

Fall
2013



Co-Founders

Steve Owings
Susan Owings

Board of Directors

Houell Adams
Julie Boggs
O. Anderson Currie
Robert F. Dallas
Pam Elting
David Fitzgerald
Sammy Harmon
James A. Hatcher
Donald Houser
Thomas W. Irick
John MacNaughton
Jay Mitchell
J. Pierce Owings
Richard S. Owings
Michael Purser
Brian D. Rogers
Thomas Worthy

Advisory Board

J. Elisabeth Dobbs
Jim Irwin
Philip S. Jacobs
Sarah Kennedy
Rhonda Milner
Nancy Rigby
Jay R. Smith
Mary Yates
S. Zachry Young

Executive Director

Thomas M. Hodgson

Newsletter

Contributors

Julie Boggs
Cara Darling
Thomas M. Hodgson
Louise Monti
Steve Owings
Susan Owings

Contact Us

1-866-721-7623

E-mail Us

tmhodgson
@roadsafe
america.org

Dear Friends,

A key tactical asset of Road Safe America is our Ambassador Corps. RSA Ambassadors are citizens around the country who have learned about our mission, support our efforts, and offer their time to promote trucking safety on our highways. Our Ambassadors are not usually connected to the trucking industry, although some are truckers or fleet owners themselves. The common denominator for members of our Ambassador Corps is the recognition that lives can be saved and injuries reduced by advocating for increased safety on our roadways and that ordinary citizens have the power and the duty to make this happen.

July of 2013 was RSA Ambassador Corps recruitment month and our Executive Director, Tom Hodgson, led an effort to grow the ranks of our group. We now have Ambassador

Corps members in twenty-eight states with many states having multiple members. This is important because much of RSA's effort is in Washington, D.C. where we educate policy makers about safety advances that can save lives and prevent injuries on America's highways. As they consider policy concerning safety issues, many of these men and women want to hear from constituents in their district or state. A quick phone call or email from a hometown neighbor can effectively get the attention of most representatives. Our Ambassadors work to make this happen.

Obviously, more Ambassadors mean greater influence with decision-makers in Washington, D.C.

WON'T YOU CONSIDER BECOMING A ROAD SAFE AMERICA AMBASSADOR? There is no financial obligation and the time commitment is no more than what you want to make it. Tom Hodgson frequently updates Ambassadors via email on the efforts of Road Safe America regarding new initiatives, concerns, and developments in the trucking industry. Several Ambassadors have made public presentations on our behalf to church groups, clubs, and civic organizations in their respective cities. If you are interested making a presentation in your hometown, we can provide a DVD, talking points, and handouts for your group.

To become an Ambassador or to learn more, please contact Tom at:
tmhodgson@roadsafeamerica.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan & Steve".

Susan and Steve Owings
Co-Founders, Road Safe America

Ambassadors are needed in these states:

*Alaska, Delaware, Idaho, Illinois,
Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine,
Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska,
Nevada, New Jersey,
New Mexico, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah, Vermont,
Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin,
Wyoming*

Visit our website at www.roadsafeamerica.org

Spotlight on RSA Ambassador



Cari Baylor, VP
Baylor Trucking

As one of RSA's Ambassadors, Cari Baylor, VP of Baylor Trucking, is a vocal advocate for heavy truck safety. RSA has asked Ms. Baylor to discuss safety

from the viewpoint of a medium sized trucking company.

"To be Safe, to be Legal and to be On Time" are Baylor Trucking values for our family business of nearly seventy years. I was in the sixth grade when my Dad explained the company values and that the order was purposeful—safety always comes first.

With this spirit, we keep safety first in everything we do. Baylor, like many trucking companies, fully supports electronic logging devices (ELDs). ELD screens allow anyone in our company to pull up drivers' available hours in real time. With ELD technology we have been able to implement Virtual Hours of Service to predict drivers' hours for a 7 day cycle and assist driver managers in planning so that drivers are not stranded out on the road without available hours of service. Being able to predict hours allows us to be proactive in eliminating any violations of service hours.

This is both a blessing and a challenge in today's highly regulatory and technology changing environment. The delay of enacting this rule continues to be a hindrance. It will be great when the government holds everyone in the industry responsible for accurate ELDs.

We thank RSA for the positive efforts to keep our roadways safe. From your house to mine, together we can make a difference.

FedEx Reaches Out To RSA

Fred Smith, Founder and CEO of FedEx, contacted RSA to discuss changes FedEx is considering for the configurations of their trailers. As a result, Steve Owings and other RSA partners are considering the proposed changes and analyzing them from a safety perspective.

FedEx is one of the largest carriers in this country and one of the safest. FedEx already implements nearly all of the safety initiatives for which RSA advocates as requirements for the entire trucking industry. We appreciate FedEx's vigilance to ensure their fleet maintains high safety standards.



Gina Adams, SVP Government Affairs, FedEx, Steve Owings, Co-Founder RSA, Fred Smith, Founder & CEO of FedEx, Gerald Hughes, Director of Government Affairs, FedEx

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Steve Owings was named one of Northwestern Mutual's "Outstanding Volunteers" for 2013. Along with this honor, Northwestern Mutual Foundation awarded Road Safe America a grant for \$10,000 at their annual meeting this past summer. Thank you Northwestern Mutual for recognizing Steve's hard work.

Pictured to the right: John Schlifske, Chairman and CEO of Northwestern Mutual and Steve Owings at the 2013 Community Service Awards.

2013 Annual Fund Goal \$160,000

Each fall, Road Safe America asks its friends for financial support to sustain our efforts for safety. Thank you in advance for your generosity and commitment to our goals.

Gifts received between 6/1/13-9/30/13

Diamond Donor Level \$2,500-\$4,999
The Atlanta Forum

Gold Donor Level \$1,000-\$2,499
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey A. Burns
Mr. & Mrs. Michael S. Elting*
Mr. & Mrs. Brian D. Henry
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Winchester Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Yates*

Bronze Donor Level: \$250-\$499
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Beskin
Mr. Robert Glass
Mr. & Mrs. Gene W. Milner Jr.*
Mr. & Mrs. Tracy A. White

Patron Donor Level: \$100-\$249
Mr. & Mrs. William J. Boswell Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Michael S. Kipniss
Mr. & Mrs. Minuard C. McGuire
Mr. & Mrs. Preston Moister
Mr. & Mrs. Solon Patterson
Mr. & Mrs. Kieran P. Quinn
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph C. South III
Ms. Eugenia Wattles

Friends Donor Level: Up to \$99
Ms. Karen Barney
Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Hopkins III
Mr. Wade A. Rakes II
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen B. Shepherd
*denotes a board member

New 10 Year Consecutive Donors
Mr. & Mrs. William J. Boswell Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Gene W. Milner Jr.



New Board Member Brings New Audience



Donald Houser

Road Safe America welcomes Donald Houser to our Board of Directors.

Mr. Houser is a senior associate in the Litigation & Trial Group of Alston & Bird in Atlanta, GA. He represents clients from a variety of industries in complex litigation matters.

A former classmate of Cullum Owings, Mr. Houser is leading an effort to raise awareness of Road Safe America among a younger generation. He and his wife, Katie, are chairing an event “BBQ & Bluegrass: Friends of Cullum Gathering to Honor Ten Years of Road Safe America”. The event will be on October 9 at the Monday Night Brewery in Atlanta to highlight the purpose and accomplishments of Road Safe America. RSA is grateful for the efforts of the Housers and their host committee in organizing the first event specifically for Cullum’s generation.



Event Chair, Katie Houser (pictured on right) and host committee member, Kendall Moister at Monday Night Brewery.

Truckers: Who Knew?

There are nearly 3 million truck drivers in America. But how much do you know about their job?

Currently, the number of hours a truck driver may spend actually driving during a 14 hour work-day:

7 hours

9 hours

11 hours

Source FMCSA

How many unpaid hours per week does the average long-haul truck driver spend in his/her truck (ie. waiting to load/unload at docks)?

Zero

Ten

Twenty-four

Forty

Source OOIDA

Airline pilots must retire at age 65. What is the mandatory retirement age for professional truck drivers?

65 years of age

70 years of age

75 years of age

There is no maximum age

Source US DOT

Answers:

11, Forty, No maximum age

Did you Know?

The **annual cost** to society from crashes involving commercial motor vehicles is estimated to be more than **\$83 billion**

FMCSA March 2013

Inspections: It's No Surprise

Each summer the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) conducts comprehensive commercial vehicle safety inspections during a three day “safety blitz”. This effort is the largest targeted enforcement program on commercial vehicles in the world. Approximately 10,000 CVSA-certified inspectors examine more than 47,000 trucks and buses at 1,500 locations across North America.

These inspections examine the overall condition of the driver and the vehicle. The inspectors look for signs of illness and fatigue in drivers, the presence of alcohol and/or drugs, valid commercial driver’s license, and documentation of drive time. The vehicle inspection includes checks for brake and exhaust systems, tires, lighting, steering axles, cargo securement, and safety devices for trailers.

1 in 5 commercial vehicles are taken out of service for safety violations

In early September, the CVSA announced that the 2013 “safety blitz” figures were in. As a result of the blitz, 20% of commercial vehicles inspected and 4% of drivers were taken out of service for violations (pulled off the road until violations are corrected).

There was no significant decrease from last year’s numbers even though the “safety blitz” was announced prior to when it occurred. Had the inspections been unannounced, we expect these numbers would be higher. RSA questions the reason for pre-announcing these events.



P. O. Box 191502
Atlanta, GA 31119-1502

**Become a fan
and follow
us on
Facebook!**

Safe Trucking = Safe Families

Visit our website at www.roadsafeamerica.org

Truck Safety Advocates Meet Secretary Foxx

Road Safe America co-founders Susan and Steve Owings met with the newly appointed Secretary of Transportation, Anthony Foxx to brief him on specific actionable efforts to immediately improve highway safety. The Owingses were joined by representatives from the Truck Safety Coalition, Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways, Parents Against Tired Truckers and Administrators Anne Ferro (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration) and David Strickland (National Highway Transportation Safety Administration).

Topics of concern included truck size and weight, driver fatigue, electronic logging devices, minimum insurance levels, and the speed limiter rule. All agreed that these safety initiatives need to be

implemented immediately.

The meeting also addressed the compensation method for truck drivers. Currently, most truckers are paid by the mile which provides an incentive to drive fast and for long hours in order to increase pay. In addition, professional truck drivers are exempt from overtime pay which exacerbates the already flawed compensation method. In contrast, our European counterparts prohibit this type of pay structure and instead require truck drivers to be paid by the hour, including overtime.

RSA continues to discredit this pay structure from both a safety and a moral standpoint while advocating for a positive change.



Steve Owings, Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, and Susan Owings at DOT Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

**Drive Safer Sunday
is the Sunday after
Thanksgiving,
December 1, 2013.
This date marks the
eleventh anniversary of
the day Cullum Owings
was killed.**