

The ECA 2011 MarketPlace Continues to Grow

Manassas, VA— The Express Carriers Association (ECA), whose mission is to foster business relationships between carriers, shippers and vendors, held the 2011 MarketPlace April 19-21, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia. "This year's MarketPlace had a record number of companies participate," states the ECA President, Lance Adams.

ECA was founded with a clear goal to establish a conference that provides information and educational sessions, and pairs shippers, carriers, and vendors in one-on-one interviews to create business and new relationships, as well as allowing exhibitors to get their products and services in front of qualified transportation decision makers.

With almost 400 total attendees, 30 vendors, and a record number of carrier companies and nearly 40 sponsors, representing all aspects of the transportation industry, Fiona Morgan, ECA Executive Director declared, "the 2011 MarketPlace was a great success, which we look forward to building upon in the future."

ECA presented plaques to two retiring directors, Jack Johnson of Capital Express and John Storm of Mark IV, in recognition of their service to the association. The association also gave special acknowledgment to Brad Westrom of United Delivery Express as he stepped down from the position of Immediate Past President and also to his wife Janice Westrom for all their hard work and support. Lance Adams recognized Stuart Hyden as he retired from the President's position, stating "Stuart has steered ECA through some difficult years, but the work he has accomplished was evident at this year's successful MarketPlace. Under Stuart's leadership, the ECA has been well positioned for future growth."

Elections were held for the ECA Board of Directors. Paul Steffes of Jet Transportation & Logistics, MJ Hill of Above & Beyond Delivery Service and Michelle Mattoni of Brightstone Insurance were reelected to the ECA Board. Mike Coyle of Airport Courier Service, Craig Heurung of Spee-Dee Delivery Service, and Dave Rittenhouse of BEX Logistics were newly elected to the ECA Board.

At a board meeting immediately following the 2011 MarketPlace the board of directors voted for the new officers and are pleased to announce the new Executive Committee is comprised of Lance Adams of Kruse Worldwide as the President, John DiTucci of US Courier and Logistics as the Vice President, Paul Steffes of Jet Transportation & Logistics as the Second Vice-President, MJ Hill of Above & Beyond Delivery Service as the Treasurer, and Jim Luciani of CXT Software as the Secretary.

The 2012 ECA MarketPlace is scheduled to take place April 10-12, 2012, Chicago, IL at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare Hotel. Visit www.expresscarriers.org for more information. **MCW**



Thomas Family: MCAA Loyalty (Serving on the Board of Trustees)

The Thomas Family could easily say, "All for one and one for all!" Or, it may be better stated, "THREE for all!" That is exactly how Dick, Jeff and Julie Thomas feel about serving on the MCAA Board of Trustees.

Since the founding of the MCAA, former Priority owner Dick Thomas has been involved with various functions that have encouraged membership and camaraderie amongst courier companies. Through the years, both the MCAA and Priority prospered. Dick's family has flourished through their current proprietorship of Priority Dispatch, and along the way, they have built an affection and affinity for serving on the MCAA's Board of Trustees. It's always heartening to watch your children follow in your footsteps, but it's especially meaningful for Dick that son, Jeff, Priority's President, and daughter, Julie, Vice President, supports an organization that he helped get off the ground – an organization that benefits couriers from coast to coast.

Maintaining traditions is always a challenge, but not so for the Thomas Family. Although Dick's influence and involvement within the MCAA now reverberates through his son and daughter, both Jeff and Julie hold a deep conviction for retaining the spirit of MCAA's original intent. Their goal is to continue supporting an active and well-balanced group of representatives from across the country that will, in turn, provide advice and effective communication to others within the courier industry. **MCW**

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