

THE VALLEY VIEW

Volume 11 Issue 01

January 2011

DRIVER OF THE MONTH

Larry Richardson

Larry is a company driver in Truck #1105. He is from Cleveland, TN and has been with Valley since April 2010.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Valley, Larry. You are a valuable member of our team and we appreciate all of your hard work, Congratulations!

Welcome to our new employees...

Company Drivers

James Bodie
Robert Hoyes
William Crawford

Owner Operators

William Goldhammer
Robert Sickler

Office

Jennifer Mittelsted (temporary receptionist)

DRIVER OF THE YEAR

Trever Termaat

Trever is one of our shag drivers in Truck #1102. He is from Spring Valley, MN and has been with Valley since March 2009.

Thank you for your dedication to the company, Trever. You are a very valuable member of our team and we appreciate all of your hard work, Congratulations!



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Happy
New Year!

A NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM BRAD

First things First:

Let me say "thank you," to everyone that had a part in giving up some their pay in 2009/2010. I know that if you were here during that time your pay was affected in one form or another. It was the main reason "bar none" that we were able to recover as fast as we did when business started to pick back up. Without that, we would probably still be here, but we would be trying to pay off much bigger loans due to paying everyone's wage or we would be trying to replace individuals that we laid-off because we were unable to keep them during the slow time. Due to everyone's extra effort we were able to keep most everyone on and we were able to rebound much faster. I do understand that this was a tough time for all of you and know that you, too, may still be trying to recover from that shortage of pay but let's all count our blessings, I think we came through it much better than a lot of people who may or may not be back to work yet. It is a very good feeling to have everyone back to their original pay scale this soon; to tell you the truth the way things were I never expected it to come back so soon, I would have guessed it to last a lot longer. So thank you for all you did to help this turn around happen so soon. It just goes to show when everyone works together they can make big things happen. Let's all strive to make 2011 a much better time for all of us.

Valley Transportation recovered a great deal during the last half of 2010, we were able to pay down a great deal of debt while still being able to gain on our cash position. We are in much better shape now than we have been for the previous two years. We do of course have a lot of equipment that is getting old and needs replacing, which adds back debt load and chews up cash flow as we get it ready to operate. It is never easy but it is much more enjoyable when the phones are ringing and our customers have freight to haul. We all should be grateful for that. We are going on our 22nd year in business and during that time you learn a few things and you become stronger financially due to having more assets paid off. We have been able to go thru 3 pretty rough times during those 22 years and I notice each time we come out stronger in the end. I guess what I'm trying to say is, we are going to be here for a long time to come and need all of your help plus some new faces to help us continue to get through those rough times because there will be more of them in the future, count on it.

With all of that said, as most of you may already know, we are losing one of our assets, Sandy Elliott. She has decided to take on a new career and will be leaving our team on January 14th. Sandy has had a big role in helping Valley to the current fleet size as she was the one that did most of the recruiting during the past years. We will miss her and she will be hard to replace but we will get someone on board to fill her position soon.

Sandy, from all of us, "Good luck and thank you for all you have done for us over the years." I do keep asking her if she has reconsidered but I seem to get the same answer, I think she is really leaving us. I know, I can't believe it either but I guess she is sick of us, ha-ha. Sandy, "good luck in your new venture, you will be just fine."

Sincerely,

Brad Grafe
President, Valley Transportation

"OUR GOAL IS TO HELP YOU REACH YOURS"

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With over 20 years of transportation experience, we at Valley Transportation have concluded that, "You can only be as good as the people on y our Team." With confidence and pride, Valley Transportation has put together the most qualified and capable people for each job. This Team is able to handle all of our customer's hauling needs, questions and concerns. From the most difficult pieces of equipment to the most basic, from 200 miles to 4,000 miles, Valley Transportation's employees are eager to assist and will handle its customers' equipment with the utmost respect and caution.

Confidence, Pride, Teamwork

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays

William Goldhammer	January 02
Troy Teppert	January 05
Ray Hammer	January 07
James Bodie	January 07
Matthew Kassebaum	January 10
Jorge Mendoza	January 15
Tim Buchanan	January 17
Derek Thorsen	January 18

Anniversaries

Erick Anderson	05 Years
Adam Schlee	01 Year
Norm Bergman	04 Years
Larry Long	04 Years
Suely Borges	02 Years
Richard Solomon	01 Year