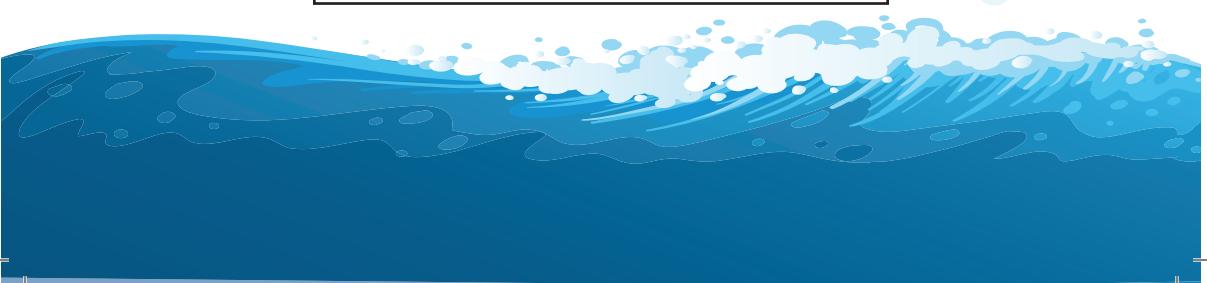


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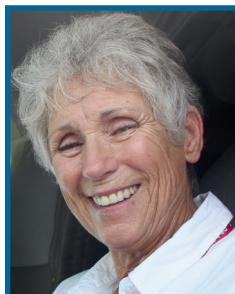
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TRUCKING INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZER AWARD WINNERS

Idella Hansen



"She gives from her heart at every move she makes, she does not tear people down; she lifts them up to be the best drivers they can be".

Idella has held the hand of many others through tough issues and helped them to overcome. Anyone who knows her is a witness that she gives back daily to others.

She has her hand on most situations yet when she has trouble she admits it and looks for solutions. If she doesn't know the answer to a problem, she will find out. She volunteers for many truck driver organizations and shares her expertise with new drivers and old timers.

She is strong, sweet and confident in her abilities without being arrogant and obnoxious; she will help anyone who asks. Idella Hansen was nominated by four different people for the "Queen of the Road" Awards, Lori Baker, Sandi Talbott, Geneva Handleman and Michelle Kitchen.



Sandi Talbott



Sandi jumped many hurdles in her career as a truck driver. She started as a team driver with her husband Jim hauling explosives and radioactive material. When he became ill, she cared for him on the truck and became his caretaker when he had become an amputee.

Sandi cared for Jim while adjusting to becoming solo driver in the outlaw days where at times she had to run both of their shifts. When Jim passed away she continued to drive hauling meat products.

Today, Sandi is 75 years of age and possibly one of the oldest women driving a truck solo in the United States.

Alison Morris nominated Sandi Talbott and says "Sandi is always available for phone calls, she is encouraging to young and old alike and often likes to underline the need to "keep it professional" and that "it can be done".



FRIENDS OF THE “QUEEN OF THE ROAD”

