

Nashville Program on Track

The speakers for the 2015 Nashville program are getting finalized. Schaeffler Group USA will pull double duty starting with a presentation on variable valve timing. The intent is to educate everyone on the ins and outs of what makes up a VVT system, what typical wears out and what you can generally reuse. They will also address issues you as a remanufacturer may be doing that influences VVT after the reman.

Schaeffler will follow this up with a discussion on the mechanical side of DOD, displacement on demand. As an OE supplier of these systems, they are highly qualified to address this topic.

We're still working on the speaker for the electronic side of DOD and expect to have this speaker finalized in the coming weeks.

Richard Bryan, our keynote speaker, has been very active talking to a number of members to get to know more about who we are and how our members do business so he can customize the program he's presenting. Thanks to SB International for sponsoring Richard Bryan!



The General Jackson Showboat

Don't forget the fantastic Thursday evening event aboard the General Jackson Riverboat, thanks to QualCast. It promises to be an evening of entertainment and comradery.

The Friday program at Grooms Engines will include a plant tour, the mini-program by Melling's Mike Osterhaus, a face-off between air vs. electric in the teardown area and late-model cores for you to look at up close, take pictures and ask questions.

This will be followed up with a barbeque lunch that only Nashville can do. Thanks to U.S. Tool and Silver Seal Products Company for sponsoring this lunch!

No word on the tour for Friday afternoon yet, but we expect it to be a really good one. I'd like to give you a teaser, but....

So mark your calendars now and reserve time to greet old friends and make new ones this September in Nashville!



One of Nashville's Famed Honky-Tonks



Webinars & Sponsorship

The 2015 PERA webinar series is coming together with the first webinar on **May 13th**. King Engine Bearing will present "*Selecting the Right Racing Bearing.*" In this webinar, Ron Sledge will talk about how materials and geometric design features should influence your choice of bearings in a racing application.

This will be followed up by Bill McKnight of Mahle Aftermarket presenting "*Understanding the function of MAP controlled automotive thermostats. How they work, what they do and why are they being used.*" This webinar is scheduled for **June 24th**.

In October, Bob Dolder of Sunnen Products Company will present an updated program on honing. Details are pending, but you can bet this will be a first class presentation as always. The date will probably be **October 14th**.

Randy Neal of CWT has been busy researching new developments and technologies in the balancing arena and will update his highly successful program from last year. This webinar is scheduled for **November 11th**.

Nervous about how to use GoToWebinar? Don't worry about a thing. We schedule practice sessions to get you good and comfortable so the presentation goes off without a hitch.

There are at least four other companies working on their programs for 2015 and we'll announce them as soon as we get their commitment.

The E.R.I. Group in Canada will be one of our sponsors for 2015. We're still looking for another sponsor so if you have an interest in helping out please contact me as soon as possible. The support of these sponsors is what make these webinars free to the presenting company as well as to the attendees.

Please take some time to consider doing a webinar in 2015. You can use them to provide training or product education and if you need more than an hour, we can break it down into multiple webinars.

Contact:
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2015 Membership Directory

The 2015 membership directory was mailed last week. Two copies were sent to the person in your company who handles the dues renewal. An order form for additional copies at \$20.00 each was included.

Note: Please be so kind as to make a correction on page 7. Matt McGraw is still with AER Mfg. The trade to LKQ fell through as Bob didn't consider the offer of a 1st round draft pick and future considerations to be named later adequate. Matt's correct information can be copied from page 5.

Revised Convention Sponsor Program

The 2015 Convention Program Planning Committee put a lot of work into revising the convention sponsor program to clarify what you can expect for sharing your generosity. The past sponsorships of Gold, Silver and Bronze were not very well supported and were somewhat vague in what the sponsor could expect for his support.

This program clearly spells out what each and every sponsorship opportunity will provide on an ala carte basis. There are a lot of new opportunities to go with some of the traditional opportunities.



One of the really nice opportunities will be a lapel pin that replaces the old ribbon on the name badge holder. These pins will be customized to the annual event with the year and location of the convention. Thanks to Frank Owings for providing these pins!

This new sponsor program will be open to nonmembers who are not eligible to join PERA because they are not traditional suppliers.

Full details will be emailed to all members later this week.

Member News

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Hastings Manufacturing Co. Names New Marketing Manager



Hastings Manufacturing has named Sarah Kollar their new marketing manager. Sarah will report to Ken Holbrook, senior vice president sales and marketing.

In her new marketing capacity, Kollar will be responsible for leadership and direction to the sales and marketing team to

develop both aftermarket and OEM partnerships worldwide that support the company's strategic growth plans.

(AftermarketNews.com)

Sunnen Products Company



Sunnen Products Company recently announced the promotion of Bob Dolder as the new Automotive Sales and Application Manager for the engine building and performance markets.

Dolder is a 17-year veteran of Sunnen

and was awarded the prestigious Joe Sunnen Salesman of the Year award on three occasions signifying him as Sunnen's top salesman.

Bob's career prior to Sunnen included stints selling machine shop equipment, managing an automotive machine shop and teaching in the automotive machine shop program at Macomb County Community College. In his new position Bob will work hand-in-hand with Sunnen salesmen, manufacturer's reps and customers to support the company's automotive honing product line.

Bob is no stranger to PERA as he has presented several webinars on cylinder honing and attended many of the PERA events over the years. Keep an eye on the mail as Bob will be presenting another PERA webinar later this year.



LKQ & Ford Renew Design Patent License Agreement

which was first entered into in April 2009. The license agreement grants to LKQ the exclusive right to distribute aftermarket replicas of Ford automotive parts covered by U.S. design patents. The renewal is on substantially the same terms as the previous agreement except that the term now extends until March 2020.

"I am pleased to announce the signing of this renewal," said Robert L. Wagman, President and Chief Executive Officer of LKQ. "LKQ and Ford have forged a mutually beneficial relationship that helps ensure that consumers continue to have the choice between original equipment and non-OE automotive parts."

More News From Hastings



Hastings Manufacturing Co. has announced the appointment of Kristen Phipps as director of business development. She will report to Jeff Guenther, VP of business development.

She comes to Hastings with more than 20 years of sales and marketing experience, including 16 years at Federal-Mogul, where she managed numerous functions ranging from operations, customer service, inside sales, brand marketing, global supply chain and global marketing. In her new role with Hastings, Phipps will provide full support of the company's sales and marketing global growth plans.

Ron McCrum Named Aftermarket Product Manager At Melling



McCrum will be located at the Jackson, MI manufacturing facility. He comes to Melling with 11 years of automotive aftermarket experience from MAHLE

Aftermarket Inc., where he was a gasket and thermostat parts product manager.

McCrum is a retired member of the United States Army.

(AftermarketNews.com)

The QualFast 2015 catalog, including performance valves and valve train components, is now available in print. The 2015 performance catalog introduces a brand new racing valve series called Black Lightning.



Black Lightning valves feature nitrided stems, combined with swirl-polished underheads, undercut valve stems, and thinner margins for the most demanding pro race engine environments. The new catalog also adds over forty new street valve performance applications to the very popular street valve series. Three new diesel performance springs, and various new retainer and guide plate applications enhance the offerings of the QualFast performance line.

Late Breaking Convention News

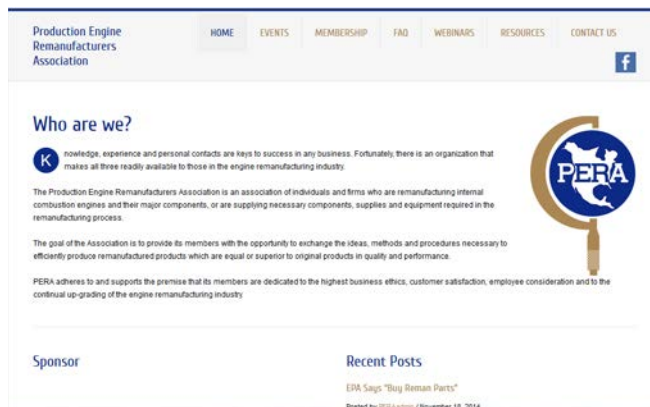


We have secured 60 tickets to the Grand Ole Opry for Friday evening. They will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will cost \$75.00 each. This will include transportation to and from the Opry. However, it does not include dinner. We'll have full details with the convention registration, but keep in mind there are only 60 tickets available at this time.

Send Me Your News!

If you have any changes with personnel or news releases you'd like us to print, just email the info and it'll get in the next newsletter.

New PERA Website



The PERA website is undergoing a total redevelopment by Babcox Communications. It is currently in beta testing and we hope to release it in the very near future.

One of the exciting changes will enable PERA members to register for conventions with on-line fill-in forms. You'll also be able to pay your registration fees through a secure shopping cart by credit card if you so desire. A link to the convention hotel will make it easy to make your room reservations each year.

Membership applications are also posted as fill-in forms so prospective members will be able to open the appropriate application, fill it out and submit it for review.

As a consequence of the update, the much neglected "Links" pages are seeing heavy edits. This is an add-on service PERA provides to the members for an annual fee of \$225. It is a check-off at the time of dues renewal and is probably overlooked by many members. It's easy to get added back in to the "Links" pages by contacting me with your request.

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