

## Letter from the President

It is hard to believe we are closing in on our 1st quarter of 2015. On January 14th we began our 5th year in business and I would like to thank all of my current colleagues for a very successful 5 years. We began with 120 tractors and 169 trailers in January 2010, and now we are operating 220 tractors and over 300 trailers. This growth has exceeded my expectations considering the weak economy and a driver shortage.

During these 5 years our revenue growth has doubled along with our tractor fleet. We have expanded our footprint into the entire southeast as well as the East Coast. We have added two terminals, which are located in Midlothian, TX. and Leeds, AL. We were the first Alabama based carrier to install a CNG compressor and fueling station, which is located at our Calera terminal. This was a joint effort with US Oil (Gain Clean Fuel) and it has exceeded our expectations. We have recently domiciled capacity in New Braunfels, TX. We are currently hauling lime for Lhoist from their New Braunfels plant and Clifton plant to destinations in Texas and Louisiana. I will be purchasing property this year in the New Braunfels area for future construction of a 4 bay maintenance building and wash aisle.

There are many other accomplishments that I could expound upon. However, the above-mentioned achievements have rendered success, growth, and most importantly, company stability.

I would like to thank all my current colleagues for making our company successful and profitable over the last 5



**David Wildberger, President**

years. The most overwhelming reason we are successful is due to your diligent efforts to provide an impeccable service to our shippers and customers. Yes, we have had some hiccups along the way, but it is through hard work and dedication that we have overcome these obstacles.

Because of your work ethic, dedication, and loyalty to the company I am delighted to announce there will be a COLA raise for all office and maintenance personnel beginning with the first pay period in May.

Thank you all for a very successful first 5 years, and I look forward to working with all of you for many years to come.



## Joe Delk Takes the Lead at Leeds

As our cement and lime businesses continue to grow, we are rapidly outgrowing our Calera office facility. Therefore, beginning March 2, 2015, Calera cement operations was transferred to the Leeds terminal, making Leeds a fully operational terminal.

We are proud to announce that, beginning March 2nd, our Leeds terminal will have a terminal manager for the first time. Joe Delk has agreed to accept this position.

Joe has been in the transportation indus-

try since 1998. He has held many positions in the industry, including Dispatcher, Operations Manager, and Assistant Terminal Manager.

We are very excited that we have added the transportation experience that Joe will bring as he joins our team here at Evergreen Transport.

Please help us welcome and assist him in any way as he gets acclimated to his new company and position.

## Jackson Terminal with Manager Jennifer Huebner



Jennifer Huebner

I would like to welcome Mike Walley to the Jackson Terminal. Mike has been a mechanic at the Mobile terminal for the past 2 years.

He recently transferred to the Jackson terminal to be the shop manager. He is doing an outstanding job! If you are in the area, stop by and meet Mike and welcome him to the Jackson terminal.



Mike Walley  
Shop Manager

## Midlothian with Manager Tracy Lord



Tracy Lord

With spring finally arriving, business here in Texas is starting to pick up! Mother Winter dealt us a tough hand this season with more than our share of ice, snow, and rain! Our New Braunfels operation is up and running and despite a few days of bad weather in that region, has been steadily increasing in the amount of loads per driver. Many, many thanks to our Customer Lhoist for their incredible effort to keep our trucks running.

Meet our new Dispatcher Carol Luck! Carol started her career with Evergreen as a driver for the Midlothian terminal. She joined us here

in the office to help with our increased business with both the Midlothian and New Braunfels operations. Carol has brought a wealth of knowledge from the driver side of our team, and has quickly used that knowledge in her role as Dispatcher. She is a welcome addition to operations and shares our vision of continued growth.



Carol Luck  
Dispatcher

## Calera Terminal with Manager Tim Trivette



Tim Trivette

As we look back on the 1st quarter of 2015 and set our focus toward the challenges of the 2nd quarter of this year, I am reminded of the promise found in Jeremiah 31:17, "And there is hope in thine end."

We have been faced with the challenge on keeping all of our drivers busy during a plant wide shut down at the US Steel Facility we service on a daily basis. During this time, our experienced drivers in all fleets have

stepped up and provided quality cross training to the US Steel fleet that I am certain will produce benefits for years to come. Our Rock Haul fleet has been able to consistently meet our tonnage requirements at all L'Hoist plants, as well as enable us to seek out more short and long dump business that will also allow us more opportunities in the 2nd quarter of this year and beyond. With increased opportunities come increased needs. Along with our Recruiting Department, we are daily striving to do all we can to attract professional drivers, and grow each fleet by not only finding and hiring top shelf drivers, but most importantly by making sure we do everything possible to retain the first class group of drivers that currently call

## Meet Members of the Calera Team



Karen Gullett  
Administrative Asst.



Daniel Burkett  
Night Shift Parts



Vincent King  
Parts Manager



Donnie Lomas  
Dispatcher

Evergreen Transport, LLC home. I am confident that the 2nd quarter of 2015 will bring about a much needed up-swing in freight opportunities, as well as a steady work schedule for our dedicated fleets.

In work as well as life, I am grateful that there is indeed hope, and that when our priorities remain intact, we know exactly where to find it.

## Leeds Terminal with Manager Joe Delk

First off, Thanks for the warm welcome and all of the support. We are already seeing an increase in demand for trucks as it warms up. Even with all of the rain we are able to book enough loads to keep all of our drivers rolling. I have no doubt that as we build our driver fleet here in Leeds that we will be able to acquire more loads from our customers. National Cement, Lehigh and Holcim have already expressed a need for MORE EVERGREEN trucks and that's just what we are going to give them. We have recently hired and trained 3 more for cement hauling here in Leeds and they



Joe Delk

will fall into place taking care of our customers.

I would like to thank Brian, Tim and Amos from the Calera terminal for handing over a great team of drivers and shop staff. You guys have made this a smooth transition.

I would also like to thank my shop manager Skip Womack for keeping a well-organized shop and staying on top of maintaining our equipment. Skip, Pete and Charlie are always eager to get the job done and that's the kind of team it takes to make a terminal successful.

I am excited for the opportunity to join and grow with the Leeds team.

## Mobile Terminal with Manager Rick Mangrum

Spring is just around the corner. We hope to see our freight increase as spring and summer approaches. It's been slow due to weather and the economy during this time of year. Our cement shippers are telling us their projections on cement sales will increase by 30% from last year's projections. They have several jobs their bidding on which start toward the end of spring and beginning of summer.

Our soil stabilization work on oil field pads has dropped due to oil prices dropping. Oil analyst is predicting the price of oil will drop to \$20 per barrel by the end of the year and cut jobs by 15%. This will have a significant impact on our soil stabilization work. Fluid Deposal is one of our cement shipper's largest



Rick Mangrum

contractors for soil stabilization work on oil field pads. We will be relying on silo and aggregate hauling until our spread work picks back up.

We continue to seek new business in other areas such as Aggregates, Sandblasting Sand, Vans and Flatbeds; not only to grow but to help offset the slowing down of cement sales.

I believe if we all keep a positive attitude and strive to grow we will excel above all obstacles that come before us.

Life is a journey of learning and growth, and everything happens for a reason. Obstacles are things stopping you from getting your goals and if you keep overcoming these obstacles you'll eventually get what you want, **AND WE WILL.**



## FUEL REMINDER

**Fueling at the Terminal Locations should be first priority.  
All other road fuel purchases are at  
Pilot and Flying J Truck Stops only.**

# Meet a Few of the Evergreen Professionals

## Melvin Etheredge

Melvin began working with Poole Truck Line in 1974. In 1996 he began working at Evergreen Transportation. He has been the shop manager since 1997.

Melvin has been married to Iva for 35 years. They have one son named Jesse.

## Philip Ergle

Phillip began working in 1973 for Blue Star Ready Mix. When they stopped pulling tankers in 1997 he went to work for Evergreen Transportation. He left in 2002 and came back in 2007.

"I enjoy working for Evergreen, and all the friends I have made over the years," he said.

Phillip has been married to Melinda for 12 years. He has four daughters Brittany, Selena, Alyson and Brooklynn. He has five grandchildren - Trey, Kaylin, Kaylee, Lydia and Raelynn.

Phillip enjoys watching Alabama football and basketball.



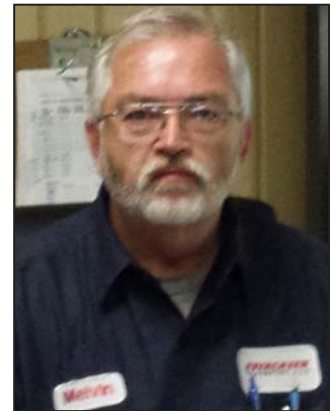
Phillip Ergle

## Ellon Hayes

In 1974 Ellon began working for Poole Truck Line as a road driver. He drove until he went to work in the shop in 1989. He started at the fuel island and worked his way to the tractor shop. He is now the night shift foreman for the Mobile Terminal.

"I have enjoyed working for Evergreen Transport."

Ellon enjoys fishing and working in the yard. He has been married to his wife Paula for 42 years. He has 5 children, 13 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.



Melvin Etheredge



Ellon Hayes

## Johnny Ratliff

Johnny Ratliff has been a truck driver since 1990. He started out with Wiley Sanders. He was employed with them for 8 years and then in 1998 he became an employee with Evergreen.

Johnny is a family man. He has been married for 36 years. He has 1 son and 1 daughter. Between the two of them, they have blessed him and his wife with 5 grand kids.

When asked what advice would he give potential employees, he said, "Evergreen is a great place to work, but sometimes it can be hard. You have to be ready to work."



Johnny Ratliff



## New Trucks arriving in Evergreen. We are growing again.



## Preventing Slip and Fall Accidents

Slipping and falling is the most common injury for drivers in the trucking industry.

It's also the most preventable injury if drivers use three point contact. Getting in and out of your tractor is almost done without thought. That's where the problem starts.

Every driver knows the proper three point contact procedure. Why do we still have all the injuries? How about getting in a hurry, not paying attention, or just a bad habit. Most slip and fall injuries start as a fall and the driver tries to catch himself, causing a strained shoulder or a fall to the ground with other injuries to a knee or ankle. Not using good three point contact procedures every time you enter or exit your tractor can result in a bad injury that can take months to heal.

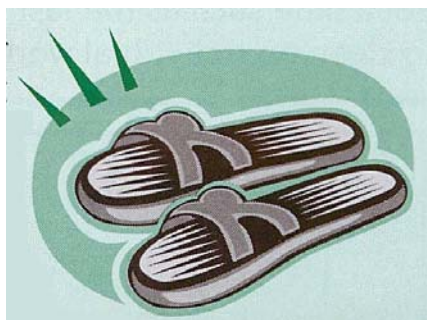
Another bad habit I see with drivers is jumping out of the tractor or off the step while exiting. Jumping from the cab, a 200 pound driver would hit the ground with a force of 1400 to 2400

### **WORK SAFE** **WORK SMART**

pounds. Not very good for your knees, feet or back. You might get away with this action every once in a while, but that kind of stress will eventually take its toll on your body as a whole. If you use three point contact this is not an issue.

One area that can help prevent a fall is proper footwear. Flip flops or jellies are not good in preventing slips and falls, yet I see drivers working in this type of footwear all the time. Most companies require a good slip resistant work boot that provides support for the ankles and feet. It's the smart way to protect yourself. Also, failure to follow an established safety policy requiring the use of proper protective equipment (footwear), could affect the compensability of the injured worker's claim for workers' compensation benefits.

Working in the trucking industry is one of the top 5 most dangerous occupations. Three point contact is easy and the one thing that can prevent a slip and fall injury. Let's start practicing good three point contact every time.



# Workplace Safety - Shop Safety

As we move into the New Year, it's a good time to look around your shop and see if there are any improvements that could be made to improve safety. How does the housekeeping look? That's a good place to start. Improving housekeeping will save you money. In most shops, the cost of labor is about 60% of the profit made.



A cluttered shop slows the progress in accomplishing the job. Employees that have to step around, move or work around old parts or debris, slows the process. Accidents and injuries are often caused by something an

employee steps on or trips over. Having a clean and orderly maintenance facility can improve and speed up the workflow. Good housekeeping starts with a good established cleanup routine. Set a time such as the last 15 minutes of the day to clean up individual work areas. Ensure oil or

other fluid spills are cleaned up before an accident can happen.

Another area to increase safety is PPE. Do the employees have the proper personal protective equipment? Have they been trained on the proper use? Many accidents and injuries could be prevented by using the proper equipment. A safety glasses policy is a good rule to have in place anytime someone enters the shop area. Anytime someone works with a chemical, have you read the SDS to ensure the employee is using the proper PPE? These are just a couple of areas that are sometimes overlooked.

Let's start off 2015 with a good look at your shop safety program. Start off with a good safety meeting and ask each other what we can do in our facility to improve safety. A good safety program starts by looking out for each other and reporting any unsafe condition or making recommendations that would improve your workplace. Safety is everyone's business. Let's have a safe 2015!!

## Word Search

**Survival Kit**

**Do It Right**

**Driving Tips**

**Seat Belt**

**Near Miss**

**Shop Safety**

**Winter Driving**

**Snow**

**Unsafe Act**

D	E	S	H	O	P	S	A	F	E	T	Y	O
R	I	D	U	S	P	B	S	R	I	E	D	A
I	S	I	V	N	E	P	S	K	L	A	O	V
V	O	F	S	I	S	E	L	K	E	S	I	I
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G	N	I	V	I	R	D	R	E	T	N	I	W
T	I	M	V	I	V	U	A	L	A	R	G	O
I	N	R	F	H	P	E	T	T	A	C	H	N
P	U	A	W	N	I	D	M	I	I	Y	T	S
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# Tips for Improving Fleet Safety this Summer

With summer right around the corner, it has got us thinking about tips to help improve your fleet's safety during those warmer summer months. Maintaining a fleet takes time, resources, and expertise. Therefore, it's important to keep track of your fleet and its maintenance.

Be prepared when things heat up by following our checklist below:

- Clean your battery
- Insider Tip: Inspect the "interior box light" and lift the gate activator switches that are illuminated. Improperly functioning lights could cause battery drainage.
- Maintain and test your air conditioning
- Change the air filter
- Check the coolant and radiator
- Check your brakes
- Safety Tip: Reduce speed on wet roads to maximize traction and avoid hydroplaning
- Replace your windshield wipers
- Check fan belts and hoses
- Change oil and oil filter
- Safety Tip: Routine oil changes can help prevent sludge from building up within your engine impacting your vehicles performance.
- Check your tires
- Tires wear faster in warm months. Check the tread more than once during summer.
- Safety Tip: Maintaining proper tire pressure during warmer months is critical to your driver's safety and can help improve fuel consumption.

With EZM Web maintenance tracking software from Ryder Fleet Products, companies will have the ability to schedule, track and control maintenance for virtually an unlimited number of equipment and/or fleet vehicles, plus monitor inventory from any web-based device.

EZM Web Maintenance software is a web-based version of the industry-leading EZ Maintenance program. It's extremely simple to use and allows companies to manage their fleet maintenance schedules appropriately with key features:

- Track Multiple Locations of Vehicles
- Work Orders
- Customer Invoices
- Full Inventory Control
- Maintenance Calendars
- Supervisory Control
- Track Outside Customers / Vendors
- Integrates into QuickBooks
- Vendor-Created Invoices
- Employees / Customers Submit Request Online and more!

Companies across the country are leveraging EZM Web maintenance software to eliminate unnecessary downtime by improving fleet safety, security, compliance and overall efficiency through its web-based application.

If your organization needs help managing your fleet's maintenance and safety, call us at 1-866-297-4868 to learn more.

## Scholarship Program

Did you know that there is a scholarship program that is only open to people with a family member that is employed by the trucking industry?

For over 40 years, Truckload Carriers Association (TCA) has been helping students associated with the truckload industry reach their goals.

The TCA Scholarship will range from \$2000 to \$6500 and will be awarded in two segments each year. On-line applications open April 21, 2015 and close June 19, 2015. For more information go to [www.truckload.org/scholarships](http://www.truckload.org/scholarships).

## Memorial Day - A Time to Remember



*We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have."*

**--Frederick Keonig**

