

We Are The Z-Team!

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NEW TRUCKS COMING THIS SUMMER

CFO **Derek Ritzman** has told us the company has signed a contract for 15 new 2020 model year KW T680 sleepers (top photo). The purchase is being made through Kenworth of PA, in Carlisle and delivery is expected in mid to late August.



Two of the trucks will be outfitted with special liveries as a tribute to the company's founders. One will be for the Van division. It will be done in the classic "ZTL Red" (center photo) to honor Ron Zimmerman who started Zimmerman Truck Lines in 1984. The other, working in the flatbed Division, will display the now rarely seen "C.D. Zimmerman green and white" (bottom photo). This will be to honor Ron's late father, Caddy, who started his company in Mifflintown in 1940. (Both companies merged in 1995.)



"Ten units will be for the Flatbed Division and five for the Van Division," Derek said. All will have Cummins 500 horsepower engines, driver-friendly Eaton "Endurant" 12-speed automated manual transmissions, 76" bunks, upgraded seats, refrigerators, and Kenworth's widely acclaimed Idle Monitoring System in place of the ThermoKing APUs now in use.



Who Gets a New Truck?

Seniority is the driving factor in who gets first right of refusal for a new truck. There are other factors, too, including safety record and how a driver respects his or her current equipment. Which trucks are going out of service and which division is getting new trucks and how many also plays a big role. "Distributing new trucks is both a science and an art," one source said.

NEW—AND OLD—FACES IN THE SHOP



Josh Gabbard. Josh has been working second shift in the Shop for 10 months already! He lives nearby in Thompsontown and previously worked for Napa Transportation in Mechanicsburg.



Garron Ryberg. Garron lives in just down the road in Newport. He came from Faulkner Subaru in Mechanicsburg and is also working on the second shift. He started here in September 2018.



Greg Knarr. Greg is here as part of the student intern program at MCAST. He is a senior at Mifflin County High School. He works half days starting around noon. Greg wants to go to technical school after graduation.



Carter Smith. Carter is also part of the intern program at MCAST working here half days. He goes to East Juniata High and hopes to be hired full-time here after graduation.



START PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS! OR MAYBE A VACATION THIS SUMMER! OR BOTH!



Gina Himes reports that 26 employees participated in the Christmas / Vacation Savings Club in 2018. Using automatic payroll deductions (so they didn't miss having the money), these 26 saved almost \$30,000 dollars last year!

Right now, 28 employees are participating and collectively putting aside \$1005 each week. They can optionally withdraw the money only twice per year, once in June and once in November. If they don't take it out in June, their savings continues to grow. This group should easily eclipse last year's savings total as they are on track to save a record \$45,000 in 2019. (Withdrawal of the full amount from the savings club account is required in November.)

Why don't you join them? It's a great feeling to have money in the bank! And it's so easy: just contact Gina and she will make all the arrangements. Gina adds this information from the Fine Print Department: You can join anytime and you can stop the withholding any time. If employment is terminated, any balance will be added on to your final paycheck.

THESE ARE TAXING TIMES FOR ALL

So everyone is working on filing their 2018 income tax return right now. And it's not too early to think about your 2019 taxes. If you owe the tax man when you file your return, it means you are withholding too little from your pay. On the other hand If you get a big refund and don't want to give Uncle Sam an interest-free loan for the year, you may be withholding too much from your pay. Now is the time to make changes to your W-4 form which tells your employer how much to withhold based on your marital circumstances and other factors. A lot of people were surprised this year because of the change in tax laws. If you are a driver and want to make a change in your withholding, contact Gina Himes. If you work in the Shop, contact **Cathy Wible**.



TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

This photo shows the “before and after” of the tool room / phone room in the shop. On February 2nd **Dave Wetzler**, Operations Manager, and **Stan Scanlon**, IT Manger, removed the old phone system, which was decom-



missioned in early 2011. They then installed new, larger, redundant network switches and a redundant power system.

Next, Dave tells us that this year many of the PeopleNet communication units will be replaced in older trucks. In the newer trucks, rewiring will be done for new communication units to be activated. This update is needed because the 2G and 3G cellular networks over which the current older systems communicate will be turned off nationwide at the end of the year. **Mike Kreydatus** and **Kody Moist** are the techs who will be doing most of the work on this project. “We *might* see slightly faster communication for those units which are upgraded,” Dave noted while emphasizing, “The in-cab displays will not be replaced.”

Dave explained, “Every truck in the fleet will need to be touched to get this project done. If you know you will have time off, let the Shop know, too, and we’ll try to schedule the work during that time.”

Dave also stressed, “This equipment change is not in any way related to the new ELD mandate which goes into effect this coming December. That project is still waiting for a software update from PeopleNet and we will give everyone as much notice as we can before the ELD mandate is implemented. Right now we are waiting on PeopleNet.”

Finally in tech news, along with the new fuel pump card reader which was installed in November, a new fuel tank monitoring system was installed in January. This system monitors the tank inventory on an hourly basis

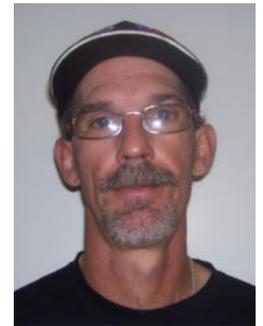
A BLAST FROM THE PAST



Scott Landis, Van Division driver and member of the Million Miler Club, recently sent us several vintage photos, including the one above. Taken sometime in 2002, the truck is a 2000 Navistar Eagle with a double bunk (Scott was a trainer at the time). His wife Joan and their two daughters Nikki (left) and Kirsten (right) are sitting on the step. More of Scott’s pix will be featured in future issues.

TERRY NEELY UPDATE

Flatbed driver **Terry Neely** had lung surgery earlier this month to remove a cancerous tumor. He’s now heading for chemotherapy. His wife Judy says, “He is doing OK.” Terry and his family are from Mt. Union. He will be celebrating nine years with ZTL this coming April.



Gina Himes is organizing collection efforts to help the Neely family while Terry is off for an extended period of time to recuperate. Donations arranged through a payroll deduction are preferred, but cash will be accepted. Please contact Gina at x246 for more information.

and watches for possible leaks. Information is sent to the cloud as well as to the fuel vendor. E-mail alerts are sent automatically in case of a problem.

Interesting fact: the local pump dispenses about 5,000 gallons of fuel in a typical week.

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WE'RE ALWAYS ON HER MIND



Searching the horizon on Sunset Beach in St. Maarten, the Netherland Antilles, Gina Himes shows her pride in the Z-Team back home. What is she looking for? Incoming planes! Sunset Beach is famous because the island's international airport runway is only 50 yards from the beach. Large aircraft arrive and depart daily flying as low as 100 ft above the heads of beach goers. This photo was taken on January 19th while Gina was on a cruise vacation with her family.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Spring Driver and Safety Meeting

Saturday April 6th or Saturday April 20th 9AM
Special Q&A Session for drivers at both meetings.
Attendance is mandatory at one of these meetings unless you are dispatched on a load or otherwise excused! **Note:** If you do not attend or watch the DVD, you will have \$150 deducted from your safety bonus!

Together we are making things better!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS ...

John Powlus — March 2
Steve Tarr — March 4
Ken Stiles — March 5
Allen Crosby — March 7
Bill Miller — March 10
Mike Kreydatus — March 12
Dale Snook — March 12
Tracy Heffner — March 12
Ron Zimmerman — March 19
James London — March 21
Justin Henry — March 21
Jed Showers — March 26

... AND ANNIVERSARIES

Gary Beatty — 21 years
Steve Detra — 17 years
Dan Hackenburg — 14 years
Geoff Hosband — 14 years
Norm Stever — 13 years
Tom Pannebaker — 12 years
Steve Tarr — 7 years
Dale Snook — 6 years

Thirty teachers from the Juniata County School District will be attending "classes" at ZTL on Friday March 15th to learn about trucking, transportation, and the skills which their students need to learn to compete in our complex world.

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Protect Those Who Protect You!

QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

"Don't save what is left after spending, instead spend what is left after saving."

—Warren Buffet, generally considered to be the most successful investor of all time.

ZIMMERMAN TRUCK LINES, INC.