

January/February 2021



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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:

> Michelle Lechner Executive Director, ATRI PO Box 9424 Springfield, IL 62791 illautorecyclers@aol.com

Articles may be edited for length and format.

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President's Perspective

By Joe Watson, ATRI President

When writing an article for a newsletter, I need to look towards the future. The topic of today may not be relevant at the time the reader. I ask myself if what I write today will be relevant in a week, a month or even a year. I use the word "is" when the time I am existing in is "will be".

2020 IS OVER!!!! 2021, we welcome you with open arms. The dreaded Covid-19 has a vaccine, people have been and are getting inoculated against the virus and it's safe not only to go outside again, but we are once again allowed to gather at a distance closer than 6 feet and more than 25% facility capacity. Had we wanted to home school our kids we would have done it long before the pandemic, happily the kids are back in school. This calls for a SPRING 2021 Convention. Time to actually hang out with other adults. I honestly thought that we would have been able to have one back in the FALL of 2020, but we all know that didn't happen. It has been far to long being cooped up and regulated

to ZOOM meetings. Some would argue with me that a convention is about education, the seminars and the trade show. For me, those things are an excuse for social gathering. Sure, I go to the seminars, get educated and explore what our vendors bring out to show us, but let's get real, it's all about the face time, seeing each other, catching up on what's been going on for the past year. Let me tell you, I'm positive there are going to be some fabulous stories being traded. I'm looking forward to seeing each and everyone of you. Sign up early and often.

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Executive's Viewpoint

By Michelle Lechner, Executive Director

I hope this letter finds you all safe and sound from the CO-VID-19. I however was not so fortunate and got the virus. Luckily, I did not have a severe case. I am someone with asthma and was so afraid it would go to my chest but it never did. To me it felt more like the flu and head cold. Definitely, had lots of fatigue and no smell or taste. This went on for about 2 weeks! I don't really go anywhere so no idea how I caught it but the test was positive unfortunately. Seems like I didn't know anyone who had it and now I know about 25 people who had it, or have it, and lost a friend in her late 60s to this deadly disease. Hopefully with the vaccine right around the corner we can all get back to our life as we knew it way back at the beginning of March 2020.

Speaking of the future, ATRI is still planning on moving forward with the IL/MO Convention and trade show in March of 2021. I guess we will have to wait a while to see how things shake out between now and the beginning of the year. I think we will all have cabin fever and be ready to socialize, learn more and enjoy a weekend full of stellar presenters and awesome exhibitors. We are also having live entertainment on that Saturday night. This band does mostly copy tunes from the 70s, and I am sure you will enjoy them. Watch your email for more information.

Marty Satz

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It's that time of year again to renew your ATRI membership. If you have any changes in your information like email or something other that we need to know please reach out to the ATRI office. We have changed things a bit so if you don't understand the new renewal form please let me know. ATRI continues the fight for your rights here in IL. (See page 14)

Legislatively speaking, I don't have much to report other than the legislators have not been in session and there was no fall Vito session this year. There are some changing of the guards coming from some of our team players such as the Secretary of State office, and possibly from the legislative arena as well, but nothing as of now. We will be glad when some kind of normalcy is back so we can continue on the issues we have waiting in the wings. I think I told you ATRI has been added to the new advisory board which means we will get a seat at the table and hopefully can move forward with the necessary changes that need to be in the out dated Illinois Vehicle Code. Our lobbyist keeps us up on all we need to know from the legislative side of things.

You will see in this newsletter and obituary for Dan Riggs, he was a member and yard owner from Carterville, IL. I visited him once and sat at his counter and drank a couple beers. Very nice man. He had his yard for 38 years. You may have met him at one of the shows, he came to a few. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

By the time you read this the holidays will be over and I hope you were able to make the best of them. I will not get to see my one and only son this year due to the pandemic since he lives in Wyoming. There are better times ahead so all stay positive and focused as we bring in the much welcomed 2021.

THE VET Review – 2020 IL Green CAR Medalists Awarded!

By Elizabeth Grubb, MS, MPA - Storm Water Program Manager, VET Environmental Engineering, LLC

We would like to congratulate all of our Illinois Green Certified Automotive Recycler (IL Green CAR) Medalists. Unfortunately, we were not able to present awards in person this year, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't celebrate these amazing facilities! Each facility listed below has taken significant steps toward environmental and safety compliance, improving their business, and gaining peace of mind. These facilities have managed to keep up with day-today business operations, compliance programs, and recordkeeping even during COVID-19! Congratulations to all the medalists!

1st Place - Stafford's Auto Parts and Recycling PLATINUM - 97.62%

We would like to congratulate Jim and the staff at Stafford's Auto Parts and Recycling on earning 1st Place and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2020! This year's audit confirmed that Stafford's has an exceptional commitment to compliance, earning them 1st place for the second year in a row! The management at Stafford's does an amazing job of ensuring all employees are trained, routine inspections are completed, and all records are maintained and readily accessible! Not only that, but the customer service at the facility is incredible. The facility's commitment to

compliance coupled with amazing employees makes this facility top-notch. We thank you for your hard work and the example you set for the program!

2nd Place - Bionic Auto Parts PLATINUM - 95.71%

We would like to congratulate the Catalano family, Jako, and the rest of the staff at Bionic Auto Parts on earning 2nd Place and an IL Green CAR PLAT-INUM Medal for 2020! It is no secret that Bionic runs a clean and efficient operation. The facility's recordkeeping and safety program is flawless. Bionic's crusher area was the cleanest we had

seen in a long time! Not only that, but Bionic is looking at enclosing the crusher to prevent exposure to the elements – what a great investment! We are thoroughly impressed with this facility's commitment to compliance and the initiative they take in making improvements. Keep up the great work!

3rd Place (Tie) -BC Automotive PLATINUM – 95.24%

We would like to congratulate Steve, Ron, and the crew at BC Automotive on earning 3rd Place, in a tie with Aero Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2020! Since we

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last visited, BC installed a brand-new building!! This is a massive undertaking, representing the facility's commitment to improvement. The team also made a conscious effort to clear out any clutter throughout the storage yard, a great way to move toward efficient storage techniques. Not only does this improve the look of your facility, but it makes your operation run smoothly as items are easily accessible and organized. They also did not miss a SINGLE point on recordkeeping – excellent work!! We cannot wait to see what the team does in the upcoming year!

3rd Place – (Tie) - Aero Auto Parts PLATINUM – 95.24%

We would like to congratulate Andy, Frank, Chris, and the Aero Auto Parts team on earning 3rd Place, in a tie with BC Automotive, and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2020! The team is making some great improvements to the facility as they are currently putting in a new slab of concrete to enhance the facility's entrance! This is fantastic because, as we all know, first impressions count! Chris continues to

keep the facility's records in top-notch order while Andy makes sure operations are running efficiently. Collectively, this team does a great job ensuring tasks are completed properly and on-time, keeping the facility at the top of their game! Excellent work this year!

Aero also earned the MOST VALUABLE award for 2020! Aero continues to strive for excellence. Andy and his team are always communicating with our staff to discuss ways to improve and strategies for maintaining compliance in order to make the best decisions for their team and facility. Thank you, Aero, for your contribution to the IL Green CAR Program and the great example you set for others in the industry!

5th Place Three B's Used Auto Parts GOLD – 88.57% **MOST IMPROVED**

We would like to congratulate Steve, Paul, and the staff at Three B's Used Auto Parts on earning 5th Place and an IL



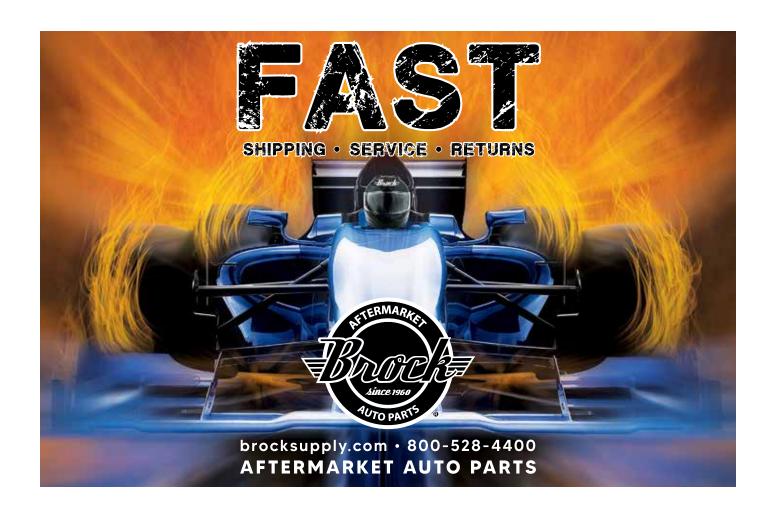


Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2020! Installing new infrastructure is always a large task, but it can pay off down the road by preventing exposure from the elements and creating additional storage areas. Three B's was on board with this idea and built an entire new building and it ROCKS! We were thoroughly impressed by the addition and we can't wait to see how the team sets it up. The team also maintains a green buffer between the yard and the wetlands located on the site. This conveys the team's commitment to improving storm water quality and the environment! We cannot wait to visit in 2021 and see how the team sets up the new building.

Three B's is also our **MOST IMPROVED IL Green CAR** member for 2020! Steve, Paul, and the team went to great lengths to ensure their score improved this year. We are proud of the staff for being able to maintain compliance and increase their audit score 1.95% during such challenging times! Congratulations on your achievement, we are proud of you and great work this year!

6th Place Scotty's Auto Parts GOLD – 87.62%

We would like to congratulate Scotty, Travis, and the entire Scotty's team on earning 6th Place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2020! Scotty's fueling station is inside a covered building with a concrete base to help protect it from vehicles and the elements. Not only that, but Scotty's has signage on the outside to clearly indicate that the building contains flammable liquids, and no smoking is allowed. This is a great way to take initiative and prevent accidents before they happen! Travis has also worked with our team to improve storm water quality at his site. Travis has installed straw bales and a filter sock barrier upgradient of the site's outfall to slow water and encourage sediment to settle out! Thank you for your commitment to the environment and IL Green CAR!



7th Place ABC Auto Parts GOLD – 86.19%

We would like to congratulate Mary Anne, Jim, Joe, and the team at ABC Auto Parts on earning 7th Place and an IL Green CAR Medal for 2020! We were impressed when we visited ABC this year, the yard was the cleanest we had ever seen! It is clear that the team schedules regular clean ups to ensure the facility is kept organized and free of trash. This was especially evident in the large core storage and crusher areas. These are typically some pretty messy areas, but the team has managed to keep them tidy – great work! Not only that, but the inspections and recordkeeping is exceptionally organized. This makes for a great combo and a well-run facility! Great work team!

8th Place (Tie) Route 14 Auto Parts 85.24%

We would like to congratulate Jacob, Steve, and the team at Route 14 Auto Parts on earning 8th Place, in a tie with New Cats Auto Recycling, and earning an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2020! This facility's fluids storage is out of this world. All the facility's containers are labeled correctly, and every container has secondary containment – excellent work! The team has also taken great effort to improve storm water quality at the facility, installing rip rap and maintaining a vegetated buffer in the outfall drainage area. These storm water best management practices coupled with the secondary containment really conveys the facility's commitment to compliance. We appreciate their investment and continued support of the IL Green CAR Program!



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8th Place (Tie) New Cats Auto Recycling 85.24%

We would like to congratulate Frank, Sammy, and the staff of New Cats Auto Recycling on earning 8th Place, in a tie with Route 14 Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2020! When we visited, it was evident that New Cats was extremely busy. However, despite the craziness, the New Cats team was able to keep up with all the moving parts and run an efficient, organized business – impressive!! Not only that, but the records were in excellent shape, everything was easily accessible and in its appropriate place. We are impressed with the team's ability to keep up with inspections, trainings, records, and housekeeping items during this busy time! Way to go team – can't wait to see what you have for us in 2021!

10th Place Rockford Auto Parts SILVER – 83.81%

We would like to congratulate David, Zack, and the crew at Rockford Auto Parts on earning 10th Place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2020! Rockford's willingness to improve, learn, and change is outstanding. The team listens to suggestions with an open mind and is constantly looking for ways to make their facility more efficient and compliant. The facility is clearly committed to safety measures. During the winter, Rockford employees wear spikes on the bottoms of their shoes to walk outside on the ice. This is an outstanding solution to keeping employees safe during harsh winter conditions! Way to think outside the box! We can't wait to see what other ideas the team cooks up!

11th Place Decatur Auto Parts SILVER - 78.57%

We would like to congratulate Barb, Vandell, Caleb, and the entire Decatur Auto Parts team on earning 11th Place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2020! The team really stepped up this year on their inspections – everything was up to date! This commitment to good housekeeping did not

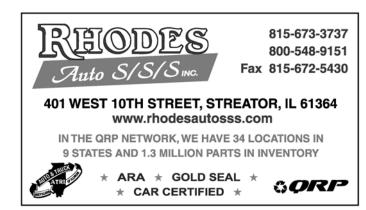
go unnoticed as the yard was in excellent shape. Decatur really goes above and beyond to make sure the facility's core engines, transmissions, and batteries are stored properly, using bed liners to keep them sheltered from the elements. Not only that, but the facility has an external power wash bay that was built from scratch! We are always impressed with how practical and inventive this team is. Way to go! We can't wait to see what you have in store for us in 2021!

12th Place Elgin Super Auto Parts SILVER – 76.19%

We would like to congratulate Bryan and the team at Elgin Super Auto Parts for earning 12th Place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2020! Elgin has done a great job keeping up with housekeeping despite working with a diminished crew. The facility's warehouses were all very tidy, clean, and organized. It is impressive the amount of work this team is doing while being understaffed! We are impressed with the team's initiative and ability to adapt during these times. The team is also making significant strides toward catching all employees up on safety training – way to go team! Keep up the awesome work!

13th Place (Tie) Mack's Auto Recycling SILVER - 75.71%

We would like to congratulate Rob and the team at Mack's Auto Recycling on earning 13th Place, in a tie with Speedway Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR Medal for 2020! This team continues to have one of the best-looking storm water outfalls we have seen. Mack's has taken the initiative to enclose



the outfall area with a fence, post a sign, and maintain straw bales surrounding the discharge point. This commitment to storm water quality is amazing and sets a great example for other facilities. Additionally, Mack's team does an amazing job keeping disposal records in order. We are impressed with the facility's organized and efficient team – great work everyone! Keep it up and we will see you in 2021!

13th Place (Tie) Speedway Auto Parts SILVER - 75.71%

We would like to congratulate Sean, Sheryl, Liliana, and the team at Speedway Auto Parts on earning 13th Place, in a tie with Mack's Auto Recycling, and an IL Green CAR SIL-VER Medal for 2020! Speedway has made some impressive changes since we last saw them. Sean has taken the initiative to devote specific employees to compliance, ensuring accurate and timely completion of inspections, sampling, and associated compliance duties. We are impressed with Sean and the team's commitment to improving the facility's environmental and safety compliance – awesome work!! Not only that, but the facility's dismantling and fluids storage area was spotless! It is clear that their operation is running efficiently and smoothly – excellent job team! We can't wait to see how else the facility improves in 2021! Thank you for your commitment to IL Green CAR!

15th Place I-55 Auto Salvage SILVER – 75.24%

We would like to congratulate Dave and the team at I-55 Auto Salvage on earning 15th Place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2020! As we all know, core engines and transmissions are oily and dirty making storage areas tough to keep clean. However, the team at I-55, despite being extremely busy and short-handed, has managed to keep this area clean and tidy with no leaks or spills in sight!! I-55 also has an amazing crusher set-up. The crusher is enclosed to prevent exposure to the elements – such a great investment! Way to go Dave and the team – congrats!

PENDING – Self Audits

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By Katie Stark and Paul D'Adamo

Why are these Takata Airbags being recalled now?

It seems ironic that we were just alerted to a Volvo Airbag Recall last month. NHTSA has concluded that the GM inflators are subject to the same issues; moisture, temperature, and age making them vulnerable as a safety hazard.

GM had petitioned NHTSA over the last four years to exclude them from the Recall. GM claimed that the Takatamade airbag inflators did not have the same deterioration as the other vehicles. GM asserts that these vehicles had a lower risk of rupture due to "unique design differences."

The original Recall of Takata airbags was based on inflators igniting with explosive force, sending metal shards throughout the passenger cabin. The actual cause was determined to be a lack of a chemical drying agent for the propellant. Environmental moisture, high temperatures, and age would cause the ammonium-nitrate-based propellant to inflate improperly, resulting in the inflator's premature

rupture. Recently, NHTSA denied GM's petition to avoid the Recall.

Many of the GM Models recalled are familiar to Auto Recyclers, Chevrolet, GMC, and Cadillac Trucks and SUV's from the model year 2007 through 2014. Only the passenger airbags will need to be replaced.

RAS recommendation.

Do not remove any airbags in these vehicles until we have the VIN's loaded into our Recall Software. EPA guidelines allow for the removal of airbags only if there is a "sale" or "recall" shipment being prepared. It is not recommended or permitted for you to store airbags at your facility. Leaving them in the vehicles until such time where they will be crushed or shredded is a legitimate disposition.

Airbags put Recyclers in the Crosshairs.

There seems to be a pattern with airbags. As airbags age in vehicles and further testing is done, it is possible that other makes and models will be recalled. For

Recyclers, selling airbags has become a perilous business. Once we thought it was safe to sell GM Truck and SUV airbags, we now find ourselves in the predicament of knowing that we have sold them, but now they are recalled. Many Recyclers have excluded ALL airbags from their parts available for sale list due to recalls' hazards. This might be a good time to review your corporate policies related to the sale of Airbags.

There is no "traceability" component currently in any of the Yard Management Systems. Wikipedia defines traceability as the ability to verify the history, location, or application of an item by means of documented recorded identification.

When can we expect to start recovering GM Recalls?

NHTSA has given 30 days to submit a plan for their Recall. We at RAS expect to have the VINs loaded into our web/desk-top/mobile platforms in early January.

Questions on airbag recalls? Call or email Paul the Recall Guy at 401-458-9080 or pdadamo@coresupply.com.

Chevrolet	GMC	Cadillac
Silverado 1500, 2500, 3500 Tahoe/Suburban Avalanche	Sierra 1500, 2500, 3500 Yukon	Escalade



Auto & Truck Recyclers of Illinois

2021 Dues Investment Invoice One Form Per Yard

Please print or type

Company Name	
UDL	_ Contact Name
Street Address	
City	StateZip
Phone	_Fax
E-mail	

Select Your Yearly Membership Level:

Enter calculated Manchanabin For an the violet
Associate Member \$250
10 + Employees
5-9 Employees
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Enter selected Membership Fee on the right

Industry Advancement Fund We must continue to fight for our members rights!

As of August 1st 2019, ATRI has made it mandatory for all REGULAR MEMBERS to pay an additional fee towards the Industry Advancement Fund.

This fee will accompany your once per year dues.
The Industry Advancement Fund is \$1188 for the year and may be paid all at once or \$99 per month.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!!!!

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

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Questions, please call 877-880-2874 Fax: 877-747-7597 email to illautorecyclers@aol.com www.illinoisautorecyclers.com

Membership & Fund Dues

Yearly Membership Fe	e:
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Industry Advancement (REGULAR MEMBERS ON	
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☐ Monthly Fee of \$99 Please continue to charge the credit card below	
1st Month Fee of \$99	\$
Name on Credit Card	
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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.

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