



# Northwest TIRE TALK

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR TIRE, WHEEL & AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALTY PROFESSIONALS  
PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY NORTHWEST TIRE DEALERS ASSOCIATION FOR IT'S MEMBERS

**DICK NORDNESS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - NORTHWEST TIRE DEALERS ASSOCIATION**

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November / December 2016



## GLOBAL TIRE EXPO

The Global Tire Expo – Powered by TIA is part of the SEMA Show and will take place at the Las Vegas convention center from Tuesday – Friday, November 1-4, 2016. The Tire Industry Association will be hosting its Pre-Show Special Events including a Cocktail Hour, the Tire Industry Honors Awards Ceremony, and the TIA Welcome Reception on Monday, October 31, 2016 at the Tropicana Las Vegas.

### PRE-SHOW SPECIAL EVENTS

Cocktail Hour	5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Awards Ceremony	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
TIA Welcome Reception	8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

TIA's Education Sessions will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 1 and Wednesday, November 2 at the SEMA Show.

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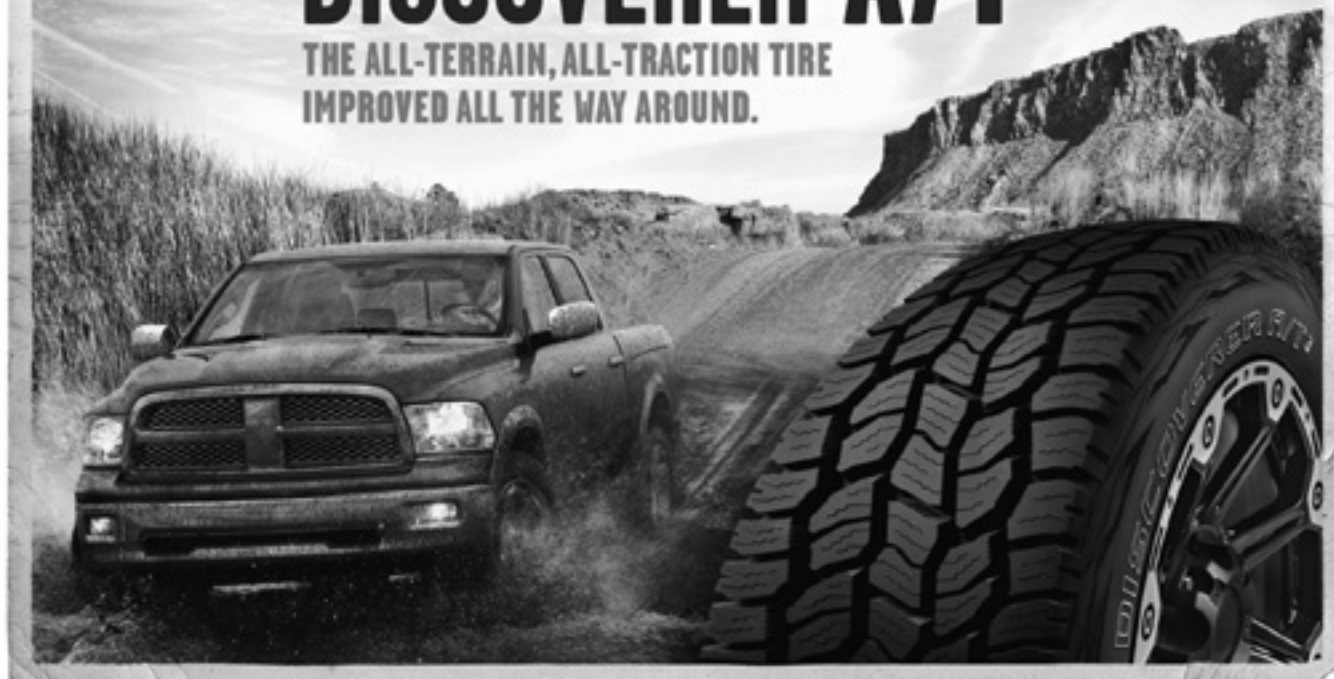
## POINT S LAUNCHES WINTER TIRE

Just in time for our Northwest snow season Point S North America has launched a Point S USA-branded winter tire – the WinterStar ST – available exclusively to participating Point S & Tire Factory Stores in the Western United States. This is the Point S's first company-branded tire.

“Development of the WinterStar ST is due to the worldwide strength of Point S as a global tire retailer,” said Fabian Bouquet, CEO of Point S International. “It is through the combined experience, buying power and distribution in North America and the Nordic countries that we can launch such a technologically advanced tire for winter driving.”

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## NWTDA WORKER'S COMP

For many years the NWTDA has relied upon Washington Retail Association (WRA) for their support with the WRA's Retrospective Rating Program (RETRO). All NWTDA Washington members can join WRA and their Retro at an extremely discounted rate. For \$100 annually, Washington tire dealerships can join the WRA Retro program as an affiliate member.

Once part of the program, you will be assigned a claims manager for your Workers' Compensation claims, a Safety Manager for your Accident Prevention Plan and all State required safety materials including monthly safety meeting materials; Human Resources advice for those hard to make decisions; a team of individuals ready to protect your business on all things Labor and Industries related including risk code reassignment, waiving of penalties and interest and account management.

Charlie Extine from Industrial Tire Service of Washington said "Washington Retail Association has managed my Workers' Compensation claims and has provided me with refunds on a routine basis for many years. These were refunds that I had no idea even existed until I joined their program. Keep in mind the refunds from the Retro program are only a small part of what WRA has provided me. By far, the strongest attribute of WRA has been all of the additional services offered to me for only the cost of my membership dues. They provide me with all required safety training, materials and warn me about safety violation trends in my area. The program has been so successful that I have not had to pay out of pocket for administration fees for several years now. It has been an incredible relationship that has paid for itself time and time again".

For additional information on this program please contact the NWTDA office or contact Terry Hopsecger at 360-943-9198, ext. 24.



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## TIA BOARD

### ELECTION RESULTS

The Tire Industry Association (TIA) has announced the winners of the 2016-17 Board of Directors election. Four seats were available this year, each with a three-year term.

TIA Executive Vice President Roy Littlefield said, "We are fortunate to have had a tremendous number of qualified candidates vying for the board positions again this year. We are appreciative of all the candidates who have a desire to serve the industry."

Those elected to the TIA Board include:

- Anthony Blackman, Atlantic Tire & Service, Inc.
- Dan Nothdurft, Tires Tires Tires, Sioux Falls, SD
- Jim Pangle, Fountain Tire, Edmonton, Alberta
- Brian Rigney, Dil Air Controls, Oxford, N.C.

Additionally, Mason Hess, Purcell Trie, Tucson, Ariz., was placed into the one-year vacancy that was created by the election of John Evankovic, Sam's Club, to the position of Secretary. Chuck Space, Texas Tire & Automotive Association, will be the new state/provincial representative on the Board, replacing Bob Bignell. The new Board will take office on Monday, October 31 at TIA's Annual Meeting at the Tropicana Las Vegas. contact the NWTDA office at 509-948-2433.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

NWTDA is proud to welcome two new supplier members to the association.

Kurt Woltering with Basys Processing, a credit card processing company. You can reach Kurt at 800-386-0711 ext. 330.

Bryce Mahon of Rema Tip Top who has his office in Vancouver, Wa. You can reach Bryce at 360-356-2045.

## 2017 OTR CONFERENCE

The 2017 Tire Industry Association's Off-the-Road Tire Conference is taking place on February 15-18 at the spectacular Turtle Bay Resort in Oahu, Hawaii. This conference features the best in networking, education and leisure programs in the industry.

Delegate registration includes all scheduled events and meal functions, excluding leisure activities. Delegates must be registered for the OTR conference first in order to reserve a room at Turtle Bay Resort, utilizing the discounted group room block.

For more details go to the TIA web page at [www.tireindustry.org](http://www.tireindustry.org).

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## OTR & AG TIRE TRAINING

The Tire Industry has announced that it will be hosting Advanced Hands-On Training courses in the earthmover and farm tire service industries. These classes are designed to provide additional education for those that have completed TIA's Basic Earthmover Tire Service (ETS) or Basic Farm Tire Service (FTS) courses as prerequisites.

Classes run from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. each day and will be held at either AME International in Brooksville, Fla. Or Stellar Industries in Garner, Iowa. The schedule for 2017 is as follows:

### Earthmover Classes

April 18-20 at AME International

August 8-10 at Stellar Industries

September 12-14 at Stellar Industries

### Farm Classes

January 17-19 at AME International

June 13-15 at Stellar Industries

July 11-13 at Stellar Industries.

## AUTO PLUS/PEP BOYS EXPANDS IN THE NORTHWEST

Auto Plus and Pep boys have established a presence in a key Pacific Northwest market with the recent acquisition of Automotive Electric Distributors (AED), an automotive aftermarket parts warehouse distributor in Portland, Oregon.

In business since 1959, the five AED warehouses, led by president Pat Blechschmidt, distribute product to automotive parts stores and service facilities across Oregon, western and central Washington and western Idaho. Blechschmidt, and his team of 50 employees will remain on board as the locations become corporate-owned Auto Plus stores. They will continue to service their loyal independent store customer base of their facilities in Portland, as well as their distribution center in Auburn, WA.

The AED ownership group is tremendously excited about being part of the growth of Auto Plus and Pep Boys," commented Blechschmidt. "Auto Plus and Pep Boys is a well-run operation that has the ability to stock all the parts needed to operate a successful distribution business in a highly competitive market like Portland. Most importantly, they understand the value of having a strong group of experienced, professional people like ours, working hard to make the company successful."

"AED has enjoyed 57 years in business, in a large part because of their focus on their employees and on exceeding their customers' expectations, which aligns with the priorities of Auto Plus and Pep Boys as we expand our presence across the country," said Brent Windom, Auto Plus and Pep Boys President and CEO.

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# NWTDA ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC



The Northwest Tire Dealers Association's Annual Golf Classic was held back at McMenamins Edgefield in beautiful Troutdale Oregon.

NWTDA would like to thank the sponsors who helped with door prizes as well as money awards and team trophies.



Nexen Tire along with Northwest Wholesale Tire sponsored the team awards. Walt Kaufman of Greenball Tire sponsored our closest to the pin award. A big thank you also goes to Pacific Tire Distributors, TCI, Tire Centers, and Federated Insurance for their sponsorship as well.



The Industrial Tire team of Greg Hogan, Larry Coleman, Matt Stotts and Rob Tetz were the most colorful team and brought home the first place trophy.

Last year Greg's team took home the second place trophy. Team mate Larry Coleman took home cash for the best individual score this year.



Kelly Brown's Point S Team of Bryce Mahon of Rema Tip Top Ryan Gutenberger of Pacific Tire along with Fred Corona took the second place trophy.



Rick Mustion's Northwest Wholesale Tire team took 3rd place with the help of Klyde Thompson of Del's OK Point S, Bill Dokak of Wheel Mart and Chris Page of Pages' Mt. Hood Auto & Tire.



Kelly Brown was one of the big money makers, taking home cash from Walt Kaufman of Greenball Tire and their Closest to the Point competition.

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## COMMERCIAL TIRE TRAINING

Companies who wish to take their technician training to the highest level can participate in the Certified CTS Technician Program (300 level). This program is designed for experienced employees with at least one year of hands-on experience. In addition to successful completion of the Final Exam, students must show proficiency in the shop by demonstrating the ability to perform various skills that must be witnessed and signed off on by a service manager or supervisor. Each student who successfully passes the course receives a Certificate, 13 uniform patches, and a 2-year subscription to the bi-monthly publication, Commercial Tire Service Today.

The Tire Industry Association (TIA) has just recently up-dated the CTS training manuals that are used in the training. Updates are available through the TIA training department and the Northwest Tire Dealers Association.

NWTDA offers this class to its members here in the Northwest. Our last class was held in Chehalis, Washington in September. Our next class is scheduled for Kennewick, Washington on November 16th.

For more information on the training program or to register for our next training class please contact the NWTDA office at 509-948-2433.

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## SPEEDCO OPENS IN SPOKANE

Speedco has opened a new retail store location in Spokane, Washington. Speedco is owned and operated by Bridgestone Americas. This is the second store in Spokane and the 52nd Speedco location nationally.

“We are excited to officially open a Speedco location in Spokane, expanding our network and making preventative maintenance service more readily available in the highly traveled Northwest corridor,” said Chris Ripani, president of Speedco at Bridgestone.

As part of its grand opening celebration five time Olympian and Team Bridgestone athlete Khatuna Lorig signed autographs and interacted with customers. Additionally Speedco made a donation to the local Make-A-Wish Foundation.

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## IN MEMORIAL

**Walt Slipp** passed away on August 12 in Pasco. He was born January 31, 1927 in Albany, Oregon and was the second youngest of 6 children.

After his service in the navy during the war he went to work for Gillette Tires and moved to the Tri Cities with the company. He opened a service station in 1963 and had tire stores in Pasco and Kennewick and added a truck tire location and retread plant soon after. He was also a Firestone dealer for many years in the Tri Cities.

Walt sold his business to Commercial Tire when he retired.

**Robert (Bob) Kline** passed away peacefully in his home in the San Francisco area on September 2, 2016, he was 71 years old. He retired from Micheldlin/BFGoodrich in 2011 after over 40 years of service.

Bob was known by us in the Northwest as the “T/A Guy” and affectionately with the nick name of “Wide Body” (a name associated with the BFG “50” series T/A).

Bob was part of the BFG T/A training team back in the 70’s and 80’s. His humor and happiness made him a unique man that everyone could admire and look up to.

As a BFG and Michelin Regional Sales Trainer he had the ability and talent to both entertain and educate those attending his classes.



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## RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER PARTNERS IN TRAINING

Employers appreciate the benefit of offering practical, relevant employee training that helps their workers better identify and manage on-the-job risks.

Federated Insurance has partnered with J.J. Keller, a leading provider of safety and compliance solutions, to provide clients complimentary access to easy-to-use, timely, and engaging employee training tools that fit their business's needs.

Educational content is available through instructor-led presentations via streaming video (video on demand), or interactive, self-paced, online courses for individual training. Sessions incorporate the latest adult learning techniques, and deliver a consistent and standardized message at each location.

Training topics available from J.J.Keller include:

- Workplace safety – HazCom, forklift safety, and fire prevention

- Construction – fall protection, confined spaces, and excavations
- Transportation/DOT – hours of service, alcohol and drug testing, and vehicle inspections
- Human resources – FMLA, ADA, and substance abuse
- HazMat – compliance, security awareness, and placarding

Risk management is a continuous process, which is why Federated Insurance strives to provide useful products and services that can help businesses keep pace with their changing needs.

For more information or to access more risk management resources, log on to Federated's Shield Network or contact your local Federated representative.



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## Northwest Tire Dealers Association 2015 Officers

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