

# TARA News

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The Truck-frame & Axle Repair Association (TARA)  
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www.taraassociation.com

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Greetings from Missouri,

Well I hope everyone is having a great summer. Here in Missouri it's been a very busy one so far. My older brother is here from Alaska this summer helping me coach a 14 and under baseball team. There is quite a bit of difference in the weather between Missouri and Alaska. I don't think they like these 95 degree days we've been having. Last week-end we traveled to Kansas City for the USSSA State Tournament. Let me tell you, if you want a challenge, take 14 boys all the way across the state to play in the state tournament.

A little discipline, curfews, no swimming rules, proper rest and care, along with some very well played games and our country kids seeing how things are done in the city made for quite a week-end, and one these young men won't soon forget. We started practicing indoors back in February getting ready for this season. Commitment, dedication, and teamwork have been discussed often. Setting goals and achieving them have also been a part of our program. As the season winds down these young men have really built some strong friendships and had a summer of fond memories.

As I look at our summer baseball program and the commitment these young men have made, I can't help but compare our baseball team to our TARA organization. A lot of people throughout the years have been committed to TARA and have constantly worked hard to improve our organization. Like any team or organization we've had our ups and downs but we remain together and dedicated to helping each other and working to always get better. Our programs and seminars are always geared to bring new information and education to our membership. Our Allied members are always willing to help with our programs and suggest new ideas to make our organization better. Our new members are brought in and made to feel welcome and let me tell you I have learned a lot and am very grateful to be a TARA member. I hope you are marking the dates of September 19<sup>th</sup> thru 22<sup>nd</sup> for our fall meeting in Moline, Illinois. It is going to be a great meeting with something for everyone. I know Susan and I are looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Until next month,

Dudley Powell

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Please note the following address change:

KW Spring & Suspension Limited  
872 Courtland Avenue East  
Ketchener, Ontario N2C 1K5

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I recently received this from Fred McCoy and I ran it past several members for their input and decided to send it out via E-mail, which we did. However we do not have all current address information so decided to enclose it in the Newsletter. Please note we are just looking for feedback on any proposals or details about a common meeting. We have received several replies so far, but welcome your thoughts positive or negative

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## Open Letter to TARA and NTHECC Members

It was suggested to the TARA management, by an active member in both groups, that our organizations should work to work more closely to allow members of each organization to participate in each group. Many times our meeting times conflict and the expense of attending both meetings plus being out of the office makes it impossible to attend both meetings twice a year.

Over the last several years I have found that my interests have been better served by attending the TARA meetings because it allowed me to “rub shoulders” with the shop people. I miss that in that I am tied to a desk and do get to talk to adjusters during the day. Presentations at TARA meetings are generally more technical and I do enjoy that.

Both groups should have interest in the technical side of our business and coming from the insurance side I think adjusters would be better equipped to handle claims if they are more technically informed in that the insurance company-client will made the coverage decisions.

We have noted over the years that NTHECC has had presentations that TARA members would have found interesting and TARA has had presentations that NTHECC members would have found interesting. In discussing this issue with the party that made the suggestion I thought that was the main thrust of his suggestion. If during the year either organization had presentations he found he wanted to be part of he found it necessary to make a decision as to which meeting to attend if he could not attend both meetings.

Although I recently retired from full time work at National Indemnity Company I am continuing to work part time and have agreed to work with the membership committee at TARA. We are very interested in retaining our current members and gaining new members. We ask that each of you think about what our two great groups can do to better serve our joint interests, the customer/policy holder/trucker/fleet owner, in the same way we would expect to be served. If we can come up with a way to work together we think we could accomplish that.

TARA wants your input as to how we can do a better job. That is the bottom line. Let’s get going on that NOW. Time is getting away from us so please get your thoughts back to us.

Email your thoughts to me at: [flmccoy@nationalindemnity.com](mailto:flmccoy@nationalindemnity.com) or [realmac@cox.net](mailto:realmac@cox.net). You can also write to our TARA Administrator, Wayne Reich at [w.g.reich@att.net](mailto:w.g.reich@att.net).

Let us hear from you soon!

Fred L. McCoy

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

Enclosed is a Registration Form 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). click on Quad Cities.

We have an excellent group of speakers covering a variety of interesting topics. Mr. Mac Whittemore, ArvinMeritor speaking on the new developments in the ABS systems and the effect on our business. Mr. Dick Henning, BAB Steering gear systems, problems, corrections. Ms. Robyn Elston, Elston Consulting on Conflict Resolution, not that there is any in today’s world. Mr. Lary Feldkamp on personal financial planning.

Tours of the Deere & Company for ladies and men, please note no cameras or open toe shoes. (No sandals) All this plus our Installation of Officers Dinner & Program on Thursday evening. Topping out the program will be the trip to the Bee Line Company on Saturday. Don’t hesitate, send in your reservations and join your friends for education and social events.

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

9:30 AM Isabel Bloom Factory Tour  
[www.ibloom.com](http://www.ibloom.com)

Lunch

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  
Rochester, MN. 55902

Fax to:  
(Credit Card Only)  
866-529-0380

Questions:  
800-232-8272



