

# LOG TRUCKER

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 6

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JUNE 2017

*Randy*  
**Luoto**  
TRUCKING, LLC  
CARLTON, OR.



**DEMING LOG SHOW**



**June 10-11**



# FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

## RANDY LUOTO TRUCKING LLC

Randy Luoto owns three trucks - all Kenworths - driving alongside **Andy Clevenger** and **Joe Roberts** in the **Willamette Valley**. Luoto started out as a cutter and got more involved with trucks, eventually getting his own truck and has rolled down the road ever since.

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Carlton has its roots as a logging town. A post office was first established in **Carlton in 1874** and the railroad helped put the town on the map.

## CARLTON, OREGON

## IN THIS ISSUE



**ON THE FRONT:** Andy Clevenger of Randy Luoto Trucking LLC gets his 2017 Kenworth Model B loaded by Bighorn Logging Corporation's JD 2954D loader operated by Jeff Hall.

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RANDY LUOTO TRUCKING LLC *by Brandon Hansen*

### 10. RANDOM TRUCK SHOTS

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# READY FOR ANOTHER LOAD

*From logger to log trucker, Randy Luoto is happy to keep making tracks in the Willamette Valley*

**Story by Brandon Hansen**

**Photos by Kevin Core**

*For Loggers World*

Located outside of Portland is the small town of Carlton, Oregon. With a population of just over 2,000, it first got a post office in 1874 and occupies just .88 square miles.

While seeing some growth since Carlton is on the outskirts

of the growing Portland metropolis, it still has the motto "A Great Little Town."

This is where Randy Luoto calls home, but you're more likely to see him rolling down the road in his 2014 Kenworth W900L with a load of logs behind him. As the owner of Randy Luoto Trucking LLC, he drives with Andy Clevenger and Joe Roberts up

and down the 150-mile long Willamette Valley that traces up and down Oregon's west side.

"I enjoy the work and the people," Luoto said. "You have to love it to be in this business because it's not like it's some get-rich quick scheme."

Luoto has two drivers he trusts immensely and all three are in trucks that they want to be driving. All Kenworths, Luoto

has newer trucks because of emission requirements and he didn't want to have an older engine or truck he couldn't pass those tests with.

When it comes to passing a log trucker test, Luoto passes with flying colors. Like many loggers in the Willamette Valley he grew up in the industry and it was part

(Continued on Page 7)  
**See "Luoto"**



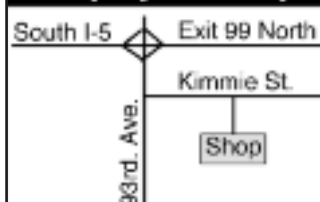
## RANDY LUOTO

Company owner Randy Luoto poses in front of his 2014 W900L with a long logger trailer, Luoto has been on his own log trucking for several years after spending quite a bit of time as a cutter.

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20K Front

**2012 Peterbilt 367,** Cummins 525HP, Jakes, RTLO18918B, 20k Front, 46k Rears, 3:73 Ratio, Full Lockers, Air Trac Susp, NEW 16.5' Dump Body 2016, Pup Equipped, Pwr Windows & Door Locks, 271k Miles.....**\$115,500**



Heavy Duty

**2012 WESTERN STAR 4900SA,** Cummins 525HP, Jakes, RTLO18918B, 2-Spd Aux, 20k Front, 46k Rears, 4:30 Ratio, Full Lockers, Air Susp, 4th Axle, 275" WB, Mesa Interior, Loaded, 107k Miles .....**Was \$115,500, Now \$109,500**



Wet Kit

**2012 WESTERN STAR 4900SA,** Cummins 550HP, Jakes, RTLO18918B, 14k Front, 46k Rears, 3:91 Ratio, Full Lockers, Air Susp, 244" WB, Wet Kit, Cab Guard w/Storage, Power Windows, 220k Miles .....**Was \$87,500, Now \$79,500**



Allison Automatic

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Paccar

**(2) 2011 KENWORTH T800,** Paccar 485HP, Jakes, RTLO16913A, 14600 Front, 46k Rears, 3:73 Ratio, Full Lockers, Air Susp, 230" WB, All Alum Wheels, Power Mirrors & RH Window, 306k and 313k Miles .....**\$79,500 ea.**



18 Speed

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## LOADING HIS TRAILER

Company owner Randy Luoto loads the trailer of his 2014 W900L, preparing for his next trip into the woods. "We are all around the I-5 area, we kind of go everywhere," Luoto said.

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## FRESH OUT OF THE OLC DISPLAY

The newest truck at Randy Luoto Trucking, this 2017 W900L is driven by Andy Clevenger and was on display at the 2017 Oregon Loggers Conference when Randy purchased it.



## LOG TRUCKER VIDEO

Use your smartphone to download a QR Code app, scan this code and watch Randy Luoto Trucking in action!

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## Luoto

(Continued from Page 4)

of his upbringing. Luoto's parents Bob and Arlene owned an operation with 50-to-100 employees. This was back before mechanization so you needed more boots on the ground.

Luoto started as one of those boots on the ground, falling timber for his parents and driving truck when things got slow. He also helped out working on trucks for the company.

Randy eventually got more and more into driving truck, log trucking for Jole Hauling and

driving lowboy for his parents. That seemed to stick and he found himself behind the steering wheel more and more. He's been at it ever since, 30 years and counting.

He began to haul for Kirk and Scott Lunberg and opportunity came a knocking when the Lundbergs' got out of their trucking side and sold him a truck. Luoto continued to haul logs for the Lunbergs but as an independent driver.

So Luoto started with a 2001 Kenworth W900L long logger and he ran for about a decade with the Lunbergs.

"They're great people and they really got me my start," Randy said.

Luoto was able to make an upgrade as some of the older model Kenworths began to get more in demand and he could sell the 2001 for much more than he paid for it. Keeping work ahead of him, and finding other drivers to help haul for his company - Luoto has since expanded to three trucks.

Nowadays, Randy is driving a 2014 Kenworth WL 900 with a long logger. Recently at a logging show he bought a 2017 Kenworth B model from Pape Kenworth which is driven by Andy Cle-

venger and Joe Roberts drives a 2014 T800.

"They're both really good drivers, they're dependable and they're out there every day," Luoto said.

Randy said that he went with newer trucks now since all the new emission requirements might take an older truck or engine something he would have to upgrade anyways. Luoto said the size of his company is good because he has experienced drivers that are self-sufficient and don't tear up the trucks.

(Continued on Page 8  
**See "Luoto"**)



YouTube



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(Continued from Page 7)

"I would not mind getting more trucks as long as I get proper drivers and that's the thing, it's hard to find really good drivers," Randy said. "Andy and Joe are really good. We're all driving trucks we wanted and we all kind of work together."

Luoto hauls for logging companies that usually work for Stimson and Hampton. Two trucks haul directly for Bighorn in Banks while another hauls for A-1 Logging. Each driver is usually dispatched by each logging company.

"We are all around the I-5 area, we kind of go everywhere," Luoto said.

For maintenance, Luoto brings the trucks to Carlton Davies shop for things like maintenance and changing oil. For bigger tasks, Luoto takes it Pape for warranty work. That's changing this summer and he's building a shop for the company.

He's still logging too, as he's still a bonafide cutter, and the company also owns a shovel and cat skidder. Right now he's logging land for mother Arlene - claiming she's the head boss on the family farm. The logging bug never quote left Luoto and it also lets him be versatile in the industry.

He has one son, Preston, who works at Verizon, and doesn't have to put in those 1 a.m. log trucker starts.

Along with that, he goes fishing and hunting while just keeping work flowing.

"It's a challenge sometimes keeping work if it rains too much or they shut us off," Luoto said. "You have to make adjustments and work when you can to save up for the bad times."

So while he doesn't live far from where he grew up in Carlton, Luoto gets plenty of miles under him hauling logs in the Willamette. With trusted drivers, Randy keeps busy and tries to stay ahead of the curve in Carlton.

## THE HAMMER

Jeff Hall brands the logs of Luoto's truck driven by Andy Clevenger.



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# RANDOM TRUCK SHOTS

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## STILL RUNNING

Kenny Robinson of Happy Camp, California stands next to his previous truck - a vintage Kenworth. Cam Berlogar stopped in Yreka on his way to the Brooks Show so Kenny could see his old truck up and running again

You may remember back in the March 2017 issue when we featured Cam Berloger's Creston Sawmill and Logging Co. At the last minute, we had to edit his story to fit space available. That happens pretty often here at the Loggers World/Log Trucker office - some would call that chaos.

Cam's 1963 KW, pictured above, was a casualty of that editing. In visiting with Cam after the issue was printed, he told me about the rich history of this truck and I realized its story needed to be told. The only place I could fit it in was in the Random Truck Shots section, but it's not really a random shot.

Good on you Cam, for keeping this old girl going and preserving her history!



## MEANWHILE, BACK IN 1975...

This is the same KW back in 1975 when it was owned by MCulby Logging out of Happy Camp, California. Kenny Robinson (also out of Happy Camp) was the driver of the truck back then and went on to own it in later years. The original purchaser was Stan Grieb of Ukiah, California. It originally came with a Cummins 280, 5&4, and 5.29 SSHD rears.

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## PUTTING ON WRAPPERS

Andy Clevenger and Jeremy George put on wrappers after being loaded. George runs processor for Bighorn Logging's Corporation on the side.



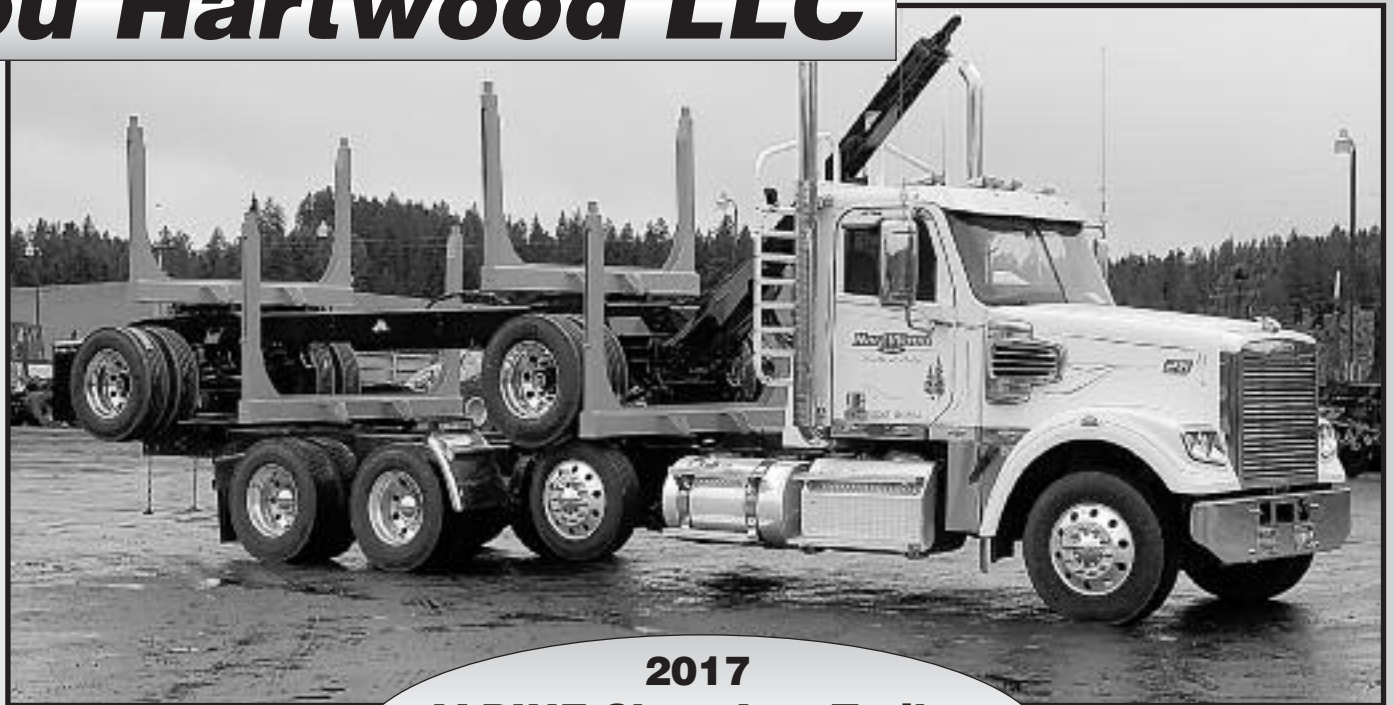
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### JOE ROBERTS' TRUCK

The 2014 T800 in Randy Luoto's truck fleet is driven by Joe Roberts. Andy Clevenger drives for Luoto also. "They're both really good drivers, they're dependable and they're out there every day," Luoto said.

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## AT THE SCALES

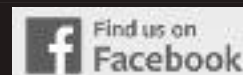
After stopping at the scales, Randy Luoto gets ready to take his truck to the wrapper removal area.



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## GETTING UNLOADED

The mighty CAT 988K relieves Randy's 2014 WL900 of its cargo in the log yard. He usually drives with Andy Clevenger and Joe Roberts up and down the 150-mile long Willamette Valley that traces up and down Oregon's west side.

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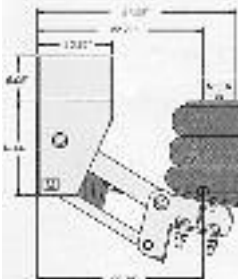
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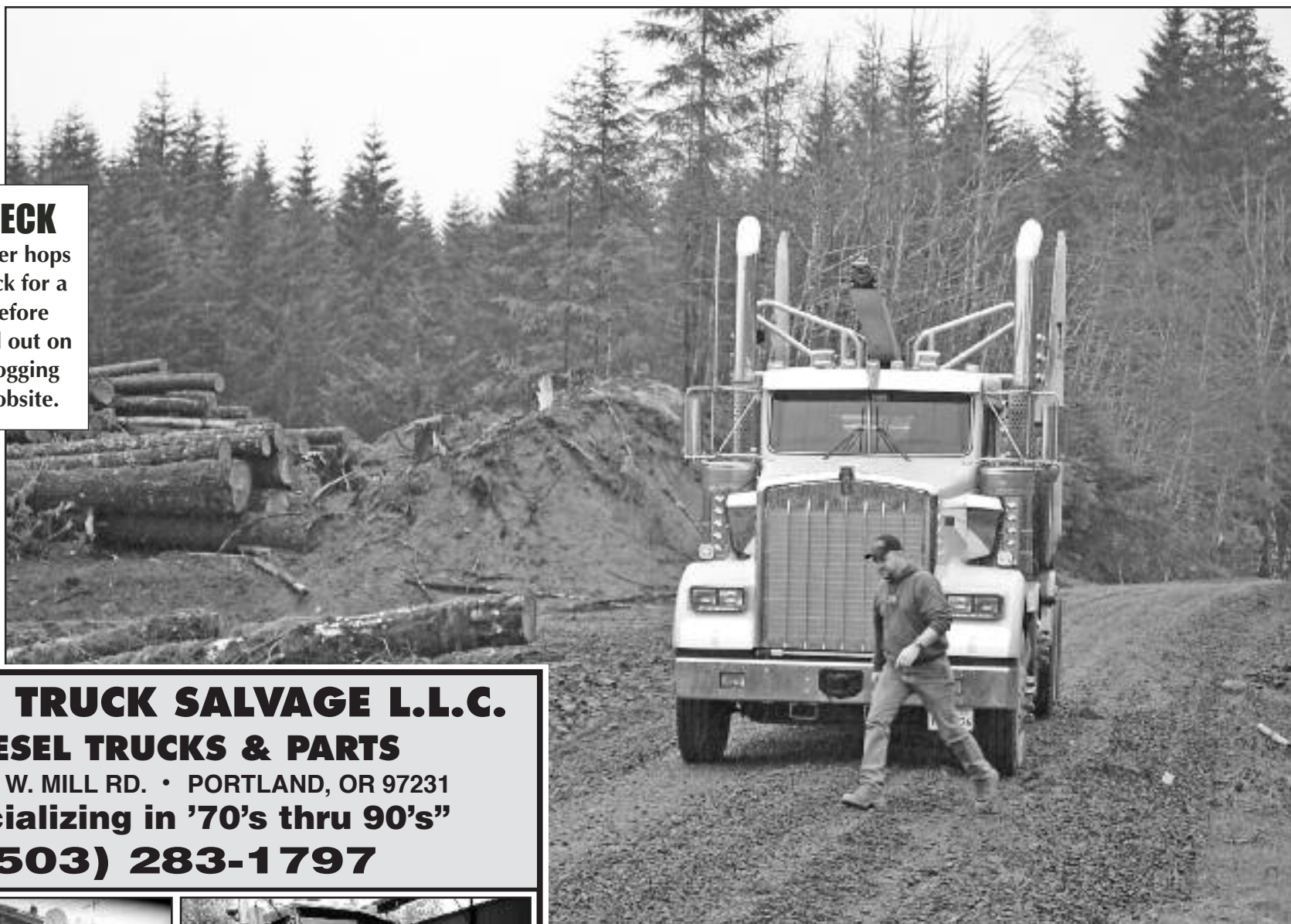


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## QUICK CHECK

Andy Clevenger hops out of the truck for a quick check before getting loaded out on the Bighorn Logging Corporation jobsite.



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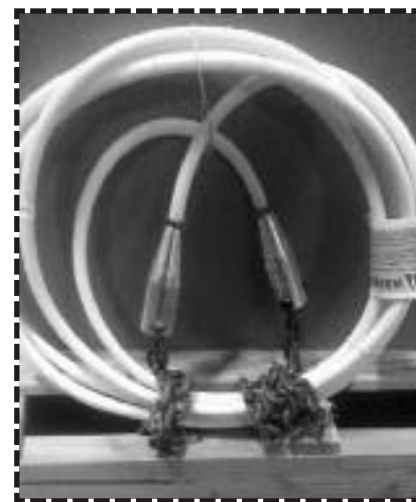
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## HI JEFF

Bighorn Logging Corporation's JD 2954D loader operator Jeff Hall opens the door for this photo by Loggers World.



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## IN PLACE

Andy Clevenger uses the pole to get the trailer lined up just right to get loaded for another trip up to the jobsite.



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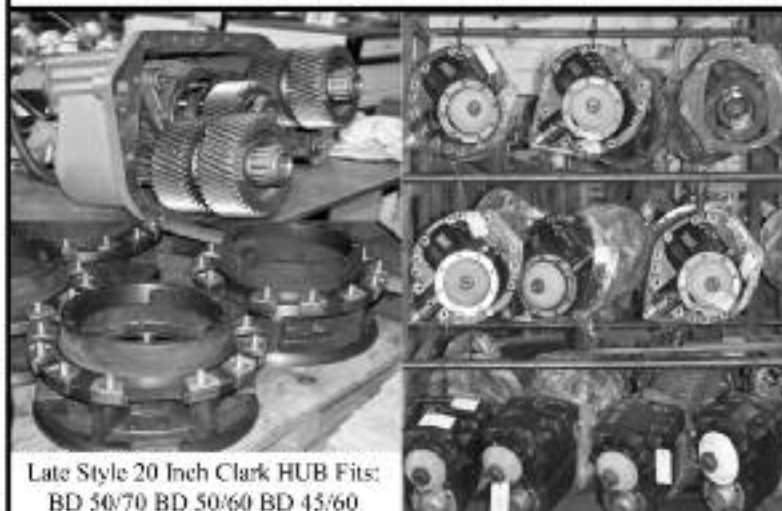
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