

The Sheehy Mail Driver Newsletter

March 2018 Edition

Issue II

Driver Celebrates 39 Years Driving for Sheehy Mail

Driver Paul Amundson celebrates 39-years of driving postal Star Routes for Sheehy Mail!

It's not too often that you get to celebrate a 39-year work anniversary, but for driver Paul Amundson it was just another day on the job. On Saturday, March 10th Paul celebrated his 39th work anniversary driving for Sheehy Mail.

Paul began driving for Sheehy Mail in 1979. His dad worked for the local post office in Sparta, WI and Paul had already been driving straight trucks for some time. At the time, Jim Sheehy of Sheehy Mail Contractors, Inc. operated on the Postal Star Route transporting mail from LaCrosse, WI to the Sparta, WI post office. This is how Paul's dad got to know Jim Sheehy, and ultimately would lead to Paul driving for Sheehy himself.

That same year Jim Sheehy's Postal Star Route opened and Paul leapt at the opportunity. Ever since, Paul has been driving a straight truck on one of Sheehy Mail's original Postal Star Routes.

Paul's day typically starts at 4:00AM at the LaCrosse, WI Post Office and ends around 8:00AM in Fort McCoy, WI. He has a brief three hour break before he heads off at 11:00AM to the Sparta, WI Post Office to complete his route for the day.

Paul says that he has been with Sheehy Mail for so long for a few reasons. He, "Enjoy's the flexible hours, the pay is good, the work is always stable, and above all it's relatively easy to do well!"

We can't thank Paul enough for all of his year's of service, and hopefully many more to come!



In The News

- ELD exemption for ag/livestock haulers extended to June (CCJ)
- Tesla's Semi makes first deliveries; Waymo, Uber expand driverless truck testing (FleetOwner)
- Semi-truck drivers using seatbelts has increased from 65% to 86% over the past decade. (FleetOwner)
- At least 6 people dead after pedestrian bridge collapse in Miami, FL. (The Washington Post)

Driver Spotlight

James Bock

For this month's Driver Spotlight we would like to feature James Bock! James has been a driver for Sheehy Mail since November of 2017 and has made quite an impact on those he works with. Prior to Sheehy, James drove trucks and operated heavy equipment for various utility companies and has 30+ years experience in truck driving. James currently works as a floater driver and operates out of our Waterloo, WI location. In his free time, James likes to travel with his wife, and take rides in his slingshot motorcycle that he takes to parades all around Wisconsin. Thank you James for all of your hard work and dedication to Sheehy Mail!



Personnel

Renewing Fed Med Cards

Remember to stay on top of your Fed Med Card registration! In order to drive a commercial motor vehicle the DOT requires all drivers who hold a CDL to have a valid Fed Med Card. Marlo will contact any driver at least one month in advance whose Fed Med Card is due to expire. Once we contact you it is *your* responsibility to ensure that you get your card renewed as soon as possible.

Please make sure to submit the receipt from your DOT Physical to Dispatch so you can get reimbursed for that expense. SMCI reimburses up to \$99.00 for DOT Physical's ONLY every two years.

Submitting Sensitive Information/Paperwork

If you find that you need to submit any personal or sensitive information to Dispatch or Personnel, please feel free to either fax or mail those documents to us. We have been receiving reports of sensitive documents getting lost in mailbag transit. Our fax number is 920-478-3898, or you can mail documents to PO Box 35, Waterloo, WI 53594.



Safety

Road Construction

Road construction season is officially upon us!

To ensure safe travel this spring and summer, you can take the following steps to assist you while driving this summer:

- 1) Try to avoid construction zones....if possible.
- 2) Expect unusual behavior from other drivers that may be confused.
- 3) Be patient. Pick a lane and stay there.
- 4) Maintain a safe following distance at all times
- 5) DO NOT speed through construction zones
- 6) Watch for workers and equipment moving within the zone.
- 7) Avoid using your cell phone and pay attention!
Using a cell phone is also illegal in construction zones.

Remember, that following too close, inattentive driving, and speed are some of the top causes of accidents in the industry!

Dispatch

LoadTrek ELD Updates

As you may already know, full enforcement of the ELD Mandate is set to begin on April 1st. To ensure compliance with the law, LoadTrek is issuing a series of software updates. The two biggest changes for the driver are as follows:

- 1) The requirement to validate your HOS log;
- 2) The ability to edit your HOS log in the truck

There's a lot of new features so we should expect some teething problems. As usual, please contact Dispatch to report problems or ask any questions. The table to the right outlines some of the major differences between our old LoadTrek system and the newer ELD compliant system.

| Feature | Old System | ELD Compliant System |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Driver Log Validation | None | Drivers must validate (certify) their logs for each 24 hour period |
| Driver Log Edits | None | Drivers can edit their log directly on the keypad |
| Office Log Edits | Can edit at any time | Can only be enabled after 24 hours or driver log validation |
| Recording Information | Manual or automated | Requires automated entry of truck movement and location data |
| Default Duty Status | None | On duty not driving |
| Grid Graph Display | None | Required. Drivers can edit log on the keypad |

Accounting

Turn-In Your Paperwork!

Help out your friends in Accounting and always make sure to turn-in your BOL's. All paperwork needs to have a driver's name, driver ID number, and load number written legibly on any submitted documents. If you need help with paperwork please feel free to reach out to Dispatch or Accounting for help.

Fuel Receipts

After you're done fueling, always remember to submit your fuel receipts! For drivers who do not work out of Waterloo, Milwaukee, or Des Moines we provide pre-stamped envelopes for you to mail your fuel receipts back to Waterloo. Please contact us if you ever need any help!

Maintenance

Reporting Vehicle Damage From Stop Locations

The shops would like to remind all drivers to make sure they report any vehicle damage that may have happened while at a stop location immediately to Dispatch. By reporting vehicle damage right after it has been noticed we are able to make repairs quicker, and contact the customer to determine if an employee or the customer is liable for the damage. As always, if you have any questions please reach out to any of the Sheehy Mails shops. We are happy to help!



Sheehy Mail Quick Quiz

Last month's question asked how much the most expensive trailer in the world cost. The answer is \$5 million.

It is commonly known that semi-trucks use significantly more gas than regular automobiles. Most semi-trucks also operate using Diesel Fuel (or CNG) instead of regular gasoline which extends milage. The average automobile uses 500 gallons of gasoline per year. How many gallons of fuel per year does an average semi-truck use?

- 15,000 gallons
- 20,500 gallons
- 32,000 gallons
- 50,000 gallons



Reminders For Drivers

Validating HOS Logs

Always remember to validate your HOS log at the end of your route! This is required by law, so please remember to do so. When you go to “End Day” on your LoadTrek keypad you will be prompted to validate your HOS log. When you go to “Start Day” you will also be prompted to validate your HOS log if Dispatch has made any changes.

There are two ways to do this:

- 1) DRIVER EDITS: You can now edit your HOS log yourself, and then validate it.
- 2) DISPATCH EDITS: You can validate the log and that will “unlock” it so that Dispatch can edit the log.

Keeping Trucks Clean

We talk about this a lot, but it is important that *every* driver helps keep the inside and outside of our trucks clean. Always remember to leave the inside of a truck the way you found it free from trash and papers. It's always a good idea to wipe down the interior to avoid spreading germs!

Connect With Us!

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