

THE LONE STAR DISPATCH

Q2 2024



Photos taken by driver:
David L. #900935

Dear Families of Our Valued Drivers,

We hope this message finds you well. As we continue to navigate the busy roads and meet the demands of our industry, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to you—the families of our dedicated drivers.

Your support and understanding play an essential role in our success. We recognize the sacrifices you make and the strength you show as your loved ones spend long hours on the road, ensuring the safe and timely delivery of loads across the country. Our drivers are the backbone of our company, and their hard work and commitment would not be possible without your encouragement and love. We are immensely proud of their professionalism and dedication, and we want you to know how much we appreciate the vital role you play in their lives and in our Lone Star family.

Thank you for your continued support. We wish you all health, happiness, and many safe returns.

With heartfelt gratitude,

The Lone Star Team

Insights from Our President: Doug Miller's Message



Hello Team,

As we head into summer 2024, we've experienced a slowdown in the freight markets nationwide. Thankfully, that tide is about to turn!

Looking at our business and its backlog, we anticipate a surge in all areas: wind, heavy haul, and general freight. This surge couldn't come at a better time! However, with increased business comes the need for increased care in handling it. Specifically, we must focus on safety and claims. Providing excellent customer service includes protecting our customers' freight and ensuring public safety on the roads. It's always difficult when we must call to inform a customer about a claim with their freight.

As we welcome this much-needed influx of business, I ask all our drivers to heighten their vigilance and attention to detail in their daily work. As Jeff Cooney mentioned in his article, "Continuously ask yourself, how can I do this job smarter?" I urge you to also ask, "How can I do this job safer and claim-free?"

At Lone Star, we have some of the best CSA scores in the industry! However, CSA scores reflect driver operations, equipment maintenance, and discipline behind the wheel. They do not measure cargo claims. If cargo claims were included in our CSA scores, the picture might look a bit different.

As a specialized carrier, we handle very valuable cargo, often more expensive than the equipment you operate. Every load must be treated as if it were the last one you will ever haul. A single cargo claim can jeopardize our relationship with a customer and put the company at risk.

So, as we enter our busy freight season, I ask for everyone's vigilance and care. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication in making us successful with our customers!

Who do you drive for?





April Driver of the Month

"I have had the pleasure of working with Stanley G. #500627 for 3.5 years now. From his very first load, it was clear that he is deeply committed to his profession. Stanley takes immense pride in everything he does, whether it involves legal freight or over-dimensional loads. His communication skills are a quality

I emphasize to every new driver during our initial meetings.

While I don't hear from Stanley often, when I do, he provides crucial information about his load, shippers, and receivers. This valuable insight is shared with other drivers, enhancing their knowledge and simplifying the loading and unloading processes at various locations.

When I informed him about his nomination, he was excited yet very humble, saying, 'I have always tried my very best in all my years of being a truck driver.' His dedication is evident in his work.

Stanley is a tremendous asset to Lone Star, and we greatly appreciate everything he does." - Phillip Matney, Operations Manager



May Driver of the Month

"Warren M. #900883 exemplifies the pinnacle of professionalism in driving. His commitment to excellence ensures that every job is completed flawlessly. He not only represents Lone Star

impeccably to our customers but also sets a high standard for his peers. We are proud to have him on our team and recognize him as Driver of the Month." - Kirsten Vaughn, Driver Manager

This prestigious recognition is awarded to drivers who demonstrate exceptional dedication, professionalism, and exemplary performance on the road. Being named Driver of the Month is not only an honor but also places the drivers in the running for our coveted Driver of the Year award.

Our Driver of the Month program celebrates those who go above and beyond in their duties, showcasing safety, punctuality, and outstanding customer service. Each month, we carefully select a driver who has shown remarkable commitment and excellence, setting a high standard for their peers. Earning this title means the driver has consistently delivered exceptional results, contributing to the success and reputation of Lonestar Transportation.

American Clean Power Association (ACP) Conference

Our team, including Brandon Brown, Vice President of Wind Operations and Heavy Haul, Chad Gerfers, Vice President of Sales, Jackie Copeland, Sales Representative, and John Welch, General Manager of Heavy Haul and Wind Operations, attended the American Clean Power Association (ACP) conference in Minneapolis, MN. Featuring a special appearance by Wendy Bartz, VP of Driver Capacity for Daseke!

With over 8,300 attendees and 480+ exhibitors in 2023, this year's event surpassed expectations with an even larger turnout, building on the momentum of the previous year. The conference provided a valuable platform for us to engage with key decision-makers and stakeholders in the wind and solar industries. At the opening night reception, hosted at the home of the Minnesota Vikings, our team sparked insightful discussions while manning our exhibit throughout the week.

We're already anticipating the opportunity to reconnect with everyone in Phoenix next year!



Used Truck Association 2024 Kansas City Golf Scramble

Chad Gerfers, VP of Sales, and Bethany Higgins, Operations Manager, represented Lonestar Transportation at the KC Golf Scramble and Reception hosted by the Used Truck Association (UTA).

The UTA is dedicated to promoting professionalism, ethics, and high standards in the used truck industry. It offers valuable networking opportunities, educational resources, and industry-related discounts, fostering growth and excellence among its members.





Dry Van & Drive Away

We're excited to share some fantastic updates from the past quarter. Our team has been busy expanding the Dry Van division and supporting exciting events with our Specialized Transport and Show division. Here are the highlights and achievements from our various departments.

Dry Van Division

Our Dry Van division has been working tirelessly, managing a significant increase in shipments. We're thrilled to announce the addition of new lanes dedicated to Yamaha. We are now transporting their watercraft to dealerships throughout Florida, just in time for the summer demand. Additionally, golf cart deliveries have surged, and we're proud to deliver these to dealerships and golf courses nationwide, contributing to the leisure and recreational activities that people enjoy.

Specialized Transport and Show Division

This quarter, our Specialized Transport and Show division shined brightly. We brought the fun to the bLU cRU Invitational in sunny San Bernardino, CA, where two full days of dirt bike racing, fun activities, and prizes were set up by our team. We also supported the Colorado Adventure Ride in Taylor Park, CO, a weeklong event where we supplied recreational vehicles and heavy adventure bikes for riders to explore diverse terrains. Our ability to transport side-by-side vehicles to picturesque locations for marketing photo shoots and promotional *campaigns continues to highlight the versatility and reliability of our services.*

Kansas City Warehouse Activity

Our warehouse remains bustling with activity. Despite being at full capacity with customers' goods, we've generated additional revenue by renting out parking spots in our secured lot. This move not only maximizes our space utilization but also adds value for our clients.

Driveaway Division Growth

The Driveaway division experienced growth in Q2. We're taking advantage of the summer weather by hitting the open roads, transporting a variety of vehicles including Legacy sleepers, vacuum trucks, water tanks, box trucks, and custom builds to dealerships and customers nationwide. Despite encountering a few summer storms, we've maintained our momentum and commitment to timely deliveries.

Looking Ahead

As we move into the next quarter, we're excited about the continued growth and opportunities that lie ahead. Our team remains dedicated to providing exceptional service, ensuring that we meet the needs of our diverse customer base.

Together, we are driving forward to new heights!



Jeff Cooney
Vice President of Safety

Safety Message

Reducing the Likelihood of a Back Injury

One of the greatest contributors to worker injuries continues to be back sprain/strain. People who load, secure, and unload cargo from commercial vehicles are especially susceptible to this type of injury. Think first when entering and exiting your tractor or climbing onto or off of your trailer. Avoid twisting and stretching, especially if you are carrying a load of any type. Check your footing carefully and use all of the handholds and steps provided. Be aware of wet, slippery surfaces that may cause you to lose your balance. Never jump off or out of any elevated surface or driving compartment. Climb out or off in reverse of how you entered. When placing materials into or removing them from a vehicle, do this task as a separate operation rather than combining it with your entry/exit. Consider how you can move the materials needed to be loaded while providing support to your body. Do not lean over while lifting material; instead, reposition your body to obtain maximum support from your legs. Separate your load into smaller units so you don't overburden your muscles. It is easier to lift 120 pounds in three 40-pound increments. When loads are not divisible, get help either through the use of mechanical equipment or a co-worker. Work smarter, not harder. Try to eliminate as much lifting as possible. Continuously ask yourself, "How can I do this job smarter?"



Congratulations

- (A)** Our Kansas location celebrated Jenni, a Driveaway Dispatcher, with a diaper party! Drivers and staff gathered to enjoy some delicious BBQ and help her prepare for the arrival of her baby boy. It was a wonderful event filled with joy, laughter, and community spirit.
- (B)** Brionna Jones, LST Lafayette 1560, celebrates a momentous day as she takes Ashley Harris' hand in marriage on April 20, 2024. Here's to a lifetime of love and happiness together!
- (C)** Kristy Swaim proudly celebrates the graduation of her son Brenneth Swaim from Chisholm Trail HS on May 25. Pictured with her husband James, this moment marks a proud milestone in their family's journey.
- (D)** Introducing Sophia Ann Kidd, born June 1, 2024! Laura Rodehan joyously embraces her role as a first-time grandparent to this precious bundle, weighing 5 lbs 9 ozs and measuring 18 1/2 inches. Welcome to the world, little one!
- (E)** Amanda Brady beams with pride as her daughter, Shane Fahy, graduates high school on June 25th. Congratulations, Shane, on this incredible achievement!
- (F)** Alexander Dobbie and his wife Sammie joyfully announce the birth of their first child, Weston Dean Dobbie, born on May 29, 2024, weighing 8 lbs 2 oz.
- (G)** Donnie Clapp slices into his pre-wedding cake at our Fort Worth celebration, marking the countdown to happily ever after June 13th!
- (H)** Congratulations to Mark Shourek on his 10th anniversary with the company! His dedication shines through as he celebrates this milestone, having successfully paid off at least 3 trucks while participating in the LP program. Here's to many more years of hard work and success!
- (I)** Congratulations to Madison Michel, daughter of Nicole Bishop, for graduating from OTC with an associate degree in Medical Coding and Communication. Madison and her husband, Gavin, are also expecting their first baby, a girl, in October. Best wishes!

