

CAR NEWS

October 2014 • COLORADO AUTO RECYCLERS NEWSLETTER



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Letter from the President

Election day is right around the corner for Colorado's 70th General Assembly. As a result of the passage of HB13-1303, all registered voters in Colorado have received their ballots via mail by now. Referring to the new law, Reid Wilson of the Washington Post says this year's election day has "officially become Election Month" for Colorado. This is an important election for those hoping to see the tides of control turn in the Colorado State House and Senate. The CAR Board and select members have been quite busy within the past couple months to ensure we are doing our part in making our voices heard on behalf of the CAR membership. Through our Political Action Committee, and under council of CAR's lobby firm, Hicks and Associates, we chose to support 12 key candidates in tough races around the state. Where we had members within these candidates' prospective districts, we planned for members to host their respective candidates for a general tour of the member's facility, along with time put aside for a discussion to make the candidate aware of issues and interests of CAR's members overall. This was largely successful and beneficial in many BIG ways for the CAR association. The educational and relational opportunities we pressed for will surely serve us well in the 70th General Assembly. These relationships are vital as we continue to review laws passed in the first half of 2014, and their implications on this membership; as well as reviewing future legislation, and choosing a side. On behalf of the Board, I give a special thanks to those who were called upon and participated in this effort. Thank you to Norm Wright and his legislative committee for setting this in motion, RJ and Jay Hicks for their counsel, and Cheryl Dotson, our Executive Director who provided a large chunk of the footwork to organize all of the facilities and candidates to meet.

One CAR event we hosted this summer was a Rockies game. On September 7th, with about 26,100 other Rockies fans, CAR members gathered for a Sunday afternoon Rockies game to talk a little business, but mostly to enjoy the game, weather, and each other's company. We had a good turnout at the game, and the Rock's swept the Padres, 6-0. Expect another sporting event in 2015!

As for normal business of the CAR Board, we're gearing up for the 2015 Annual Meeting. Last year's annual meeting was largely successful; and with this next meeting we hope to create some momentum for the years to come. Along with the raffle and auctions, there are some additions to the event, including a happy hour event and racing at Unser Racing after the meeting, new vendors, and a new slate of speakers. As for members, there will be some new faces, as well as some familiar faces you may not have seen in a while, and plenty of the faces you're used to seeing each year. The attention we've gotten from vendors has been encouraging and is providing more revenue that allows us to afford improvements to the Annual meetings and toward our fiscal year.

In close, keep your eyes out for new notifications on recent changes in Colorado law that affects all of us, and for your registration for the Annual Meeting. As we're entering the season, I wish you and your family happy holidays.

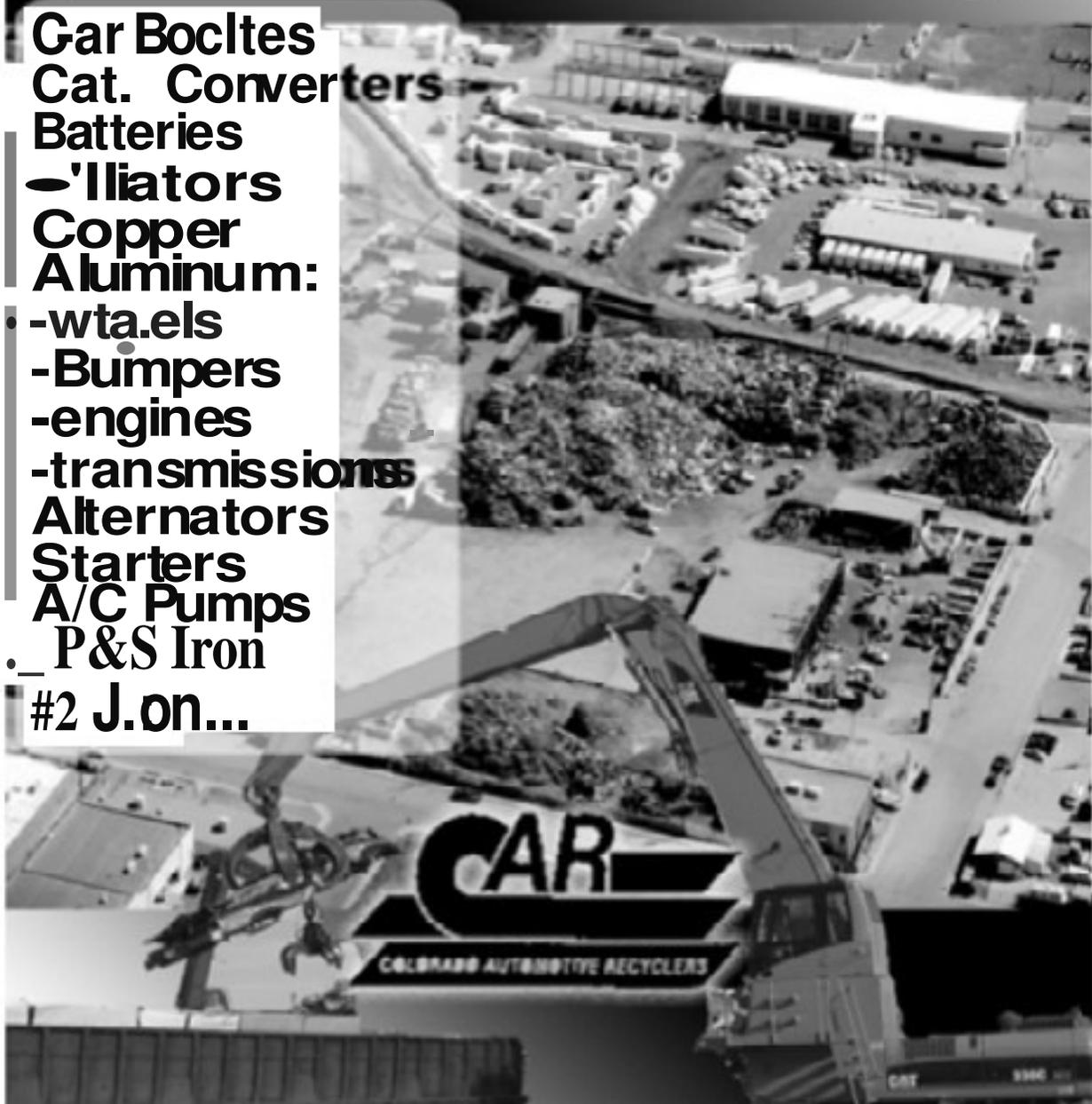
Sincerely,
Ryan Hochmiller
CAR President



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A Look Back in Time

October 9, 1914

Fort Collins Weekly Courier

**Germans Claim Big Gains at Antwerp
Having Silenced Three Forts**

By United Press

London, Oct.5 The Germans have made a breach in the Antwerp forts notwithstanding the official statement issued from Antwerp this morning. The Belgian authorities are evidently disregarding the conditions which exist on the extreme southern end of the chain of forts. St. Katherines, Wavre and Vaelheim have been smothered and the Germans are in possession of the positions along the Neth river. These fortification have been isolated and it may be that their loss has no value to the Belgians as the statement says all of the forts are in action and the Germans have made no gains.

Remember to go to the CAR webpage at www.coloradoautorecyclers.com and create a account. This will give you access to all member only content and to the Forum to share information and ideas with other CAR members.

Don't forget to like us on Facebook!
Here is a link to our Facebook page.

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Save the Date January 24th 2015

**The next annual meeting. Make sure
to put it on your calendar!**



BILL CHAMPION

CAR Prioritizes Consumer Safety

When the Colorado Automotive Recyclers (CAR) association decided to champion a state salvage-titling bill, it did so knowing that if passed, there wouldn't be a big monetary gain for the Colorado auto recycling industry. CAR decided to do it anyway simply because the bill was a huge score for consumer safety. HB1299 was signed into law on April 25, 2014.

"We literally talked about the benefits to CAR - as monetarily - once," admitted Ryan Hochmiller, CAR president and part of the family-run Active Truck Sales & Parts, Inc. (www.activetruckparts.com) in Hudson, Colo. "This was a consumer protection bill."

HB1299 immediately struck down an exemption that blocked vehicles six years and older from being labeled salvage. Previously, only newer vehicles automatically received a state-mandated salvage title if totaled in an accident. Hochmiller said only about eight states across the country had an exemption like this. The problem with the six-year exemption was a consumer could buy a used vehicle with a clean title, only to find major problems that should have labeled the vehicle salvage. The consumer was stuck with the repairs and the used car dealership with the liability. Now, HB1299 grants full disclosure to anyone that buys a vehicle.

"Before those vehicles were unsafe and no one knew about it," Hochmiller explained. "There's a little more work now, like rebuilders need to obtain a 'rebuilt from salvage' title, but at least we know."

Also, the responsibility, and liability, for an undisclosed, damaged vehicle is

shared between insurers, pools, recyclers and used car dealers.

"The dealers were the ones really hurt by this six-year exemption," added Hochmiller. "What this law does is it takes that sole responsibility off of their shoulders and distributes it evenly to everyone in the industry."

CAR decided to get behind the legislation when its lobbyists, RJ Hicks and Jay Hicks of Hicks & Associates, approached the group. The legislation was already going on and Hochmiller said it was big enough as a consumer protection bill that CAR wanted to support it. That first piece of legislation failed, which only made CAR more focused to make sure HB1299 was passed into law.

"We spent all this time and money on it, so we really wanted to get the second one passed," Hochmiller remembered.

Other organizations stepped up to support HB1299 the second time around, including the Colorado Independent Automobile Dealers Association (CIADA), Colorado Automobile Dealers Association (CADA), the Colorado State Patrol, Colorado Motor Vehicle personnel and the Car Collectors group. Hochmiller said the Car Collectors group was unsure about supporting HB1299 at first because they didn't want the value of their classic vehicles to diminish. An exemption for classic vehicles was added to HB1299 at the last minute, which helped gain the support of the club.

Those against the bill were insurance companies and salvage pools. They argued that the bill would hurt poor people

by forcing owners to get rid of their older

vehicles with minor damage because they would be considered salvage.

"I didn't understand that one," said Hochmiller. "A poor person could now buy a salvage vehicle (rebuilt from salvage), and buy it cheaper, at the price it actually should be, instead of finding problems later."

Although consumer protection was the main goal behind supporting HB1299, Hochmiller noted that there are some direct and indirect benefits to CAR members as well.

- Many CAR members are used car dealers and are now free from liability in unknowingly misrepresenting a totaled vehicle under a clear title.
- CAR members may see an increase in the amount of vehicles with a lower cost at the salvage pools because more vehicles will be titled "salvage," at least in the short term.
- CAR members may see a small drop in parts purchased from auto rebuilders that only build cars on clean titles. Members will continue to sell to those that rebuild cars and trucks from a "rebuilt from salvage" title.
- CAR continues to build its reputation as a responsible proponent of ethical practices with Colorado's auto industry.

Go to www.coloradoautorecyclers.com for more information on HB1299. ■

■ BY ERIN SANDAGE

ARA CORNER

WASHINGTON, DC - Leaders of the Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) are urging General Motors (GM) to live up to its "New Industry Standard for Safety" by providing professional automotive

recyclers with access to crucial original equipment manufacturers (OEM) parts data. This week General Motors CEO Mary Barra is set to testify on Capitol Hill for a second time regarding the massive ignition switch recall, and ARA members from across the nation are in Washington for the association's annual Hill Day to advocate on behalf of the professional automotive recycling industry and their need for parts data.

The complexity of today's automotive supply chain underscores the importance of access to VIN-specific OEM parts numbers, build sheet data, and other identifying information. Automakers rely on an expansive number of suppliers from all over the world and minor variations in a vehicle part model, modifications to manufacturing materials, external factors impacting a third-party supplier that slow or stop production, and a myriad of other risks can all have tremendous impact on - and potentially disrupt - parts supply sources.

"The significance of OEM part numbers is demonstrated by the ongoing GM ignition switch recall investigation and revelation that GM engineered a new ignition switch nearly a decade ago, however the redesigned part was not given a new part number - an act contrary to standard operating procedures," said ARA CEO Michael E. Wilson. As a result, redesigned parts were introduced into the market and installed on GM vehicles and without a new part number, those corrected ignition switches are indistinguishable from the flawed switches that resulted in 13 deaths.

Information about a part and where it is produced is critical to all stakeholders in the automotive parts supply chain, " said ARA President, Ed MacDonald. "That is why ARA members are up on the Capitol Hill meeting with their federal representatives and asking for their support in requiring auto manufacturers to enhance access to recall information and integrate parts data into the automotive parts supply chain."

ARA went on record earlier this year at the 14th International Automotive Recycling Congress (IARC) in Brussels, Belgium when Wilson called on the automotive manufacturers in attendance "to become

better economic, environmental and safety partners by releasing OEM build sheet data to the professional automotive industry's inventory management entities, just as they do for insurance companies and the collision repair industry." The Automotive Recyclers Association now calls on Congressional representatives to challenge General Motors to truly live up to their recent motto of a "New Industry Standard for Safety" and encourage all automakers to be better safety partners with professional automotive recyclers who promote the safe reutilization of parts that the OEMs initially brought to the marketplace.

Since 1943, the Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) represents an industry dedicated to the efficient removal and reuse of "green" automotive parts, and the proper recycling of inoperable motor vehicles. ARA represents the interests of over 4,500 auto recycling facilities in the United States and fourteen other countries around the world. With programs such as the Certified Automotive Recycler Program (CAR), Green Recycled Parts, and other partnerships, ARA members continue to provide consumers with quality, low-cost alternatives for vehicle replacement parts, while preserving our environment for a "greener" tomorrow. To learn more about the Association, visit ARA's Home Page at www.a-r-a.org or call (571) 208-0428.

CAR News is looking for articles for the newsletter. If you or someone you know is interested in writing an article for the newsletter, contact Liz at earl.elizabeth1@gmail.com

If there is an issue that you feel needs attention or an article written feel free to contact Liz on that as well.