

Professional Driving Skills Earn Onslow Man Top Honours



Rob Stevens drives the B-Train in the Canadian National Professional Truck Driving Championship, Saint-Jérôme, Quebec (submitted)

By Linda Harrington

Robert Stevens, of Onslow, has been a truck driver for 23 years, taking his training in 1991 at Commercial Safety College, Masstown. He has been working for Home Hardware, Debert for the last 4 ½ years making deliveries between the Maritimes and Eastern Quebec.

Last year Rob entered a truck driving competition for the first time. He placed 3rd in Atlantic Canada and won the Professionalism Award. "It was always something I wanted to do but I was just too nervous to try," says Rob, who drives a B-train (two trailers hooked together).

This past June Rob gave the Atlantic competition another try and placed first in his category, earning the right to compete at the Canadian National Professional Truck Driving Championship in Saint-Jérôme, Quebec. The four day trip for Rob, and his wife Gil, was paid for by the Atlantic Provinces Truckers Association.

The competition involved three parts-1) a written test; 2) a pre-trip inspection and 3) an obstacle course. There were 5 classes for the different types of trucks including the straight truck, single-single, single-tandem, tandem-tandem and B-train with a total of 39 competitors this year.

"The B-train can be rather tricky on the obstacle course, especially when you try to back it up," says Rob. "Another tricky part of the obstacle course was a cloverleaf configuration where you must make two right turns and two left turns."

In the pre-trip inspection, drivers are given 8 minutes to spot 5 defects on a truck.



Rob Stevens, Onslow, displays the hardware he recently brought home from the Canadian National Professional Truck Driving Championship. Rob won second place in the B-Train Category and Rookie of the Year. (Harrington Photo)

The points are then combined for the three events, with prizes awarded for the top three placings.

Rob was very pleased to bring home top honours from the National Championship, winning second place in the B- train category and the Rookie of the Year Award. "This was my first time at such a big event, so I was a bit nervous, but the comradery with the other drivers, made the event seem less competitive," says Rob adding, "It really gives a positive outlook on the trucking industry."

With the National experience under his belt, Rob expects to give the Atlantic competition another try this June. In order to qualify, drivers must be accident free for 12 months. The National competition moves around each year and will be held in Saskatchewan next year.

Congratulations, Rob!

MacCaull Villa Notes

By Hazel Hill

Shirley Ryan had a visit from her grandson, Chad Ryan, Truro on Sunday, September 10th. Visiting Bernice Kaulback from British Columbia was her granddaughter, Donna and little son, also Art & Barb, and Bud and Linda.

Visiting with me were Joan Mitchell, Dartmouth, Pat Wiese, Red Lake, ON; Mary Bryant, Smithers, BC and Barbara Kennedy, Kentville. Carleton MacLean also spent a couple of days, August 28-30, as he was attending the school reunion in Brule.

A reunion of the Great Village school class of '54 & '55, hosted by the teacher, Mrs. Lois (Goodman) Bowers at her cottage in Brule on

Fall Concert Series Announced for "The Hall" in Parrsboro

By Patricia Burke

The Concert Series Committee and pleased to announce the fall line up for concerts at the hall in Parrsboro for the next few months. First in the line-up will be Sunday, October 19, 2014 at 8 pm when Old Man Leudecke will take to the stage. This will be Old Man Leudecke's second concert at the hall. He is a multiple Juno and ECMA winner.

Thursday, November 6, 2014, The Good Brothers who have won 8 consecutive Juno Awards for Country Group and have headlined gigs at Massey Hall and have travelled extensively throughout Canada.

Saturday, November 22, 2014, Gordon Stobbe will get you clapping and stomping

your feet to his jazzy bluegrass. Gordon is no stranger to Parrsboro having been an instructor at the Fiddle Camp sponsored by the Ships Company Theatre. Another Parrsboro Favorite, Greg Simm will join Gordon for his performance.

Tickets for all these concerts will be \$20 advance or \$25 at the door. Tickets will be available at Sweet Briar Boutique or The Teeshtertry and Signs in Parrsboro.

You can purchase tickets from "The Halls" website at www.thehall.ca, go to the paypal link, major credit cards can be used there as well or call 1-902-701-8951, leave a message and a volunteer will return your call. Check our website often to see what is going on at the hall.

Provincial Contributions to Local Brigades

Karen Casey delivers \$26,202 to three volunteer fire brigades to enhance their service to their communities. The three brigades will contribute the remaining 50% of the \$52,000 initiatives



Great Village and District Fire Brigade received \$6,923 to cover 50% of the cost of self-contained breathing apparatuses for their members. Joining Karen Casey for the cheque presentation were: Chief Dave Lundie, Firefighter Pat Flemming, Fire Commissioner Betty MacNeil, Deputy Chief Larry Kinsman, Fire Commissioners Keith Smith, Bobby Patriquin, and Audrey Fields (Submitted)



Pictured with the 1941 truck, which is still a proud member of the Tatamagouche Volunteer Fire Brigade's fleet are: Captain Matt Forbes, Firefighter Jeremy Russell, Deputy Chief Tim Colburn, and Retired Chief Jim Forbes, who joined Karen Casey to receive \$5,624 representing 50% of the cost of water supply and suppression equipment to enhance their ability to respond on site to a fire. (Submitted)



A maximum contribution of \$13,655 was provided to the North River Fire Brigade to go towards the purchase of personal protective equipment for the firefighters and first responders. The matching 50% from the brigade itself will be covered by fundraising activities by both the Brigade and the Auxiliary. LeRoy Hansen and Doug McNutt met with Karen Casey, MLA to receive the cheque. (Submitted)



Fall Clean Up Tips and Reminders

Fall Clean Up will be taking place October 20th to 24th in Zones 1 & 2

- **Bagged garbage MUST be placed in CLEAR BAGS for collection.** Black, blue or other solid coloured bags WILL NOT be collected.
- All items must be placed within 10 feet of the road by **7 am on the Monday of your collection week.**
- The total amount to be set out **cannot exceed 650 lbs** (imagine the amount that can fit into the back of a half tonne truck).
- A number of trucks will pass by your home collecting specific items. **These trucks will pass by once.** Roads are inspected at the end of the day ensuring all acceptable items are collected. **Material set out after the trucks have passed will not be collected.**
- **Electronics, such as televisions, computers, printers and monitors will NOT be collected curbside during clean up.** Visit www.recyclemyelectronics.ca or call 1-888-567-4535 to find out your nearest drop off location.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Helpline 902-895-4777 www.colchester.ca  @ColchesterWRM