



April
2023

Industry Update

News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members

NATA tours the Brothers Car Collection

NATA members and Oregon educators enjoyed a tour of the amazing Brothers Car Collection on March 12. This is one of the largest private car collections in the country, including classic muscle cars, exotics, rare and even one-of-a-kinds. They have several Cobras (real ones!). In some cases, for instance, where there were only five ever made, they had three of the five on display. These cars are in pristine condition.



Nearly 200 folks attended *(including the Potter family of TVG, above)*. It was great to see NATA members mingling, often greeting each other for the first time – or for the first time in a long time.

Keen Utility, Darigold, Wilco, and the Portland Roadster Show all contributed great door prizes. NATA wishes to thank those donors.

We also thank our members for attending. We are planning another tour in 2024.



Spencer Hodes from Transmission Exchange and his son



The Jacksons from Jackson Auto Body in Salem



Ross Bradshaw from Portland Transmission Warehouse and his sons



Kam Rogers, Devin Rogers and David Smith from Aamco Springfield.

Oregon Legislative Update

NATA lobbyist Darrell Fuller provided the following end-of-March legislative update (you can also find these updates on the [NATA website](#)):

The 82nd Assembly of the Oregon Legislature began on January 9. As April begins, don't expect to see Rihanna strutting around the state Capitol like she did at the Super Bowl Half Time Show, but be assured, it is half time in Salem.

BY THE NUMBERS

4,922: Number of bills which have been introduced since the start of the Legislative Session. About half of them died in Committee on April 4, which was "moving day." Bills had to move out of their original committee or they were dead for this year. (The deadline doesn't count for bills in Ways & Means, Revenue and Finance, Transportation or Rules – which means a lot of bills.)

160: Number of days in the Session. Wednesday, April 5 was day 80th day.

17: The day in May when state budget analysts will tell lawmakers how much money they have to spend on the 2023-25 biennial budget. That budget forecast will be the clarion call for the rush to finish the session by the Constitutional June 25th deadline.

340: Number of bills I was tracking for all my clients prior to the committee deadline.

230: Number of bills I am now tracking for my clients.

On behalf of NATA, I follow bills which will, or may, have an impact on auto trades businesses ([click here](#) for a list). I also track bills with a general impact on business in Oregon ([click here](#) for a list). Below are links to both the industry-specific bills I am tracking, and the general businesses bills I am tracking. You can [click here](#) for a status update on a few of the bills of interest.

Please stay tuned. NATA will send urgent updates if your help is needed in Salem. Your email or phone call could be pivotal in the success or failure of legislation. If you would like



In-person Tech Training Throughout Oregon



IN PERSON TRAINING

Training for Automotive Service Professionals



NATA is proud to partner with Baxter Auto Parts to bring in-person training from the Carquest Technical Institute to Bend, Portland, Eugene and Medford throughout this year – and beyond. More classes will be added as we move toward 2024.



NATA members can save hundreds of dollars on the registration subscription.

The classes are each four hours and are held in the evening at each location.

A 1-year subscription to register is \$149 a month for up to six technicians, but NATA or TECHNet members can register for just \$99 per month. Contact NATA or Baxter Auto Parts for member information.

For more details and to register, download the flier for the location where you will want to attend: [Portland](#), [Bend](#), [Eugene](#) or [Medford](#).

Tech shortage gets TV news attention

Portland Community College, WrenchWay and NATA were featured in a March 26 KGW-TV news segment on the automotive tech shortage.

[Click here](#) to watch the 2.5-minute video.



News From the DEQ

The [Oregon Department of Environmental Quality](#) will temporarily suspend the [Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program](#) as of May 1. Projections show the program will be oversubscribed in late spring 2023, and program rules

require DEQ to suspend rebates once funds are depleted.

"DEQ has one of the most generous EV rebate programs in the country. It has been extremely successful, and 2023 rebate applications are coming in at our highest rate yet," Oregon DEQ Director Leah Feldon said. "People are choosing electric vehicles and rebates are instrumental in lowering the costs to Oregonians."



The program receives funds annually from the state's [Vehicle Privilege Tax](#). It covers all program costs, including rebates, program administration and community engagement. The Oregon Department of Revenue projects the program will receive about \$14 million for 2023. Also, it was able to carry over approximately \$3.5 million due to a one-time allotment of \$15 million last year. Therefore, the 2023 budget was \$17.5 million, with \$15.5 million available for rebates. DEQ expects the fund to be depleted in the next few months, based on volume of EV sales.

DEQ also is providing approximately \$8 million in grant funding for diesel equipment owners to replace older and more polluting diesel engines with new, cleaner technologies and exhaust control retrofits. The [Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grants Program](#) is designed to help address health and environmental impacts from diesel emissions in Oregon.

Visit the [DEQ Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grants program web page](#) to:

- Learn about eligible diesel projects
- Register on [DEQ's grant web portal](#)
- Apply for funding using the [Diesel Emissions Reduction Grant User Guide](#)

The 2023 application is the only opportunity this year to apply for a Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant. Award recipients can apply for additional funds in subsequent years. Submissions must be received by DEQ no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6.

39th Annual 'Spring Classic' Next Month

Mother's Day is May 14, and you know what's always held the day before: The annual 'Spring Classic Auto Exhibit & Gathering' in Southeast Portland. This no-cost, all-are-welcome event is a great tradition. [Click here](#) for a flier with all the details, and we'll see you there!



Spray Efficiency Training Available

The [Pollution Prevention Resource Center \(PPRC\)](#) is offering spray efficiency training in Oregon. It is free through a Department of Ecology grant if we have 8-15 participants with a shop willing to host. If you want a

private training, please reach contact PPRC. There are no set times or dates; it's based on interest. The course is four hours long, including a lecture and the rest of the time working with the 3D Virtual Paint program. [Click here](#) to watch the promo video.



For more information, contact Mikey Strauhal, mstraual@pprc.org, (206) 352 2050 ext. 105.

More Body Shops Using Materials Invoicing

Significantly more collision repair shops now are using an invoicing system to bill for materials – at least some of the time – according to a “Who Pays for What” survey conducted earlier this year.



In 2021, a similar survey found that about half of shops relied strictly on the multiplier method (a flat dollar amount per refinish hour) to bill for materials, while about 19 percent used a materials calculator or invoicing system. The percentage using the invoicing system exclusively remains essentially unchanged, but now more than 40 percent of shops say they use a mix of both methods. That's up from about 32 percent in 2021, and means that 3 in 5 shops are now using an invoicing system at least some of the time, 12 percentage points higher than eight years ago.

“I really think the large change we are seeing is due to the multiple increases in paint prices virtually all shops experienced since we last did this survey in January of 2022,” Mike Anderson of Collision Advice, who conducts the quarterly “Who Pays” surveys in conjunction with *CRASH Network*, said. “More shops are beginning to charge for paint and materials with a detailed invoice that shows exactly what was used on the vehicle.”

The latest “Who Pays for What?” survey, which can be completed in about 15 minutes, is now open through the month of April. It focuses on not-included body labor operations. Shops can [click here](#) to take the survey.

Survey participants receive a free report with complete survey findings along with analysis and resources to help shops better understand and use the information presented. Anyone in a shop familiar with the shop's billing practices and the payment practices of at least some of the largest national insurers can complete the survey. Each shop's individual responses are held in the strictest confidence; only aggregated data is released.

Has NATA Quoted Your Health, Dental or Vision Insurance?

Our NATA Health Plan rates are becoming more competitive all the time. Beginning this year, our health insurance plan will include life insurance coverage as well! Call Tere MacNaughton at (503) 253-9898 for quotes or more information.



Southeast Portland Shop Closes

Majhor-Murray Ltd., an automotive repair shop in Portland's Brooklyn neighborhood since 1968, has now closed its doors. The shop was an NATA member since 1970 (53 years!), so many thanks, and enjoy retirement!



Latest Issue of OSHA Newsletter Available

The latest edition of the Oregon OSHA Health and Safety Resource newsletter is now available ([click here](#) to view). It includes information on the hidden hazards of blocked and locked exits, OSHA Resource Center updates and new services, and more.



Alignment Machine Donation

Thank go out to Lewis Hess of **Peter's Auto Works** for donating the shop's older Hunter alignment machine to Eagle Point High School's automotive program. An additional thanks to Tyler Houston, General Manager at **Heckmann Thiemann** (and a former Hunter Engineering representative), for sourcing the missing components to make this a functional training tool for Tony Doering's students at Eagle Point.



Schools Are the Wave of the Future

We know there is a staffing shortage across all areas of our industry. The way forward **REQUIRES** that we – the automotive business community – become involved in schools at both the secondary and post-secondary level.



Each month we bring you updates and announcements of hiring events, job openings, and other ways you can become involved (see below). Please engage with your local automotive programs. If you need contact information, call our office. At this time, our staff participates on nine advisory boards, facilitates four hiring events, speaks at multiple school events and sponsors the annual Oregon SkillsUSA Automotive Competition.

Here are just some of the opportunities to get involved:

Clackamas Community College in Oregon City is hosting a Career Technical Education Showcase for the community from 4-7 p.m., on April 11, 4-7 p.m. It's a chance for students to learn how to earn degrees and certificates that will qualify them for well-paying, in-demand careers in two years or less. Instructors will be on hand to talk about their programs, and it's an opportunity to tour the buildings, shops, and labs, and meet with employers. [Click here](#) for more information.

Willamette Career Academy in Salem is holding a mock interview event April 21. [Click here](#) for a flier with more information.

Linn-Benton Community College will host "Dyno Days 2023" on May 19 and 20 at the college in Lebanon. [Click here](#) for a flier with more information.

Lane Community College is holding a ["Trades Expo & Open House"](#) on Saturday, May 20 in Eugene.

Control Tower is a regional program offered through Willamette Educational Service District. It serves Marion, Polk, and Yamhill County school districts with career-connected learning opportunities. It focuses on connecting education with industry to provide students with chances to explore and prepare for careers while they are in high school.

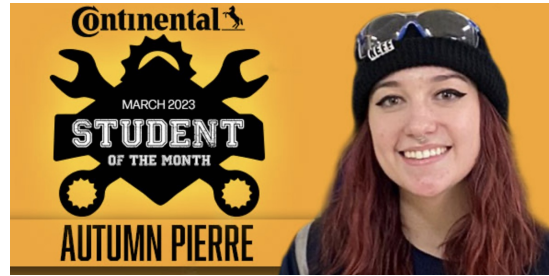
Control Tower is offering an opportunity for industry partners to become job shadow hosts. Job shadow hosts are added to a regional job board and are on standby for when a student applies for a job shadow with their specific company. They will then coordinate a date with the student and host them for a 2- to 8-hour experience. Partners must provide a safe environment as well as an engaging chance for students to learn about the daily work routines and requirements for a given career.

This is an excellent opportunity to promote your company and our industry while boosting your engagement with the community. This is also a great entry point into partnering with Control Tower on providing other experiences for students.

Check out the [Job Shadow Guide for Industry Partners](#) for more info on getting started, or contact Cassy Harris, Control Tower Engagement Specialist, at (503) 540-4420 (or email cassy.harris@wesd.org).

Salem auto student honored

Congratulations to Autumn Pierre, a second-year automotive student at Chemeketa Community College in Salem, who was named student of the month in Tomorrow's Tech. While in school, Autumn is also a Technician at Power Kia in Salem. Autumn is credited for her strong work ethic and "can do" attitude. [Click here](#) to read more.



Schools Have Job Openings

Clark College in Vancouver has an opening for a part-time lab tech in the Auto Department. The position involves working with the students, supervising lab assignments and some general tasks in the shop. Hoping to find someone with a flexible schedule. [Click here](#) for details, or contact: Dannie Nordsiden, Manager of Technician Development (360) 992-2566 (office or (360) 907-4053 (cell)



Portland Community College Sylvania Campus has an opening for a part-time Instructor in the Automotive Service Technology Department. [Click here](#) for more details.

Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus has an opening for a new diesel faculty member. It is a full-time position with a three-term teaching assignment which means the instructor has summers off. [Click here](#) for more details.

Phoenix High School in Phoenix, Oregon, is looking for an Automotive Technology Teacher. [Click here](#) for more information.



CENTRAL OREGON
community college

Central Oregon Community College needs part-time automotive instructors during spring term this year. The school needs at least 2-3 people for spring term and likely moving forward into next year. Spring term begins April 3 and ends June 15. However,

many of our courses are "short courses," meaning the class will run from 7:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, for four weeks. Some courses are even shorter, 2.5 weeks. Some are longer, spanning the entire 12-week term. So there is flexibility in the schedule for those are currently working in or running shops. [Click here](#) for details, or contact Jared Green, Automotive Instructor, (541) 383-7422.

Clackamas Community College is seeking a full-time automotive Instructor; please [click here](#) (and scroll down to "Automotive Instructor") for more information or to



apply.

Clackamas Community College also has an opening for a part-time instructor in its Auto Body/Collision Repair & Refinishing program. [Click here](#) for more details about the position and how to apply.

Helpful Links To Oregon Agencies

If you're looking for information, help or training from Oregon regulators, here are the links you need:

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).



The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a free class covering basic management of such waste. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule.



EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

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