

In This Issue

GPS Aids Shipper

Page 8

Industry News

Page 17

ECA Convention Photos

Page 20

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ECA: Excellent Convention Again

LOOK AT THAT TITLE AGAIN—IT'S correct. Another terrific show! Neither rain nor sleet could keep us away from this one. St. Louis with its unpredictable weather wasn't very good to us, but the Express Carriers Association Convention was. Executive Director, Cheryle Williamson and her committee people kept things moving at a swift pace. With membership and attendees at an all-time high—no expense was spared. Shipper/Carrier appointments were plentiful and delivery companies were all pleased with their interviews. There were many new shippers and I'm sure lots of business was written. I'm always amazed by the process under which this show works. The ECA is hot! The final night of the convention, which was once again held at the wonderful Chase Park Plaza Hotel, was devoted to a casino atmosphere. Actual casino employees were engaged to provide us with Las Vegas style guidelines. But the gambling was not for money, but rather for prizes. Everything from cameras to airline tickets were given away. Dealers not only taught you how to play but did so in a not serious way and the laughter could be heard throughout the hotel. What a nice surprise. The problem is, what do you do next year? Speaking of next year, the convention will take place in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Several new Board members were elected and they promised to keep all the values of the ECA intact. It's a great group of dedicated men and women who

volunteer their time and love doing it. The delivery industry is fortunate to have an association such as the Express Carriers Association.



ECA Board



Boarding the bus for the ballgame

continued on page 20

AirNet Systems Looks for Potential Buyers

AirNet Systems, Inc. (NYSE:ANS) announced that they have authorized Brown Gibbons Lang & Company to solicit potential offers to acquire the Company. The AirNet Board's decision comes after careful consideration of and is consistent with the recommendations provided by BGL. The Company conducts its business in two segments, Delivery Services which includes Bank services and Express services, and Passenger Charter services through Jetride, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary.

The Board also established a Special Committee consisting solely of the independent directors to oversee the marketing process. The Company, through the Special Committee and Board, reserves the right to alter or terminate the marketing process at any time. At this point in time the Board has not authorized the sale of the Company. ❖



SO WHAT MORE CAN I SAY ABOUT THE ECA SHOW that I recently attended in St. Louis? Every convention I ever attended, was worth the trip. It's always nice to see friends from across the country, like Bruce McClelland, formerly with Datatrac and now with Crown Freight Systems. Exchanging "war stories" with Bruce shows me how fast the years are going by.

Being entertained is another part of attending these functions. And there was plenty to entertain us—St. Louis Cardinals baseball game; magic by Larry Zogby; music by Cheryle Williamson and Mary Ellen DiTucci; casino games and the facilities of the hotel itself.

Meeting new members is just as rewarding. I made several new friends—Miami, Portland, Oregon and others. I look forward to seeing them again at future shows. It's all part of the benefits of going to conventions.

What now? Another convention! I'm on my way to the industry's leading show—the Annual MCAA meeting in Las Vegas. Naturally I'm going for the seminars—yeah right! This one is all fun—not work. It will be nice to get some sun for a change. The Northeast has been dismal for many months. I hope many of you are going too. The MCAA expects record-breaking attendance.

See you there,

William W. Rucker

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