



October 13, 2006
For Immediate Release

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Fikes Truck Line Recognizes Contractors at Annual Event

Pride and Polish, Trailer Give-Away, Top Recruiter and Years of Service among Awards Presented

Hope, Arkansas . . . More than 930 individuals attended the 16th Annual Fikes Fall Festival that took place on October 7th at the Four States Fairgrounds in Texarkana, Arkansas. The Festival serves as Fikes' premier appreciation event to celebrate the people and families connected with Fikes.

"The day is fashioned into a family-style carnival," says Jim Honea, Director of Operations, "Among the highlights are country music great Leland Martin, a horseshoe tournament, and voting for the annual "Pride and Polish" winner for the most beautifully maintained cab. Families are treated to grilled food and goodies, carnival rides, bingo, a basketball competition, numerous door prizes, and a vendor trucking industry Expo."

A number of outstanding awards were presented to contractors at the Festival:

- **Rob Gentry** received first place in the **Pride and Polish** contest.
- **Sergio Barona** won a **Trailer from Twin City Trailers** in Texarkana; and
- **Nathaniel Burns** was awarded a trip for four to Walt Disney World.

The call for **Pride and Polish** entries brought 19 applications into the Fikes office this year. After the initial review, five finalists were chosen to compete in this year's event. They all attended a special picnic the evening before the festival where they had the opportunity to meet previous Pride and Polish winners.

A veteran driver with 19-years on the road, Rob Gentry of Fulda, Indiana, has been leased to Fikes since August 2006, "I love the excitement of showing my truck," he says, "It seems that when I am not working and driving, I am usually fixing up other trucks and collecting toy trucks."

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Other Pride and Polish finalists were:

- Jose Castorena (2nd place);
- Bobby Hines (3rd place),
- Darvin Ford (4th place); and
- Dean Hale (5th place).

Each year, **Twin City Trailer of Texarkana** sponsors a drawing for a flatbed trailer that is tied to Fikes' Recruiting Contest. Contractors earn one chance into the drawing for every 5 years of service with Fikes and one chance for every recruit they bring to the company.

This year's **trailer winner Sergio Barona** said, "Winning the trailer felt surreal. I could not believe they drew my name."

Nathaniel Burns was named **Fikes' Top Recruiter of 2006** receiving a trip for four to Walt Disney World including airfare from his hometown of Waco, TX, ground transportation, resort accommodations, dinner, theme park passes and spending money.

Says Burns, "Recruiting is the easy part; my secret is that I talk honestly about how great it is to partner with Fikes. The hard part will be picking who to bring to Orlando. With six grown children and nine grandchildren, that might prove to be tricky."

Other awards given out at the Fall Festival included:

- *20 Years of Service Diamond awarded to:*
 - Earl Finley
 - John Holt
- *15 Years of Service Diamond awarded to:*
 - Ralph Fisk
 - David Ponce
 - Marco Reyes
 - Mike Vaughn

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- *10 Years of Service Diamond awarded to:*
 - Gary Arman
 - Richard Batchelor
 - Charlie Boyd
 - Paul Brown
 - Buddy DeMoss
 - Larry Hale
 - Linda Hale (necklace)
 - Mark Garrett
 - Leon Sherill

Fikes Truck Line is a premier national trucking company that specializes in shipments of goods that travel on flatbed, RGN, drop-deck, and side-kit trailers. For more information on Fikes Truck Line, visit their website at www.fikes.com or call 1-800-643-6611.

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