

# We Are The Z-Team!

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## ZTR FORECAST: SONNY AND BRIGHT!

**I**rvin "Sonny" Dobson's final day of work at Zimmerman Truck Repairs will be on Friday May 31<sup>st</sup>. After 42 years and five months, Sonny is going into retirement. "That's how long I've been *officially* employed here," he said. I actually started working in August of 1976, but Caddy paid me under the table until the end of that year." ("Caddy" refers to Ron Zimmerman's father and Mark's grandfather.)

**WATZT** caught up with Sonny earlier this month, a few days before he went in for a hernia operation. He told us that he came to work for C.D. Zimmerman as a mechanic straight out of high school. "My wife, Jean, her uncle, Charlie Simonetti, got me the job. I worked as a mechanic for about seven years. Then, when Raymond [Seiber] passed away in 1984, I got put in the parts room."



When C.D. Zimmerman, Inc. was merged into Zimmerman Truck Lines in 1995, the combined operation was moved to the current terminal building on East Industrial Drive in October of that year. "We first built the shelving here and then moved the parts. But it wasn't long before we outgrew the space and had to add a back parts room. When that filled up we started keeping parts in the warehouse, above the parts room, over by the pit, and on shelves around the garage."

When asked what's changed in the last 43 years, Sonny exclaimed, "Everything! The trucks have changed, the parts have changed, the systems for tracking and ordering parts have changed, and the mechanics have changed. Although today," he continued, "we have a pretty good crew in our shop. They know what they're doing and they get the job done."

Sonny reminded us that even with almost 43 years, he's not the most senior person in the shop. That would be **Roy Huffman**. "I don't know when he started, but Roy was here when I started." However, Sonny has outlasted five shop managers during that same time. "Managers didn't affect me very much," he said. "I just kept doing my job."

And doing that job had Sonny getting out of bed early. "I'm supposed to start at 6:30, but I'm here most days by 5:30."

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### Who's the New Number Two?

As noted to the left, Sonny is the second most senior member of the shop team. But after May 31st, who will be the new Number Two? Turns out this honor will go to none other than **Dave Martin** who has been with ZTR for more than twenty-three years.

*continued from front page...* **SONNY DOBSON DAY MAY 31ST**

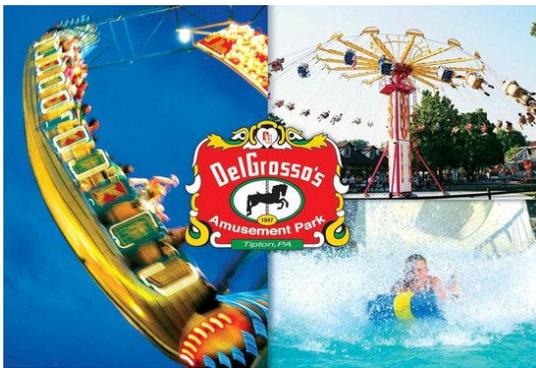
Sonny said he is retiring because of his health. In addition to the operation mentioned above, Sonny had a combination pacemaker-fibrillator implanted this past December. Sonny is going to take it easy around the house, continue his passion for hunting and fishing, and be entertained by his two grandchildren.



Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> has been declared "Sonny Dobson Day" at Zimmerman Truck Lines. There will be a catered lunch and a chance for drivers, co-workers, and vendors to wish Sonny good luck in his retirement.

"I have no regrets," Sonny told us. "Caddy, Ron, and Mark – they've all treated me well. It was fun and I never felt like I was coming to work. You know what they say, 'If you like what you're doing, it isn't work at all.'"

**BRING YOUR FAMILY — COMPANY PICNIC JULY 13TH!**



**Gina Himes** and **Samantha Syjud** are once more organizing the company picnic. This event is **FREE** for all ZTL employees, their spouse or significant other, and their kids OR grandkids 18 and under. Tickets for anyone not included in this list can be purchased for \$31 each. It will be held again this year at Del Grosso's Amusement Park in Tipton, PA. Reservation forms are going to be distributed in mailboxes by June 13th and must be completed and returned no later than Friday June 28th. The park opens at 11 AM and a catered meal will be served at noon. See you there!

**BENEFITS VARY: SHORT TERM OR LONG TERM DISABILITY**

**Cinda Lauver**, Benefits Manager, explains more about short and long term disability coverage. "These are optional policies each employee can purchase either together or separately, but sometimes there is confusion over the coverage. Short term disability covers illness or non-working related injury and starts paying on the eighth day of the disability for up to 12 weeks. As most people know, work-related injuries are covered by Workman's Compensation insurance which is paid by the company. Short term disability does not cover work related injuries," Cinda said.

"However, long term disability will cover work related injuries after three months of disability. And for benefits to be paid, all conditions and qualifications have to be met as outlined in the policy." She did say that non-work related injuries are also covered by long-term disability.



For more information on disability or other kinds of supplemental insurance, call Cinda at x250 or stop by her office in the Accounting Department. She is in from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM Monday through Friday.

**MIND YOUR—>>**

**Are you contributing as much as you can to your 401(k)? Are your beneficiaries up to date? Do you track and manage the value of your retirement account? Have you had any major life events?**



**<<— NEST EGG!**

**Births, deaths, marriage, divorce? If you have questions or doubts, call Derek in accounting at x249 or stop by to visit. Your future is too important to neglect your retirement!**

## **INTERNATIONAL SAFETY INSPECTION WEEK**

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance’s (CVSA) International Roadcheck will take place June 4-6. Over that 72-hour period, commercial motor vehicle inspectors in jurisdictions throughout North America will conduct inspections on commercial motor vehicles and drivers. This year’s focus is steering and suspension systems.



During International Roadcheck, CVSA-certified inspectors will primarily conduct the North American Standard Level I Inspection, a 37-step procedure that includes an examination of driver operating requirements and vehicle mechanical fitness. Inspectors may opt to conduct the Level II Walk-Around Driver/Vehicle Inspection, Level III Driver/Credential/Administrative Inspection or Level V Vehicle-Only Inspection.

The vehicle inspection includes checking critical inspection items such as: brake systems; cargo securement; coupling devices; driveline/drive shaft; driver’s seat; exhaust systems; frames; fuel systems; lighting devices (headlamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, turn signals and lamps/flags on projecting loads); steering mechanisms; suspensions; tires; van and open-top trailer bodies; wheels, rims and hubs; windshield wipers.

Drivers will be required to provide their driver’s license (operating credentials), Medical Examiner’s Certificate and Skill Performance Evaluation Certificate (if applicable), driver’s record of duty status, and vehicle inspection reports (if applicable). Inspectors will also check drivers for seat belt usage, sickness, fatigue, and apparent alcohol and/or drug impairment.

If no critical vehicle inspection item violations are found during a Level I or Level V Inspection, a CVSA decal will be applied to the vehicle, indicating that the vehicle successfully passed a decal-eligible inspection conducted by a CVSA-certified inspector; however, when a rear impact guard is required and violations are present, a CVSA decal shall not be issued.

If an inspector does identify critical vehicle inspection item violations, he or she may render the vehicle out of service if the condition meets the North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria.

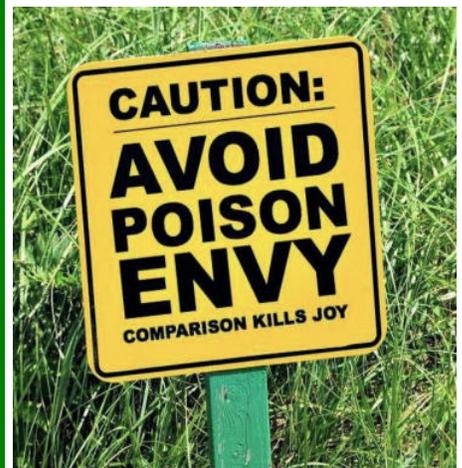
**Remember, ZTL Drivers are paid a bonus for a successful inspection: \$25 for a Level I, \$15 for a Level II, and \$10 for a Level III.**

## **SPOTTED LANTERNFLY UPDATE**

SLF is on the move and affected areas have recently been updated.

Counties in PA include:

Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Dauphin (recently added), Delaware, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill. All trucks should display their SLF permit and know the procedures for spotting this invasive pest. If you have any questions about SLF, talk to Geoff or Dave.



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## THE SUN ALSO RISES

Because of Sonny's departure at the end of this month, it's going to be a sunny day for **Mike McGovern**, the new Parts Manager for Zimmerman Truck Repairs. Born in South Dakota, raised in Malvern, PA, and schooled at Penn Tech in Williamsport, Mike now calls Freeburg home. He's worked in a variety of jobs over the years. Among other skills Mike has acquired, he is a state certified hearing instrument specialist. He got his parts management experience during two stints totaling twelve years at AutoZone.



This is his first time working for a trucking company. "I'm not afraid of hard work. I know parts and I like to analyze things. Finding the right part, searching for alternatives, or equivalents is how to get the job done," Mike said.

Mike's first day on the job was April 1st. He's been training with Sonny and learning the "Zimmerman way" for nearly two months now. About having no experience in trucking, Mike said, "You can learn anything, but you must first start with the right attitude."

### DATES TO REMEMBER

CVSA International RoadCheck—  
June 4th, 5th and 6th  
Independence Day Holiday—Thursday July 4th  
Summer Picnic & Splash—Saturday July 13th  
Employee Appreciation Week—Aug 19th to 23rd

Together we are making things better!

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS ...

Mike Tyger — June 3  
Jon Kindervater — June 17  
Tim Barner — June 18  
Daryl Feltman — June 20  
Garry Brown — June 27  
Tommy Diemert — June 28

## ... AND ANNIVERSARIES

Dave Muretta — 19 years  
Tim Barner — 16 years  
Dennis Weaver — 16 years  
Shane Creamer — 15 years  
Ricky Snyder — 12 years  
Tommy Diemert — 5 years  
Jim London — 2 years

Thirty teachers from the Juniata County School District have been rescheduled to attend "classes" at ZTL on the morning of Tuesday June 11th. The topics will focus on what skills students need to succeed in the complex world of logistics and transportation.

**Yes. Doing  
your job  
is part  
of your  
job.**

## QUOTE FOR THE MONTH

*"Economic expansions  
don't die of old age —  
they're murdered!"  
— Wall Street adage*

**ZIMMERMAN TRUCK LINES, INC.**