

'Ol' Blue'® Then & Now

The picture on the front of this poster was taken in 1972 by Doug Condra and featured on the cover of *Heavy Duty Trucking* magazine that same year. It was chosen for the December issue due to the "halo" appearing above the rig. There was also a unique five-page spread detailing various loads hauled by 'Ol' Blue'. Computer imagery added the city skyline background for this poster. RJ Taylor, owner of 'Ol' Blue', was instrumental in writing Assembly Bill 281, legalizing the flashing amber warning light shown on the top of the cab. The bill was introduced by Assemblyman Bob Cline and signed by California Governor Ronald Reagan, who were in office at the time. The law was supported by the California Highway Patrol and remains on the books today. If you look closely, you also will see the 'Ol' Blue' personalized plate: MR TS. This was the first of its kind in the nation to be issued to a commercial vehicle. Twenty years later, the picture featured below was taken of 'Ol' Blue' on a soon-to-be golf course hauling a 65-foot oak tree. Her specialty is hauling long or oversize loads. This job took place one day after arriving home from the International Trucking Show, leaving no time to replace the side hood panel. 'Ol' Blue' is a 46-year-old working truck and the sole rig for T&S Truck Lines. 'Ol' Blue' and T&S have been together 33 years. Three months of the year, 'Ol' Blue' leaves her California base and travels cross-country, accompanying RJ and team members on a National Safety Tour for Ol' Blue, USA (United Safety Alliance, Inc.), a Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Ol' Blue, USA is dedicated to promoting traffic safety and improving relations between law enforcement and commercial drivers. During the tour, 'Ol' Blue' pulls a 53-foot "rolling billboard" trailer featuring sponsors' logos and those of the California Highway Patrol, Kentucky Motor Vehicle Enforcement, Nevada Highway Patrol and U.S. DOT.



Poster was put together with the help of Ol' Blue, USA sponsors, Pam Hagen and rpm Magazine. Cover photo by Doug Condra, Editorial Director of *Heavy Duty Trucking* magazine. Computer enhancement by Brian Foster. Poster is COMPLIMENTARY—NOT FOR SALE. 'Ol' Blue' is a Registered Trademark since 1977. Copyright 1997 by Ol' Blue, USA.