



Work Hard! Play Hard! is Working



TLPA President, Rick Hewatt

Dear Fellow Member, I am pleased to announce that working hard with TLPA staff and committee members, we have accomplished a lot as an Association in the

past few months. In March, I sent a letter to Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) explaining how his (TARP funds) bill, S. 463 would most surely cause small businesses to shut down without business travelers.

At the Spring Conference & Expo held in NYC in April 2009, we held the largest Spring meeting with nearly 400 industry leaders and 40 vendors. We held the Steering Committee meetings and we still managed to squeeze in a lot of fun provided by our co-hosts and sponsors as detailed in the April issue of *Dispatch* newsletter.



On behalf of TLPA members, President Rick Hewatt meets with U.S. Senator Crapo (R-ID) on Capitol Hill in May 2009.

On 5/4/09, we met on Capitol Hill with Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID),

The Taxicab, Limousine & Paratransit Association represents taxicab, limousine, sedan, airport shuttle, paratransit, Medicaid, & non-emergency medical fleets worldwide.

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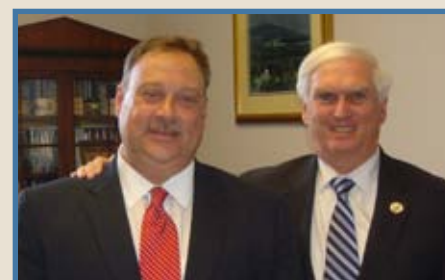
U.S. Representative John Mica (R-FL) and TLPA President Rick Hewatt.

Representative John Duncan (R-TN), Representative Tom Petri (R-WI) and Representative John Mica (R-FL) to further our Federal Government outreach program.

In May, our Public Relations program got off to a great start as the TLPA PR Committee held its first meeting in DC on May 12, 2009. I was prevented from traveling to DC due to a prior commitment; however, I was able to join the meeting via teleconference. I thank all of the folks for giving up their time, volunteering to travel, discuss and make recommendations on a full agenda of TLPA Public Relations topics.

Co-chair, Bill Yunhke welcomed all, then mentioned that hiring Melwood Global was the next natural step after the establishment of

our PR Committee. A few of the many robust work tasks that this committee is taking on are establishing a Public Relations Crisis Plan for TLPA, media outreach relative to the TLPA Awards Program, development of tip sheets and increasing our web presence. This is just some of the hard work getting done by our committees and the TLPA staff with the help of our consultants on behalf of all of our members during these hard economic times.



TLPA President Rick Hewatt meets with U.S. Representative John Duncan (R-TN).

We recognize that our members have concerns about this tough economy, so, I am taking action. I have lined up two Economic experts to come speak with us about this subject at the upcoming 91st Annual Convention & Trade Show in Las Vegas, NV, October 4-7, at Caesar's Palace. We hope folks will take action and attend. The worst thing to do in a down economy is to do nothing. The best thing is to sharpen your skills to better position yourself to leap forward when opportunity returns.

You have questions about the economy. We would like to know what you would like to see these experts address! Submit your questions to info@tlpa.org. Include "Questions for the Economic Experts" in the subject line of your email.

Make this the best, most attended

Annual Convention ever! Join us for the most up to date educational sessions, networking events and the best trade show in the for-hire industry. I encourage members to volunteer and be part of getting the work done. I'll see you in Las Vegas—you know it won't be all work and no play!

Your Friend,

President Rick Hewatt



The First TLPA PR Committee meeting was held in Washington, DC. Pictured from left to right: (back row) Hal Morgan, Sheri Watson, Ham Smythe, Co-Chair Bill Yunhke, Co-Chair Joanne Thompson, Dwight Kines, Al LaGasse; (front row) Victor Dizengoff, Judy Swystun, John Boit. Attendees not shown: Rick Hewatt, Erin Prediger and Leah New.