



November
2022

Industry Update

*News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members*

NATA interacting with schools statewide

The school year is at full speed and in-person. NATA has been out in the field this fall, attending advisory meetings and career events at high school and community college automotive programs around the state.

We attended an advisory meeting at CTEC (Career and Technical Educational Center) in Salem. This is one of only six collision programs in Oregon.



NATA's Tere MacNaughton spoke with students and instructor Josh Boes at the Timberlake Job Corps.

We visited Timberlake Job Corps with Walt Commans from ASE who did a great presentation to the students. Timberlake is preparing to become an ASE-certified program.

Enrollment is up at Linn-Benton Community College. They have an NSF grant to develop and provide EV & ADAS certificate training.

Clackamas Community College (CCC) has higher enrollment this year, including a greater number of women in the program. NATA spoke to these women about their future career in automotive. Also at CCC, we attended and spoke with newly enrolled students doing their internship interviews at the college.

We attended the Portland Community College (Rock Creek) collision program advisory board meeting. This program is an I-CAR collision program. Members of this advisory board are from multiple areas of the collision industry: paint, equipment, independents, MSOs.

We participated in an Aloha High School Advisory board meeting where we helped them prepare for the ASE Education Foundation certification.

St. Helens High automotive technology hosted a career day (see a related story below). Multiple companies were there to showcase the huge variety of jobs available to students: from warehouse equipment repairs to barge engineers, power generation repairs to diesel trucks. The program had well over 50 students with 20 percent of

them female. With a big jump in enrollment, St. Helens plans to add staff next year.

NATA continues our strong commitment to supporting technical education program at all levels and in as many locations as possible across the state of Oregon. We have more meeting and school visits planned in the coming weeks. YOU, TOO, CAN PARTICIPATE AT THE SCHOOLS! Give us a call to find the school nearest you. Participate, donate, educate.



NATA's Margaret Ragan spoke to students at a St. Helens High School career day.

Connecting schools with local shops

WrenchWay School Connect connects schools with local shops and dealerships to get the resources they need to attract students to technician programs and educate them about the industry. Shops can list available resources and schools can post requests for things like:



- Tool and equipment donations
- Advisory committee members
- Shop tours
- Speakers
- Internships/Apprenticeships/Job shadowing

Sign up for a free WrenchWay account to get access to School Connect and start connecting with schools in your area: <https://myshop.wrenchway.com/shop-signup>

Introducing NATA's newest team member

Tere MacNaughton is NATA's Benefit and Outreach Specialist. After a 25-year career working in the apparel industry, she is stepping into a new industry. She brings a passion for collaboration and innovative thinking. She is looking forward to working with our NATA members and building new value-added services.



She is a prior Board member of Abby's Closet and has worked with the High Desert Food and Farm Alliance, Meals on Wheels and the Giving Plate in Bend, and the Oregon Food Bank here in Portland.

She is a lifelong resident of the Northwest who has a passion for this region and

Obituaries: Bob Anderson, Bruce Murray

Robert "Bob" Anderson, the long-time owner of AJ's Auto Repair in Salem and a past president and an honorary director on the Northwest Automotive Trades Association (NATA) board, died unexpectedly on his farm on Sunday, September 11, at age 73.



"Bob was passionate about the automotive industry, and was one of NATA's most active members, Ross Bradshaw, NATA Vice President, said. "He was welcoming to all. His enthusiasm to be involved in industry events and issues was not just for the benefit of his business, but for all automotive businesses."

"Bob was one of the stalwart supporters of NATA and the automotive industry," Margaret Ragan, NATA Executive Director, said. "He always offered his expertise and opinions when needed. He spent hours at the Capitol, enlightening legislators on issues most important to our industry. Bob was our 'go-to' person. He made a difference. He was respected. What better legacy to leave behind. He will be remembered long into the future."

[Click here](#) to read more about Bob's life.

Bruce Murray of Mahjor Murray passed away on October 8. He was 79 years old. Further details are not yet available.

A [Portland Business Journal article](#) back in 2002 had this to say about Bruce's business:

Located on Southeast Milwaukie Avenue in the Brooklyn neighborhood since 1968, the auto repair shop is one of the oldest businesses in the area, and also handles some of the oldest cars you could ever hope to see. Curvaceous 1950s Chevrolet Bel-Airs are nothing unusual here. Bruce Murray and his staff have worked on a 1915 Model T Ford, and cars from the 1930s through 1960s are common sights on Majhor-Murray's small lot.

Majhor-Murray works on perfectly ordinary cars too: building contractors' vans, schoolteachers' station wagons, Suburbans and minivans and economy cars driven by just about everybody.

What Bruce Murray really enjoys, though, are the "special interest" and performance cars. Murray can't really identify a favorite. He's worked on them all: Corvettes, Cobras, Mustangs, Camaros. "They're all fun to me," he said.

Auto program's open house highlighted

Congratulations to St.
Helens High School
and its automotive
technology instructor Jay

Groom for being featured on the Oregon School Board Association's "The Bright Side of the News." The website noted that industry representatives and education leaders addressed an estimated 65 automotive students at a technician job fair at the school. Speakers from Portland Community College and Universal Technical Institute spoke to students about career options, in addition to representatives from NATA, CAT, Peterson, NW Handling Systems, Foss Maritime, and DR Automotive.



More women are entering the trades

The trades have seen a modest but steady increase in diversity among men and women in the past few years. According to [a 2018 study](#) by the Center for American Progress, 7.3% of people who completed apprenticeship programs were women. According to data from the U.S. Department of Labor, the number is up roughly 4% in two years, with women making up 11.6% of those who completed apprenticeship programs in the 2020 fiscal year.



Hunter offering 'best alignment practices'

Hunter Engineering is offering "Alignment 101 Using Hunter Quick Check Drive" session the evening of December 2 at Green Drop Garage in Southeast Portland. Everyone is welcome to attend. [Click here](#) for a flyer with the details.



SCRS releases its 'blend study'

The Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) has published the results of their blend study research project conducted in August with the major North American refinish companies. [Click here](#) to download the report.

Blending a panel that is adjacent to a panel being replaced or repaired is a necessary process to achieve a proper color match, and is recommended by all the major automotive refinish companies in North America.



The three primary estimating system information providers each defines its own refinish times, and each establishes the labor for blend on a two-stage refinish by utilizing a formula of 50 percent of the full refinish value.

Collision repairers have routinely expressed that blending a panel takes more skill and time to facilitate an invisible transition than the existing formulas reflect.

SCRS worked with the five major paint manufacturers to perform the research at the Global Finishing Solutions (GFS) Center for Excellence, at the GFS headquarters in Osseo, Wisconsin.

The study utilized 45 new OEM parts, donated by Ford Motor Company, including hoods, fenders and front door shells for the 2018 Ford F-150, and was monitored and audited by DEKRA North America, the world's largest unlisted expert organization in the TIC (testing, inspection, certification) industry.

The conclusions of this study indicate that blending, on average, took 31.59 percent more time than a full refinish, rather than the 50 percent less time allocated in the three estimating systems.

"The findings suggest that the concerns expressed by our members have not been unfounded," SCRS Executive Director Aaron Schulenburg said. "These results very clearly establish that performing the processes necessary to blend a panel does not take less labor than the processes to fully refinish a panel."

Schools have job openings

Clark College in Vancouver, Wash., has an opening for a part time lab tech in the Auto Department. The position is working with the students, supervising Lab assignments and some general tasks in the shop. Hoping to find someone with a flexible schedule. This job is capped at 34 hours a pay period and wage is approximately \$17.50 per hour. Contact: Dannie Nordsiden Manager of Technician Development Office: (360) 992-2566 or (cell) (360) 907-4053



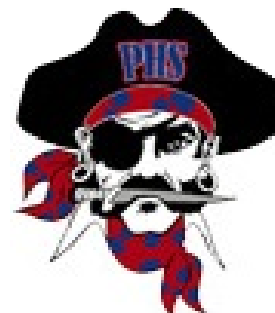
Portland Community College-Sylvania Campus has an opening for a part-time Instructor in the Automotive Service Technology Department. [Click here](#) for more details.



Siuslaw High School is looking for a Manufacturing/Metals instructor. This is a full time position. Equipment includes new CNC machines. This is a small school with small class sizes... and Florence is a beautiful town. [Click here](#) for details.



Phoenix High School in Phoenix, Oregon, is looking for an automotive technology teacher. The position is the primary instructional delivery person in the classroom and therefore must be well trained in delivering industry-based instruction that develops student competencies leading to postsecondary education and employment. The teacher supervises and assists students, volunteers and educational assistants. The teacher must have excellent communication



and interpersonal skills and possess an in-depth knowledge of automotive technology. [Click here](#) for details.

The Springdale Job Corps Center in Troutdale, Oregon, is looking for an "Automotive Basic Collision Repair Instructor." The instructor provides support for a U.S Department of Labor Job Corps contractor. The Job Corps program is a federally-funded residential training program. The mission of Job Corps is to provide career-ready technical and academic training and job placement assistance to program eligible youth ages 16-24.



The program is designed to prepare students for entry level into one or more of the many service branches of the expanding automotive collision repair fields. This position is responsible for increasing student learning through delivery of high quality instruction. [Click here](#) for more details.

News from ASE, ASE Education Foundation

In a survey conducted for the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), automotive service providers have gained a higher level of trust and respect among the motoring public than in recent years. Almost 1,500 vehicle owners were surveyed across the country and over 70 percent reported increased levels of trust in manufacturers, dealerships, independent repair shops and/or service technicians.



"Trust is something that is earned over time through a series of positive experiences with service providers. From the results of our survey, we are seeing that automotive service professionals across the country are doing an excellent job earning trust and keeping it with their customers," said Tim Zilke, ASE president and CEO.

Respondents to the survey were asked to rate certain aspects of automotive service including the level of trust the motoring public placed in the technicians servicing their vehicles and the importance of having their vehicles serviced by technicians with industry-recognized certifications. According to the survey findings, the three most-important considerations in the selection of a service/repair facility were: great value for the money (48 percent of respondents), knowledgeable/friendly staff (46 percent) and conveniently located providers (43 percent). Staff knowledge was further correlated with the service provider's ability to communicate thoroughly, industry certification of automotive technicians employed by the service provider and/or third-party recommendations from family/friends.

Although 30 percent of respondents were not aware of ASE as the industry-recognized credentialing body for automotive technicians, 41 percent of survey respondents did say that ASE certifications factored into their consideration of a service/repair facility or that they used only shops employing ASE-certified technicians. When provided with a brief explanation of ASE and the benefits of using ASE-certified technicians, 77 percent of respondents said that such knowledge of ASE would influence their selection of an automotive service/repair facility in the future.

In other ASE news, the organization has introduced a new Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) Specialist Certification test (L4). ASE created the L4

ADAS Specialist Certification test to identify technicians who possess knowledge of the skills required to diagnose, service and calibrate ADAS on late model automobiles, SUVs and light-duty trucks. In addition to recognizing these proficient service professionals, the test also helps shops optimize repair opportunities on ADAS-equipped vehicles by employing L4 certified technicians. [Click here](#) for more information.

Automotive instructors can [click here](#) to download information on the ASE Education Foundation's technical update training webinars being held later this month.

Get flu vaccine to help strained hospitals

This year's flu season is showing signs of being severe and peaking early. Public health officials in Oregon predict that people will likely be hospitalized with the flu at a rate similar to years prior to COVID-19. And with COVID-19 cases expected to rise as winter moves in, Oregon hospitals, already struggling with staffing shortages, risk being overwhelmed.



“Your flu vaccine is extremely important this year — and certainly more than it has been in the last two years when we had virtually no flu that was circulating,” said Peter Graven, Ph.D., director of Oregon Health and Science University’s Office of Advanced Analytics. “The flu is probably going to be at least as important this year as COVID.”

The flu vaccine can reduce illness, visits to doctors’ offices, missed work and school, as well as make flu symptoms less severe. It’s safe and convenient to get a flu vaccine at the same time as a COVID-19 vaccine or booster.

Flu is a completely different virus from COVID-19, but the symptoms can be similar. The same prevention methods work for both, and only a test can determine which virus you have.

For those with insurance, including Oregon Health Plan members, flu shots are free. Without insurance, flu shots are available for purchase at most pharmacies for about \$40. Call 211 if you need support finding a health care provider or locations that offer low-cost or free flu shots.

Everyone age 6 months and older is eligible to [get a flu vaccine](#). You can search [Vaccines.gov](#) to find flu and COVID-19 vaccines

Please add us to your email contacts

Just a reminder to make sure you add NATA to your contacts in your email to ensure our emails do not go to your spam or junk mail folder.



Oregon DEQ has new grant program

The Oregon Department of Environmental

Quality is opening the application period for a new [Oregon Zero-Emission Fueling Infrastructure Grant](#) program. Individuals, businesses and public agencies are invited to apply for financial assistance from DEQ's one-time \$15 million program to support installation of new charging facilities for zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty trucks, buses and equipment.



The OZEF Capital Improvement Grants Application pertains to projects that are ready to implement eligible capital improvements on site. Projects that are currently in need of technical assistance funding should respond to the OZEF Technical Assistance Grant Application.

[Click here](#) for details. Send comments or questions to dieselgrants@deq.oregon.gov; use the subject line: OZEF Grants.

Credit card program with rates as low as 1%

The NATA credit card program headed by Bobby Walker has saved our members thousands of dollars on credit card processing fees. One NATA member is saving over \$30,000 in their first year. This is a very valuable program. For more information please call Bobby Walker at (541)-780-7272 or rwwalker@cardconnect.com.



Donated vehicle needed for training

If you or your customer have a vehicle to donate – please contact us at NATA! All the automotive programs around the state can make use of donated vehicles – running or not running, dented or not dented. Collision and mechanical students need cars to work on. The newer the better. Call our office at (503) 253-9898 if you have a lead on a donation.



Don't forget to 'like' us on Facebook!

If you haven't already done so, check out [NATA's Facebook page](#). It's a great way to keep up-to-date with what's happening with the association and around the industry!



Oregon agencies offer business training

Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for

companies within the state.

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 class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

15 82nd Drive, Suite 15
Gladstone, OR 97027

Phone: (503) 253-9898

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