

Midstates Housemovers Association
45th Annual Structural Movers Convention
March 8, 9 & 10, 2018

This is our 45th annual convention and we want to make it a great one!

Convention “Early Bird” Registration:

This year our annual convention will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott / LaVista Conference Center in LaVista, NE. Located west of Omaha, NE, just off Interstate 80, the facility is beautiful, spacious and modern. A block of rooms is being held until **February 22, 2018**. Call **402-392-4900** to reserve your rooms and mention Midstates Housemovers Association to get our special rate.

The **“Early Bird”** registration has significant meaning. By registering by **March 1st, 2018**, you will benefit with a reduced primary convention entry fee. We have included a convention registration sheet for your convenience. Please fill it out and send the completed form with a check made out to “Midstates Housemovers Association” for the applicable fees. Mail the forms and check to:

Midstates Housemovers Association

P.O. Box 64

Jackson, NE 68743

We also offer the convenience of paying your registration with a credit card. We accept MasterCard, Visa and Discover. We have included a copy of our credit card payment information sheet for your convenience.

Once again, we are offering an “Incentive for New Members”. We will reduce your primary convention entry fee \$50 for any new company registering. If you know of anyone that has not received our invitation or is new to the housemoving industry, please pass this information on to them or contact Sue Morrow and she will forward the information to them.

We want to emphasize how important early registration is to planning a successful convention. It not only is beneficial to us for preplanning events but also to you by saving you some money! Don’t hesitate! Mail your registration today.

Hotel Details:

The Courtyard by Marriott hotel is part of a world famous organization. Their facility is spacious and comfortable. There is free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel’s property, a fitness center, business center, indoor swimming pool, whirlpool, hot tub, laundry facilities, onsite convenience market, and much more.

The hotel is connected directly to the LaVista Conference Center so no matter what the weather is outside, it is just a short walk to our convention activities. The convention rate is \$99 per room + tax and be sure to mention you are with the Midstates Housemovers Association to get that rate. The reservation number is 402-392-4900. This block of rooms is available until February 22, 2018.

Omaha, NE, is a city that has a lot to offer. A short walk across the street will bring you to the front door of Cabela’s. There is the Henry Doorly Zoo, Old Market, Botanical Gardens, Boys Town, casinos, fine dining, adult’s & children’s museums, Mormon Trail Visitors Center, just to name a few. And of course, home to the famous Omaha Steaks.

Yard Tours:

Our yard tour plans are a little different this year. Starting on Thursday, March 8, 2018, we will be meeting at Worldwide Aircraft Recovery, Ltd, from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm. Their address is 3006 Harlan Lewis Road in Bellevue, NE. A map is included in this mailing for your convenience. Worldwide Aircraft Recovery is located approximately 20 minutes from the hotel. They are a full-service aircraft recovery company. They disassemble, package, transport & reassemble aircraft worldwide.

The company works with over 600 organizations during recovery projects, including many large aircraft moves.

Following the tour, Ball & Son Movers of Belleville, KS, will be sponsoring a yard tour meal at this facility at 5:00 pm.

On Friday, March 9, 2018, we have incorporated another tour in the afternoon. Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum will be our destination from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm. Their address is 28210 West Park Highway near Ashland, NE, (Exit #426 off of Interstate 80). This is approximately 20 minutes from the hotel. We have included a map for your convenience.

The Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum is a Smithsonian affiliate and home to the largest collection of cold war aircraft & artifacts in the United States. The museum focuses on preserving and displaying historic aircraft, missiles and space vehicles and providing educational resources. It is regarded as having one of the top collections of strategic aircraft, many of which have been moved in to have on display.

Events:

What would a convention be without tradition? We will be having our "Lunch with the Vendors" on Friday, March 9, 2018, from 12:00 (noon) until 1:00 pm.

On Saturday, March 10, we will hold our "Fellowship Luncheon" from 12:00 (noon) until 1:00 pm. Many attendees have commented as to the convenience of having luncheons there at the hotel. It enables them to take part in all of the events without the risk of leaving and missing out on something. The fact that this hotel has fantastic food is an added plus.

Saturday night, March 10, 2018, we will hold our "famous" awards banquet with entertainment.

We start with our social hour on Saturday evening, progress on to a fabulous meal, award elite members of our group with plaques, hand out door prizes, draw for raffle prizes, and top off the evening with a well known "Home Grown Cowboy Poet/ RP Smith". RP has been entertaining folks for years throughout a large section of the United States and Canada. During his performances he shares his brand of cowboy poetry and country commentary, something that he considers a by-product of the beef industry, which has been processed by reciting for ruminates, relatives and ranchers. We all look forward to a very entertaining evening.

Seminars & Demonstrations:

We hope the weather cooperates with us because we are planning some great onsite demonstrations by some of the vendors. These will include mover participation. In this industry things are always changing and that is an important part of our conventions to display and work with some of this new equipment. This factor also pertains to educational materials. We work to provide each attendee with some added knowledge that will benefit them & their business. Watch our website for any updates.

Vendors:

Vendor fee is \$50 per floor space or per table space. There is no charge for outside displays. No convention would be complete without vendors. They are the backbone of the housemoving industry. Whether it's the products they are showing us or the services they are explaining to us – we need them. The first place everyone wants to go when they arrive at a convention, of course after they check in with Sue at the registration desk, is to see who the vendors are and what did they bring to show. Some attendees travel from convention to convention just to see certain vendors.

So, vendors be sure and send your registration sheet in with the appropriate fee by March 1st, 2018, so we can get you set up for the convention and reserve your space(s). Come ready to sell!

Scholarships:

Every year we award 1 to 4 scholarships to people that meet the necessary requirements established by the organization board of directors. We are including a copy of the requirements and an application. A copy of these items is available on our website if more are needed. All applications must be postmarked by March 1st, 2018. Mail your application, required transcripts and a current photograph to
Midstates Housemovers Association

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An annual event that generates funds for these scholarships is the raffle drawing at the convention. Raffle tickets are sold with some fantastic items being raffled. If you would like to donate a raffle item please call Matt Sundeen (chairman of the scholarship committee) at 651-592-8676 or Leon Ball (co-chairman) at 785-527-3200. We also accept monetary donations, if preferred.

Award Applications:

Enclosed you will find a copy of our awards categories and one award application blank. Each company can only win one award (excluding the Oldest Mover and Mover Traveling the Farthest Distance to a Convention). Each and all entries MUST be accompanied by a photograph (excluding oldest mover and mover traveling the farthest). Each job must have been completed in 2017 to apply. The deadline for applying is March 9th, 2018, at 1:00 pm at the convention. Once again, we strongly promote sending the applications with a thumb drive, zip drive, SD card or email them ahead of time to Matt Sundeen. His contact information is: msundeen@maguireagency.com or 1970 Oakcrest Avenue Suite 300 in Roseville, MN 55113. This allows Matt to download the photos and information prior to the convention or prior to the award judging. If sending them by mail, you must have them sent by March 1st, 2018, to avoid a possible mail delay. You can also mail the applications and photos to Sue Morrow prior to March 1st and she will forward them on to Matt. Seeing all of the jobs that everyone enters in the awards competition is a highlight of the awards banquet. Please enter as many times as you would like since only one award per company may put you in a different category than you thought possible.

We invite you to come and join us. We encourage you to bring your entire family, your employees and their families. We want our attendees to keep saying, "This is the best convention we have ever attended." Bring your trucks, bring your equipment, bring your dollies. We are looking forward to see it all. Bring your time-saving ideas, bring your scrapbooks. Most of all, we are looking forward to seeing all of you.

Further information and updates will be posted on our website:
midstateshousemoversassociation.org

If you need any further information, please contact Sue Morrow:

402-632-4555 or housemvr@nntc.net

For last minute contacts after March 6th, 2018, text her at 712-251-1744.