



THE LEAF

FALL 2008

Register Now 2008 SSA Annual Convention

People Purpose Precision

Be sure you have completed your registration for this year's Service Specialists Association Annual Convention slated for San Diego's Loews Coronado Bay Resort, October 9-11, 2008.

As you can see from the agenda inside, the meeting offers maximum exposure time for you and your customers and suppliers. It also offers nine profit building business seminars featuring top executives from the supplier community and the business press. Additionally, you have the opportunity to uphold your company's honor by competing in the initial:

SSA LaMouse 2008 Spring Powered Race

To register, simply complete the forms at www.truckservice.org. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego! Please note: There is no registration form for reserving rooms.

Call Loews Coronado Bay Resort directly to set up your reservations at 1-800-815-6397.

SSA LAMOUSE 500: THE ULTIMATE TEST OF SPRING TECH!

Have you signed up yet for LaMouse 500?

This is the chance you have been waiting for to test your knowledge of springs in a contest of engineering skill. Everyone attending the annual meeting in San Diego is invited to design a car powered by the spring from a Victor Mouse trap to enter in the La Mouse 2008 model car race.

In the last newsletter we went over the rules, how to build a mouse trap car, the judging and the stakes. If you need a review, that issue of The Leaf is posted on www.truckservice.org.

So what might be holding you back from signing up?

- **“The rules are too hard.”** Keeping the model car on the track, and keeping it straight is just too difficult for some people we guess.
- **“Building a mouse trap car takes up too much of your valuable time.”** Okay time is valuable, we will give you that. But bragging rights and the possibility of sweet prizes are pretty valuable as well. Two prizes will be given out. The first will be for performance, to the car that survives all elimination challenges. The second

will be a Concours d'Elegance judging, awarded to the best looking entry.

- **“Instructions on how to build a mouse trap car cannot be found anywhere.”** Actually plans for how to build a mouse trap car are abundant on the Internet. Go to your favorite search engine and type “mouse trap car.” You'll quickly begin to see that there is plenty of opportunity for ingenuity in the design and construction of these vehicles. There are also quite a few kits available which can be built as-is or modified. Creativity is encouraged.
- **“The stakes are too high. What if I lose?”** The chance for greatness always come with some risk. This is nothing less than a moment in history. You could be the first ever winner of the SSA LaMouse 500. Your name could be the name that everyone would always see at the top of the LaMouse 500 Plaque.



Be There!

SSA Annual Convention 2008

Wed. Oct. 8	Thursday Oct. 9	Frid Oct.
Morning	Morning	Morn
	7:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast – for members in Commodore CDE. 8:00 am – 10:00 am: Spouse Breakfast at Mistral (a resort restaurant).	7:00 am – 9:00 am: Continen members in Commodore CD
	8:30 am: 3 Business Expansion Educational Sessions in Commodore A, Commodore B and Sovereign. 10:00 am: FOR SPOUSES – Gaslamp Quarter Shopping Tour – Shuttle Transportation	8:30 am – 10:00 am: Manufa 10:00 am – 12:00 pm: Big A
Early Arrivals		10:00 am: FOR SPOUSES – located in the resort.
Afternoon	Afternoon	Aftern
	11:30 am: Golf “Scramble” at Steele Canyon Golf Course (box lunch will be provided to the golf players). Shuttles will transport players to the course.	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunche spouses with Mike Reilly fro ing in Commodore CDE.
	Mfgr. Set Up (all day)	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm: Speaker
		3:30 pm: Roundtable Discus 4:30 pm: 10 Technical Theat
Evening	Evening	Even
6:00 SSA Hot Tub Club – Drinks by the Pool Dinner on Own	6:00 pm: Opening Reception on the Bay Terrace Dinner on Own	6:00 pm: Reception and 2008 modore CDE. Dinner will be on your own.

8: People Purpose Precision

Friday Oct. 10	Saturday Oct. 11	Sunday Oct. 12
Morning	Morning	Morning
Continental Breakfast – for members in Commodore CDE.	7:00 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast – for members in Commodore CDE.	
Breakfast at Mistral (a resort restaurant).	8:00 am – 10:00 am: Spouse Breakfast at Mistral (a resort restaurant).	
Manufacturer Executive Panel	8:30 am – 10:00 am: Northwood University Marketing Session.	
Bill Bates	10:00 am – 11:30 am: Newsmakers.	
Spa Day at Sea Spa	11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Member/Manufacturer Meetings	
Noon	Afternoon	Afternoon
Luncheon for members and spouses with Right to Repair Update in Commodore CDE.	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm: Luncheon for members and spouses with Right to Repair Update in Commodore CDE.	
Bob Losyk	1:30 pm – 5:30 pm: Members and Spouses have the choice of either USS Midway Tour or Balboa Park Tour.	
Commissioners		
Evening	Evening	Evening
8 SSA La Mouse in Commodore CDE	6:00 pm: Reception on the Marina Terrace. 7:00 pm: SSA Dinner with Awards on the Marina Terrace.	



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About Service Specialists Association

Service Specialists Association was founded in 1981 and includes over 300 independent truck repair facilities across North America. With the help of supplier members, SSA offers technical, business and industry information and sponsors benefit programs throughout the year, including the SSA Annual Convention.

SSA's most important goal is to provide a forum for business improvement dialogue and a networking opportunity for member shops and associate supplier members. Shop members and associate supplier members are listed on our website www.truckservice.org.

We welcome independent truck repair facilities to join our "family" of like-minded professionals to enjoy networking and solutions to business and technical problems.

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Member Loss

Mary Lou Starling, 76, died Saturday, August. 16, 2008, in Summit Acres Nursing Home, Caldwell, Ohio.

Born March 14, 1932, in Ashland, she was the daughter of Marvin and Claribel (Cook) Hoffer. She worked with her husband, Okey, as a bookkeeper and co-owner of Okeys Alignment.

She was a member of Senecaville Presbyterian Church and Farm Bureau. She had been a member of 4-H, and Rural Youth, was an avid Wayne County fair attendee (as she said, for the past 72 years). She and Okey were foster parents for a number of children.

Surviving are her husband of 52 years, Okey; children, Rebecca K. and Mark Clutter of Spencer, OH; and Edward E. and Sharon of Wooster, OH; grandchildren, Megan and Lauren Clutter, and Scott Starling.

"Workhorses of Yesteryear" Calendars

We have received several calls from members inquiring about the calendars usually put out by SSA. This year we will not be doing this. But we have found a company who produces the calendars at a decent price if you would like to do it independently this year. The company is called Print-Globe: The Printing Superstore. Their website is www.printglobe.com, and the SKU for this particular calendar is 1857.

Upcoming Industry Events

- September 15-20: TMC's 2008 Fall Meeting & National Technician Skills Competition (TMC SuperTech 2008) at the Renaissance Nashville Hotel in Tennessee. Register online at www.truckline.com.
- September 24-26: Safety & Loss Prevention Management Council's 2008 Safety & Human Resources National Conference & Exhibition at the Sheraton Music City in Nashville, TN. For more information visit www.truckline.com.
- October 4-7: ATA Management Conference & Exhibition at the Hilton New Orleans and Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. For more information visit www.truckline.com.
- **October 8-12: SSA Annual Convention in San Diego, CA.**
- October 19-24: VIPAR Heavy Duty Annual Business Conference at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort and Spa at Summerlin— in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information email info@vipar.com.
- November 4-6: AAPEX Show at the Sands Expo Center, adjacent to the Venetian Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.
 - Heavy Duty Aftermarket Week 2009, February 16-19, Rosen Center, Orlando, FL. <http://www.hdaw.org/>