

# LOG TRUCKER

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 7

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JULY 2018

**GRANT  
TRUCKING**  
McMinnville, Ore.

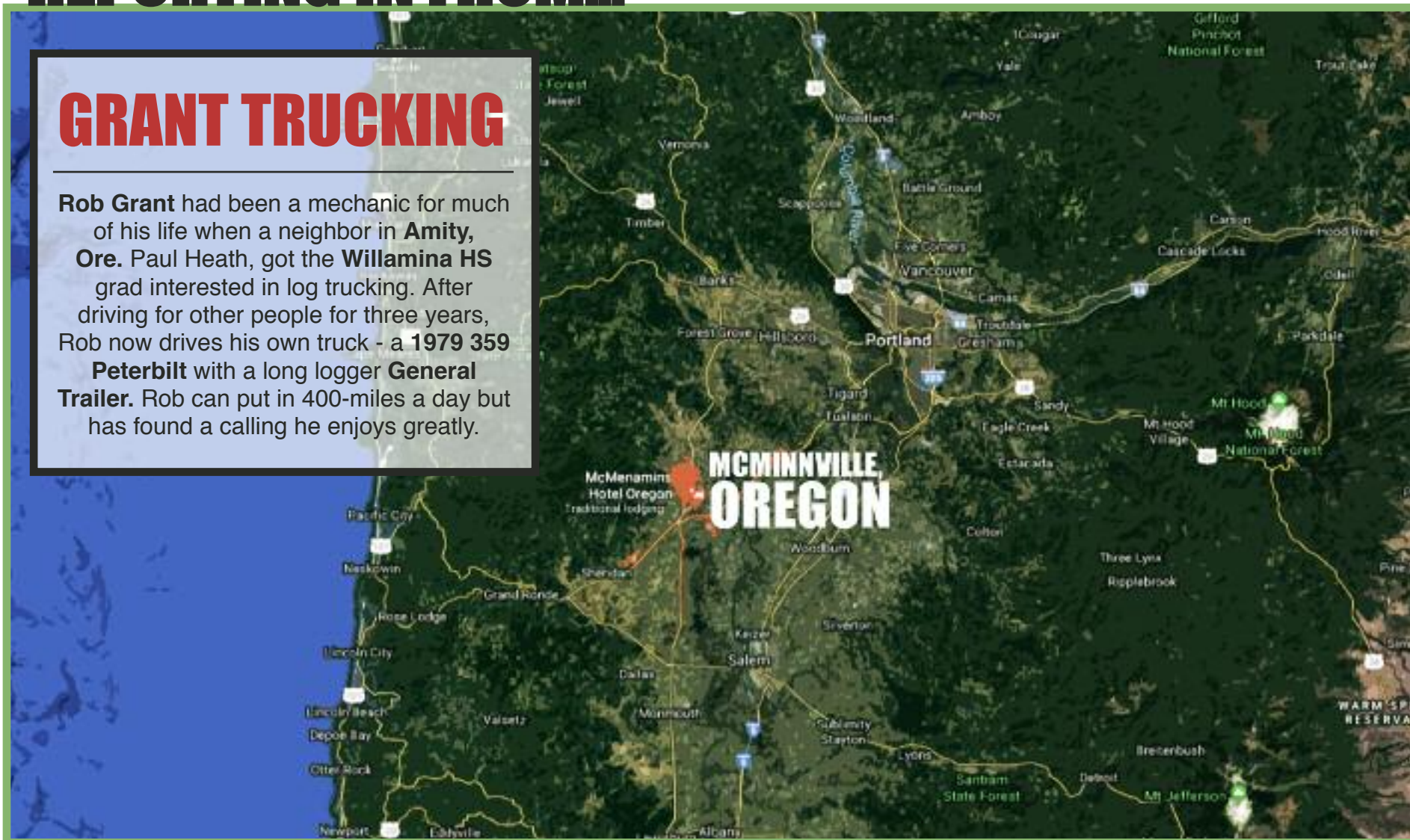




# REPORTING IN FROM...

## GRANT TRUCKING

**Rob Grant** had been a mechanic for much of his life when a neighbor in **Amity, Ore.** Paul Heath, got the **Willamina HS** grad interested in log trucking. After driving for other people for three years, Rob now drives his own truck - a **1979 359 Peterbilt** with a long logger **General Trailer**. Rob can put in 400-miles a day but has found a calling he enjoys greatly.



## MCMINNVILLE OREGON

Located in Yamhill County in Oregon, McMinnville is home to the **Spruce Goose** as part of the **Evergreen Aviation Museum** along with the **Wings and Waves Waterpark**. The town was founded by **William T. Newby** in 1856 after he migrated to Oregon in 1844. He named the town after his hometown of **McMinnville, Tennessee**. It was officially a city in 1882 and became the county seat in 1886.

## IN THIS ISSUE



**ON THE FRONT:** Rob Grant is seen here with his family: wife Jamie who does all the books for Grant Trucking, Josh (19), Brooklyn (13), Austin (9) and Lily (5). Their dog's name is Lucky. See "Behind the wheel" starting on Page 4

### 4. BEHIND THE WHEEL

GRANT TRUCKING - MCMINNVILLE, ORE.. by Brandon Hansen

### 9. DEMING LOG SHOW TRUCKS

PHOTOS BY Kevin Core

### 19. ADVERTISERS INDEX

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## LOG TRUCKER

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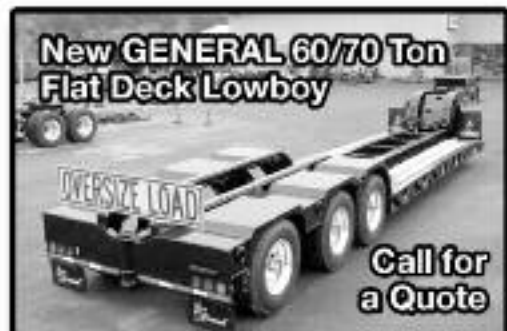
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# Behind the wheel

*Rob Grant has set out on his own in a 1979 Peterbilt*

**Photos by Rob Grant**  
**Story by Brandon Hansen**  
*For Loggers World*

While Rob Grant grew up around trucks and logging, it wasn't until his neighbor, Paul Heath, in Amity got him interested that he took the leap as a log truck driver.

"My neighbor got me into it over a period of time, he drove log truck and always talked to me about it," Grant said. "I started driving for Leeway and then for my neighbor, Paul Heath Trucking for two years."

Grant graduated high school from Willamina and immediately moved into the mechanic field since his dad and uncles were also mechanics. He worked several years on cars, trucks and big rigs. At one point he owned his own shop in McMinnville and stayed busy keeping things rolling down the road.

He began riding along with his neighbor and then got a permit to begin working on his CDL.

"I tell you being in a truck is easier on the body," Grant said. "Turning wrenches can be a lot physically and it was getting more painful than it was worth, although even when you're in a truck it puts a lot of strain on your body."

After driving for other companies for a few years, Rob eventually bought a highway truck 1979 359 Peterbilt in October, flying down to southern Nevada and converting it into a log truck.



## 1979 PETERBILT 359

Rob Grant cut his teeth log trucking for years before getting into his own truck - a 1979 Peterbilt 359 with a General Trailer.



(Continued on Page 6)  
**See "Grant"**





### HEADING OUT EARLY

Rob Grant can end up driving 400 miles a day in his 1979 Peterbilt 359 with a General Trailer all over western Oregon. "Last week I hauled to four mills I hadn't hauled to before," Grant said.

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(Continued from Page 4)

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"I had to refab a stinger for the truck and put in a cab guard while also changing the transmission from a 13-speed to an 18-speed," Grant said. "It took me a couple weeks to get it ready to haul logs."

While an older truck, it has served Grant well and been reliable.

"I was telling my wife I wouldn't trade this truck in for a brand new one" he said.

A friend of Grant's - Cory McVay - from Elkhorn Mountain Trucking was able to help him build up contacts for hauls and now Grant Trucking hauls for Freres Lumber, Cross and Crown, Risseuw Logging and whoever has logs to haul. Grant said that he calls around to line up hauls while people also contact him in the normal logging game of phone tag.

He hauls all over western Oregon around places like Scappoose and Corvallis and can put in 400-mile days.

"Last week I hauled to four mills I hadn't hauled to before," Grant said.

When it comes to maintenance, Grant works on his truck at home and also uses a friend's shop in town. His cousin Dan Hager also helps out and owns his own business, Dan's Mobile Repair.

His wife Jamie does the books for the business and keeps things operating. Their kids are 19-year old Josh, 13-year old Brooklyn, 9-year old Austin and 5-year old Lily. The family also has a three-legged dog named Lucky and Grant stays busy watching his kids' baseball and softball games along with occasionally dirt biking.

"I couldn't think of any job I'd rather have, I am having a blast," Grant said.



### ON THE ROAD

Rob Grant's 1979 Peterbilt 359 was originally a highway truck in Southern Nevada. He had to fly down to drive it back and put a stinger on the truck for log truck work.

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## FUELING UP

Rob Grant's 1979 Peterbilt 359 with a General Trailer has been on the road since last October. He learned how to drive a log truck from a neighbor and worked for other companies for a few years before striking out on his own.



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## HEADING OUT

Grant graduated from high school in Willamina and began as a mechanic, a field he worked in for several years.

## SPEC SHEET

Truck make and model:

359 Peterbilt

Year: 1979

Engine: 3406B Cat

Transmission: 18B

Trailer make: General

Suspension: Walking Beam

Wheel base: 238

Other info/custom work: 8" Pipes



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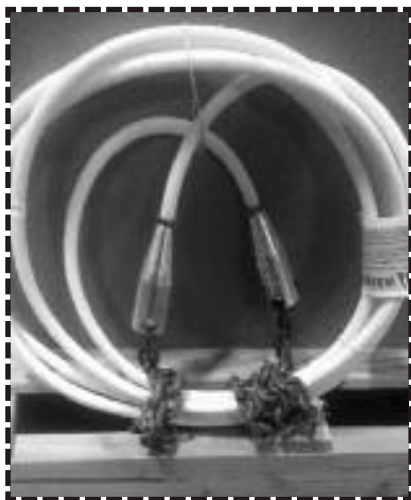
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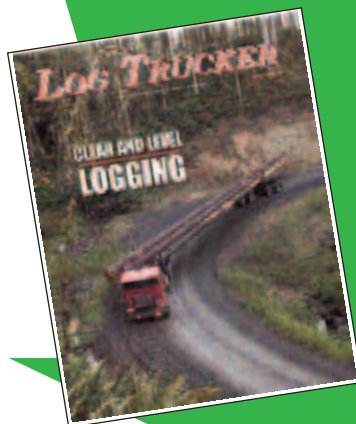
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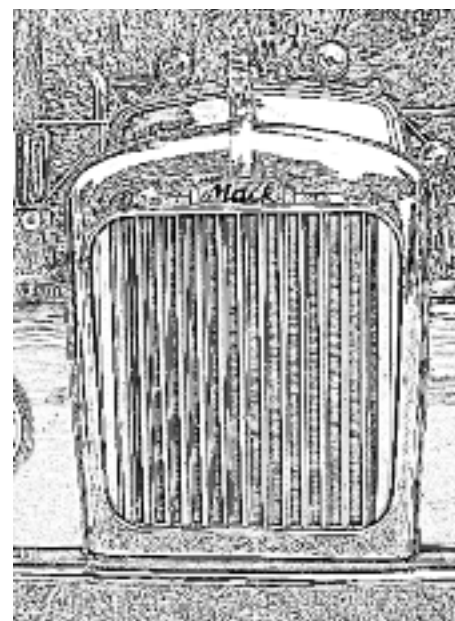
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