



hook & winch

FROM THE DESK OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BART GIESLER

As I write my article for this month, I need to thank everyone who has helped me and ITWA this past year. At the top of the list is President Sue Moreland. As most of you know, when Sue is in charge, she is going to make sure that everything is organized and things will run on time. She was instrumental in our first EV Training this past spring. She took her experience at another show and brought the presenters here, made sure we had a great training location, and made sure that everyone had plenty of food and drink. The Tow Show is another place where Sue stepped up big – whether contacting vendors and sponsors, personally hiring the entertainment, and even making sure the tent was up on time (this was more difficult than it should have been because of the weather and inexperienced crew). The final activity of the year, the Christmas party, was a success because of her efforts. In most of these cases, Crystal Rose was by her side helping to make sure that the locations, menus and all the logistics were in place to have successful events. They both have given me articles for newsletters every month.

While these events could not have happened without these two, I am more appreciative of all the time Sue has given the Association to help me throughout the year. This may be from answering questions that have popped up from both members and non-members, discussing legislation and how it might impact the industry, or offering ideas for what ITWA should be focused on.

I want to thank all the people who have contributed articles for the newsletter. If you have any ideas for articles, please let us know. We try to give you as much new information and ideas for you to think about, as possible. Please take the time and let people know that you appreciate them writing articles.

Thanks to everyone who has paid their dues, sold their raffle tickets, contributed to the auctions (Diana Bell for the quilt), purchased items from the auction, came to meetings or trainings, worked the booth, or attended a speaker's presentation. It is all of these things, bringing people together for a cause, that make ITWA work.

The last person I need to thank is Walt Hamilton. He is the person behind the scenes that makes sure all the paperwork is done (raffle, taxes, insurance and all the financial reports).

With December in the rearview mirror, January brings new year's resolutions for most people. For me, since 1993, January means the beginning of session since that was my first year lobbying full-time (I interned in 1989). One of the things I have learned over the years is that each session is different and unique. While the Republicans have super-majorities in

Continued on Page 3



2022 OFFICERS

Chairman of the Board: **Tom Bertagnolli**

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Vice President Central: VACANT

Vice President South: Josh Hercamp

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Karrie Driscoll

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Executive Officer: Bart Giesler

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each chamber, each chamber will have new members. Some of the new ones defeated previous members while others won open seats. They all bring a different perspective based on their own life experiences. I often get asked, “How do you deal with it?” I think the answer is simple – I know the rules of the game. I may not like them, but I know what they are. I think this is probably true for most of you. How do you deal with angry customers; how do you get up in the middle of the night to help out a stranger to fix one of their mistakes? We just all deal with it.

As far as session, I won’t know what bills are out there until mid-January after the filing deadline has passed. This is a budget year and the state is expected to receive more than a billion in “new” revenue. The problem is that with inflation, the state’s costs are expected to rise by a similar number leaving relatively no new revenue for additional programs. The legislature and the Governor’s office will have different ideas and these differences won’t get resolved until the last days of session in late April. ITWA will send out periodic legislative updates throughout session. If you have any relations with your legislators, please let ITWA know. Speaking of legislators, I need to thank Rep. Terri Austin who was defeated in November. She was always helpful for ITWA. She offered various amendments for us over the years and always was there for us.

INDOT BUDGET PRESENTATION

As was previously mentioned, this year is a budget year and state agencies make presentations to the State Budget Committee. In reviewing INDOT’s presentation, they discussed Work Zone Safety. As part of their efforts to improve safety, they mentioned:

Partnering with Indiana State Police;

Supporting Hands Free Driving Laws; and

Continuing to study automated Queue Warning and Haas Alert systems.

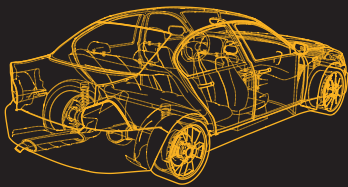
They stated that an analysis of nearly 430 hours of queuing showed 80% reduction in hard-braking events when queue warning trucks were present. Even with this reduction, INDOT reported that in the first 9 months of 2022, there were 5,332 work zone and work zone queue crashes, resulting in 1,091 injuries and 25 deaths.

ITWA recently was contacted for input by Sen. Braun’s office, which is also working on a National Work Zone Awareness resolution. ITWA looks to work with anyone who wants to improve roadside safety. As we pointed out in our reply, the Move Over Law in work zones will allow accidents to be removed quicker, because we have more room to work safely. That, in turn, allows the roadway to be opened up quicker, which prevents secondary accidents in the queue.

Working along the road is dangerous for everyone. We need to continue to work with other groups to highlight the danger.

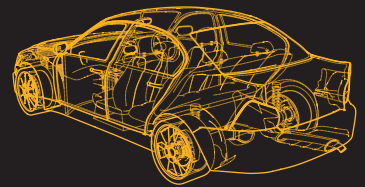
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FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT MORELAND

I would like to start off by thanking everyone who came out to the annual Christmas Party and celebrated with us! The folks at the DoubleTree did a great job, and I had a lot of positive comments on the venue and food. We had a very successful silent auction and raised some money for the Sonny Henline Survivor Fund. Thanks to Bart and everyone who played a part in putting the day together for us to enjoy!

I would also like to congratulate the winners of the Cash for Christmas Raffle, and recognize two of the winners who so graciously gifted their winnings back to the ITWA Scholarship Fund. Cindy King of Indy Towing was the first place winner of \$2000, and has donated all of that back to the Scholarship Fund, and Joe's Towing of Chesterton, IN, donated their third place winnings back to the scholarship fund, as well. Thanks so much for your support of ITWA!

Earlier in the day elections were held and I want to congratulate Josh Hercamp on assuming the Chairman of the Board position. Josh takes over the position previously held by Tom Bertagnolli, and I want to thank Tom for all his years of devoted service to the association, thanks for your leadership and guidance over the years. We really appreciate it!

I also want to congratulate Joey Driscol and Ken Parrish on their new positions as VP Central and VP South. I am so excited that these men have stepped up. They have already hit the ground running, working on great things for the tow show and training activities for next year!

Lots of planning is going on behind the scenes for the 2023 Tow Show. In January we will begin to share some of those highlights and the new events we will be featuring.

Best of Wishes to Everyone for a Safe and Happy Holiday!

Sue

2023 ITWA OFFICERS

President Sue Moreland – Northwest Towing

North VP – Crystal Rose – Cheever's Towing

Central VP – Joey Driscol – Joey's Enterprise

South VP – Ken Parrish – Ken's Westside

Treasurer – Walt Hamilton – Walt's Service

Secretary – Karrie Driscol – Joey's Enterprise

Chairman of Board – Josh Hercamp – 31 Wrecker Service

ITWA wants to thank Tom Bertagnolli for his years of service to the Board.

Tom decided not to run for re-election as Chairman of the Board.

ITWA LADIES AUXILIARY

On December 3 we had a very nice Christmas Party at the DoubleTree in Lafayette. Thank you to the sponsors for your support. And thank you to those who attended. A delicious buffet was served. There were many nice items to bid on at the silent auction and there was a drawing for door prizes. Thank you to everyone who donated. The Cash for Christmas Raffle took place with the proceeds going toward the Scholarship Fund. A nice time was had by all.

The 2023 Christmas Party has already been booked for December 2. It will again take place at the DoubleTree in Lafayette. Mark your calendars and plan to attend next year's ITWA Christmas Celebration!

The plans have already begun for the 2023 ITWA Tow Show to take place on August 18-19 at the Boone County Fair Grounds in Lebanon. There are many ways to get involved in the planning of the show. In what area might you be interested in volunteering? There will also be many opportunities to work at the show, say for an hour or two. Please reach out to Sue or me with any suggestions and offers to help.

The Ladies Luncheon that takes place at the Tow Show each year is dear to the hearts of our Ladies Auxiliary. This year Karrie Driscoll and Karey Crone are already working on plans for this event. I can't wait to see what they have planned. Thank you Karrie and Karey for volunteering your time.

Ladies, if you have not already joined the Ladies Auxiliary, we encourage you to join with us, share your ideas and have the opportunity to support the programs already in place. If you are interested, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Sue or me.

With Christmas just around the corner, I want to leave you with a quote by Charles Dickens. "I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year."

Wishing everyone all the joys of Christmas and happiness throughout the New Year!

Crystal

DATES TO SAVE FOR 2023

August 18-19, 2023

INDIANA TOW SHOW

Boone County Fair Grounds, Lebanon, IN

December 2, 2023

ITWA CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

DoubleTree, Lafayette, IN


ITWA Cash for Christmas Winners

\$2,000 - Cindy King – Indy Towing

\$750 - Kaylie Cook – Cook's Towing

\$250 - Joe's Towing – Chesterton

500 CLUB MEMBERS



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DOT CHAT WITH BRENT HOOVER



Hello and welcome back! If you are new to the column I would like to take a minute and bring you up to speed on who I am. My name is Brent Hoover. I am a Master Trooper with the Indiana State Police. I have started my 19th year with the ISP. I am assigned to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division or CVED for short. My primary daily duty is to enforce the State and Federal Regulations for CMVs in the State of Indiana. I am certified to complete Part A and B Inspections as well as General Haz-mat and Cargo Tank inspections. I am also a Part B Instructor for the National Training Center, which means I teach new inspectors how to inspect and document Level 1 Inspections. I have competed twice in the North American Inspectors Championships. I am the current administrator of the CVED Facebook page where I post about tips and tricks to improve your pre-trip inspections and to avoid common roadside violations.

This month I would like to take a moment and talk to you about cracks!!! We all know that a crack is never a good thing. So, we are going to look at cracks in a rim!

According to FMCSA Regulation 393.205:



- (a) Wheels and rims shall not be cracked or broken
- (b) Stud or bolt holes on the wheels shall not be elongated (out of round).
- (c) Nuts or bolts shall not be missing or loose.

The Out of Service criteria states:

Rim Cracks

Any circumferential crack. (393.205(a))

Disc Wheel Cracks

- (1) Any crack exceeding 3 inches (76.2 mm) in length. (393.205(a))
- (2) A crack extending between any two holes (hand holes, stude holes and center holes.) (393.205(a))
- (3) Two or more cracks anywhere on the wheel. (393.205(a))

I hope that I didn't crack you up too much on this tip! I hope and pray that you all have a safe and Happy Holiday Season!

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at bhoover@isp.in.gov

ITWA 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

December 3, 2022 – 3:00 pm
DoubleTree – Lafayette, IN

Meeting was called to order by Karrie Driscol at 3:00 pm.

Attendees:

Sue Moreland	Crystal Rose	Walt Hamilton	Rick Rose
Ken Parrish	Kathy Parrish	JR Cook	Cindy Cook
Bart Giesler	Josh Hercamp	Micky Hercamp	Brett Bertagnolli
Ryan McGrail	Scott Garrett	Dusty Crone	Karey Crone
Joey Driscol	Karrie Driscol	Barb Norton	Walter Norton
Diane Bell	Loyal Bell	Tim Poe	Dale Nester

A motion to approve the 2021 Annual Minutes by Walt Hamilton and seconded by Sue Moreland. Motion carried.

President Report – President Sue Moreland decided to skip this section due to the topics already being listed on the agenda that she had planned to cover.

Secretary – Treasurer Report was prepared and presented by Walt Hamilton and distributed. Current assets are \$190,051.80. Karrie Driscol made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Loyal Bell. Motion carried.

The Legislative preview was presented by Bart Giesler. Rep. Jim Pressel – Laporte, Indiana BMV, Secretary of State's office was present when asking about a possible increase of storage for electric vehicles. The consensus among the group was they did not feel many companies would be abiding by the 50 ft. rule and there were no changes that needed to be made to storage limits with electric vehicles. Bart is still working with legislators to hold insurance companies accountable for dumping vehicles on towing companies. Lastly, Bart is working on getting the newspaper rates switched from what they are now to a lower governmental rate for newspaper notices when it pertains to vehicles impounded by request of law enforcement. Legislatures will be in session from January through April this year.

Christmas Party – Sue Moreland the Christmas Party for 2023 will be at DoubleTree in Lafayette, IN on December 2, 2023.

2023 Calendars – Sue Moreland the proofs were received on Friday and the calendars will be sent out in the next couple of weeks.

2023 Tow Show – Sue Moreland/Crystal Rose the 2023 Tow Show will be held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Lebanon, IN on August 18 and 19th, 2023. Due to there not being any hotels on sight, the association was working on shuttles. A committee was formed to oversee a driving competition, which is comprised of Ken Parrish, Scott Garrett and Joey Driscol. It was decided that the ladies luncheon would also be held on site and Crystal Rose asked for help with the menu planning for the ladies luncheon. Karrie Driscol volunteered to help oversee the menu planning for the meal with help from Karey Crone. There will be more details available as plans are established.

ITWA Succession planning was presented by Sue Moreland and Bart Giesler. There are many executive committee seats that are going to be coming available next year. President, Treasurer, VP North are expected to be available, and there could always be others as well. The Treasurer's duties encompass many different responsibilities and a plan on how to delegate some of those responsibilities to other members of the executive committee was discussed. The need for someone

who will be able to take the position for a minimum of 5 years and a history within the association was also discussed. These topics will be discussed throughout the year as the committee determines the best path forward for our success in the future for our association.

Frick 2023 Contract – Bart Giesler of Frick and Associates has verbally requested an increase of \$4,000 annually. This was discussed and determined that Frick and Associates have not received a raise in 8 years. There was a discussion about whether to vote on the raise at the meeting. Sue Moreland, President, stated she had not received anything in writing and Crystal Rose, VP North, stated she was not willing to vote on the increase at this time as it was a rushed decision and the ITWA was not presented with a written proposal. A committee was selected to review the request. The committee would include the executive committee, JR Cook, Mickey Hercamp, and Bill McClannahan. A vote was made for the approval of the \$4000.00 increase, pending the review of the contract by the executive committee and special committee, (as named above). The motion carried.

The 2023 Officer Elections- Bart Giesler read the nomination as follows:

Chairman of Board – Josh Hercamp

President – Sue Moreland

Treasurer – Walt Hamilton

Secretary – Karrie Driscol

Vice President North – Crystal Rose

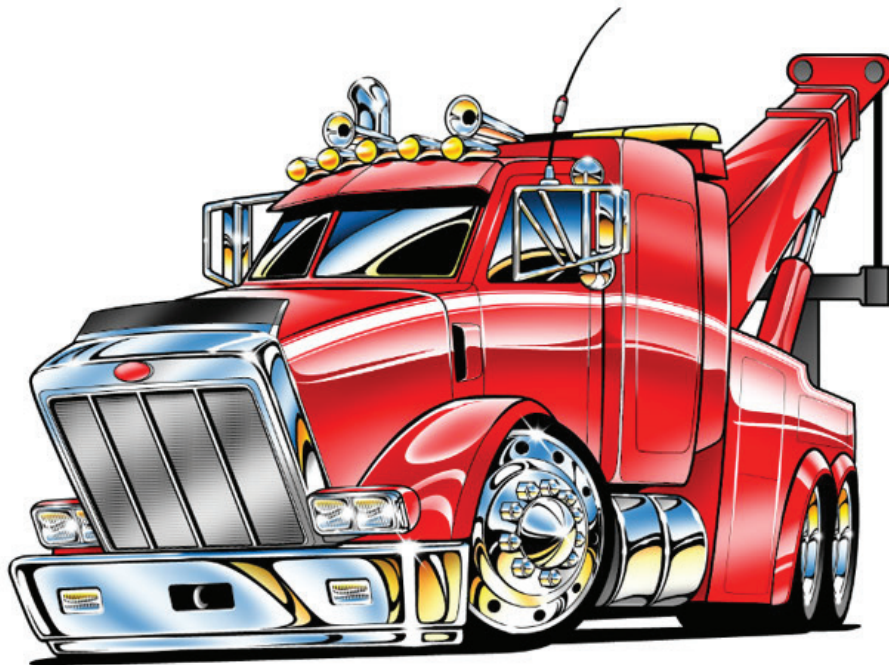
Vice President Central – Joey Driscol

Vice President South – Ken Parrish

There were no objections and all nominees were voted into office.

Adjournment of the meeting – Sue Moreland. Loyal Bell motioned for adjournment and Walt Hamilton seconded.

Please note – these minutes are draft and will not be approved until the 2023 Annual Meeting.



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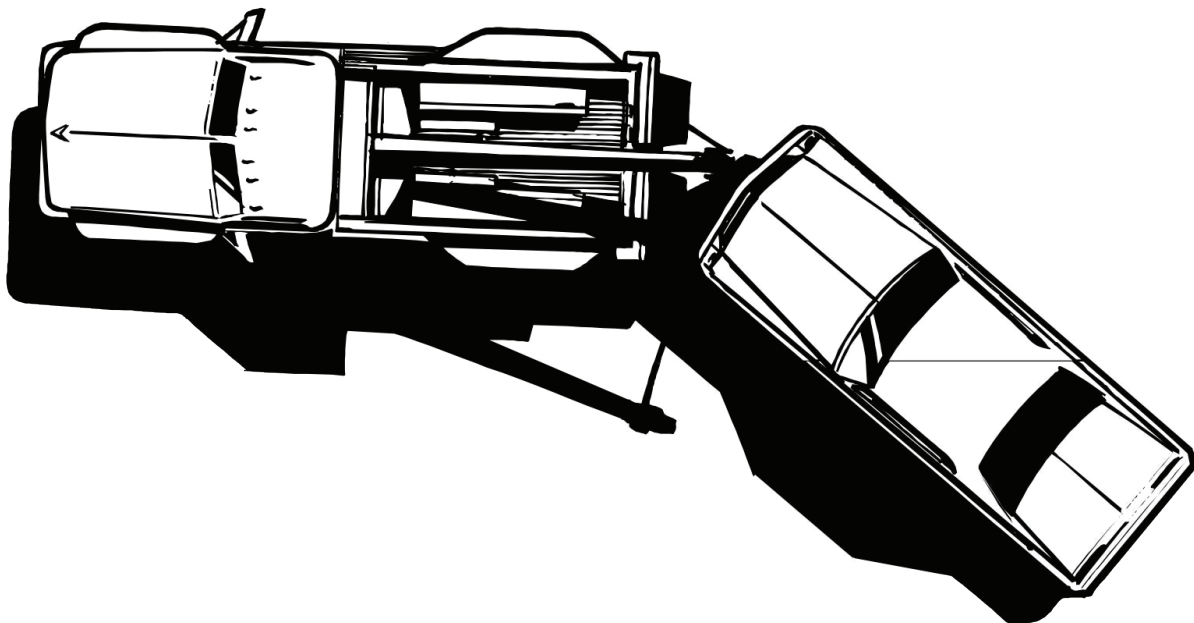
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