



Captain Alton Spivey

Do you ever wonder what life was like for a towboater over 60 years ago? We interviewed Captain Spivey who has worked as a towboater for over 60 years and has worked for FMT for the last 8 1/2 years. Here is a view of how he got started in the industry and what a Captain's life is like working on the river. Here is Captain Spivey's story in his own words.

When did you start working on towboats?

It was 1952 and I was living in Greenville, Mississippi. My dad had a farm that was in bankruptcy so I went to look for a job as a deckhand. At that time they did not have any jobs available on the boats, so I went to work for a shipyard. Two weeks later they put me on a boat as a deckhand in Plaquemine, Louisiana. I worked my way up from there and got my tanker-man's license.

Did you every work anywhere else but the river, and when did you first become a pilot?

When I got married in 1956 I thought I could live off of love, so I got off the boats for a few years and moved to Vicksburg where my wife worked as a nurse. During that time I went to work at the Magnolia trailer plant. In 1960, I heard that Mr. McCool and Mr. Baskin of Port City Barge Line were building a workboat in Greenville, MS named the Gilda McCool. That's when I decided to go back to work on the river. We moved to Forest, Mississippi where I moved into the wheelhouse and trained from 1960 to 1962 to become a pilot. I also navigated the

The TRANSPORTER

Life on the River Told by Captain Spivey

Missouri River which has the fastest current of any river we transit.

What are some of the challenges you have faced on the river?

Sometimes the ice was so bad on the Illinois River that we would have to stop and wait for help from another boat. In the eighties, there was a fuel shortage and you could only fuel up via a regulated fuel allotment. My company at the time, Port City Barge Line, only received a fuel allotment from Kansas City. We had to have the fuel shipped from Kansas City to where we were on the Lower Mississippi River in an 18-wheeler. Another time, I was on an 8,400 hp boat in the Mississippi River and the water level got so low that we could not bring more than 20 barges down the river, causing us to break up our tow and make multiple trips to our destination to complete a job.

What was the biggest boat/tow that you piloted?

The biggest boat was a 9,000 hp and the biggest tow was when I pushed 42 barges up the Mississippi River and 40 barges down the Mississippi River.

What do you like best about working for FMT?

I have worked at FMT for almost 9 years and I have to say that they are the best company in the industry to work for. FMT has the best personnel department in the industry. They really do have good people working for the company who are always willing to help you in any way they can.

I have enjoyed my time working at FMT and look forward to working here for many more years to come.

With that said, do you ever think about retirement?

Not really. My plan is to work for FMT until I can't work anymore. I really love what I do, so why would I give that up?

What do you like to do with your time off?

I have a farm with 70 head of cattle, so I spend my days off running the farm. Most days I am bailing hay, fixing fences and taking care of the calves and cattle.

We asked one of FMT's Captains, Morris "Moose" Verret who works with Captain Spivey, how he would describe working with him.

He is just a character – still has the same Pilot ability he had back in the day. He is still sharp as a tack. I don't know of any other 87-year-old pilots that are still working. The crew loves him, he makes you laugh all the time. He really is great to work with.

Captain Spivey said that Moose has helped him a lot, and that is what life is all about – helping each other.

After the interview, I realized that Captain Spivey has proven sometimes age is just a number. Captain Spivey was quick to remember all his crew members, past boat names, and companies that he has worked for. His ability to remember dates and names is amazing. You cannot buy or teach the experience that Captain Spivey has gained throughout his life on the river. That only comes with time.

TRANSPORTER



PBC Management Inc 401(k) Profit Sharing

**Your financial goals matter.
We're here to help you reach them!**



→ Family caregiving support starts here

Log in and visit "My Financial Life," then click on "Tools" and find the Caregiving tile to get started.

Digital Caregiving services give you access to making a care plan, storing and managing documents and sharing a family calendar. For a fee, the Care Concierge service will work with you to make a care plan for education and child-care assistance, in-home support and services, residential care facility advice and guidance, and more.



→ Take control of debt

Log in and visit "My Financial Life," then click "Tools" and find the Credit and Debt Management tile or call GreenPath at 877-444-5606 to get started today!

Work through your debt with GreenPath, with free one-on-one sessions with professionals to help you understand your financial situation and goals, explain your debt management options, create a custom debt management repayment plan, and decide if consolidating your plans into a single payment would help you pay off your debt faster. There is a monthly fee for the consolidation service.



→ Give yourself the gift of financial knowledge

Log in and click "My Financial Life," then click "Register" on the Financial Wellness Webinars tile.

Most Americans aren't familiar with many financial literacy concepts. That's why we created Prudential Pathways® webinars. You can watch Pathways 30-minute-session webinars any time, anywhere. You'll learn about financial topics like setting a budget,



→ Get help with student loans

Log in and visit "My Financial Life," then click on "Tools" and find the Student Loan Assistance tile to get started

Don't let student debt bring you down. With the help of Vault, you can explore lowering your payments, refinancing, or paying your loans off faster. This tool can also be extended to friends and family who may also be struggling with student loan debt.



VOLUME II

Dry Cargo Line Haul System

At Florida Marine, we have a unique line haul system. We start at the gulf and run up to Cairo. From Cairo, we split to the Ohio River or the UMR. On the Ohio River we go as far as Pittsburgh, and on the UMR we reach St. Louis. We are also starting a new venture where we are going to operate on the Missouri River. We continue above the St. Louis where we get on the Illinois River right below Chicago. Then we reverse and come back down.

We are unique because we have a variety of tow sizes, and we have a diverse group of seasoned captains who know different areas better than the competition and can run various horse powers and tow sizes. We turn vessels to keep our guys in areas of their expertise. This allows us to transport our customers' cargoes in the safest and fastest manner possible.

In our line haul system, we haul mixed tows that combine liquid and dry cargo barges to fit all our customers' needs.

Any FMT employee interested in transferring to a larger barge line vessel please contact Timmy Callais or David Goin.



NEED TO ACCESS YOUR PAY STUBS?

Sign up with GreenShades at greenemployee.com

or with the GreenEmployee App!

Email Melissa.Raley@flmarine.com for more information.



Fun Facts about New Orleans

1. Despite what people may think, New Orleans' popular Bourbon Street was not named after the whiskey. It was actually named after the Bourbon dynasty of France.
2. New Orleans has more total mileage of canals, both above and below ground, than Venice in Italy.
3. New Orleans is one of the few US cities that have been run under three different flags. It was founded by the French, had a period under Spanish rule, was ruled under the French again and then was eventually sold to the United States.
4. Baton Rouge may be Louisiana's capital today, but New Orleans was named state capital twice, once as the capital of the French colony of Louisiana and again in 1864.
5. The first game of Poker was played in New Orleans in the 19th century using a 20-card pack.



John Pasentine, II built at the FMT Shipyard launched on July 22nd, 2021 and entered into the FMT Fleet. Pictured l-r are Amy Pasentine, Michael Ruiz, Project Manager for the JPP II, John P. Pasentine, and John P Pasentine, II.



TRANSPORTER

Lessons Learned

Recent events helped to emphasize the importance of following best practices and company policies and procedures to help avoid security incidents at docks and facilities. We have been extremely fortunate that there have been no injuries during these events. Here are some of the lessons learned and best practices related to these events:

Lessons Learned:

1. When moored at any facility, the Vessel Master or Wheelman on watch shall follow the security guidelines outlined in the Facility's Terminal Guide. If there are no specific facility security guidelines the Vessel Master or Wheelman on watch must ensure they are following FMT's security guidelines. If you are in doubt contact the Company Security Officer (CSO).
2. The Wheelman on watch shall review the specific dock, facility or terminal guide to identify any security requirements that are unique to the particular dock, facility or terminal including the use of an assist tug for any reason (e.g., taking on groceries, crew change, etc.).
3. The Wheelmen on watch shall ensure that all crewmembers and visitors are abiding by the security requirements of the facility at all times. No crew change or personnel transfers should be conducted via assist vessel unless specifically approved and/or allowed by the Facility's Security Officer.
4. If a facility asks you to conduct an unsafe evolution or you see another crewmember doing something unsafe, you should immediately use your "STOP WORK OBLIGATION" and contact your supervisor or the office.



Pursuing Excellence

Near Miss:

While the boat was being fueled using a new hose, the hose became kinked as the hose pressured up. The PIC of fueling immediately utilized his "Stop Work Obligation" and asked the dock to shut off the fuel.

Follow Up:

The fuel pump was shut off by the dock and the fuel valve was closed. The crew disconnected the hose and untwisted the hose while ensuring that all kinks and twists were out. The PIC reconnected the hose and continued to fuel with no further events.

- The ears on the camlock were tightly secured with zip ties.
- Identification of an unsafe condition
- Proper use of Stop Work Obligation
- Proper communication between the PIC of Fueling, the Wheelman on watch, the deck crew, and the dock crew
- The PIC and deck crew discussed the importance of verifying all kinks and twists are out of a hose prior to commencing fueling operations.





Did you know?

Who invented the tug boat?

Tugs were invented in the 1810s, shortly after steam power was successfully applied to watercraft. During the 1800s on the Hudson River and Lake Champlain, old stripped-down side-wheelers and propeller-driven towboats were used to move ever-increasing numbers of watercraft, especially canal boats.

What is a tug boat?

A tugboat (tug) is a boat that maneuvers vessels by pushing or towing them. Tugs move vessels that either should not move themselves, such as ships in a crowded harbor or a narrow canal, or those that cannot move by themselves, such as barges, disabled ships, log rafts, or oil platforms.

What is a tug boat captain?

Master of Towing (Tugboat **Captains**) License Information. Master, Mate, And Apprentice Mate (steersman) of Towing Vessels. A Merchant Mariner Credential (MMC) officer endorsement as Master or Mate of Towing Vessels is required for those positions.

What is the word for driving a boat?

If it's a sailing **boat**, **you** sail it. If **you**'re the captain of a ship, **you** skipper it, and if **you**'re the helmsman, **you** steer or helm it, but otherwise, there's no general term.



Rules of the Road Review

RULE 7

Risk of Collision

(a) Every vessel shall use all available means appropriate to the prevailing circumstances and conditions to determine if risk of collision exists. If there is any doubt such risk shall be deemed to exist. (b) Proper use shall be made of radar equipment if fitted and operational, including long-range scanning to obtain early warn-

ing of risk of collision and radar plotting or equivalent systematic observation of detected objects. (b) Assumptions shall not be made on the basis of scanty information, especially scanty radar information. (c) In determining if risk of collision exists the following considerations shall be among those taken into account: (d) such risk shall be deemed

to exist if the compass bearing of an approaching vessel does not appreciably change; and (ii) such risk may sometimes exist even when an appreciable bearing change is evident, particularly when approaching a very large vessel or a tow or when approaching a vessel at close range.

TRANSPORTER

November is Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes is one of the leading causes of disability and death in the United States. One in 10 Americans have diabetes, that's more than 30 million people. Another 84 million adults in the United States are at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes.



There are two types of diabetes. Type 1 Diabetes is typically referred to as Juvenile Diabetes since it is usually diagnosed in Childhood. This type is characterized by an autoimmune disorder that attacks insulin in the body. Without insulin, our bodies are unable to convert sugar or glucose into energy.

Type 2 Diabetes can be developed at any point in life from high levels of blood sugar. Over time, the body becomes resistant to insulin. The great news about Type 2 Diabetes is that it is not only preventable but can even be reversed in the early stages.

So how do you know if you have diabetes? There are several warning signs and risk factors to keep in mind. Early detection is key for being able to reverse Type 2 Diabetes. With lifestyle changes in a healthy diet and physical activity, it is very possible.

Are you at risk? First, it's important to know your risk factors. Are you someone who is at a higher risk than others of developing Diabetes? Gender is one risk factor. If you're a male you are much more likely to develop Type 2 Diabetes. This could be related to the fact that men tend to carry extra weight around their middles. Obesity is the largest risk factor and responsible for over 90% of those individuals diagnosed. Obesity is an issue, mostly because of the lifestyle habits that lead to being overweight. A sedentary lifestyle and diets high in fat and sugar are a perfect combination for Diabetes. This is great news since these things are in our control to change! Simply eating more vegetables and leaner meats, and reducing soda intake, can go a long way in changing our bodies.

Physical activity doesn't have to look like high-intensity circuits to achieve health. Going for thirty-minute walks a few times a week is sufficient. Look for opportunities to sneak in extra activity by parking farther from the supermarket, or taking the stairs at work. These small adjustments can lead to big results in your health and reversal of pre-diabetes. Other risk factors include smoking, excess alcohol, family history, poor sleep habits, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. See your doctor regularly and ask them to check your blood sugar if you have concerns.

Warning Signs of Type 2 Diabetes are: fatigue, frequent urination, increased thirst, insatiable hunger, slow-healing wounds, blurry vision, tingling in hands and feet, and frequent yeast infections.

If you or someone you know is exhibiting any of these signs, make an appointment with a doctor. Diabetes that is left unchecked can lead to all sorts of health complications including heart disease, kidney disease, stroke and more. Early detection is key. Article from: [Symptoms & Risk Factors of Diabetes | IAB Health Productions, LLC \(iabhp.com\)](#)



Top of the Deck

By: The Pasentines

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Captain Joseph Scott Mitchell. Captain Mitchell worked for FMT for 17 years, working his way up from a deckhand to becoming a Towboat Captain on the M/V Brees. He was a dedicated friend and employee who knew the Mississippi River and Ohio River very well. Captain Mitchell was a hard

worker and was not afraid to take on any task or job that needed to be done at any given time. He had the skills and drive necessary for whatever he decided to attempt. Scott loved his family and friends and his devotion to both was deep and unending. We lost a very great Captain and he will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family.

Captain Joseph Scott Mitchell, Age 45

April - October Anniversaries

Twenty-Eight Years

Chris Pike

Twenty-Seven Years

Thomas Callahan, Kirby Dupuis, Jerry Jones, Joseph Little, Dennis A Pasentine

Twenty-Four Years

A.B. York

Twenty-Three Years

Louis Develle, Dennis J. Pasentine

Twenty-Two Years

Ricky Burkett, Matthew Coen, William Farmer, Janice Tyson

Twenty-One Years

Bryan Allemand, Billy Burkett, Brian O'daniels, Judy Pasentine, John Sumrall

Twenty Years

Joshua Ard, Santto Cheramie II, Mark Collins, Rhonda Lamulle, Justin Simpson, Nicole York

Nineteen Years

John Crawford, D'Andre Forward, Samuel Gay, Timothy Griesheimer, Wilmer Jackson, Calvin Plaisance Jr, RD Quebodeaux, Jason Rogers, Wes Sellars

Eighteen Years

Alan Dronet, Stephen Futrell, Tony Kruebbe, Gary Moore, Donald Tanner, Donald Whittlesey-Stapp

Seventeen Years

Martin Angelle, Andrew Ballah, Jeryet Bourg, Don Carlton, Cyrus Golmaryami, Joe Holloway, Charles Kirkham, Robert Legendre, Polly Quebodeaux,

Sixteen Years

Robert Chiasson, Walter Gibbs III, John Starcher

Fifteen Years

James Adair, Homer Barrett, Christopher Bebow, Shawn Delchamps, Melvin Fallen, Shawn Hinderman, Clyde Holmes, Linc Jackson, Robert McNemar, Heath McWilliams, Roger Miller, Bryant Phillips, Ricky Porche, Douglas Preston, Mikel Roach, Ricky Tyson, William Whitteker, John Williams

Fourteen Years

Harry Blackwell III, Scott Camp, Trey Carnegie ,Chris Develle, James Duncan, Dustin Givens, Dwayne Guerin, Joseph Hawkins, Michael Lee, Thomas Murry, Garvin O'Quinn, Ryan Smith, Ralph Vineyard, John Wille

Thirteen Years

James Bethea, Juan Cabrera, Daniel Champagne, Tracy Cheramie, Garry Hill, Vernon Hodges, Kirk Landry, Brandon Magee, David McGilvray, James Miller, Bryan Naquin, Carrie Newsham, Raymond Noonchester, Luther Ramey, David Richard, Henry Santos, Stephen Smith, Carl Stiebing, Ricky Torres

Twelve Years

James Davidson, Paul Davis, Brittany Martin, Kevin Perilloux, William Proctor, Leonard Sharp Jr., Nhan Vu

Eleven Years

Mark Abshier, Kelly Arnold, Joseph Beegle, Austin Bradburn, Joy Breath, Eric Brumfield, Chad Douglas, Ray Gomez, Rusley Guidry, Christian Lancon, Timothy Laughlin, Russell McDonald, Christopher Moore, Jeremy Robinson, Jerry Stapleton, Philip Wright

Ten Years

Scott Baham, Robert Collins, Thomas Finley, Dustin Furr, Jesse Graham, Heath Higdon, Zachary Hodges, Abrom Johnson, Maria Joyner-Smith, Timothy Laughlin, Milton McNeese, James Moore, Dean Phillips, Jodie Smith, Bradley Sparks, Holly Truesdell, Arthur West

Nine Years

John Clatto, Joey Collins, Joseph DeVan, Joseph Devillier, Dusty Dorey, Tony Economy, Seriehl Green, Joe, Griggs, Stephen LeVan, Justin Mizell Phillip Schutt, Robert Smith, Christopher Sowell, James Spiers, Timothy St. Andre', Joseph Vogel

Eight Years

Tyler Arnold, Joseph Blailock, Charles Boudreaux, Jordan Brewer, Blake Buras, Oscar Calix, Dennis Carlton III, Adam Couey, Charles Geis IV, Joel Gilmore, Marcus Hayley, Wendell Hill, Carl Howton, Collin Lewis, Keith Lofton, Charles Mabry, Ralph Morton, Timothy Moss, Clark Ober, Herbert Pahnka, Jessie Pierre, Tanner Penny, Craig Power, David Pritchard, Billy Rester, Richard Schaus, Timothy Scott, Joshua Whittington, James Williams

Seven Years

Blake Artigue, Randy Brunelle, Ryan Church, Zachary Clement, Michael

Easterling, William Fiarito, Marcquerious Harris, Kody Hobgood, Clayton Hunt, James Jaco, Christopher Janssen, Richard Johnson, Shannon Jones, Bryan Kemp, Devionshaye Kittler, Curtis Ladnier, Eric Langston, Mitchell MacFadden, Caleb Morgan, Christopher Morris, Nicholas Nunley, Rafael Pena, Bryant Pope, Devin Porter, Thomas Powers, Everette Reed, Dustin Riley, Andrea Rogers, Gary Sallinger, Jeremiah Strecker, Marcel Thomas, Jennifer Trahan, James VanMol, Christopher Veno, Jerry Willbanks, Marcus Wiltz

Six Years

Jorge Arauz, Sam Beach, Karen Brumfield, Dillan Candies, Antonio Dauzat, Jared Davison, Deon DeBoise, Charles Dooley, Austin Ellison, Austin Etheridge, Joseph Fillingim, Sue Folse, Francis Foster, Dustin Hoffman, Kevin Hudson, Ciera Hull, Omar Hyman, Hunter Jones, Trent Keenan, Richard Little, Jody Marchand, Julio Martensson, Howard McCuller, Corey Miller, Joshua Miller, Garrison Moore, Gavin Pellissier, Trevor Porter, Patrick Richard, Andre' Sanders, Adam Stacy, Thomas Vorholt, Taylor Waguespack, William Walton

Five Years

Alexander Adams, Samuel Blanco, Matthew Boren, Clifton Breaux, Daniel Donovan, Justin Guzman, Gino Monaco, Anthony Sagona, Michael Scallan, Donald Small, Michael Yaw

Four Years

Tristen Angelle, Kristen Artigue, Kyle Beeman, Bryan Cravey, Kert Crosley, Corey Cummings, Austin Fath, Colton Graves, Quentin Kostka, Glenn Labit, Jonathan Lannes, Khoa Mai, CL Moore, Matthew Patrick, Zachary Pike, Patrick Regan, Aaron Richardson, Patrick Rumley, Patrick Stelly, Christopher Whelehan

Three Years

Ryan Allemand, Todd Bagby, Ken Billiot, James Blankenship, Russel Bolotte, Dalton Book, Dennis Bourg, Curt Bourgeois, Tyler Bourquard, Sham Bourque, Jimmy Brister, Braden Brooks, Andy Burt, Luis Ceron, Elmond Chiasson, Benjamin Cohen, Bryson Dejean, Robert Dickson, David Dorrell, Dylan Duncan, Justin Duplantis, Kenneth Dupre, Stacy Dyess, Apollos Edwards, John Gaines, Jeramiah Galiano, Clay Gautreaux, Dustin Gilcrease, Thomas Goin, Christopher Gomez, Rafael Gomez, Spence Guidry, David Hales, Tavion Harris, Joshua Herron, Gary Hester, Cody Hill, Sean Holloway, Leonard Holmes, Joshua Johnson, Timothy Johnson, Curtis Johnson, Justin Johnson, David Jones, Nicholas Magee, Jody Marie, Gary McIntyre, Kenneth Moore, Darren Norflin, Tommy Norwood, William Nunn, Thomas Persons, John Rayner, Justin Roberts, Travis Roberts, Richard Robertson, Skeat Rousse, Isaac Saldivar, Zachary Saraceno, Bruce Sarsfield, Arthur Shaw, Jason Stewart, David Strickland, Philip Tobias, Joseph Trosclair, Cameron Weaver, Tyler Wilson, Jack Wolf II

Two Years

Marco Acosta, Dalton Ainsworth, Johnasen Akiu, Kenneth Allen, Christopher Allred, Robert Anderson, Michael Atwood, Alfonso Betancourt, Craig Blanchard, Elizabeth Blanco, David Bradburn, Matthew Brazzel, Letricia Brogdon, Trent Callais, Bailey Cockrell, Kristin Cook, Michael Cypert, Kason Davis, Matthew Donahoe, Joshua Downing, Mark DuMars, Austin Farris, Seth Feet, James Fleming, Chad Fonseca, David Foxworth, Jonathan Frazier, Chad Fussell, Christopher Garcia, Joel Gonzalez, Dennis Gray, Cory Hafer, Craig Halstead, Matthew Hecker, Colden Hynum, Andrew Karraker, Patrick Kelly, Skye Kohler, Tony Langley, Ethan Leal, Viviane Leblanc, Jonathan Lopez, Joseph Lopez, Houston Mackline, Anthony Marks, , Kadin Mayhair, Zachary McIntosh, Karl Montiforte, Nathan Moore, David Morales, Shelton Morris, Steven Nathanson, Travis Nunez, Logan Odom, Jose Perez, Austin Raziano, Dylan Rogers, Joseph Sanchez, William Scrantz, Brandon Slocum, Andrea Son, Jacob Tarver, Tyler Theriot, Ryan Tiffany, Mickey Vaughn, Rebecca Wattingy, Jeffery Weaver

One Year

Vincent Abdo, Raymond Adaway, William Bagley, Jonathan Barlow, Charles Benedetto, Gregory Betts, Micah Bishop, Dudley Bourg, Franklin Boyd, Andrew Clements, Ronnie Colwart, Leoncio Daniels, Josiah Daus, Jason Dufrene, Jesse Fernandez, Jacob Flannagin, Myles Fruge, Justin Garrett, Jacob Gibson, William Hall, Christopher Harvey, William Hopkins, Curtis Howe, Omar Hyman Jr., Chase Johnston, James Jones, Larry Lawson III, Larry Lawson Jr., Willie Lillie, Corey Matherne, Daniel Matherne, Kyle Nations, Don Nguyen, Christopher Orth, Derrick Petite, Edward Roberts, Amanda Robin, Tanner Sedotal, Dustin Seeser, Savannah Siek, Michael Snider, Santos Soto Jr., Jeromy Sullivan, James Sumrall, William Swindell, Jared Terrell, James Toomer, Michael Trisler, Alonzo Williams



Our Mission

To transport America's resources in the safest, most environmentally sound, and most efficient manner possible.



We're on the WEB!!

Floridamarine.com

Phone: 985-629-2082

Fax: 985-629-2110

E-mail:

thetransporter@flmarine.com

FLORIDA MARINE

Relentless Pursuit of Excellence