



# April 2023 Newsletter

## Office Spotlight- Andrew Gill

Andrew started his career in transportation at General Transport in January

2016. His title is brokerage agent, but he is willing to step in and assist with



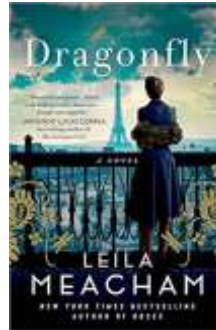
anything in dispatch. Andrew is always willing to give a helping hand whether it be in the office or volunteering at local foodbanks and humane society. When he isn't at work, you can find him out hiking, enjoying time with people he cares about, or spending quality time with his dog Max. We are proud to have you as part of the GT Family!

## Spotlight Driver- Joe Stanekenas

Joe has been a regional driver with General Transport since October 2022. In that time, he has safely driven 65,153 miles. Joe is always willing to help out whenever he can whether it be for dispatch or safety. When Joe isn't behind the wheel, he enjoys spending time with his wife. He likes dogs, photography, and riding his motorcycle. We are proud to have you as part of the GT Family!



## GT Book Club



This month's pick is Dragonfly by Leila Meacham. Dragonfly is a story of WW2 espionage in German occupied France. Book Club will meet April 26<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM to discuss.



- JOE M.- TRUCK 586
- LEON W.- TRUCK 628
- VICTOR S.- TRUCK 2432
- JEVANCE M.- TRUCK 2433

## Special Spotlight- Moby

Moby joined the GT team in December 2021 when Lori opened her White Elephant Christmas exchange gift. He likes eating, swimming, and keeping Lori company.



## Senate Bill 288

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Ohio will enact Senate bill 288. The bill has a new stipulation to discourage distracted driving. SB 288 designates the use of cell phones and other electronic communications devices while driving as a primary traffic offense for all drivers and allows law enforcement to immediately pull over a distracted driver upon witnessing a violation. Under the previous laws,



distracted driving was a primary offense only for juvenile drivers. Police could not pull over distracted adult drivers unless those drivers committed a separate traffic

violation, such as speeding or running a red light.

“It addresses anybody who is either holding a cell phone or pushing the button while they’re driving. It makes it a primary offense to pull over. If cited, it goes against your driving as points... it goes against your driving record. And it’s an enhanced crime too. So, if you’re caught within a second year it enhances... If you’re caught three times in a two-year period doing it, you could actually have your license suspended.” Says Chief Deputy Warden.

When a law enforcement officer stops a vehicle, they are required to inform the driver that they may decline a search of their electronic wireless communications device. The officer cannot do any of the following: (a) Access the device without a warrant, unless the operator voluntarily gives consent for the officer to access the



device; (Elogs excluded unless you wirelessly transfer them to the officer) (b) Confiscate the device while awaiting the issuance of a warrant to access the device; (c) Obtain consent from the operator to access the device through coercion or any other improper means. The law makes clear that any consent by the operator to access the device must be voluntary and unequivocal before the officer may access the device without a warrant.

Law enforcement will issue warnings to drivers found violating the law for the first six months. After this grace period, law enforcement will have the authority to issue official citations. Penalties include a fine of up to \$150 for a driver’s first offense and two points on their license unless a distracted driving safety course is completed. Increased penalties can occur if the driver is a repeat offender.

