



# MOTOR POOL MESSENGER

The Military Transport Association  
Of North Jersey

August 2016 Website: [WWW.MTAOFNJ.ORG](http://WWW.MTAOFNJ.ORG) Editor: David Steinert



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Our Elf from the Toys for Tots/Railroad Battalion Committee, **Carolyn Hoffman** has volunteered to replace Bill as the Show Chairman. **Thank you Carolyn!**

The club wishes to thank Bill for his hard work coordinating the Sussex Show for the last two years and we want to wish him well with his transition to Virginia.

**Newsletter:** Dave Steinert thanked **Harold Ratzburg** for his contribution to the July newsletter.

**Membership:** Chairman **Fred Schlesinger** reports we still have members!

**New Business-** **Carolyn Hoffman** reports the Sussex Miners Baseball Team will be hosting a Military Appreciation night on Friday 15 July and have asked that we bring vehicles. All MTA members are welcome with any vehicle of any size. We'll be setting up by 18.00 and all are welcome to stay and watch the game.

Vice President **Dennis Vecchiarelli** adjourned the meeting at 12:40p.m



**THE NEXT MTA MEETING WILL BE HELD AT:**

**SVEN JOHNSON'S FARM IN GREEN TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup>. SEE PAGE 5 FOR DIRECTIONS.**

**Military Transport Association**

*Meeting Minutes for Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> 2016*

The July meeting at the Veteran's Car Show at Lyons VA Hospital was called to order by Vice President **Dennis Vecchiarelli** at 12:00p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence was led by Dennis. Approximately 20 MTA members were present.

The minutes of the previous MTA meeting were approved as they appeared in last month's newsletter.

No updated Treasury Report was available at the time of the meeting.

**Parades / Events:** Chairman **Peter Schindo**, reported that the club had a good turnout at the Randolph 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, where the club treated members to lunch after the parade.

**Good of the Club:** It was announced that our Sussex Show Chairman, **Bill Murphy** is being transferred to Virginia by his company and he will no longer be able to support the show.





**Military Vehicle Preservation Association**  
**History In Motion**

Since 1976 the Military Vehicle Preservation Association's mission is to provide an international organization for military vehicle enthusiasts, historians, preservationists and collectors interested in the acquisition, restoration, preservation, safe operation, public education and display of historic military transport.

All membership types include Six issues of Supply Line and Four issues of Army Motors annually.

<b>U.S.A. MEMBERSHIPS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Second Class Postage - \$50.00 <input type="checkbox"/> First Class Postage - \$75.00	<b>MEMBERSHIPS OUTSIDE THE U.S.A.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Canada Economy Air - \$60.00 <input type="checkbox"/> International Economy Air - \$70.00	<b>OUTREACH SPONSORSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> To Organization or School Second Class Postage - \$50.00	<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.A. Business - \$60.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Canada Business - \$70.00 <input type="checkbox"/> International Business - \$80.00
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MVPA Recruiting Member \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

16 Digit Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this application and mail with a check or money order (on a U.S. bank in U.S. funds) to the address below.

**MVPA ☪ PO Box 520378 ☪ Independence, MO 64052**  
 Phone: (800) 365-5798 ☪ E-mail: [hq@mvpa.org](mailto:hq@mvpa.org) ☪ Fax: (816) 833-5115






## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

To Members of the Military Transport Association,

I have been a member of the Club for many years now and have marveled at the success we have had amassing a small fortune in our treasury primarily because of the phenomenal success of our annual military show: something we should all take a great deal of pride in. I am also a professional money manager and have paid close attention to the ebb and flow of our assets and how they are generally utilized. For the most part our funds are used to finance picnics, incidental Club expenses, and periodic "gifts of appreciation" to veterans, those in need, and other organizations. Rarely do our gifts exceed \$1,000.00. We are now in a position to do much better than that, and I think we should. I propose that the Club establish a Scholarship Fund, in our name, that is awarded annually to some deserving student heading off to college. College is expensive and our students are getting buried in a world of debt while they try to educate themselves. Awarding a student, say \$2,000.00, that can be used for books or tuition, can make a big difference for them. It can also give our Club some well-deserved notoriety, not to mention draw in new members from younger generations that will help keep this great hobby, and our cause, alive and prospering for years to come!

There are all sorts of ways we can make this work. For instance, applicants could be required to write a 1,000 word essay on some aspect of American military history, or on military vehicles, military personalities, etc., etc. (We could select a new topic every year.) A small committee would be assigned the task of selecting the annual winner. Once that was done we could invite the winner to a meeting to present them with a certificate and any other accolades we wanted. The presentation could be announced in local newspapers, the winning essay could be printed in Motor Pool Messenger newsletter: there are all sorts of possibilities for this...and none of them bad!

Obviously I think this would be a wonderful thing to do, and I would be more than glad to handle it. We have more than enough money to sponsor something like this: for years. However, if we ever started to run low on funds we could use our scholarship fund as a means to raise ticket prices at the annual show. We could have fund raisers (because according to President Emr we are a 501-C-3 organization so gifts to us are tax deductible). Doing something like this would

broaden the horizons of the MTA and give something back to the future leaders of this great country of ours. How about it? I would love to know your thoughts.

Thank you, **Bob Rooke**

## RECENT MTA COMMUNITY OUTREACH MISSIONS

On the evening of July 15<sup>th</sup>, several MTA members did the Military Appreciation Night at Skylands Stadium for the Sussex County Miners. MTA members, **John Sobotka, Mike Laner & Tom Tanis** brought their Jeeps up and we made a little display at the front entrance. I'd like to thank them all for coming out! Mike even got to throw out the honorary first pitch as their featured Veteran!! They even put the clubs name on the Jumbotron to say thank you!

Reporter **Carolyn Hoffman**



The Sussex Miners' Mascot makes himself comfortable in a U.S. Army Jeep

## COLLECTOR'S CORNER

### My 1942 Jeep—The Love of My Life! Part I

By Harold Ratzburg MVPA # 126C

Some of the older members of the MTA may think that they remember that they have seen this story before in the Motor Pool Messenger. If so, it just shows that your memory is good, way better than that of this 'Ole Geezer', who wrote the story. It first appeared way back in 2007, but I figure that a lot of the newer members may not have read it. That said----here is the story.

I developed my affection for jeeps way back in WWII days. I was twelve years old when the war started and so I saw lots of photos of the Jeeps in magazines, newspapers, movies and in the MovieTone newsreels when we went to the movies on Saturday nights. As time went on, Jeeps showed up more and more in movies and on TV in the 1950s, in such features as Rat Patrol, Combat, and M\*A\*S\*H\*, and my interest continued to grow.

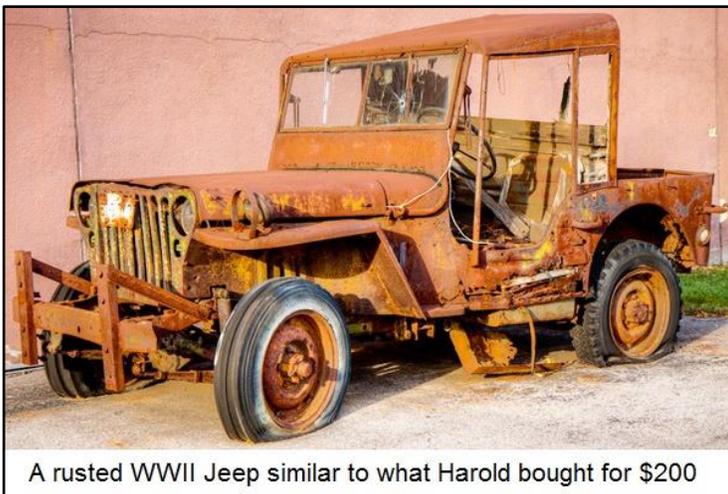
I was raised on a dairy farm in Marion, Wisconsin and when they started producing Jeeps for the civilian market, my brother and I convinced my Dad that a Jeep would really be a handy thing to have on the farm with all its available attachments like plows, cultivators, pulleys, and power saws for fire wood, etc. Brother and I had a real thing going.



But comes the day when Dad goes to town to order a Jeep, that darned Jeep dealer says to my Dad, "Louie, you really don't need a Jeep. A Ford-Ferguson tractor would serve you better." or words to that effect. Yes, the dealer just happened to also handle Ford tractors, so there went our dreams of having a Jeep on the farm.

But looking at it more realistically, with the benefit of more mature judgment at my age, I'd say that the dealer was probably correct.

Fast-forward about 25 years, and I was 41 years old and still fascinated about owning a Jeep. My career is established, the family is started, and there is a little extra money and more time for big toys. I found an ad in the local paper for a WWII Jeep in a town nearby and went to check it out.

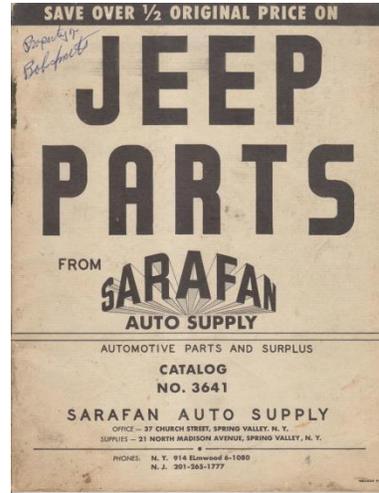


A rusted WWII Jeep similar to what Harold bought for \$200

There in back yard, sat a real honest to goodness WWII Jeep, slowly sinking into the mud after many years of being just parked there, out in the weather. It had the most god-awful looking, wooden, homemade top on it, no fabric on the seats, and a good abundance of rust, but--it was at a price I could afford\_\_ \$200.00, so the deal was made and I dragged

it home.

My wife was not impressed by my purchase. The wooden top was stripped off immediately and I found some seat cushions for it somewhere and I had my very first Jeep. Without the wooden top, it started to look like a Military Jeep



and I was finally a happy Green Machine owner. Mechanically speaking, it was not in great shape. It would start reliably only when I jumped it with a spare twelve-volt battery that I always had to carry, but it was my JEEP, and life was good.

Remember now, that my story is taking place in the early 1970s. Military Vehicle collecting was in its infancy, and there were no Military Vehicle Magazines or Clubs around that one could turn to for advice or guidance. The only literature that I could find was an Army manual on the jeep, and from somewhere I accumulated a copy of "Hail to the Jeep" by Wells. These were to be my bibles showing how a military jeep looked.

So, armed with all this limited information, I begin to look for parts and equipment that I could buy to restore the Jeep to look like a real, combat ready, WWII Jeep as shown in the photos of my reference books.

After a few months of searching, I ran across an ad in a "Rock and Dirt" publication for heavy-duty equipment for building contractors. It showed me that there was a Military Surplus Truck dealer named 'Sarafan' located in Spring Valley New York, not too far away from my home. The ad even showed a picture of a Jeep, so you know where I had to go as soon as possible.



A Jeep Junkyard

I visited Sarafan a couple of times looking for parts for my rust bucket, and then, on another visit in February, 1972, I found the so-called *Love of my Life*. There sat this WWII



## SVEN'S PICNIC SATURDAY AUGUST 8TH

*"Time sure flies when you're having fun!...I can't believe it's August already and once again it's time for Sven Johnson's Annual Red Ball Express/MTA picnic. This year the picnic will be on **Saturday, August 8th***

For the last few years, this picnic has become the highlight of the summer for many members of these two military vehicle clubs. Because of the close proximity of the two MV clubs, many are active members of both organizations. Club members plan their vacations and mark their calendars to make sure they are available to attend this event. Members are encouraged to bring family, friends and military vehicles to the picnic.

There are many aspects that make this event so unique from other club activities. **Sven Johnson** and his family host the picnic on their 160-acre tree farm in Green Township, New Jersey. The property has a variety of different terrains that provides a perfect opportunity for military vehicle enthusiasts to test their equipment at various stages of difficulty. For club members who want to take it easy on their antique vehicles there are acres of level fields that offer a nice off road but gentle ride that is easy on both the vehicle and passengers. For the more aggressive members

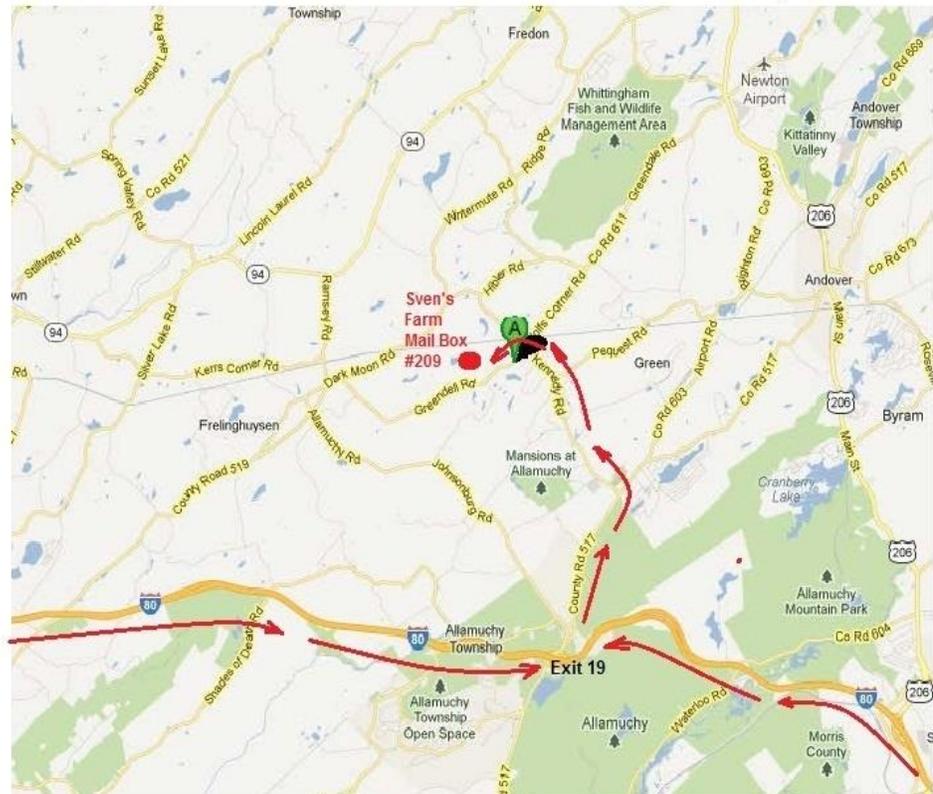
who want to test their equipment on more strenuous terrain, there are old logging trails that lead into the wooded sections of the property. Some of these trails have become overgrown over the years and will not allow some of the larger vehicles an access without major scratches and damage to fenders and protruding equipment. On some of the trails you must transverse large rocks and fallen trees. These trails are a great test for the military jeep of any era. What's especially nice about this event is even club members without military vehicles can always hitch a ride with a member that does and still have a great time. Attendees to the event can have an opportunity to ride in a historic military vehicle in an environment it was designed for.

In my opinion, this event exemplifies what our hobby is all about. It offers an opportunity for those outside of our hobby to experience something that cannot be experienced at a parade, static display or military vehicle show. It gives us within the hobby an opportunity to share a day with the

tangibles that are so close to our hearts...family, friends and our military vehicles. The MTA sincerely thanks **Sven and Helga Johnson** for this opportunity. Like the commercial says...*Priceless!*



**Brian Bancale and his WWII M8 Armored Car negotiate a hill**



**DIRECTIONS:** From the north, east and south, take Route I-80 West towards Delaware Water Gap. Take Exit 19 onto Route 517 towards Andover. After a few miles turn left onto Route 611 (Kennedy Road). Follow Route 611 a few miles to Greendell. At Greendell, make a left onto Hamilton Road. Sven Johnson's is a mile or so on the right. There will be signs to follow. If you are coming from the west, also take Exit 19 on Route I-80

# CLASSIFIEDS

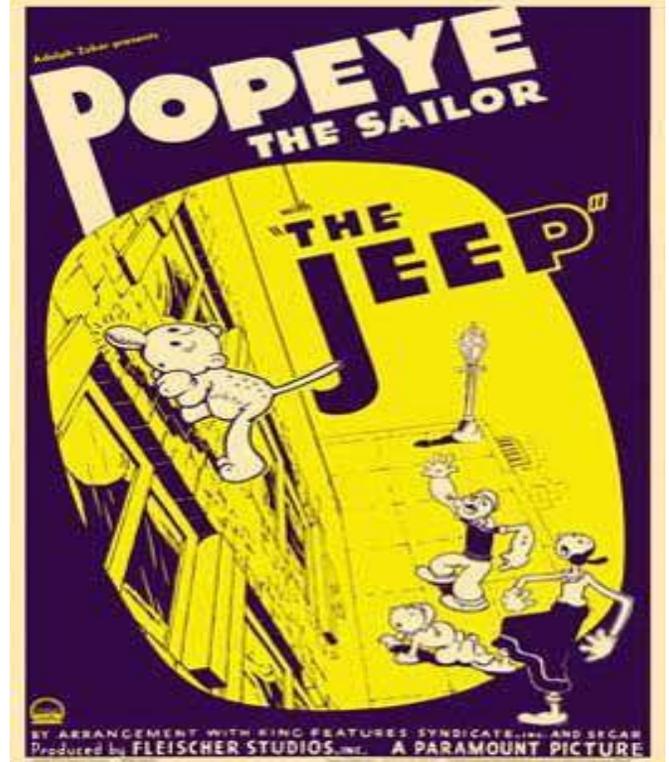
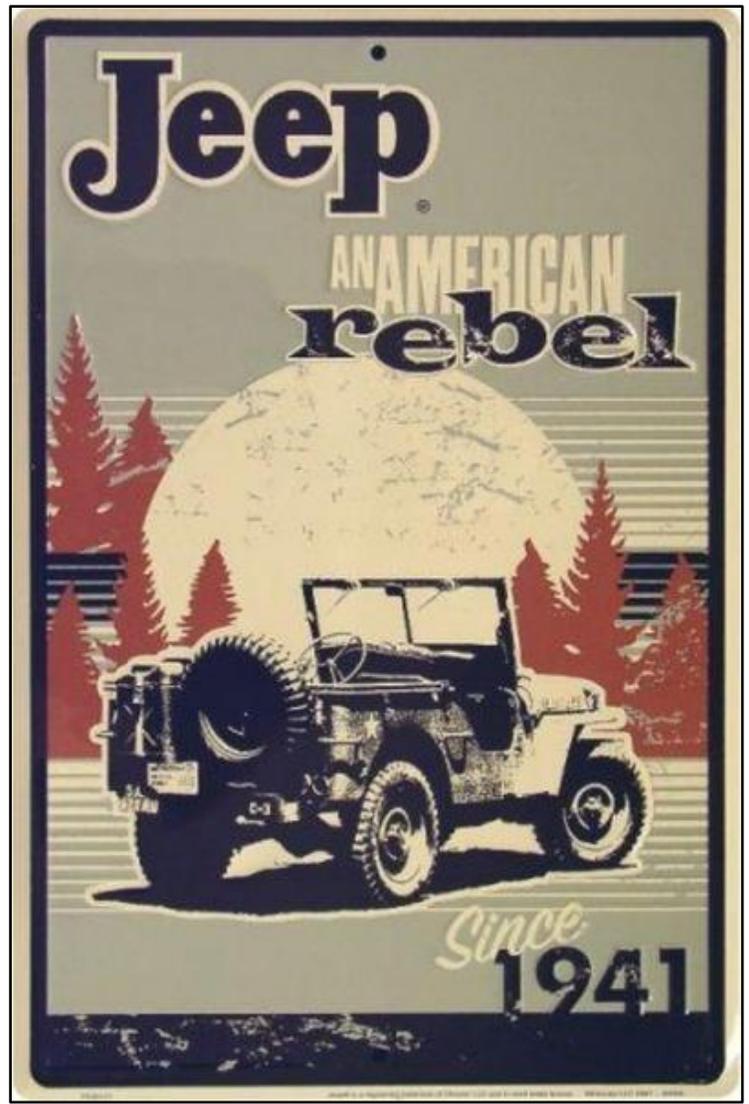
To add or remove listings from the Classifieds, please email Dave Steinert at [dsteinert@optonline.net](mailto:dsteinert@optonline.net) or call 973-347-9091.

**For Sale:** 1968 M105 trailer with NJ Title. \$500. Please contact Joanne Kuhn [201.288.7467](tel:201.288.7467) or email her at: [joanne\\_in\\_nj@yahoo.com](mailto:joanne_in_nj@yahoo.com).

**Willys Jeep Parts Free to MTA Members-**Axle Flange, Rear, No Wheel Studs; Bell Housing, 1949 Willis Truck, w/ Inspection Plate; Bell Housing, CJ-3A, 10 Hole, 3/8" Starter Bushing, No Motor Plate, Inspection Hole Cut in Side; Bell Housing, M-38A1, 10 Hole, w/ Motor Plate, 1/2" Starter Bolts; Bell Housing, M-38A1, 10 Hole, w/ Motor Plate, w/ Threaded Clutch Cable Hole, w/ Stud for PTO; Bracket, Oil Filter To Block, F-134; Cylinder Head, L-134, w/ Firing Order & Valve Adjustment, Missing Water Bypass Tapping; Dipstick & Tube, Indicates 'FULL' at 25", possibly M-38; Flywheel, 12.5" OD, 124 Tooth w/ Bronze Bearing, Surface Rust, But Smooth & Useable, Used Friction Disc & Pressure Plate Included; Generator, L-134, 6 Volt; Leaf Springs – Rear, Pair, M-38 (10 Leaf), Needs Bushings / Cushions to Be Perfect; Motor Plate, M-38 (Late), w/ Back Supports; Motor Plate, M-38, w/ Timing Hole; Oil Pan, Good Condition; Starter, L-134, 12 Volt, Style W/O External Switch Mechanism; Transmission Shift Lever Cover; Valve Cover, F-134, Good Condition; Water Pumps, 1) w/ Single Belt Pulley, 2) w/ Single Belt Pulley & Fan Blades. Call Robert [201-226-9289](tel:201-226-9289), Saddle Brook, NJ.

**For Sale:** Full set of M35A2 wheel and 9.00 x 20 NDT tire take-offs. I have a quantity of 12. Tires are fair to poor condition, but good for spares or trailers. Mix and match any quantities for \$50 each or b/o. Call or email Rich: 732-236-1159, [r.pascale1@verizon.net](mailto:r.pascale1@verizon.net) (3/16)

**For Sale: Looking for a military vehicle? From projects to ground-up Restorations and everything in between!**  
Check out:  
[WWW.USMILITARYVEHICLES.COM](http://WWW.USMILITARYVEHICLES.COM)



**Military Transport Association  
Of North Jersey**  
P.O. Box 393  
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

*The next MTA monthly meeting  
will be held on **Saturday, August 6th**  
at Sven Johnson's in  
Green township, NJ*



*"Run it up th' mountain agin, Joe. It ain't hot enough."*

**MILITARY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION INC.**  
A Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association

The Military Transport Association is dedicated to the education and preservation of historic to present military vehicles. Members enjoy restoring, displaying, and operating military vehicles of all types, from bicycles to tanks!

You do not have to own a military vehicle to be part of this exciting and active hobby, just a desire to do your part in helping keep our military history alive. All you need to join is a member in good standing to sign this form, fill out the rest and you are ready to start enjoying all the MTA has to offer!

If you are not already sponsored by a member in good standing, please check out our website and you are welcome to come to a meeting introduce yourself and start enjoying all we have to offer!

You may mail this form to the address below signed by a member in good standing.

Member in Good Standing \_\_\_\_\_

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of MVPA  Yes  No

Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Military vehicle(s) owned \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed application with \_\_\_\_\_ annual dues to:

Check one Single  Family

\$20  \$25

**Military Transport Association Inc.**

PO Box 393

Budd Lake, NJ 07828

[www.mtaofnj.org](http://www.mtaofnj.org)

\* Contributions, gifts or membership dues made or paid to the Military Transport Association Inc. are non-refundable or transferable and are "not" deductible as charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.