

THE CALIFORNIA MOVING & STORAGE ASSOCIATION

Impact of New Federal Regulation Mandating the Use of Electronic Logging Devices on California Carriers

Many California movers and others have found it difficult to find information on how the federal "Electronic Logging Device (ELD)" standard will impact their California Intrastate operations.

If you were to Google "California ELD standards," don't be surprised to find articles on "English Language Development (ELD)." Instead, be sure to look for information on the "Federal Electronic Logging Device standard." This standard is intended to help create a safer work envi-

ronment and make it easier and faster to track information for the driver.

The latest information from the California Highway Patrol, as of October 2017, identifies the current intentions for ELDs in California:

The federal ELD rule will be adopted by California unless otherwise exempted (December 31, 2020). A motor carrier operating commercial motor vehicles intrastate

(California) shall require each of its driver's record of duty status (RODS) by: one of the three methods listed below.

- Using an ELD that meets the requirements of subpart B of Title 49, Code of Federal

Regulations (CFR), Part 395

 Using an Automatic On-Board Recording Device

(AOBRD) that meets the requirements of Title 49, CFR, Part 395.15

- Manually, recorded as specified in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 1213(a)(1)





CHAIRMAN'S CORNER by John Lance

Over the past five months, we have had one disaster after another in our country –hurricanes, a massive attack on innocent people in Las Vegas and then the most recent fires that completely

wiped out neighborhoods in Santa Rosa and its surrounding areas. As I speak to family, friends and colleagues about all of these tragic events, I ask them, "What would you do if you lost everything you had? Even worse is how do you deal with the loss of someone close to you?" I have watched on TV and read so many heartbreaking stories; it's hard for me to comprehend. I spoke about how Americans come together and help each other out in times like these in an earlier column I wrote back in September. Well, I think we have all seen that once again with the latest tragedies we have been dealt. I have read articles of heroism over

and over again. People all over are reaching out to help. The fires in Santa Rosa left so many people homeless, and I read about people opening up their homes to help as far away as San Diego. I would like to give a special thank you to Mark Macy of Macy Movers in Hayward, Calif. for donating his time and equipment to deliver several loads of supplies to the people in need in the Santa Rosa area. Together we will get through these tough times.

On the morning of October 17th, I headed north with President Steve Weitekamp to visit some mover member companies and attend three chapter meetings in Northern California. The North Bay chapter meeting was cancelled due to the fires, but Steve and I will definitely make another trip up there to visit with our friends and colleagues at a later date. Now I will tell you, I have been told by many former Chairmen that Steve is always on the go doing business from his vehicle as he is traveling. Well, this is very true. If he wasn't making phone calls, he was receiving them full time! Our first stop was Miller Moving in Salinas, Calif.

(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued on page 4)





PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS
By Steve Weitekamp

SB 19 is now law; and with it, the transfer of regulation of the California Used Household Goods Moving Industry from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to the Department of Consumer Af-

fairs (DCA) will happen on July 1, 2018. As previously stated, the California Moving and Storage Association (CMSA) has been engaged with this process as an advocate for our industry from the announcement of the Governor's CPUC Reorganization Plan through the legislative process. A process which included a failed budget bill and Senator Hill's successful SB 19. We have also engaged with the DCA at several levels since learning that authority would transfer to their Department. The transfer of the Household Goods Carriers Act from the Public Utilities Code to the Business and Professions Code is just phase one of what

will be a complicated process.

In a recent meeting with senior staff of both the Secretary of the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) and the DCA, we shared our vision of what we would like in a new program. We shared that we are looking forward to the opportunity to enhance the program to the benefit of movers and the public through a collaborative and open process. We will be reviewing potential changes to improve the program in the future. Our hope is that the program will not seem dissimilar to existing permitted carriers after the transfer of regulation, but that enforcement against illegal operators, those that fail to follow the most basic rules, will be robust and impactful.

CMSA will do all that we can to remain an important part of the discussion, advocating for a program that serves both the regulated community and our customers. We can say that to date the DCA has been open and engaged with industry on the transfer and mindful of the impact of change on the legal and permitted industry. The in-

(PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS continued on page 6)



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(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued from page 2)

Gary Plummer and CMSA Vice Chairman Alan Freese gave us a warm welcome and a complete tour of their facility. I was not aware of how much military business there is in that area. Thank you, Gary and Alan for your hospitality. From there, we traveled north to San Rafael to meet up with Jeff Nadeau and his beautiful wife Christy from the Dewitt Companies. Jeff had invited us to dinner at a unique restaurant called Terrapin Crossroads. This restaurant was founded by Phil Lesh from the Grateful Dead. Well guess who was playing on stage as we enjoyed our dinner? Yes, you guessed it, Phil Lesh himself. At 77 years old, he is still rocking the house. Thank You Jeff, Christy and the Dewitt Companies for a wonderful evenina.

So, the next morning, we got up and headed over to meet with Mark Macy and see his new facility. Mark had just moved into this facility several months ago and he has done a great job setting it up. It takes a lot of time and creativity to set up a new warehouse and figure out how to maximize your space to get the most out of it. Thank

you Mark for your hospitality. Our next stop was Nor-Cal Moving Services in Hayward, Calif. Now Steve had been telling me for some time that I really needed to see this operation, and he was right. We were greeted by the President Peter Mazzetti. What a warm welcome he gave us. After chatting with him a bit, we headed out to the warehouse for a tour. I don't remember ever seeing a facility of this size. This place was impressive with 350,000 sq. ft. of warehouse space. Peter explained the different areas throughout his warehouse from domestic household goods to international, O&I and museum storage. You can tell he takes great pride in his operation and it shows throughout the place. Thank you, Peter for taking the time to visit with us. Next stop that day was to meet with John Chipman Sr. and John Chipman Jr. at their corporate office in Alameda. There we enjoyed great conversation with them. They run a class act operation. John Jr. just joined our Board of Directors and we are happy to have him on our team. Thank you both for your hospitality. Next, we headed to the Northern Region Chapter

(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued on page 5)



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(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued from page 4)

meeting which was held at a restaurant call the Dead Fish in Crocket, Calif. Chapter Presidents Griselda Gonzalez and Olga Garcia of CG Moving in San Francisco hosted a great meeting. There were over 40 people in attendance. A lot of the people there I knew from previous events or conventions, and it was great to see them. The few that I didn't know, I made it a point to meet and thank them for attending. This was the first chapter meeting that I have attended so I wanted to make my speech short as well as engaging with the chapter. They all made me feel very welcome. Steve had everyday and every hour of everyday planned ahead as to where we would be and who we were visiting. I think he has done this a couple times in the past. I know I was worn out after the second day. Day three, we were off again on our way to visit former chairman Brian Larson and Mark Larson of Mother Lode Van & Storage in Rancho Cordova. They gave us a tour of their operation. You can tell they take great pride in their organization. The place was clean, well maintained and organized. Thank you, Mark and Brian for taking the

time out to show me and Steve. You should both be very proud of your organization. Next, we were off to visit with Chris and Dave Higdon at California Moving Systems in Sacramento, Calif. Both are former chairmen of the CMSA. We had a nice visit talking about operations and the daily challenges in our industry. We all have similar challenges and bringing in new young energetic men and women is a hot topic. This is something I keep talking about with friends and colleagues and it's still a struggle for us all. Thank you, Chris and Dave for your hospitality. Our final stop was the Sacramento Chapter meeting in downtown Sacramento. Chapter President Ed Melton of Chipman Relocation & Logistics in Sacramento put a great meeting together. Once again, the room was packed full of people. We had a great visit and shared some good laughs throughout the night. Thank you, Ed for your hard work and dedication to the Sacramento Chapter. These were my first two Chapter meetings that I have attended as Chairman. Our Fall Board Meeting is a couple of days away and then Steve and I will be on our

(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued on page 6)



(CHAIRMAN'S CORNER continued from page 5)

next adventure to visit the Twin Counties, San Diego and Orange County Chapters. I look forward to seeing all of you.

I asked Steve when we were traveling if there was any one chairman that he had traveled around with that was a pain in the butt! He answered me honestly, "Nobody was a pain, but everybody was different." Keeping up with Steve is a challenge in itself. He is a hard-working man that is committed to our association, and I thank him for all he does.

THERE IS NOTHING IN THE WORLD SO IRRESISTIBLY CONTAGIOUS AS LAUGHTER AND GOOD HUMOR!

Now go take on the day and I will see you next month.

(PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS continued from page 3)

teraction has been both positive and professional. We remain optimistic that this change will be positive for the moving public, regulated industry and the citizens of California.

(ELD REGULATION continued from page 1)

*Upon the request of any authorized employee of law enforcement, drivers using an ELD or AOBRD shall produce a copy of the RODS by fax or electronic mail

By December 31, 2020, California carriers must equip their vehicles with ELDs unless the following exemptions are met (see below):

- Drivers who keep paper logs and drive no more than 8 days during any 30day period.
- Driveaway-towaway drivers
 (transporting empty vehicles for sale,
 lease, or repair), provided the vehicle
 driven is part of the shipment.
- Drivers of vehicles manufactured before model year 2000.
- *A carrier can choose to use an ELD, even if it is not required.

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Monterey Bay Chapter 15th Annual Cardinale Classic Golf and Bocce Tournament

The Monterey Bay Chapter held its 15th Annual Cardinale Classic Golf and Bocce Tournament Fundraisers benefiting the CMSA Scholarship Fund and CMSA charities on Friday, October 6, 2017 in Monterey.

Golfers enjoyed a gorgeous, warm and sunfilled day on the beautiful Del Monte Golf Course. Del Monte is the oldest golf course in continuous operation west of the Mississippi and is a Pebble Beach Company property.

A \$100 cash prize putting contest was sponsored by Mark Hildreth of New Haven Moving Equipment. Congratulations to winner Bruce Meyers of CDS Moving Equipment and 2nd place to Mel Green, of Cardinale Moving & Storage.

Congratulations to 1st place golf team winners—James Paulley, Tristan Ferguson, John Perkins and Charlie Robertson—for the low-net and a prize of \$200.00 cash. The 2nd place team winners of \$100.00 cash were Jim Stracuzzi, Bruce Meyers and Mark Macy.

Later that evening, more than 75 adults and three children attended the Bocce Tournament,

which included an Italian-style buffet dinner and a silent auction at the luxurious Hyatt Regency Monterey. There were more than 35 terrific silent auctions items that sold for great values. We also had many great raffle prizes.

The night concluded with an exciting final Bocce game between last year's Champions "Reigning Champs" and "El Guapos."

Congratulations to "El Guapos," the 2017 Cardinale Classic Bocce Champions, and unde-



feated in the tournament, Alan
Freese, Gary
Plummer, Sal Ferrante and John
Kay. You have
bragging rights
for the year plus
1st place trophies
and 1st place
medals.

2017 Cardinale Classic Bocce Champions: (L-R) John Kay of Victory Packaging, Alan Freese, Sal Ferrante and Gary Plummer of Peninsula Moving & Storage.

(MONTEREY CHAPTER continued on page 8)



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(MONTEREY CHAPTER continued from page 7)

Congratulations to "Reigning Champs" Lynn Wright, Kim Wright, Candace Roman and Mel



2017 Runner Up Bocce Team: (L-R) Candace Roman, Lynn Wright, Kim Wright, Cannon Green and Mel Green of Cardinale Moving & Storage.

Green as the runner up bocce team. A great time was had by the very enthusiastic crowd. A very special CMSA Monterey Bay thank you goes out to our event sponsors: CDS Moving Equipment, Pioneer

Packaging and Paul Hanson Partners.

And thank you to all of our CMSA Associate members for supporting our event with the many great raffle and silent auction prizes and for your attendance at the event. And a special THANK YOU to Ken Jordan and J & S Paper for your generous donation of two pallets of paper pads, and John Kay of Victory Packaging for your donation of five dozen cloth pads for the silent auction.

Thank you to our fellow CMSA Mover Members from other chapters around the State for making the trip to Monterey to support our event. We really appreciate your support!

Please mark your calendar for next year's tournament and save the date for Friday, Oct. 12, 2018. We hope to see you in attendance next year for our 16th annual Cardinale Classic Golf and Bocce Tournament in beautiful Monterey!



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Local Moving and Storage companies have diversified their operations over the past 10 years. Now many companies conduct mobile and traditional self-storage, storage and delivery logistics, white glove delivery, records storage, commercial storage, appliance delivery and other kinds of operations.

As long as all of your vehicles are properly listed on your commercial auto policy, there should be no issues with your commercial automobile coverage. However, you need to be sure that your general liability policy includes coverage for all of your operations—providing for bodily injury and/or property damage done during the operation or delivery and for any loss or damage that may occur after completion of the project.

The real difficulties can arise in your cargo and/or warehouse policies. Some policies written for traditional moving & storage companies actually exclude some of these newer kinds of operations. For example, if

your company does self-storage or mobile self-storage make sure that some coverage is provided – even though there is generally no legal liability for property classified as self-storage, there are circumstances where a mover or warehouseman could be held legally liable for damage. There could be similar problems with new furniture or logistics.

Tell your insurance person every kind of operation conducted by your company and make sure that your policies provide the appropriate coverage. You really need to know if you have the correct coverage before there is a claim that may not be covered.

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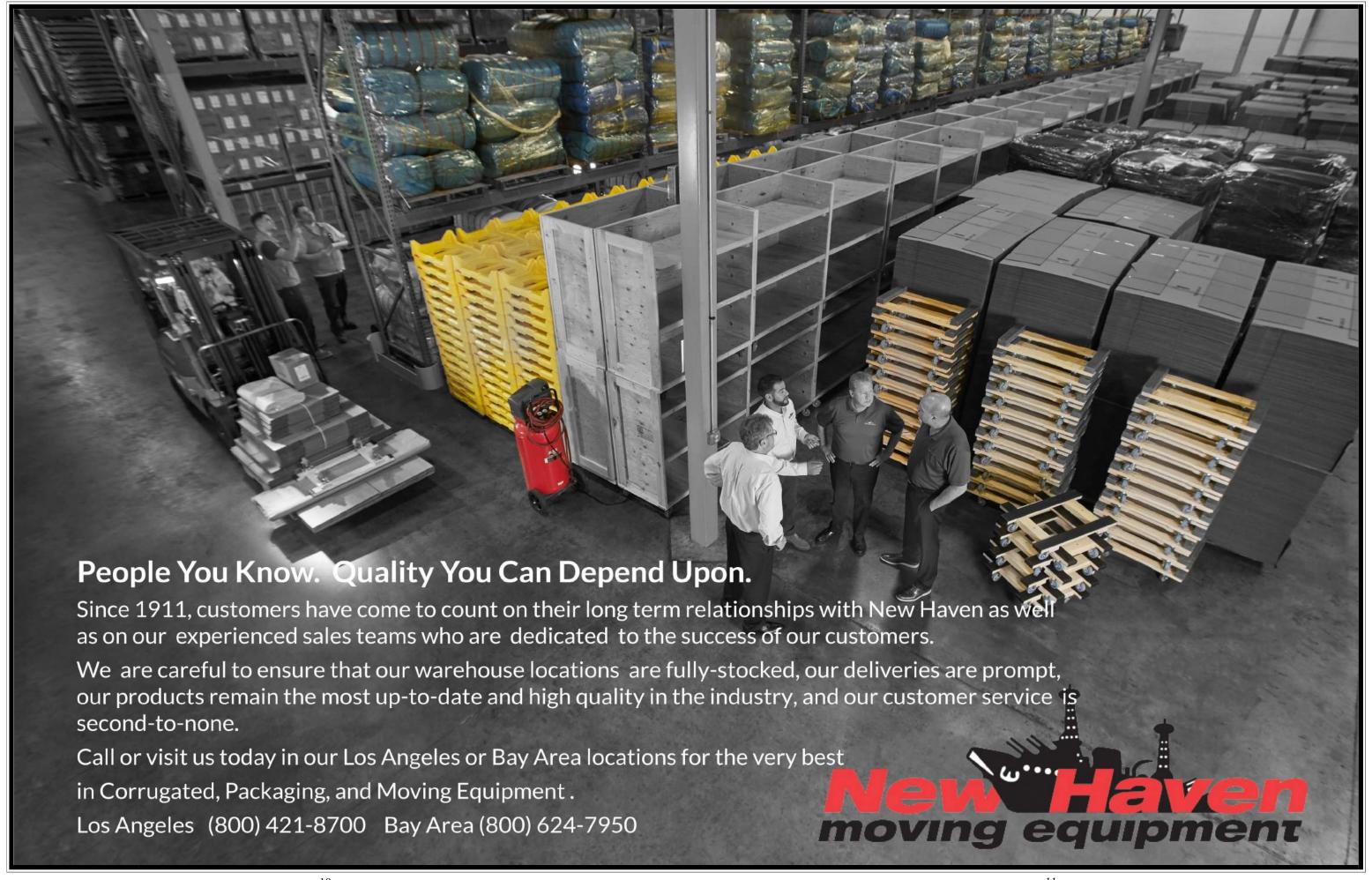




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CMSA College Scholarship 2018

CMSA will offer \$2,000 scholarships to students who will be enrolled in an undergraduate program at an accredited college, university or community college during the 2018-2019 academic school year. Applicants are not limited to any particular field of study.

Each individual must obtain and complete the required documents listed below and submit them to be received no later than noon on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>February 7, 2018</u> to: CMSA, 10900 E. 183rd St., #300, Cerritos, CA 90703, or e-mail to information@thecmsa.org or fax to: (562) 865-2944. Winners will be notified by <u>March 16, 2018</u>. The awards recognition will take place at the CMSA's 100th Annual Convention at the <u>Hyatt Regency Sacramento during the Awards Luncheon</u>, <u>April 21, 2018</u>.

Application Requirements:

- 1) Completed scholarship application form.
- 2) Résumé.
- 3) Two letters of recommendation. Whenever possible, letters should be typewritten. One letter should be from a teacher/professor, counselor or school administrator; and one letter should be from a community business member (not family).
- 4) A copy of your most recent transcript/report card.
- 5) Completed essay of 500-1000 words addressing the following topic:

Victor Frankl (renowned Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist as well as a Holocaust survivor) wrote: "Everything can be taken from man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's way." Describe the role attitude plays in your quest to be successful.

Eligibility Requirements:

- * Student <u>MUST</u> be a California resident and an employee or child/grandchild of a CMSA mover or associate member company. The member company must have a current <u>ACTIVE</u> membership status for at least one year and no outstanding balance.
- * High school students must have a minimum high school GPA of 2.5.
- * College students must show proof of enrollment and minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5.
- * Student must be enrolled in an undergraduate program at an accredited four-year college, university or community college during the 2018-2019 academic school year.

Criteria for Selection:

Upon meeting the minimum eligibility requirements, scholarship recipients will be selected upon the quality and excellence of the essay.

CMSA scholarship awards will be mailed directly to the recipient in the name of the college or university for use during the 2018-2019 academic school year only.

If you have any questions, please call the CMSA office at (562) 865-2900.

2018 CMSA Scholarship Application

Name:	F: 4) A' 1 11				
Last	First	Middle				
Home Address: Street		City, State, ZIP				
		•				
Telephone Number: () Email Address:	Cell Number:	()				
Name of School Currently Attendi	ng:					
Expected College Graduation Date	×					
Name of Employer or Parent/Grandparent (Sponsor) Associated with CMSA:						
Name of Company:	Positio	on:				
Address of Company:Street						
Street CAL-T Permit number (if applicab	.la)·	City, State, ZIP				
CAL-11 Crinit number (if applicate	nc).	_				
Sponsor's Signature:						
		udent was paid before being identi-				
	steps to remedy the situation. See	e eligibility requirements <u>BEFORE</u>				
applying for this scholarship.)						
Names of colleges and universities	applying to and/or currently enro	olled in:				
*						
*						
Major Field of Interest:						
High Calcal CDA	Comment Callege CDA					
High School GPA:	Current College GPA:					
Student's Signature:	Da	te:				
Please list your extra-curricular and community activities. Include work experience, family activities and hobbies. (Use separate sheet if needed.)						
Please answer the following in you	ır essay in 500-1000 words:					
Victor Frankl (renowned Austrian neurologist and psychiatrist as well as a Holocaust survivor) wrote: "Everything can be taken from man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to						
choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's way." Describe the role atti-						
tude plays in your quest to be succe		= =====================================				

Once you have been notified as being a scholarship recipient, you will have 30 days to confirm scholarship notification or you will forfeit the scholarship.



November Food Drive Campaign

The CMSA is partnering with Move For Hunger to kick off a food drive to support food banks in your local community. We are asking all members to sign up to participate in this food drive whether you are currently participating in the Move For Hunger program or not.

Start collecting non-perishable items now, and make your donations to food banks November 1 through November 30. The chapter that brings in the most pounds of food will not only get a year of bragging rights, it will also win a special prize that will be raffled off at a chapter meeting!

Normally, each moving company is asked to make a \$300 donation as a membership fee to join Move For Hunger's program. If you sign up to hold a food drive with CMSA. your membership fee is waived and your

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company will receive the following:

Program Letter, personalized with your logo and area-related hunger statistics

Added to Move For Hunger's "Find a Mover" page on its website

Box labels to use on your own boxes during estimates

Use of Move For Hunger's logo to add to your website and marketing materials

One complimentary Move For Hunger truck decal (more are available for purchase)

Visit Move For Hunger's food drive page for a variety of food drive ideas and tips. When you're ready to start planning the event, please contact their Events Manager, Kara Sendell, at (732)-774-0521.

Everyone deserves to share a holiday meal with family and friends. Help set the table for your neighbors in need.

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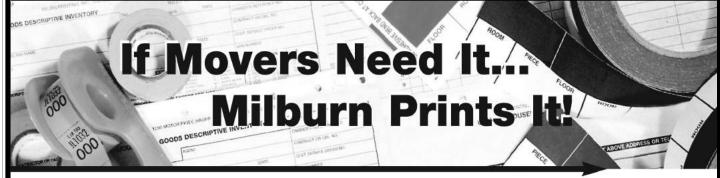
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September Association Leaderboard Report

Associa	ation	Enrolled Movers
1 California	(CMSA)	68
2 Southwes	t Movers (SMA)	55
3 Illinois (IM	1AWA)	46
4 Florida (F	MWA)	32
5 New Jers	ey (NJWMA)	25

CMSA Report Food Collected and Delivered

Monthly	Year to Date	All Time
622 lbs.	164,327 lbs.	805,409 lbs.
518 meals	136,939 meals	671,174 meals



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CMSALEGACY LOOKING BACK OVER THE LAST 100 YEARS

By Ronald Larson 1987-1988 CMSA Chairman



It seems hard to believe that 30 years have gone past since I served as Chairman in 1987-1988.

On the other hand, it has been a very busy time for me since that year, and I have retired from the moving industry just this year so it is a great time to reflect. Kindly pardon if the specifics of 30 years past may have become a bit "sketchy."

I recall that the "Chair Team" of '86-'87 was challenged with some changing industry events and times during that period. We were in the throes of interstate deregulation and the Van Lines were creating new services and pricing formats that had their agents in California somewhat confused regarding California's tariff regulations vs. new interstate application. CMSA was actively reviewing, advising, and making every effort to keep our members out of CPUC trouble regarding the MRT tariff series. We also had the rise of sub-

contractors in California as a viable operations alternative to traditional union labor arrangements. This action offered many moving businesses a new operations structure that enabled substantial change in how business could be performed in California, but came with a substantial learning curve and confusion. Most of these activities were carry over as the issues that accompanied them were prior to and post 1986-1987. Nevertheless, they occupied our attention regularly and affected many CMSA members.

We also experienced a major management change with the selection of Doug Hill as CMSA President and the relocation of CMSA headquarters from Northern California to Southern California. This issue was significant and history has shown that CMSA benefitted greatly from these decisions. Doug Hill proved to be a strong and ethical leader willing to shoulder responsibilities and association needs.

The Committees during the '87-'88 term worked diligently on Legislative, Group Insurance Programs, Military Issues/Opportunities, CPUC Relations, CMSA Chapter/ Membership Development, and Convention Planning. Members serving on all CMSA committees are life blood to the accomplishment of CMSA objectives and the "Chair Team" success. My "Chair Team" was Ralph Meyers, Jim Shurr, and Harold Delihant. We also benefitted from our predecessor Chairs and industry-respected mentors like Dick Schmitz, Don Estrin, Jack Macy, Bob Foy, and others. In CMSA, you are not alone in your achievements.

So that pretty well sums up 1987-1988, however, I must comment that my term as the CMSA Chairman was a culmination of my long-term CMSA membership. That actually started in 1965 with my Sacramento employer's insistence that I get involved in the CMSA Sacramento local chapter. How fortunate that I had my employer's support. After getting involved at the chapter level, going through the chapter officer positions, then Director service and continued involvement with committees and other chapters in Califor-

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(CMSA LEGACY continued from page 16)

nia, I was pleased to continue to the association level positions. Throughout this progressive advance, my employers were allowing me to participate. This positive relationship with employers in support of employee participation in CMSA benefits all and is needed for continued CMSA membership success. Kudos to the many employer businesses that make this association viable.

Finally, I want to thank all in CMSA that made my efforts possible. It was my honor and privilege to be a member of CMSA and to offer my services therein. Congratulations to CMSA on the Centennial event. I am certain CMSA will continue to offer strong member benefits for many years to come.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS							
Nov 1 - 30	CMSA/Move For Hunger Food Drive Campaign	Thurs., Jan 11	Central Valley Chapter Mtg./Texas Hold-Em Poker Tournament				
Tues., Nov 7	Twin Counties Chapter Meeting	Thurs., Jan 11	OC/Beach Cities Chapter Meeting				
Wed., Nov 8	San Diego Chapter Meeting	Tues., Jan 16	Mid Valley Chapter Meeting				
Thurs., Nov 9	OC/Beach Cities Chapter Meeting	Wed., Jan 17	Monterey Chapter Meeting				
Tues., Nov 14	Central Valley Chapter Meeting	Thurs., Jan 18	Central Coast Chapter Meeting				
Wed., Nov 15	Sacramento TopGolf Fundraiser	Sun., Jan 21	Chairman's Choice Charity MDA Walk				
Tues., Nov 28	Monterey Bay Chapter Meeting	Wed., Feb 7	CMSA College Scholar ship & Vocational				
Fri., Dec 1	Northern Region Crab Feed Fundraiser		Scholarship Deadline				
Tues., Dec 12	Ventura/Santa Barbara	Wed., March 7	San Diego Chapter Golf Tournament				
Th D 44	Chapter Meeting	Sun., March 25	Greater LA Chapter				
Thurs., Dec 14	Greater L.A./O.C. Joint Holiday Chapter Meeting	Fri., April 6	Day at the Races Ventura/Santa Barbara Golf Tournament				
Thurs., Dec 14	Sacramento Chapter Meeting/Food Drive	2018 CMSA Convention April 17-22 Hyatt Regency Sacramento					
Tues., Jan 9	Twin Counties Chapter Meeting	100th Annual Convention Hyatt Regency Sacramento 1209 L Street, Sacramento, CA April 17-22, 2018					
Wed., Jan 10	San Diego Chapter Meeting						

OC/Beach Cities 28th Annual Golf Tournament

The Orange County Chapter held the 28th annual Golf Tournament on October 24th at San Juan Golf Club in San Juan Capistranto, CA. The event boasted participation from several van lines as well as associate members.

We started off the day with a street taco lunch, and a putting competition won by Thomas McCarthy of McCarthy Transfer and Storage. During play, there were three closest to the pin won by Alain Etchelelou, Ashley Dunlap and Jack Van Wey, and one longest drive won by Steve Barnard. CDS kept the game interesting with a watering hole, where shots and cigars were passed out.

We had many super supportive associate members including, Dewitt Royal Hawaiian/ Alaskan movers, Ship Smart, MSS, Pioneer, CDS, along with mover members, Alexander's Mobility Services, New World Van Lines, Student Movers, and Bekins.

After golfing, we wrapped up the event with a cocktail hour and dinner, along with

prizes, trophies and raffle winners.

Despite having record breaking heat the event was a true success.



(L-R) CMSA OC/BC Chapter President Eddie Marx III (New World Van Lines); Golf Team Runner Ups from Student Movers Inc.: Rodney Rittenbury, Daniel Adams, Shawn Wood, Tyler Moore, and Team Supporter Michelle Wood.



Moraga Volunteers Shift into Overdrive to Help Fire Victims

By Lou Fancher, Correspondent for the Bay Area News Group

Never underestimate the power of one person with an idea to call out the best in humanity.

Safe herself, but reacting to the devastating fires sweeping through Sonoma and Napa counties, 22-year-old Brooke Penfold, a global studies and Spanish major at Sonoma State, thought, "I need to do something to help."

The 2013 graduate of Campolindo High School contacted her father, Bart Penfold, who lives in her hometown of Moraga.

"I said maybe we'd have a little donation drive, collect stuff in my parent's garage. I'd maybe have to fold down the backseat of my little Rav4 to drive it back up here," Penfold says. Instead, with a post at the Moraga Country Club Facebook page and messages on other social media and through small-town word of mouth, Penfold's "little idea" filled two 50-foot tractor-trailers.

"It took on a dimension that's hard to describe," says her father. "This started Monday, after the firestorm started and by Monday night, my garage and entire driveway was full. I called Brooke and said we'd obviously tapped a nerve. Lamorinda had lit up."

The operation went into full swing as Penfold realized she'd have to rethink her initial plan to provide supplies for families she knows through her work with

Santa Rosa-based mobile classroom Language Truck.

Penfold leads GED courses at Sonoma County libraries and after-school Spanish

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classes at Hidden Valley Satellite, one of two schools destroyed in the fires.

Faced with a growing mountain of back-packs, school materials, clothing for all ages, first aid kits, toiletries, water supplies, canned food, toys and much-needed face masks, Penfold recalled trucks used by the Campolindo football team in 2012, the year the team traveled to Southern California for the state championship.

"I remembered they had "**Macy Movers**" painted on the side. I thought they were owned by coach (Kevin) Macy," she says.

An email sent to **Macy** was forwarded to his brother, **Mark Macy**, the company's actual owner.

"He was all in, right from the start," says Penfold. "He offered one truck, then another when that one filled up. He drove a truck up, paid for gas, donated 25 dollies to move supplies. He's been fantastic."

Mark Macy says seeing families, kids and especially members of the Campo JV football team step up to load the truck without complaining was huge. In Sonoma, he drove the truck to the distribution site.

"People's energy up there was dazed, but positive. You know, we were right downtown in a 50-foot truck. Typically, people would be honking at you if you did that. Not this time. They knew what people were going through."

Penfold says one week after the fires began that people in Sonoma County are still in survival mode. But to Moraga, the words she most wants to spread are "thank you," along with apologies for the phrase's inadequacy.

"That's what you say when someone hands you a receipt in a store, but I've never been prouder to be from this community. It's not about me. I just sent out the messages. It's the town that rose to the occasion."

Editors Note: Mark Macy told CMSA, "The volume of donations was so overwhelming that the original drop-off site couldn't handle it all. So my wife, **Kirstin**, who was my assistant, called **Bob Fraser's** wife, **Cris**, who graciously let us leave our trailer at **Redwood Moving & Storage** for the week." He added, "**Paul Fraser** of **Redwood Moving and Storage** assisted the volunteers with unloading the remaining items."

