

Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

'Lunch & Learn' meeting this week

Call to register today for our first "Express Lunch & Learn" of the fall being held this Wednesday, September 20. The subject is education, with automotive instructors from a number of schools on hand to discuss how schools and shops can work together to ensure a steady supply of trained entry-level technicians. The gathering will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the NATA Training Room in Portland. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch. Call our office to register.

Collision meeting next week

Chuck Sulkala's presentation last month drew one of the largest gatherings of collision repairers in Oregon in some time. A follow-up meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wed., September 27, at the NATA Training Room in Portland, so check our website (www.about-NATA.org) or call our office to get involved.

New NATA health plans draw praise

We're hearing from a growing number of members who are very happy about the association's new health insurance plans. One Southeast Portland shop, for example, discovered they would **save 15 percent on their health insurance costs by switching to the new NATA plan.**

Some members have asked why we are making the change. Our goal has always been to offer members the best coverage available at reasonable rates. The recent merger of OAPA into NATA made our group even more attractive to health insurers. The new program gives members **more choice** because it offers both Health Net PPO or Kaiser Permanente, **great medical coverage** (including prescription drug coverage and alternative care coverage) and **great value** at competitive rates.

Some members have also asked about medical payments they have made toward their deductible this year. We have ensured

the new deductible period will not begin until January 1, 2007.

The next renewal deadline is October 15 (for the November 1 renewal) so return the forms you received from us or call us.

Receive your member directory?

By now you should have received your 2006-07 NATA "Who's Who" member directory. Included on page 97 is a form you can use if there are changes or additions you'd like made to your company information in the directory.

Shop owner to perform at benefit

Shop owner Bill Erickson of Jeepers...It's Erickson's in Lake Oswego, and the folk-country-bluegrass band he co-founded, SawTale Ridge, will give a benefit performance in Beaver Creek (near Oregon City) next week to benefit the automotive student scholarship fund of the Association of Women in Automotive (AWA). The concert (indoors in the event of rain) will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 30, at 19605 S. Unger Road, in Beaver Creek. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for adults. Lawn chairs, picnic meals and children are welcome; pets are not. For more information, call (503) 632-5902.

Deadline nears for hybrid discount

NATA's hybrid vehicle training in November is already half-full, and Sept. 29 is the deadline to save 10 percent on registration.

Check out the calendar section of NATA's website for more details, but the week of November 6, popular hybrid trainer Craig Van Batenburg returns to Oregon to teach four different hybrid-related classes from Monday through Thursday evenings. Then on Saturday, we'll offer a full-day course focusing on the Toyota and Lexus hybrid drive.

Members can sign up for the full series of classes for just \$379, or can register for any of the individual classes.

TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR

Advance Registration
Required

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Wednesday, Sept. 20
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA Collision Mtg.

Wednesday, Sept. 27
6:30 p.m.

NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA Board Meeting

Thursday, October 5

Langdon Farms Golf Club
Aurora, Ore.

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Wednesday, October 18
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

Hybrid Electrical System Analysis

Monday, November 6
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

Hybrids: A/C, NiMH Batteries, Regenerative Brake Systems

Tuesday, November 7
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

HAVE QUESTIONS? WANT MORE INFO? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

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