

# TARA News

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The Truck-frame & Axle Repair Association (TARA)  
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Greetings from Missouri,

Summer is really flying by. I hope you all have had a vacation or have one planned before school starts. Susan, Luke, and I just returned last week from a few days at the Lake of the Ozarks in southern Missouri. We had a great family vacation complete with a beautiful view of the lake from our room. No plans, no agenda, just three days relaxing, swimming, reading, mixed with a few trips to the “strip” with bumper boats, miniature golf, and a go-cart track that seemed to fascinate Luke, our 13 year old. It’s been a while since we took a family vacation, usually we mix a TARA meeting as a vacation but this summer we had a great time in the Ozarks.

Speaking of TARA, we have several things on the agenda, first and foremost is our upcoming meeting in Moline, Illinois, September 19<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you haven’t sent your registration form in please get them in soon as I believe the hotel cut-off date is August 19<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot planned for this meeting with some excellent speakers. Just a few of the items being covered will be anti-lock brake systems by Arvin-Meritor: steering gears by BAB Steering and Hydraulics, Conflict resolution, Robyn Elston: and Financial Planning by Lary Feldkamp. We will also tour the John-Deere plant, the Bee-Line training facilities, and elect and install our new slate of officers for the upcoming two year term. All in all it’s going to be a great meeting hosted by our long time friends at the Bee-Line Company and they also have a wonderful tour for the ladies on Thursday. So get those registrations sent in and let’s fill the Stony Creek Inn with TARA folks!

Also in our plans is a technical training event on truck and trailer brake systems. We’ll have more information on this in the upcoming newsletters. Also our winter meeting will be held in February in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the Truck Maintenance Council. I’m sure both of these events are going to be great meetings and ones you won’t want to miss.

Again I want to encourage you to mark the dates September 19<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup> for our fall meeting in Moline, Illinois. A great program, unique hotel, and plenty of great people makes for a wonderful event. Susan and I are looking forward to seeing all of our TARA friends in Moline.

Until next month,

Dudley Powell

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TARA Meeting Moline, IL. September 19-22,2007

Enclosed is a Registration Form and updated program for the upcoming meeting. Please note the critical dates for room reservations; there is another event that weekend so rooms may be of a premium. Yes the room rate is \$84.00 and is a very neat Inn. Visit at [www.stoneycreekinn.com](http://www.stoneycreekinn.com).

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Education and information is obtained only with the commitment to learn and to attend programs to gain this information.

## Speaker Highlights

The TARA Program in Moline looks like one that you most certainly don't want to miss. Mike McCoy and the Bee Line Company have put together an excellent program.

Wednesday evening will be the Registration and Hospitality hour. Please plan to arrive so you can enjoy the company of your old friends and meet some new people who will be attending their first meeting.

Thursday morning will be the business meeting as the schedule indicates. Then our speakers take over for very interesting and much needed information on many areas.

**Mr. Mac Whitmore, Midwest Regional Manager, ArvinMeritor** will be speaking on ABS brake systems. Mac has an extensive background in the Transportation industry spending 30 years on the supplier side of the industry. For the past 25 years he has been associated with ArvinMeritor from service, technical, support and the past 2 ½ years as Midwest Regional Manager. Mac has also been very involved with TMC.

Topics will be ABS and all new developments to the systems. From a basic understanding of ABS through the options such as ATC, RSC, RSSS and Adaptive cruise. How each works, what they do and what diagnostics are Or will be available.

**Mr. Dick Henning, VP Sales & Marketing, BAB Steering Hydraulics, Inc.** will put his many years of experience and expertise into the complete look at the steering and front end mechanics. His talk will include the following:

** Troubleshooting	** Poppet Adjustments	**Maintenance	**Correct fluid usage
** Tire Wear	**Alignment	** King pin wear	**Drag links
**Gear identification	**Pump identification	**Failure analysis	**Hoses & connections

**Robin Martin Elston, President, Elston Consulting** will present a program on Resolving Conflict in Difficult Situations. Management roles can be tough, especially when managing a diverse workforce. “Resolving Conflict in Difficult Situations” will teach participants to handle even the toughest situations with skill and confidence while reaching a productive resolution.

**Diffusing Emotion and Listening with “Presence”:** The first step in resolving an issue is to diffuse the emotion. Participants will be taught to diffuse difficult emotional situations to ready the situation for problem solving and resolution.

**Discovering Intention and Reaching Resolution:** Emotion aside, participants will learn to identify, discover and stick to their intention in any conflict without crippling the relationship long term or creating situations where there is a “winner” and a “loser”.

**Building Commitment:** Once conflict is resolved and people are committed plans fall into place. The trick is to build the commitment while you build the plans. In this session participants will learn how to build commitment so that plans fall into place.

**Diversity and Results:** Sometime conflict resolution is made more complicated given the inherent differences in people. This session will deal with issues that come up in diverse workplaces and explore strategies for overcoming those differences while reaching resolution.

Robyn is a popular corporate trainer, business solver and motivational speaker. She has degrees in Chemical Engineering and Administration, as well as much experience in the corporate world.

TARA Program--- Stoney Creek Inn  
101 18<sup>th</sup> ST.  
Moline, IL

### Wednesday, September 19, 2007

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM Registration, Hospitality Hour

### Thursday, September 20, 2007

7:30 AM Closed Meeting (Regular Members)  
9:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
9:15 AM Open Meeting  
10:15 AM Break  
  
10:30 AM Mr. Mac Whittemore  
ArvinMeritor  
Midwest Regional Manager  
ABS New Developments & Systems  
  
12:00 PM Lunch  
1:30 PM Mr. Dick Henning  
BAB Steering  
Steering Gear Fundamentals  
Problems and Solutions  
  
4:30 PM Adjourn  
6:30 PM Dinner  
Program  
Installation of Officers

### Friday, September 21, 2007

8:00 AM Group 1 Ladies & Men  
Board Bus to Deere & Company Tour  
  
Group 2 Ladies & Men  
Mr. Lary Feldkamp  
Financial Planning  
  
9:30 AM Group 2 Board Bus to Deere & Company  
  
10:30 AM Group 1  
Mr. Lary Feldkamp  
Financial Planning  
  
12:00 PM Lunch  
1:30 PM Robyn Elston  
Elston Consulting  
Conflict Resolution  
  
4:30 PM Adjourn

Friday Evening Open

### Saturday, September 22, 2007

8:30 AM Board Bus to Bee Line Company  
9:00 AM Coffee & rolls  
9:30 AM Demonstrations  
12:00 PM Lunch & Closing

### Ladies Program

### Wednesday, September 19, 2007

6:30 PM Registration & Social Hour

### Thursday, September 20, 2007

9:45 AM Bus to Country Manor Chocolate Tour  
11:30 AM Village of East Davenport --Lunch & Shopping  
  
1:30 PM Isabel Bloom Factory Tour  
[www.ibloom.com](http://www.ibloom.com)  
  
3:15 PM Return to hotel  
  
6:30 PM Dinner  
Program  
Installation of Officers

### Friday, September 21, 2007

8:00 AM Group 1 Board Bus to Deere & Company Tour  
Group 2 Financial Planning  
9:30 AM Group 2 Board Bus to Deere & Company Tour  
10:30 AM Group 1 Financial Planning  
12:00 PM Lunch  
1:30 PM Conflict Resolution  
Open to those who wish to attend

### Saturday, September 22, 2007

8:30 AM Board Bus to Bee Line Company

REGISTRATION  
TARA Fall Meeting  
September 19-22, 2007  
STONEY CREEK INN  
Moline, IL

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ Zip CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fees: Regular Meeting \$300.00 Women's Program \$175.00

Print names as you want it to appear on badge. (Make copies for additional registrations.)

First Name	Last Name	Registration Amount
_____	_____	\$ _____
Spouse _____		\$ _____

Total Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Prepayment Required Check \_\_\_\_\_ or Visa/ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ (information below)

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HOTEL REGISTRATION: STONEY CREEK INN  
101 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Moline, IL 61265 Phone: 309-743-0101

TARA must make reservations for meeting rates. Hotel registration deadline: August 19, 2007  
Room Rates \$84.00 (Your room will be guaranteed with your credit card, no checks please.)

NAME	ARRIVAL DATE	DEPARTURE DATE
_____	_____	_____

Single \_\_\_\_\_ Double - Double \_\_\_\_\_ King \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: Check \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
Wayne Reich  
TARA Administrator  
3741 Enterprise Dr. SW  
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Fax to:  
(Credit Card Only)  
866-529-0380

Questions:  
800-232-8272

## Bee Line Tour

On Saturday, September 22nd Bee Line Company welcomes you to their recently renovated training center located across the Mississippi River in Bettendorf Iowa. Bee line instructors will be available in the morning, and will be demonstrating different Bee Line truck frame and alignment equipment.

Demonstrations will include the new on-the-truck Smart Balancer. This wheel balancer is state-of-the-art and that tells the operator how much weight to add and where to put it, taking all the guesswork out of the process. If you have been avoiding offering on-the-truck wheel balancing service, this is a must-see demonstration. Feel confident in wheel balancing and add to your bottom line by offering this essential service that can be done by almost anyone.

Another new product that will be demonstrated will be the brand new LC 7000 laser computer alignment gauging system. Wait until you see this unit. You'll be amazed by how simple and fast the calibration and wheel alignment gauging process is. Both front heads are wireless and have their own LCD video screen built in for convenience and speed. Each of these two new products are cheaper than their predecessors.

There will also be demonstrations of attachments for truck frame correction, and axle correction for truck wheel alignment.

The program will conclude with a cookout catered by a local meat market with butterfly pork chops, brats, and all the fixings on the menu.