"Oh, Tannenbaum..."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- The MTA Meeting Minutes for November..................................Page 2
- The Collectors Corner............................................................Page 3
- The 2008 NYC Veterans Parade..............................................Page 4
- Classifieds.............................................................................Page 5
MTA 2008 Officers and Staff

President- Dave Ahl
Tel: 973-285-0716                  Email:SwapMeetDave@aol.com
Vice President-Linda Schwartz
Tel: 973-635-2404
Treasurer-Ginnie McDevitt
Tel: 845-987-7896
Membership Chairman-Fred Schlesinger
Tel:973-228-7257                                     Email:fred@mtaofnj.us
Parade/Events Coordinator-Peter Schindo
Tel: 201-444-3198      Email:SCHINDOP@us.panasonic.com
Newsletter Editor-Dave Steinert
Tel: 973-347-9091                     Email:Steinert@worldnet.att.net
Web Master-George Wagner
Tel: 973-927-7616                     Email:wagnergm@optonline.net
2008 Sussex Show Chairman-Jim Moore
Tel: 973-738-4624                      Email:Moorerus3@AOL.com

Note: The December 2008 MTA monthly meeting will be held on Monday, November 8th at the Whippany American Legion Post, Legion Place, Whippany, NJ. Refreshments at 7:00 PM, meeting begins at 8:00 PM.

Military Transport Association
Meeting Minutes for November 10th 2008

Meeting opened at 8pm by President Dave Ahl with a pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for our troops.

The prior months minutes were approved.

Tonight’s meeting attendance was a bit on the low side with only about 20 in attendance. Several committee members were absent and the meeting moved quickly with just a few comments and notes.

Treasury Report: Jack McDevitt
Operating Balance: $18,468.72
Swap Meet Balance: $14,760.00
Adoptee Balance: $1,852.00

Newsletter Report: Dave Steinert
Dave thanked those that provided articles for last month’s newsletter. Dave also noted that we are currently mailing about 180 newsletters each month and that the post office has advised him of a possible rate increase based on our style of preparing our folded newsletter. Dave is reviewing the increases with his local postmaster and looking for options to keep our costs down.

Events Committee: Peter Schindo
Peter advised that the recent Clifton Parade, which had 5 vehicles in attendance, was our last MTA sanctioned event for 2008. We had a very successful parade schedule this year and Peter advises that we made approximately $10,000 in parade fees for the MTA. We owe Peter and all those who attended various events on our expanding parade and event schedules a big round of applause for all of their efforts!

Swap Meet Show Report: Dave Ahl
Dave noted that Jim Moore and Fran Antico met before tonight’s meeting and covered several issues for our next show. Dave passes on an urgent request for staff volunteers for next years show. If you can just spare two hours to help staff certain events during the two-day show, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please email Fran at Fran@mtaofnj.org if you can spare some time to help out.

Dave also noted that the show committee expects to save about $3000 in expenses on next years show since certain items such as show signs, printing expenses and food equipment can be reused from last years show.

Toys For Tots: Dave Ahl
Dave mentioned that we are again supporting the Toys For Tots program. Please bring along an unwrapped toy to our December meeting if you can help out.

Again this year, the MTA is supporting the US Marine Corps “Toys For Tots” Campaign. Please bring your unwrapped toys to the December meeting.

Web Site Report: George Wagner
George noted that our web site is running well and has a new frontpage layout and other improvements. George shared a few statistics about our site. He noted that our site has handled 157,000 email requests, but that only 14874 email requests were legitimate...the rest were spam and were caught by our spam filters. Peak website hits were traditionally during February and March as people check out our site for info on the spring show. Jack McDevitt also noted that some of the movie production companies have been checking our members’ military vehicle pictures posted on our site and that the pictures have been helpful in getting their owners invites to several movie shoots. If you want to add your vehicle info and pictures to the Members’ Vehicle portion of our site, send an email and photo to George and he will set you up!

Meeting closed at 8:45

Submitted by: Gary Schultz
TELEPHONE LINEMAN'S TOOL ODDITIES
By Harold Ratzburg

You will remember from past articles that I am interested in collecting old tools, especially those used by the US Army, and specifically those carried by the Signal Corps Telephone Linemen, numbered as the TL tools in a Lineman's tool kit. They include the six inch TL-13A Pliers, the TL-29 Pocket knife, and the leather CS-34 belt case. You may also remember that my hobby is haunting estate sales, flea markets, and garage sales looking for more collectibles.

While at a flea market in Florida, I found a collector's dream, i.e. variations of the stuff I am collecting. As I poked through a tray of old pliers, I ran across three variations of the TL Pliers. The first one (on the left in the photo) was easy because I was looking for six-inch long pliers with the tell-tale hole in one handle and the two wire stripping notches in the cutting jaws. Far as I know, only the military pliers has the notches and a hole in the handle for a lanyard or for placing a grenade ring through it so the tool would be less likely to be dropped if you put your finger through the ring. That was enough to make my day at the flea market.

As I continued poking through the box of old pliers, I happened to notice another six-inch long pliers. It had no hole in the handle or notches, but I did notice that it was marked TL-13. OK, big deal you say, but what makes it interesting is this. I had heard or read somewhere that the Army Signal Corps had adopted the six-inch long pliers after WWI because it was so handy for splicing wire in the field. They gave it the TL-13 number for issue purposes, but did not mark them as such, at least not many of them. So most every one of the millions of pliers in circulation looked the same. Without a marking, a picky collector had no way of proving that his pliers were indeed military issued. But now I HAD FOUND ONE!!! (It is the one in the middle in the photo.) Is this important?...Only if you are a picky collector. So I guess I am picky. The Army later had the pliers modified by calling for a hole in the handle and the notches in the cutting jaws and designated it as the TL-13A Pliers.

Poking around a little more in the box, I checked out a bigger set of pliers, one of the size that is also issued by the US Army for Engineers and Signal Corps people. (The Army number for the larger pliers when issued through the Signal Corps is TL-107) Surprise, surprise!!! This considerably larger pliers (the one on the right in the photo) was marked TL-13A and further looking showed that there was a hole in one handle and two wire stripping notches in the cutting edges of the jaws. So here we have a mistake in Army specifications, or maybe a deliberate attempt to defraud the US Army, or goodness only knows what? But this picky collector has a one-of-a-kind variation to a collectible tool. Obviously, this collector left the flea market with his three-dollar purchase and a smile on his face. (Each of the three pliers cost me one dollar.) Time will tell the value of what it will bring on ebay one of these days.

OTHER TL TOOL COLLECTING TALES
In my hobby of visiting estate sales, I run into many different types of houses. Some are literally filled with junk,
some are clean and well ordered and the rest fall somewhere in between. I walked into one house in a middle class neighborhood and it was one of the cleanest, most well ordered residence I ever encountered. The owner obviously did not keep anything around that he did not need for day-to-day living. But there, sitting on a corner of the kitchen table was a mint condition TL-13A pliers. I did not even have to dig for it cause it was the ONLY tool in the house. So I walked away again, with a smile on my face.

In another house on another day, I ran across a TL-107 pliers. It was not marked with a U.S., but it was stamped clearly with a TL-107 marking, proving its military origin. Then as I left the house (again with a smile on my face) a man sitting by the door says to me, "Hey, I see you bought my good old pliers. I brought them home after my discharge from the Army back in 1946 and I've used them around the house since then. I hope they are going to a good home." I assured him that they were. What it means to me is that I found a neat collectible tool and in addition, it had a personal story from a previous owner with the collectible. A nutty collector always appreciates a good story with his showpieces. A lot of collectors will make up a story if it serves their purpose. I like mine original.

One last tale concerns selling on ebay. I put up a TL-13A pliers for auction. It was a nice one, so I sat back and watched the bidding progress. The bids kept going higher and higher until they hit the incredible price of $83.00. After the deal was completed (with a smile on my face), and I sent him the pliers, I got an email in return a few days later asking if he could return it. The scenario that I imagine when he opened the package goes like this.-

--------He looks at the pliers in his hand and thinks, "MY GAWD, I PAID EIGHTY THREE DOLLARS FOR THIS LITTLE THING!!!!!!! I MUST BE NUTS!!!!!!!!!!" He probably got caught up in the bidding frenzy. Maybe his wife was in on the transaction also and voiced her opinion. Anyway, my policy is to return any bid for any reason if the bidder is unhappy, so he returned the pliers and I returned his $83, (not with a smile on my face.) But to me, the story is priceless, so what the heck? End of Stories.

The 2008 NYC Veterans Day Parade
Story and Photos by Gary Schultz

Several members of the MTA attended the big NYC Veterans Day Parade on 5th Ave. Randy Emr did a great job of coordinating the convoys from the NJ side into the city with police escort down Route 3, through the Lincoln Tunnel and all the way through the city to our assembly point on 29th Street. We hooked up with members from the NY Chapters and ended up with over 25 vehicles for this well attended and exciting parade. Look for more pictures of the parade on the MTA website (www.MTAofNJ.org).

The Military Transport Association would like to wish all its members a very happy and healthy Holiday!

MTA of NJ Newsletter Page 4 December 2008
For Sale-Fall 2008 special.****Resin guns****M1919 .30 caliber air-cooled, $185.00, M16A1 $125.00, M16A2 $125.00. While supplies last. Bill (732)-489-1012 e-mail: bpeastlee@aol.com  (11/08)

For Sale-9-ton Tag Along Trailer, 8-years old, great shape, $3000. Three M35A2, soft tops, air ride seats, good rubber, troop seats and cargos covers, $3000-$5000. M37 parts-used and NOS, please call with your needs. Don Covart, 973-390-4876. (11/08)

For Sale-1967 M416 ¼-ton trailer, good condition, no dents, little surface rust, but needs paint. Has National Guard made metal top, $800. 1986 M1009 Blazer, 118K, camo color, good condition, has radio racks, antenna mounts, engine block heater, manual and spare parts. Clear NJ Title. Call John Sobotka, 862-266-8284. (11/08)

For Sale-Jeep MB grill with all the lights, $225. Call Tom Weaver at 973-627-9448. (11/08)

For Sale-I have extra HMMWV parts for sale that came with the vehicle I recently purchased. I have a complete rear fender, front kick plate, brake braces, 200 amp alternators, 6.2L engine in canister and power steering pumps for CUCV. Please call and ask about what's available. Peter Schindo, 201-348-7565. (10/08)


For Sale- Front and rear axle assembly for MB or M38, $90 each. Core engine blocks will fit CJ, MB, M38 and F Head block for M38A1, $75 each. Alaskan lumber making machine saw ATT, $50. Chevy running gear for 1953 1-ton pick-up truck. Engine will fit 1-1/2 ton truck. Many misc. jeep body parts, call Tom Weaver 973-627-9448. (6/08)

For Sale-M38A1 tub. Original but poor condition. Lots of rust and holes. Great for the serious restorer. Photos on request. Pick-up only in Denville, NJ. $500 or best offer. Call Al Mellini at 973-723-2166. (5/08)

For Sale:1949 Dodge power wagon transmission with power take off, make offer. 1941 Ford. 1-1/2 ton pickup, with Marmon Herrington 4-wheel drive, not running but complete, needs resto. Also have 1945 parts truck, make offer. Call 718-429-7590 Peter Mark. (5/08)

For Sale-For those members who might be interested in synthetic lubricants and related products for their military and personal vehicles, they can try my website www.LUBE-1.com, Jonathan Frank, 201-588-7854.

For Sale - 1943 Dodge WC-64 3/4 ton Ambulance— with winch. Vehicle has 2 speed transfer case from a WC-63, Engine rebuilt in 2002, new rear doors and all new gages, good condition tires with new tubes, new wiring harness and side windows and windshield. Body sandblasted and repainted but paint has faded and needs touchup. Lots of Extras included. Vehicle is located in Carmel, NY —— Asking $17,500—— Phone "Mark Tolf" at 845-225-1405, cell phone 845-531-9577, email marktolf@hotmail.com

For Sale-M38 parts, painted OD spare tire rim-$35, OD front bumper-$35, distributor cap-$5, brake and clutch pedal arms-$10 for both. Call Art Hormung @908-852-0272. (8/08)

For Sale: 2 M-1009 Blazers in good condition, Bill of sale only, call for details. $2500.00ea. Blazer rear bumpers w/pintal and mounting brackets, no blackout lights or clevises, $125.00. Blazer rears, 3.08 locking in very good condition, $200.00ea. Blazer front rears, 3.08 locking complete in V/G cond., $150.00ea. Seats, M-1009 blazer no plastics, seats in V/G used condition sold in pairs only $125.00. Transmission, TH-400 untested but fluid looks great, $175.00. Fuel Tank in excellent condition, no sender, $50.00. Straps in like new condition, $40.00 pair. Windshields, $35.00ea. Drive shafts, rear $35.00, front, $50.00. Complete nose w/blackout drive light, brush guard, blackout in bumper, bridge tag,etc.no radiators, $500.00. Transfer case, $125.00. Fiberglass rear top in v/g condition, $50.00ea. This is just a small sampling of the M-1009 blazer parts that I have available call me for any other parts that you might need that aren’t listed here. Dan Wernet thecpsurplus@yahoo.com or 570-350-2765. (09/07)

For Sale-M35 Rims-$40.00 each. Pad locks (Steel)-$12.00 each. M211/M135 Rims-$40.00 each. Pad locks (Brass)-$17.00 each. Bias Rims M398-$50.00 each. Field Desk-$25.00 each. 2 ½ /5 ton Troop seat hardware-$6.00. Run flat alum rim for M998-$17.00 each. Drip pans extreme cold-$6.00 each. 5-ton cargo cover (green) NOS-$225.00. Kevlair helmets-$45.00 each. Silverware-$1.25. Sleeping bags cold weather-$55.00 each. M998 air filter-$300. Bomb rack 2 ½ /5 ton-260.00. Seats for M900A2 5 ton. Field file cabinets-$12.00 each (Vietnam era). Outer axle seal-$12.00. Antenna rope-$6.00. Front air seal-$12.00. Lug wrenches & brackets 2 ½ /5 ton-$20.00 each. Inner axle seal-$12.00. Reflector grangles-$12.00 each. Water cans, metal-$20.00 ea. Blister bags-$30.00. Call John at 732-317-2146 or sandman9@optonline.net (9/07)


For Sale: Looking for a military vehicle? From projects to ground-up Restorations and everything in between! Check out: WWW.USMILITARYVEHICLES.COM

Wanted-Jeep Wrangler for Restoration Vintage 1985 to 1995—Engine and Automatic Tranny should be operational, body may be poor but restorable. Contact: Art Frost, 973-386-1490 or Arthur@Frosthome.com

WANTED-Tail gate assembly for a M-1009 Blazer-Call Paul Wadeson, (607)537-2275.

WANTED-Parade ready WWII Command Car w/or without winch. Call Bob Benson at 973-293-7101.

WANTED-Coleman camping lanterns or stoves, any condition. Cash paid. Call Jake (201)-874-5044.
The Military Transport Association of North Jersey is a non-profit organization for people interested in collecting, restoring, displaying, and operating historic military vehicles. Members of the club participate in 15 to 20 parades every year as well as educational events, militaria and truck shows, rallies, trail rides and visits to veteran’s homes.

Members also participate in projects such as restoring a jeep for the National Guard Museum, the National Night Out, USMC Toys for Tots campaign, fund raising for the National WWII and Korean War Memorials, Boy Scout projects, and National Guard recruiting campaigns.

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at the Whippany American Legion Hall, Legion Place, Whippany, NJ. You can come between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. to eat pizza, sandwiches and enjoy other refreshments. Beer and wine is available from the Legion Hall. The meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. and is normally over by 9:00 p.m.

Join the MTA now and receive:

- 12 issues of the Motor Pool Messenger newsletter.
- FREE classified sales and want ads in the newsletter.
- Notices of parades and events in which you can participate.
- FREE annual picnic and FREE annual pizza party.
- FREE MTA embroidered patch (when you attend an event).

To join the Military Transport Association, send this form (or the same information on a blank sheet of paper) with $20.00 annual membership dues ($25.00 for Family Membership) to the address below. Dues are for the calendar year.

Name______________________________________________
Address________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip______________________________________________
Telephone (________)________________________________
Email______________________________________________

Military vehicle(s) owned__________________________________________

Mail completed application with $20.00 annual dues to:

Military Transport Ass’n of North Jersey
P.O. Box 393
Budd Lake, NJ 07828