



Greetings from Michigan!

The Razenberg house is busy tonight as I write this letter. We are full of anticipation and excitement for tomorrow is the first day of school for our kids. Yes, there are some anxieties about the upcoming school year such as what the home work will be and what the teacher will be like however there is a great anticipation as to what the school year will bring.

I have some anxiety too. The upcoming meeting in St. Louis is different than what I had hoped for and anticipated. What we were after in a joint meeting with the NTHECC did not pan out. I will take full responsibility for the change in meeting format and realize this change may not be palatable for some in our association, for this I do apologize. We will however be treated to an excellent program on vibration analysis. I would certainly welcome you to send your technicians if you feel this meeting format would be beneficial to them.

The majority of our meeting will take place Thursday and Friday at Hunter and will be technical in nature rather than in a hotel meeting room with several invited speakers. The TARA regular business meeting will take place Saturday morning.

Evenings during the meeting will be free as opposed to a TARA dinner. The reasoning behind this is that the NTHECC is having some dinner opportunities and that some may wish to attend those as we had hoped to have a joint meeting with them. Please check the NTHECC website [www.nthecc.org](http://www.nthecc.org) to get an agenda for their meeting dates and times.

If you wish to be on the NTHECC guest invitation list please e-mail Richard Bruce at [pr@nthecc.org](mailto:pr@nthecc.org). Wayne has worked diligently with Richard to facilitate this.

There are some great things on the horizon for TARA and I hope to see you in St. Louis!

*Bob Razenberg*

Until next month,  
Bob Razenberg

# CHECK IT OUT!!

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**Last call for St. Louis  
TARA Fall Meeting  
Oct. 1-4, 2008  
St. Louis Airport Marriott**

The 2009 TARA Fall meeting will include a vibration seminar presented by our good friends at Hunter Engineering, a great ladies day tour of St. Louis, and another chance to visit the great state of Missouri. "Heck of a deal isn't it!" The complete program agenda and registration form is enclosed. If you have any questions give Wayne a call at 800-232-8272.

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## **Hunter Vibration seminar for TARA**

The goal of this seminar is to share information relative to confirming, isolating and repairing vehicle vibration problems common to light and heavy duty vehicles.

Vibration theory will be discussed to establish the foundation needed to quickly isolate and repair vibration concerns. A good understanding of frequency, amplitude, point of resonance and transfer paths is essential when diagnosing vibration problems.

Tire and wheel balancing will be discussed with the focus on understanding the different balancing methods, accessories and techniques used by the industry. New concepts and old traditions will be tested during this discussion. Hands-on demonstrations will be included as well.

T.I.R., loaded run out and road force variation will be discussed with the emphasis on knowing the difference between these measurements and how to apply the measurements to solving vibration issues.

### **QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

***"Always remember that in life, you make choices and then those choices make you."***

**~Brian Mertens~**

## 2009 Meeting Dates

Mark your calendars for February 15th thru 19th, 2009. TARA's winter meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the Heavy Duty Aftermarket Week. HDAW '09 will be held at the Orange County Convention Center. Hotel arrangements are being made as of this writing. HDAW is the largest North American gathering of the independent aftermarket users in the heavy duty industry. More than 1800 managers and executives from 17 countries including manufacturers, service providers, educators and media members attended the 2008 conference. For a look at the coming attractions of this industry event go to the Heavy Duty Aftermarket week website: [www.hdaw.org](http://www.hdaw.org). On Sunday, February 15th, there will be a golf event starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Shingle Creek Golf Club. The cost is \$175 and the registration is limited with payment and registration form being submitted before September 30th, 2008.

Tentative plans include a TARA registration and social on Sunday evening, TARA business meetings on Monday morning, with technical speakers on Monday afternoon. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday will include technical and educational seminars and the HDAW product trade show. From the conversations I've had with people that have attended this event, it is a great meeting and networking place. The educational seminars are exceptional. I know I'm looking forward to going. More information along with hotel accommodations will be published in the coming month's newsletter. Again, mark these dates for our winter meeting February 15th thru 19th 2009, in Orlando, Florida.

## Are you looking to hire in 2009?

If you are looking to hire people in the next year, the Beloit College Mind-Set list just came out, and it includes some very interesting views of what this year's college freshmen class thinks. The Beloit College Mind-set list was first published in 1998 and is updated each year to remind its professors that certain references familiar to them might just bring out blank stares from the students. One such reference to the past used to be Watergate. A few students were asked about Watergate a number of years ago and their reply was "that's where Monica Lewinsky lived." Students entering college this fall have lived their whole life in a digital world—where GPS has always been available, phones have always had caller ID and tax returns could always be filed online. While the list is a reminder to the professors to update their references, it also prevents the students from thinking that the way something is now is the way it's always been. Some cultural markers are all but unknown to the students include IBM typewriters, gas-station attendants who fix flat-tires or offer to check under the hood. While I won't print the entire list of 60, some points that caught my eye were:

- #5 Coke and Pepsi have always been available in recycled plastic bottles.
- #18 www has never stood for World Wide Wrestling.
- #22 Clarence Thomas has always sat on the Supreme Court.
- #33 The Tonight Show has always been hosted by Jay Leno.
- #38 Lenin's name has never been on a major city in Russia.
- #52 Moscow residents have always been able to buy Big Macs.
- #57 Offshore oil drilling in the United States has always been prohibited.

A few years ago Robin Elston made a presentation at our TARA meeting in Columbus, Ohio and she talked about how the new generation looks at things so much differently than we do. This Mind-Set list just confirms a lot of what Robin talked about. So if you are interviewing some of these young people for employment in the coming months, remember, there is a generation gap. And their view of life is a lot different than our view. Not better or worse, just different. And we as employer's need to be aware of some of those differences.



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