

An Electronic and Facsimile Newsletter for the Transportation Industry

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YEAR END REFLECTIONS; ADA; 10 YRS OF *ROLLIN' ON*

Year end reflections

As the year comes to an end, we all reflect on what the year has brought such as the high cost of fuel which threatened to derail whatever type of recovery might be occurring, when finally production was increased at about the same time of the discoverv that demand isn't all that high and inventories are not all that low. You saw truck capacity shrink while profits soared, but not for all or even many. You saw new hours of service implemented, with the necessary operational changes, only to see the new regulations struck down by a court, then allowed to stay in affect until yet another court weighs in.

Finally, you saw an election where, this time, the winner won the electoral college vote.

Meanwhile, you look to your family and friends, as well as to your health, where the true measures of success are found. You feel empathy for those who cannot be at home this Christmas, and for those who may never see a loved one, perhaps a spouse with children, alive again.

ADA:

More than ever before

The good news out of Iraq is that through the miracles of modern medicine and with rapid response, many of our soldiers' lives are being saved, lives that in past wars would be lost. The bad news is that these injured soldiers in many cases are maimed, with lost limbs and other severe injuries. These brave men and women are returning to the U.S. where eventually they will be reintroduced into the work force, as well as to dealing with daily routines, such as

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going to the grocery store or enjoying a meal in a restaurant. The ADA will find itself utilized to a new, higher level. Meanwhile, the rest of us will see common and abundant examples of the high cost of war.



BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND FOR A HAPPY AND ENJOYABLE NEW YEAR. AND MAY YOUR TRANSPORTATION TRAUMAS BE TRIVIAL.

The Democrats may be thankful that they lost the election, since the task at hand is enormous and thankless. This is one instance where the old adage, be careful what you wish for, comes to mind.

Meanwhile, Ms. Clinton must be very thankful that John Kerry lost the election, a feat that many others could December 2004

not have pulled off. The road to the White House just became a lot straighter and faster.

10 Years of Rollin-On

This issue marks the end of 10 years of *Rollin' On,* 120 issues in all. I never missed a month-end deadline, although being the good lawyer that I am, I bumped up real close at times. The first issue, in January 1995, referred to President Clinton's remark in his annual State of the Union address, about sunsetting the ICC. That was a long time ago, yet in many respects it seems very recent.

The inaugural issue of **Rollin' On** marked my own deregulation, when I ventured out on my own. I found space here at the Benj. Franklin Plaza which I thought would be temporary. 10 years later, I'm still here.

10 years ago I thought a mouse was a smaller version of the second most popular animal used for experiments, the most popular of which were attorneys since there were things that even the second favorite, rats, would not do.

More year end reflections

For me the year brings many thoughts. My father died early in the year, which means, with the unexpected death of my mother five years ago, that my six siblings and I are now orphans. A few years ago, sometime before 2001, his doctor followed the customary practice of asking a series of questions, culminating in the inevitable "Who is the president of the United States?' to which my father, following his normally delayed response, said "Hillary". To the end he kept his wits about him, not that they were always appreciated or even understood.

Short Bio Admitted to the state bars of Oregon, Alaska, Florida and Massachusetts. Practicing law for over 25 years and emphasizing transportation law, business law and related litigation.