



AA Transportation Co., Inc.

605 HARTFORD TURNPIKE
SHREWSBURY, MA 01545

JUNE 2009

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE TOP

Mary Howes



We are coming to the end of another school year, a bit later than normal because of the bad winter and snow days, but it is finally the end. I personally thank each and every one of you for your good work during the past school year. Overall we had a good year.

Now the Summer Programs, Summer School Routes and Charters begin. There is plenty of work available, so see your Manager to sign-up that you are available to work.

We mourn the loss of our Grafton Driver Mary, who passed away on May 22 after a long battle with cancer.

Don't forget our End of School Year Party at Wright's Chicken Farm on Saturday, June 13. If you have not signed up to attend, please see your Manager to do so. I'd like to see all our employees attend, if you can.

A Memorial Mass will be held on June 20 at 9:00AM in St. Mary's Church, Uxbridge.

Also, look at the events we have scheduled through the rest of the year. They are listed below. Take advantage of these opportunities to have some fun with and meet some of your fellow employees. Having fun together is just as important as working together.

We send our Deepest Sympathy to Mary's family and friends.

Remember to send me your comments and ideas about our company and what we do for our customers. Your views are important to me, and I will respond to every comment and idea I receive.

Thank You again and have a GREAT SUMMER!

Perfect Attendance

Ron Ernenwein, President

**Awards
Drawing**

**APRIL drawing
winners for the
two \$250
Wal-Mart Gift
Cards**

**PATRICIA TIGHE
LAKE STREET**

**EVAN DUMAS
GARAGE**

**MAY Winners will
be announced in
July.**

**In addition to the MONTHLY
drawing for the \$250 GIFT
CARDS, every employee with
Perfect Attendance for the Month
gets an individual monthly
award too.**

**IN-SERVICE MONTHLY
TRAINING & SAFETY
MEETING SCHEDULE**

***STARTING
SEPTEMBER
2009 - ALL
MEETINGS
WILL BE ON
TUESDAY***



THE EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

END OF SCHOOL YEAR PARTY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

***SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH
WRIGHT'S CHICKEN FARM***

***SEE YOUR MANAGER TO SIGN-UP
TO ATTEND***

***WE WILL PROVIDE SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION
TO AND FROM WRIGHT'S CHICKEN
FARM - BUS LEAVES***

- AUBURN AT 10:30 AM***
- SOUTHBRIDGE AT 10:30 AM***
- CHERRY STREET AT 10:30 AM***
- WEBSTER AT 11:00 AM***

217

**That's the number of all employees who
had PERFECT ATTENDANCE in APRIL
2009.**

Thank You All

**AA Transportation's
Biggest Loser
Team Challenge**

**1st WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH AT MAIN
OFFICE 2nd FLOOR - 8 :30
AM, 9:45 AM, AND 6:00
PM**

**2nd WEDNESDAY
EACH MONTH AT MAIN
OFFICE 2nd FLOOR - 9:30
AM**

**3rd TUESDAY EACH
MONTH AT WEBSTER,
BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM - 9:15 AM**

**4th TUESDAY EACH
MONTH AT
SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN
HALL 2nd FLOOR - 9:00
AM**

**2009-2010 SCHOOL
YEAR START-UP
MEETINGS WILL BE
ANNOUNCED WHEN
SCHEDULE IS
AVAILABLE**

EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

Jackie's employee
comments for news
letter:

Here are some more
quotes...

"Well begun is half
done."

"Change your
thoughts and you
change your world."

**THE FINISH LINE IS IN SIGHT! FINAL
WEIGH-IN IS JUNE 8 TO 12 AT THE MAIN OFFICE.**

-133

**This is the total number of pounds lost to date by all
Team Members. The competition is getting closer.
We have several TEAM members very serious about
coming in first.**

No Team Members came in to post a weight at the 4th
weigh-in on May 18-22. The Home Office TEAM still
has the lead in total percentage weight lost (1.221%),
followed closely by the Corporate TEAM
(.987%), the Webster TEAM (.815%) drops to 3rd place,
with the Lake Street TEAM in 4th place (.637%).

**The FINAL WEIGH-IN is during the week of June 8-
12, and ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST POST A FINAL
WEIGH-IN NUMBER TO BE PART OF THE TEAM
CHALLENGE. Participants can come to the Main
Office and see Julie to record their weight, anytime
Monday to Friday between 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. SO
COME IN AFTER YOUR AM ROUTE AND BEFORE
YOUR PM ROUTE.**

There is still time to become a participant, and take Ron
up on his individual challenge. He will pay each
participant \$2.00 for every pound lost as recorded on
the last weigh-in during the week of June 8 to 12. One
extra participant was added in May. The extra
participants will not be included in the TEAM numbers,
but can still individually win by losing.

**ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST
WEIGH-IN DURING THE WEEK OF
JUNE 8-12, TO POST AN OFFICIAL**

**TO BE MATURE IS
TO ACCEPT
IMPERFECTIONS**

**RENEWAL
REMINDER**

THE FOLLOWING CDL
DRIVERS ARE DUE FOR
LICENSE RENEWAL

**JULY
RENEWALS**

**Webster/Southbridge
& Auburn**

Claire Degon,
Bonnie Hensley
Lake Street

Barbara Coleman,
Pam Dunbar,
Alfred Hauelsen,
Nicole Irving
Cherry Street

Nicole Barthelmes,
Theresa Benoit,

Perry Briggs,
Darlene Fraser,
William Hoffman,
Caren Raad,
Tracey Snow,
Cynthia Stone,
Hector Vazquez

**AUGUST
RENEWALS**

**Webster/Southbridge
& Auburn**

Elaine Berthiume,
Carrold Gregory,
Laura Horanzy
Lake Street
Patrick Cullen

NUMBER FOR THEIR TEAM.

Remember, the TEAM with the greatest percentage loss will be the winner.

The winning TEAM will receive a free trip to Foxwoods, including ACT Bus transportation to and from, meal tickets and a slot play voucher for each team member and one adult guest per team member.

Good luck to all the TEAMS and individual participants.

A special individual prize will also be given to the team member who has the highest individual percentage weight loss.

***ALL WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED
ON SATURDAY, JUNE 13 AT THE
WRIGHT'S CHICKEN FARM END OF
THE SCHOOL YEAR PARTY.***

Any questions, contact the Human Resources Director.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PARTICIPANTS FOR
STICKING WITH THIS FUN EVENT!**

CONGRATULATIONS

Al Walver

Received from St. Peter-Marian by telephone:

On Friday May 15th we had 4 buses scheduled per the customer's request. The Customer was St. Peter-Marian. When we arrived it was discovered that there were 215 students and only 180 available seats on the buses. The customer failed

Cherry Street
Jose Blanco,
Eugene Boakye,
Christopher Campbell,
Sulma Carreno,
Brett Cheney,
Micheal Ciesluk,
Patricia Duran,
Ron Ernenwein,
Mary Lee Frederickson,
Matthew Hennessey,
Cheryle Lapierre,
David Mahoney,
Kathy McFarlin

SEPTEMBER
RENEWALS

Webster/Southbridge
& Auburn

Paul Cusson,
Donald Johnson,
Melissa Luciano,
Jeffery Parker,
Brendalee Weeks

Lake Street

Paul Lamontagne,
Sean Lyonnais,
Robin Murphy,
Tara Roche

Cherry Street

Jean Kuindersma,
William McGourty,
Kathy Jo Milner,
Kimberly Mosher,
Cynthia Ramsey,
Crystal Rider,
Patricia Smith

Contact your Manager with your renewal information at least 30 days prior to your renewal date, to avoid losing your driving privileges while waiting for your renewal license.

FLEET
MAINTENANCE

John Hartman,

to request an additional bus. It was decided the additional students would be driven by the parents. The customer asked if we could find a way to get the students back from the prom. At this point I called Al Walver who was on a trip to Rindge, NH with the Assumption baseball team. Because Al has a great relationship with these guys he was able to get them moving and get them back to Assumption quickly. He managed to arrive at the prom location just in time to load his bus and follow me to the after prom party. The customer was so impressed with our service they have already booked for their 2010.

Thanks for a great job,
John Pond, Limo Manager

PAM KONAN

Pam, representing AA Transportation, was the 7th Place Winner in the 2009 Massachusetts School Bus Driver Safety Competition, held on May 17, 2009, sponsored by The School Transportation Association of Massachusetts.

SOUTHBRIDGE DRIVERS

On May 21, 2009, we received a call from Julie Ross of the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency congratulating the professionalism of the 13 yellow School Bus Drivers of the Town of Southbridge Contract for being in total compliance with the "No Idle " law during a spot inspection at Charlton Street School.

Manager

508-845-7216

Make sure your bus is cleaned out when the school year ends. If you need any repairs call the Garage and let me know the problem. We will set you up to bring your bus in for repairs.

The direct telephone line to the Garage is: 508-845-7216.

Always drive safe, always.



SUMMER IS HERE!

**THESE ARE
NOT SAFE OR
APPROVED
FOOTWEAR FOR
ANY DRIVER OF
ANY COMPANY
VEHICLE.**

Julie Ross stated they do not usually have a chance to call when there is a good outcome of the spot inspections, we only hear of the companies not in compliance, and rarely will all buses to a contract pass with flying colors! So she took a few moments out of her day to make sure she personally made the call.

Kudos to all of you, GREAT Job!

CHARTER DRIVERS

Received by letter:

AA Transportation, Thank you for your service. Your drivers were courteous and professional.

Thank you,

John Dwyer, Secretary-Treasurer, IAFF Local 1009

This was a Main Office 3 bus charter on 4-14-2009

FRED KALMOWITZ

Received via US Mail:

Thank you for providing us with such great service for our Rehearsal Dinner and Wedding Day. Fred was especially helpful and resourceful!

Sincerely,

Abel & Eryn Santoian

AA TRANSPORTATION RECIPE BOOK

We received a few more recipes in May. I find it hard to believe we do not have any recipes for those special treats, meals and dishes. I have heard about so many good cooks, but nobody is coming forward. So send me your favorite recipes. Any kind of dish will do: main

**FOOTWEAR MUST
BE CLOSED TOE
AND CLOSED OR
STRAPPED BACK.**



**AA LIMOUSINE
SERVICE**

John Pond, Manager
508-791-9100 ext 1

***SCHEDULE
OF EVENTS***

**WORCESTER
TORNADOES**

AA Transportation
Night on **TUESDAY,**
JUNE 23rd

**A GREAT EMPLOYEE
EVENT**

FREE TICKETS

for the 1st 150
Employees

Call Limousine Office
508-791-9100 ext1

**BASEBALL HALL OF
FAME INDUCTION
TRIP**

course, dessert, snack, beverage, anything.

We are still planning to publish a "Company Cook Book." We will then distribute the AA Transportation Cook Book to all employees at the Thanksgiving Holiday Employee Party. It is free to everyone, so how about sharing your favorites.

Each employee sending in a recipe will be recognized for their contribution. Recipes can be for any kind of dish. Be sure to provide the list of ingredients, preparation, cooking and serving instructions. The number of servings per recipe would also be helpful.

Send all your recipes to the Main Office, Attention Jim. Just write them out, drop off on my desk, or email me. The recipes received will be grouped together by type, and then put into book form. Our target is to have our Cook Book ready give out to employees at the Thanksgiving Holiday Employee Party in November.

Any questions or ideas please see Jim.

HUMAN RESOURCES, TRAINING & SAFETY

Julie D'Ambra, Director
508-791-9100 ext 4

Just a few reminders:

Always check the weight restriction on bridges before you go over them. If you drive a full size school bus, your vehicle weighs 15 Tons. If there is a picture of a straight vehicle on the bridge weight restriction sign that weighs less than 15 Tons, you cannot go over that bridge. We recently received a call from the Concord Police Department that more than one of our vehicles went across South Bridge on Main Street. That bridge cannot be used. Even if there is a combination vehicle on the sign that has a higher weight restriction you cannot use the bridge with a straight vehicle because of the amount of weight per axle.

**SUNDAY,
JULY 26TH
5:00AM to 7:00PM**

**\$35 per person
includes:
Admission to the
Baseball Hall of Fame
Museum,
ACT Coach Bus
Transportation to and
from, Coffee and
Donuts, BYOB**

LIMITED TO FIRST 44
PASSENGERS

Only 34 Seats

Left

KIDS WELCOME TO
ATTEND

Call Limousine Office
508-791-9100 ext1

**FOXWOODS
CASINO & RESORT
CONCERTS
AUGUST 16**

BODIES REVEALED &
LEGENDS
CONCERT PACKAGE

\$55

Includes 1 ticket to
both concerts, plus
Casino package.

BODIES REVEALED
OR LEGENDS
CONCERT PACKAGE

\$40

We will not be having an in-service meeting or physicals in July. If you need hours or would like to schedule a physical appointment, you must do that in June or August.

I would also like to give a special thank you to Pam Konan for getting our name in the bus rodeo. Your hard work and dedication to safety has really paid off. Thank you Hector and Mimi for providing us that delicious meal. I know why you have a few extra pounds on you Hector, if Mimi were cooking for me I would too.

Thank you also to all the drivers whose hard work and dedication to driving safely really paid off. There is a short quote I would like to share with the drivers that make AA Transportation the company that is has become today:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, the education, the money, than circumstances, than failure, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our Attitudes."

CHERRY STREET YARD

Abby Kelley, Grafton, METCO, Sutton, AMSA, St. John's, SPM, Fay, Assabet, Charters

Rita Ernenwein, Manager

508-791-9100 ext 2

SUMMER WORK IS HERE!

Includes 1 ticket to either concert, plus Casino package.

CASINO ONLY
PACKAGE

\$25

All packages include ACT Bus transportation, \$10 Buffet Coupon, \$15 Keno bet, 1 entry for King or Dream package drawing.

ACT Bus departs 146 Park & Ride Lot in Worcester at 9:00 am. Return trip departs Foxwoods at 7:00PM.

2009 BOSTON RED SOX TRIPS

\$235 PER PERSON PER TRIP

AUGUST 1 to 2, 2009 vs Baltimore in Baltimore, MD

SOLD OUT

SEPTEMBER 19 to 20, 2009 vs Baltimore in Baltimore, MD

SOLD OUT

\$75 Non-Refundable Deposit Guarantees Your Seat
More Details to Follow

Come in and sign-up for Summer Work, School Routes, Summer Programs, etc.

The July-August Summer Charter Sign-up sheets are posted. Sign-up for the charter work you want.

Driver trip (charter) sheets must be picked during regular office hours from a Dispatcher, so the trip can be explained and questions answered. Office hours are 6:00am to 7:00pm Monday to Friday. They will no longer be left in the Driver's Lounge.

Biggest Loser Cherry Street Team, keep up the great work. Last weigh-in is next week.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at Wright's Chicken Farm on the 13th for the End of the School Year Party.

Six Flags' discount tickets are available - Day Pass is \$25 and Season Pass is \$65.

See me if you want to purchase one or more.

LAKE STREET YARD

Shrewsbury, Elm Park, Rainbow

Sean Lyonnais, Manager

508-753-6322

Did you ever think it would be here, Summer coming at last! We only have a few weeks left to the 2008-2009 school year. There are a few things we would like to remind you about:

Summer Sign Up Sheets - for those of you who would like to work, there is a sign up sheet located in the office. For those of you not working, any extra work the office receives you may be called in to cover the work starting with drivers at the bottom of the seniority list.

End of School Cookout - On June 19th right after routes the Lake Street Office would like to host a cookout! All is Welcome, so please come and enjoy some food and fun right back at the

Contact John at 508-791-9100 ext 1. to take advantage of any of these Events.

Open to All Employees and Friends.

3rd ANNUAL BOSTON HARBOR CRUISE

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR **SUNDAY, AUGUST 9th** FOR THIS FUN EMPLOYEE EVENT.

6:00pm TO 9:00pm
BUS leaves 146 Park & Ride at 4:30pm SHARP!

\$35 PER PERSON
INCLUDES
TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM BOSTON, THE CRUISE, FOOD, AND ENTERTAINMENT.

NEW YORK CITY DAY BUS TRIPS

JUNE 27th, OCTOBER 11th and NOVEMBER 27th

\$25 PER PERSON

DEPARTS 8:00 AM RETURNS FROM NYC 8:00 PM

HOLIDAY SHOPPING TRIP TO FREEPORT, MAINE L. L. BEAN & OUTLET STORES

Lake Street Yard. On the menu - hot dogs and hamburgers, with a potluck of different dishes. There will be a sign up sheet on the door in the entranceway for anyone who would like to bring something to share.

Start Up Meeting - Approx. two weeks before school is back in session, we will plan a meeting for all of you to attend. You will be notified well in advance of the date. Each driver will be given information such as school calendars, routes, etc., so stay tuned for more information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the office during the summer.

We would like to extend our gratitude for all your hard work and safe driving for a successful 2008-2009 season. Let's continue on for the 2009-2010 school year. You do make the difference with each student on your bus. Keep up the great work. Please make sure your buses are clean when you leave them for the summer. We don't want to find little critters crawling around.

**THANK YOU TO ALL!
PLEASE HAVE A SAFE AND PLEASUREABLE SUMMER.**

Important Dates to Consider:

- 6/4 Last Day for St. John's High School with a regular Dismissal
- 6/5 Last Day for Montessori - 12:30 Dismissal
- 6/12 Last Day for Al-Hamra Academy - 12:00pm Dismissal
- 6/16 Last Day for St. Mary's - 11:15am Dismissal
- Tues. 6/16, Wed 6/17, Thurs. 6/18 High School Finals - 11:00am Dismissal*
- 6/19 Last Day for Seven Hills Charter Public School - 11:55pm Dismissal**
- 6/19 Last Day for Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School Middle & HS - 11:30 Dismissal**
- 6/19 Last Day for Shrewsbury Public Schools* **High School** - 11:00am, **Middle School** - 11:35am, **Coolidge, Paton, Spring, Floral** - 12:15pm, **Beal School** - 12:30pm
- 6/22 Last Day for Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School Elementary - 11:30 Dismissal**
- 6/23 Last Day for Worcester Public Schools - Regular Dismissal**
- 9/1 Shrewsbury Public Schools - Students Return Full Day

* If your route interferes with another route, please let us know so we can find coverage.

** Dates represent information for ALL day care drivers.

DECEMBER 5th

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

CONTACT JOHN POND AT 508-791-9100 ext 1, IF INTERESTED IN ANY EVENT, TRIP OR PACKAGE.



HOW TO USE FUEL PUMPS - WHEN DINO IS NOT AVAILABLE

1. READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON PUMP DISPLAY
2. INSERT FUEL KEY AND TURN TO RIGHT (FUEL KEY IS IN GARAGE IF NOT ON THE PUMPS)
3. KEY IN VEHICLE CODE # (A=1; C=3; V=8) FOR EXAMPLE:
SCHOOL BUS
A103 = 1103;
CAR C22 = 322;
VAN V71 = 871
4. KEY IN PUMP #

WEBSTER OFFICE

Webster, Southbridge, Auburn

Linda Perno, Manager

508-943-0482

Congratulations to Vanessa Baldyga and Family on the birth of a new son Tristan, born June 4, 2009 weighing in at 9.2 lbs. and 20 3/4 inches long .

I would like to personally THANK YOU ALL for another successful school year in Auburn, Southbridge, & Webster!

Everyone has done a GREAT job, and my sincere gratitude goes out to everyone.

We have a lot of employees signed up for the appreciation party at Wright's Chicken Farm on June 13th, please call the office to add your name if you have not done so yet, hope all plan to attend.

Reminder: All vehicles must be cleaned of all debris (trash, floors, windows closed) and personal items removed for the close of school.

A few dates to remember:

August 12 - Auburn Start-up meeting, 9:00am at Auburn School Department, 5 West Street, Auburn

August 13 - Southbridge Start-up meeting, 9:00 am at Southbridge Town Hall, 41 Elm Street, Southbridge

August 14 - Webster Start-up meeting, 9:00 am at Bartlett HS, 52 Lake Parkway, Webster

Mark your calendars for the meeting that pertains to your route. All need to attend your start-up meeting. Lots of pertinent information is given at these meetings for the upcoming 2009/2010 school year.

Summer schedules are not in as of yet, (always slow coming and quick starting!). We do have a list of

- 1, 2, 3, 4
(NUMBER IS ON
FRONT OF PUMP) 1
& 2 ARE FOR DIESEL
FUEL & 3 AND 4 ARE
FOR GASOLINE

5. REMOVE FUEL KEY
6. REMOVE FUEL NOZZLE AND TURN PUMP HANDLE TO START PUMP
7. WHEN FINISHED FUELING, TURN OFF PUMP AND RETURN NOZZLE TO HOLDER.
8. YOU ARE DONE.

REMINDERS:

- NO SMOKING AROUND FUEL ISLAND
- DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE RUNNING WHILE FUELING
- DO NOT LEAVE FUEL PUMP UNATTENDED WHEN FUELING
- USE COMPANY FUEL PUMPS WHEN OFFICE IS OPEN

employees that are looking for work, reminder that if your route is a scheduled summer route your name is on it unless other arrangements have been made with me.

As usual the summer months fly by fast, so enjoy the days you can and don't forget that sunscreen!

SPED - Cherry Street
Cindy Fish, Manager
508-791-9100 ext 2

I want to thank you all for a wonderful year!

As a reminder we have our last meeting of the school year on June 11, 2009 at 5:30 PM. This should be a very informative meeting on first aid. There will be time set aside to get cards updated. New routes for the Main Office should be available to pick up.

If you haven't signed up for a summer route, please come see me.

For the end of the school season, you need to thoroughly clean your van or car and take out all your personal belongings. You may need to switch vehicles for the summer.

We'll see you all at Wright's Chicken Farm and at the Tornadoes game!!

**AA Transportation is
on the Web**

Click Here:

www.aatransportation.com

CALL or FAX US
508-791-9100