

# ATRARI News

January/February 2019



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## The ATRI NEWS

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Articles and letters suitable for publication will be published in the next scheduled newsletter as space permits. Material should be sent to:

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Articles may be edited for length and format.

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# President's Perspective

*By Joe Watson, ATRI President*



Well, 2019 was quite a year for the auto recycling industry in Illinois. Governor Pritzker imposed a \$10 fee for every junk title, and that was simply stated, a tax on recycling automobiles. Auto recyclers around Illinois were outraged and expressed their anger towards ATRI, some actually accusing ATRI of not representing the auto recyclers. The truth of the matter is that Governor Pritzker, behind closed doors, contrived many additional fees and taxes across the board on many different industries and businesses. Many industries and businesses were shocked to hear about the drastic increase in fees. We were not alone.

Early in 2019, the ATRI board, under the leadership of ATRI President Eric Gallay, decided that we, as an industry needed to fight against new reporting regulations back at the beginning of the year. The board voted and approved to retain lobbyists Dorgan, Butcher, and Phelps LLC to represent the interests of not only ATRI members, but for all auto recyclers across Illinois. The reporting issue that was at hand was a requirement that many parts sold were to be documented and then reported to the Illinois government within a 48 - time period. Not only was this reporting unwarranted, but it also put an undue burden on small to medium auto recyclers. This effort was avoided, and the reporting issue was laid to rest. Seeing that we already had a lobbyist firm in place, the legislative committee began work on updating the outdated auto recycling laws, the Illinois Vehicle Code. When the \$10 per junk title fee came into place, we were lucky to have our Lobbyists in place, and the ATRI Board and several of our members were already

on the move by meeting our senators and representatives. I cannot stress how important it is to have a relationship with your elected officials. We began meeting in earnest and letting the Illinois legislators know how this fee was negatively affecting recycling in Illinois. In the fall veto session, Senate Bill 0119 (SB0119) passed both houses and states in the last line of the bill, "Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. This removes the language creating the \$10 fee for a Junking Certificate issued after July 1, 2019, and becomes effective on January 1, 2020." This bill is on the governor's desk waiting for his signature at the time of this writing. We are the ONLY industry in Illinois that had the additional fees (tax) revoked, and that is entirely due to the efforts of ATRI, Jim Watson, and Joey Devereux.

As you know, all of this comes with a fee. You all also know ATRI has not raised the dues in over 40 years. Our operating expenses have gone up just like everything else in this world. Whether it is the cost of living, housing, groceries, everything goes up. This is why we decided to implement the \$99 monthly fee. We feel it covers all of our operating expenses. We need to keep our lobbyists on board as well. In the next session, we will be continuing to clean up certain portions of the Illinois Vehicle Code, and it's about time. We have had several members of the recycling community recognize and realize that ATRI's efforts to fight for our group was necessary for all recyclers in the state. We also recognize that we stand at a pivotal point where we can either sit by and do nothing or begin crafting legislation to remove outdated laws and put into place a better set of laws that will benefit the auto recycling community. This is where we need to grow the membership. While our membership has stayed at a steady pace, we need to increase our membership as much as possible. We are fortunate to have a recycler in all districts in IL. Not many industries have that luxury, especially when we plan to make some very necessary changes. I ask you to please take the time to call on other recyclers you know, ask them to join ATRI, and get involved. It is a known fact that large numbers in membership speak volumes!

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## Executive's Viewpoint

By Michelle Lechner, Executive Director

As we close out the year all I can say is WOW, what a ride it has been for the auto recyclers in IL. As I recap here, I must say we have come a long way on our journey of understanding the legislative arena and what it takes to make things happen. It has been an educational adventure for ATRI and our members. We have conquered a few hurdles, and through perseverance have had a positive outcome. I ask you who is looking out for your best interest? We are, here at ATRI. I commend the ATRI Board of Directors and many of the members for all of your hard work, time and money. When we hired a lobbyist to battle some reporting issue's that were thrown upon us, it made us really understand why we did. We made the right choice and that firm has continued to show us just how helpful they can be. We had no idea what was around the next corner until we were blindsided with the \$10 junk title fee. From the beginning our Lobbyist has guided us through our very first lobby day and how to approach the veto session last fall. We were the only industry that got an issue overturned. We plan to continue these efforts by hosting our 2nd lobby day Wednesday February 26th at the Capitol in Springfield. I sure hope many of you just wrote that down in your calendar because we need you to attend. I know some of you may feel intimidated by attending this, but let me reassure you it's much easier than you think. For starters, our lobbyist firm will meet us that morning to discuss whatever the subject is that we are lobbying for. They will have hand outs with bullet points about the subject and also a list of your Senators and Representative's offices. They will attend with you as well. Joey Deveraux and myself will be available also to go along with you. Remember, they want your vote and they have no idea about our industry. If anything, they are the ones who will be a little intimidated by you, the professional. Later that evening we will host a reception at a venue that is right across from the Capitol. Last year many of the legislators attended and it was truly a great experience. Watch your email for more information. The ATRI Board will have a board meeting the day before, followed by going to dinner to discuss the next days event at the Capitol. All are welcome to come the night

before and join us for dinner. Again, watch your email because I will send out info about that event. The hotel is directly across from the Capitol, so if you want to get in the night before and feel good and rested you have that option.



We, along with MATR held our convention in October in Alton, IL. It could quite be the best show we have ever had. The exhibitors were happy, the presenters were happy and so were the attendees. One of our top exhibitors told me Florida has the best show, followed by New York and told me we were the 3rd. I took that as quite a compliment. I want to thank my convention committee made up of the MATR board and the ATRI Board for all their help. We plan to change things up a bit next year and it will be in the Chicago area, not sure where yet. We have some new ideas in the works and as soon as I have the who, what, when and where I will let you know. Stay tuned, I think your going to like it!

We had a changing of the guards in October, at the convention, and I am pleased to announce that the new ATRI President is Joe Watson, ABC Auto Parts in Riverdale, IL. This is his second time at being the President and I look forward to working with him again. Joe has many ideas that will be of great value to the ATRI members. Frank Mistretta from AERO Auto Parts, Chicago, IL has stepped up to be our

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Vice President. Eric Gallay, Reds Auto Parts in Cottage Hills, IL is now the immediate past President, and under Eric's direction we really got a lot accomplished the last 2 years. It was great having Eric as the President and so it's never easy for me when the changing of the guards happens. Eric was a great President and I am hopeful he too will be President again someday.

I hope you all had a great holiday season and I look forward to the new adventures of ATRI that are upon us. Next up, Lobby Day, see you there!!!

Happy New Year and Keep Recycling!  
Michelle

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## Auto & Truck Recyclers of IL Junk Vehicle Certificate Fee

The Junk Certificate Fee put in place by SB 1939 increased the fee on junk vehicle certificates in the State of Illinois from \$0 to \$10 dollars per vehicle. The State of Illinois has historically set the cost at \$0 to encourage auto recyclers and other entities to notify the Secretary of State so that end of life vehicles may be removed from state records. The fee as enacted in SB 1939 was expected to generate approximately \$3.15 million dollars for the State of Illinois, but would have significantly impacted small Illinois businesses and their employees.

During the fall veto session, DBP requested that the House and Senate leadership teams review the issue and its impact on Illinois auto recyclers. We appreciate the outreach completed by several auto recyclers around the state who reached out to their local representatives and senators to

voice their concerns regarding the fee. This was extremely important to our collective efforts.

After several weeks of advocacy, SB 119, a budget implementation bill containing several issues, included a removal of the fee as agreed to by both House and Senate leadership. We expect SB 119 to be signed prior to January 1, 2020.

### Update: Governor sign's SB119 removing the \$10 junk title fee!!!!

*"Removes language creating a \$10 fee for a Junking Certificate issued after July 1, 2019. Effective immediately, except that certain provisions take effect January 1, 2020."*

12/13/2019 SenatePublic Act . . . . . 101-0604

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# SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

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# The VET Review - IL Green CAR 2019

By Allison Toney, Environmental Compliance Manager,  
VET Environmental Engineering, LLC

The 2019 Illinois Green Certified Automotive Recycler (IL Green CAR) Program awards were presented at the Auto and Truck Recyclers of Illinois (ATRI) Missouri/Illinois (MO/IL) Convention and Trade Show, "Soaring to New Heights", on October 25 and 26, 2019 in Alton, Illinois. Everyone's continued dedication to making improvements throughout the year is something to be very proud of! The VET team loves going to facilities each year and seeing the beneficial changes that were made.

At the convention, VET awarded a MOST VALUABLE award to the medalist who best supports the IL Green CAR program and helps us to grow through recommendations and re-

ferrals. This year, the MOST VALUABLE award was presented to ABC Auto Parts. Their continued support of the IL Green CAR program has been amazing. They are always wonderful to work with, and it's a pleasure visiting their yard each year. Thank you ABC Auto Parts for all you do for the IL Green CAR program!

For the first time ever, we had a three way tie for first place among all of the participants in the program! All three facilities had a PLATINUM score of 99.05%. As one of our three way tie recipients, Bionic Auto Parts continues to be a leader in compliance in Illinois, and we appreciate how clean and organized their crusher area is, and that all of their trainings and inspections were

up to date at their audit. Thanks so much Junior, Jako, and the whole Bionic team for all the hard work you put in!

Congratulations to another of our three way tie earners, E&R Towing, for reaching PLATINUM for the first time! Matt and his team have been working very hard throughout the year improving their score by 10% from last year's audit, earning them the MOST IMPROVED award at the convention. Their storage and organization are wonderful, and the signs above their compressed air storage are great. E&R Towing has only been in the program for two years and are already leading the pack. At this rate they are going to be tough to beat next year! Congrats to Matt and the E&R team.

Also tied for first, we would like to recognize Stafford's Auto Parts as a returning PLATINUM Medalist! Their yard was very clean and organized, their training records were perfect, and they have the flattest crushed cars we've ever seen! VET was very impressed with Stafford's continued dedication to excellence; their hard work is obvious, and we appreciate the standard they are upholding for the auto recycling industry. Way to go, Jim and the Stafford's team!

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**PLATINUM Certification**

95% Compliance with IL Green CAR Standards

**IL Green CAR SCOREBOARD  
(2019)**

**1st Place (Tie)**

Bionic Auto Parts (99.05%) – PLATINUM

**1st Place (Tie)**

E&R Towing (99.05%) – PLATINUM

**1st Place (Tie)**

Stafford’s Auto Parts and Recycling (99.05%) – PLATINUM

**2nd Place**

United Road Towing – Chicago Auto Pound #6 (98.57%) – PLATINUM

**3rd Place**

United Road Towing – Chicago Auto Pound #2 (98.10%) – PLATINUM

**4th Place**

BC Automotive (97.14%) – PLATINUM

**5th Place (Tie)**

Aero Auto Parts (96.67%) – PLATINUM

**5th Place (Tie)**

XPert Coring and Auto Recycling (96.67%) – PLATINUM

**6th Place**

River Valley Truck Parts (91.90%) – GOLD

**7th Place**

New Cats Auto Recycling (91.43%) – GOLD

**8th Place**

Scotty’s Auto Parts (90.48%) – GOLD

**9th Place (Tie)**

Circus Auto Parts (90.00%) – GOLD

**9th Place (Tie)**

Route 14 Auto Parts (90.00%) – GOLD

**10th Place**

ABC Auto Parts (88.10%) – GOLD

**11th Place**

Decatur Auto Parts, Inc. (87.14%) – GOLD

**12th Place**

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**13th Place**

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**14th Place**

Rockford Auto Parts (85.24%) –  
GOLD

**15th Place**

I-55 Auto Salvage (83.33%) –  
SILVER

**16th Place**

Elgin Super Auto Parts, Inc.  
(81.90%) – SILVER

**17th Place**

Speedway Auto Parts (80.48%) –  
SILVER

**18th Place**

Mack's Auto Recycling (79.05%) –  
SILVER

If you've seen the benefits of the IL Green CAR program, please tell your friends and colleagues! The stronger our group is, the more positive impact we can have on the standards of the auto recycling industry. Thank you to all our medalists and new members for your support – we look forward to seeing you all in 2020! Keep up the great work!

**Got Compliance?**



**Discover the Benefits of Being an ATRI Member!**

**Illinois Green Car Program (Illinois Certified Automotive Recyclers)**

Illinois Green Car recognizes and certifies that the member meets certain criteria in terms of environmental impact, safety, licensing and other regulatory standards as well as general business practices. This program is endorsed by the Illinois EPA and is cost effective. For just \$50 a year, you can become CAR certified through the National Association. ATRI has an established a working relationship with the Illinois EPA so if you have questions for them but don't want to call, ATRI will be glad to make the call and provide you the answers.

**ATRI Executive Director** is a lobbyist for the association and engages legislative issues pertaining to Illinois auto recyclers. Through the Executive Director, ATRI engages in lobbying efforts and has established relationships with government agencies including the Secretary of State of Illinois.

**Education and Training Opportunities**

ATRI provides training throughout the year. Additionally, ATRI provides educational programs, social events, yard tours, and networking with fellow recyclers.

Opportunities to network, share and learn from other recyclers. See what works and what does not.

**ATRI Newsletter is published 6 times a year**

The newsletter is currently mailed to all recyclers in Illinois. The newsletter includes industry news, a complete listing of the membership, updates on legislative and environmental issues and lots of other interesting information I am sure you will find useful in your day-to-day business operations.

**Auto & Truck Recyclers Convention and Trade Show held annually**

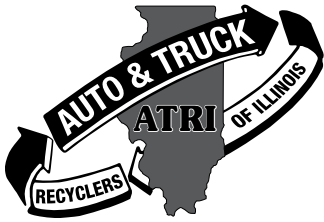
This event rotates around Illinois. This event is designed to bring recyclers and vendors together from all over to network, educate, and provide and encourage camaraderie. We invite our fellow recyclers from surrounding states to attend our convention and trade show, which clearly makes our convention a regional show like none other.

**Website and staff accessibility, [www.illinoisautorecyclers.com](http://www.illinoisautorecyclers.com)**

- All members are listed on the website with all of your information, including a link to your website, if available.
- Newsletter archives
- Calendar of Events, as they are scheduled.
- Parts Search, an opportunity for each member to sell parts.
- Suppliers list, a complete list of suppliers, associate members of ATRI.
- All contact information for the ATRI Board of Directors and Staff.
- Staff accessible to answer all your questions, or find the answer for you.
- Information friendly, ask ATRI to email the membership with an article or question you may have.

**ATRI is a member of the Automotive Recyclers Association**, the National association for auto recyclers. ATRI is active by participating at the ARA conventions and sharing that information with ATRI Members.

**All Illinois recyclers encouraged to join ATRI and make a difference by getting involved. Support your state association and reap the great benefits of the membership.**



# Auto & Truck Recyclers of Illinois

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Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

### Select Your Yearly Membership Level:

- 1-4 Employees .....\$250
- 5-9 Employees .....\$375
- 10 + Employees .....\$500
- Additional Yards \_\_\_\_\_ X \$100 = \_\_\_\_\_
- Associate Member. ....\$250

Membership Investment Remitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Select Your Membership Level Above. You May Choose to Pay it all at Once or by the Completion of December 31, 2020**

### Check Here to Make a Donation to the Illinois Legislative Fund:

- \$500  \$1000  \$1500  \$2000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Any Donation is Appreciated as we Continue our Efforts with Proposed Legislation to Benefit the Auto Recyclers in IL*

If Credit Card Address is different than ABOVE, please provide corrected address here:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

*Please remember dues to the Auto & Truck Recyclers of Illinois are not deductible as charitable contributions, they may however, be deductible as regular and ordinary business expenses. The ATRI Dues Investment Cycle is January 1st through December 31st.*

### **We must continue to fight for our members rights!**

As of August 1st 2019  
ATRI will **REQUIRE** all members to pay a **\$99 Monthly Fee** to the association.

### Select Payment Option for Monthly Fee:

- Check enclosed**  
*Make check payable to: Auto & Truck Recycler of Illinois*
- Charge my Credit Card**  
 Visa  MC  Discover  Amex

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

- Please charge my Credit Card **Monthly**.

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!!!**

To pay by mail, make check payable to *ATRI* and mail to:

*Auto & Truck Recyclers of Illinois • PO Box 9424 • Springfield, IL 62791*

*Questions, please call 877-880-2874, Fax: 877-747-7597 or email to [illautorecyclers@aol.com](mailto:illautorecyclers@aol.com) • [www.illinoisautorecyclers.com](http://www.illinoisautorecyclers.com)*

## ATRI Direct Members

<b>111 Salvage, LLC</b> Granite City, IL	618-931-2644	<b>LKQ A-Reliable - U-Pull It North</b> Chicago, IL	708-239-4370
<b>A Affordable Auto Parts, Inc.</b> Joliet, IL	815-722-9072	<b>LKQ Heavy Duty Core - Chicago</b> Lansing, IL	800-621-4394
<b>ABC Auto Parts &amp; Sales, Inc.</b> Riverdale, IL	800-458-7838 708-389-1456	<b>LKQ Metro Auto Parts - Caseyville</b> Caseyville, IL	618-345-9659
<b>Aero Auto Parts</b> Chicago, IL	773-483-2625	<b>LKQ Pick Your Part - Chicago Heights</b> Chicago Heights, IL	800-962-2277
<b>Ashley's U-Pick-A-Part</b> Joliet, IL, IL	815-460-3692	<b>LKQ Pick Your Part - Rockford</b> Rockford, IL	800-962-2277
<b>Auto Parts City, Inc.</b> Gurnee, IL	847-623-3535	<b>LKQ Watseka - Geiger Truck Parts</b> Watsseka, IL	815-432-4944
<b>Auto Parts City North</b> Wadsworth, IL	847-838-3970	<b>Mack's Auto Recycling, Inc.</b> Urbana, IL	217-367-6219
<b>Auto Part's Service</b> <b>dba Franks West Side Auto Parts Inc</b> Chicago, IL	773-254-4800	<b>Mullins Auto Parts</b> Mt. Olive, IL	217-999-2030
<b>Available Auto Parts</b> Decatur, IL	217-877-1000	<b>Neal Auto Parts</b> Peoria, IL	309-673-7404
<b>BC Automotive, Inc.</b> Zion, IL	847-746-8056	<b>Nevill's Auto Salvage, Inc</b> Springfield, IL	217-522-6160 bnevill@nevillsauto.com
<b>B&amp;H Auto Parts Recycling and Sales</b> Rockford, IL	815-226-1616	<b>New Cats Auto Parts</b> Chicago, IL	773-947-0500
<b>Bill Smith Auto Parts, Inc.</b> Danville, IL	800-252-3005	<b>Pick-N-Pull</b> Summit, IL	701-873-1665
<b>Bionic Auto Parts &amp; Sales, Inc.</b> Chicago, IL	773-489-6020	<b>Rebuiltcars Corporation</b> Joliet, IL	630-527-0524
<b>Broadway Auto Salvage</b> Braceville, IL	815-237-8747	<b>Reds Auto Parts</b> Cottage Hills, IL	618-259-6432
<b>Bryant Auto Parts &amp; Recycling Inc.</b> Danville, IL	217-431-0551	<b>Rhodes Auto S/S/S, Inc.</b> Streator, IL	800-548-9151
<b>Calumet City Auto Wreckers</b> Calument City, IL	708-868-6390	<b>River Valley Truck Parts</b> Kankakee, IL	815-936-0406
<b>Chicago U-Pic-A-Part</b> Chicago, IL	773-599-9900	<b>Rockford Auto Parts, Inc.</b> Rockford, IL	815-964-3396
<b>City Auto Wreckers</b> Aurora, IL	630-898-2900	<b>Route 14 Auto Parts</b> Woodstock, IL	800-458-2810
<b>Collins Truck Parts, Inc.</b> Tamaroa, IL	618-496-5003	<b>St. Louis U-Pic-A-Part</b> Washington Park, IL	618-293-6670
<b>Coultas Recycling Company</b> Danville, IL	217-443/0510	<b>Scotty's Auto Parts</b> Virginia, IL	800-346-4540
<b>Deactur Auto Parts, Inc</b> Decatur, IL	217-877-4371	<b>Shelby &amp; Sons Inc</b> West Frank Fort, IL	618-932-3083
<b>E &amp; R Towing</b> Markham, IL	708-333-7300	<b>Southwest Auto Salvage, Inc.</b> Lockport, IL	815-723-6878 Fax: 815-723-3470
<b>Elgin Super Auto Parts</b> Elgin, IL	847-695-4000	<b>Speedway Auto, Ltd.</b> Joliet, IL	800-437-8733
<b>Fierge Auto Parts</b> Quincy, IL	217-224-3000	<b>Stafford's Auto Parts</b> Montgomery, IL	630-892-4218
<b>I-55 Auto Salvage, Inc.</b> Channahon, IL	815-467-2938	<b>Three B's Used Auto Parts</b> Davis Junction, IL	815-874-3903
<b>LKQ A-Reliable - Blue Island</b> Blue Island, IL	708-385-5595	<b>Victory Auto Wreckers, Inc.</b> Bensonville, IL	630-860-2000

*Join ATRI TODAY and see what we can accomplish together!*

*Please note that if you don't see your company name listed in this issue, you are not a current member in good standing with ATRI.*

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