

Looking for an assistant

You need to do two things.

First: View the video @ <http://www.tech-notes.tv/DVD.html>

Running time - 16 minutes, 22 seconds. It explains the what, where, when, how and why of what I do.

Second: Read the following.

The reason for needing an assistant is because I am handicapped and confined to a wheelchair. That doesn't stop me and I love what I do. I'm looking for someone who has an aptitude for electronics and the broadcast industry, is willing to learn, is a self-starter, clean, able body and who can put up with me. A proclivity for photography is a plus. Because my assistant and I may share a hotel room from time-to-time, it is necessary my assistant be a male (my wife insists on that) and age is not a factor, so long as he is fit – 18 to 30 years of age would probably be best. Since we will be on the road for more than 5 months, it would be best if he is unattached and unencumbered. I will want my assistant available from Monday, April 11th through Friday, October 11th.

My assistant will accompany me during the National Association of Broadcasters Convention in Las Vegas from April 13, 2008 through April 20, 2008. He will be off until Saturday, May 10, 2008 when he will arrive back in Florence, OR to help pack-up the van for the trip. I absolutely need help with that!

Although I do not dictate how my assistant dresses or grooms himself, I do expect him to be clean when we start out each day so that we may make a somewhat professional impression on those we meet. It would be best for both of us if he were from the Pacific Northwest. There may be some additional chores between now and then that make this most desirable.

I cover all travel, lodging and food expenses. I will not cover the cost of any alcoholic beverages. All of the hotels we will stay at do not permit smoking, nor do I in the van, so the use of any kind of tobacco is not an option. I will also provide both a cell phone and laptop for my assistant while he is on the trip with me. If my assistant wishes, I will make whatever arrangements are necessary so that he may attend the religious services of his choice.

Background

Every year in April, the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) has a convention where all the latest in broadcast technology is displayed. This coming year (2008) is no different. For whatever reason, a significant number of broadcast engineers can not or do not attend. It is very important for engineers and technicians to stay abreast of the latest technology so if they cannot attend, the next best thing is to have some of that technology that was at the NAB convention brought to them. That's what I do and call it a Taste of NAB.

I've done the Taste of NAB Road Show for the past six years. This year (2008) will be my seventh. It is an industry wide, well recognized effort now and as the Road Show has gotten more involved in its set up etc, I have found it necessary to have, in addition to the "volunteers" at each venue who "usually" show up early to pitch-in, assistance from someone familiar with what goes where and how it all hooks together. I teach my assistant how to do this is. Trust me, it is not complicated and is most vital to me and the success of the Road Show and my assistant helps to save a considerably amount of time when setting up. During the past years, I've had the on-going help of both my grandson who now has other commitments and two outstanding individuals whose lives have taken them in other directions and will not be able to join me this year (one is in medical school and the other is shooting a documentary in New Zealand). I will gladly put you in contact with any of them for reference purposes.

Nearly everything I had with me this past year was on wheels; wheels on mobile racks, carts with wheels etc. It took about an hour to get the gear out of the van; another hour to put it in place (each venue is different) and a final hour to hook it all up and make it work. That's a total of three hours. That time was shortened as we got into the swing of things. I frequently get side tracked by engineers who want to talk when I'm doing this and the extra help keeps things moving. During the presentations, my assistant will photograph what we are doing with cameras I will provide.

At the end of each presentation, I also need to have someone who knows where things go in the van. Packing things up is akin to putting a puzzle together; if it isn't done right, we don't get everything in the van to take to the next location. Disassembling the gear and stowing it properly has taken about the same amount of time as set up; three hours, but usually goes faster with experience. My assistant and I didn't always have help when the presentation was over to help strike the gear and in packing

the van. Packing the van is akin to a puzzle: if you don't do it correctly, it may not all fit in. Making sure things are tied down properly is extremely important as well. I'm not always able to do that.

A few side notes: The van has an elevator on it, which makes getting the gear in and out considerably easier than lifting it in and out. I need the elevator to get my wheelchair in and out of the van, so it serves a dual purpose. If I absolutely had to, I could do all the work myself, but it would take twice to three times as long and I probably wouldn't be any good to do the presentation after setting up by myself.

This year the Road Show will begin in Portland, OR (our first venue) on Tuesday, May 13, 2007. The first venue is the "shake down" presentation, so we'll arrive the day before. This is so we make sure we have all the connectors, wires etc that we need to make it all happen "smoothly" or can get whatever parts we need to make that happen.

After each venue, we pack up and head on to the next scheduled stop, arriving the day/night before. You can see what has been scheduled to date at: <http://www.tech-notes.tv/2008/2008-Itinerary.htm>. I'm still working on the webpage and in the process of setting up the itinerary. Where I'm at right now is normal for this time of year; the schedule will fill in – trust me. You can get a better idea by looking at our previous years itineraries at http://www.tech-notes.tv/Taste_of_NAB.html. There are pictures and other information about Taste of NAB Road Show presentations there. Read some of the comments.

The last venue is scheduled for Friday, October 3, 2008. The days following would be when all equipment would be packed up and returned to the various sponsors. I'll need help with that.

I will discuss the compensation with each candidate as they apply as it will be commensurate with his abilities and knowledge. I will explain this further and discuss the amount with any interested person, when and if he calls me. You may find the information at: www.tech-notes.tv/IRS.html of interest.

At each hotel we stay at, I normally pay a bellboy \$5.00 to take our luggage in and \$5.00 to take it back to the van when we leave. I normally reserve this for whoever is my assistant. We typically stay at no less than 2 to 3 hotels a week (\$20 to \$40/week).

We normally stay at one of the "brands" of three major hotel chains: Marriott, Hilton, Holiday Inn. Nearly all the hotels have both a pool and an exercise room which we are welcomed to make use of. Some of the higher end hotels have concierge rooms which, if we qualify for, are permitted to use. Most have breakfasts as part of the stay. I will not pay for food if it is offered at the hotel as part of the stay.

I do expect my assistant to help me, as need in all things reasonable, such as doing our laundry at least once or twice a week at the various hotels where we stay. Most all of these facilities have laundry facilities and I'll pay for our laundry needs. I have medical appliances that I will want help with as well.

Please direct any all questions to me at (541) 902-2424. If no answer, try (541) 999-1863. Feel free to call anytime after 9 AM and before midnight any day of the week. I hope to have this position filled soon.

- Larry Bloomfield, KA6UTC
- 1980 25th St.
- Florence, OR 97439
- (541) 902-2424 – Everything
- <http://www.Tech-Notes.tv>
- Larry@Tech-Notes.TV

Miscellaneous things:

As we travel, I like to stop at places of interest. (Houston Space Center, The Alamo, Baseball Hall of Fame, etc.) I will cover my assistant's costs if there is an admission fee. I normally do the same if we should attend any movies etc.