

WESTERN PA TIRE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter / July 2017

Western PA Tire Dealers Association

P.O. Box 15205

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

412-294-8973

www.tdaofwpa.org

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WELCOME TO THE JULY EDITION OF TIRE TRAX

Follow the Tire Dealers Association of Western PA on Facebook! Stay informed of upcoming events and connect with fellow dealers in your community. Go to Facebook and search username: TDAWPA.



SPOTLIGHT

Stay Tuned!

We have some exciting events coming up for our members in the next couple months. We are planning a Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game social for members and their families in August. Be on the lookout for a special blast from the association regarding time, date and ticket information. Hope you can attend!

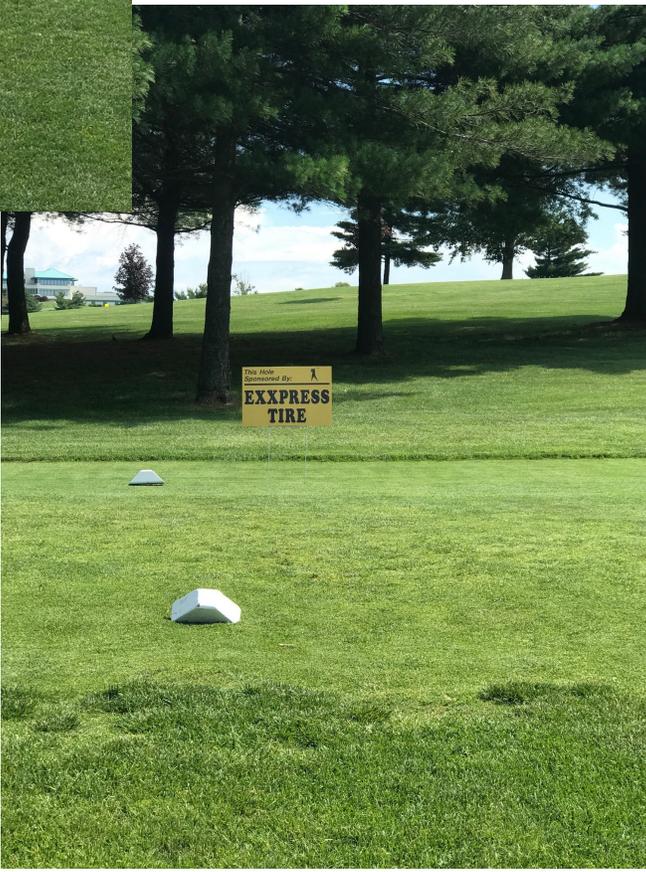
Planning for the Rubber Ball is in full swing! Because of last year's overwhelmingly positive response, we will again be having the event at the Meadows Casino in Washington, PA on October 21st. More info to follow!

An updated scholarship application will be available in the coming weeks. If you have a college aged student, consider having them apply for one of the scholarships this year. We will award the scholarships to the winners at this year's Rubber Ball.

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President Bill's Monthly Message



Hello all,

Happy Birthday America! As our great country celebrates another year, we need to count our blessings and reflect on what an honor it is to be part of this great nation. We must not forget about the individuals that made sacrifices so that we can be here today. We must never forget in this ever changing world that our freedom has never been free nor will it ever be and if we stand united as we were intended to, there is nothing we cannot achieve together.

In tire news, we had our annual golf outing at Quicksilver Golf Course on the 21st of June and somehow avoided the rain again this year! We had a great turnout for this event which just keeps getting better and better. This event is managed and organized by our Golf Chairperson and longtime member Pat Sheridan who works very hard to make sure everything goes off without any issues. We also had support from some of the major tire manufacturers who always help to make these events great. Thank you to Bridgestone, Firestone, Michelin, Falken, Mastercraft, Cooper, and Nitto for all your help. I would also like to thank our hole sponsors: without you this event would not be possible. If you have not been out to this event, you're missing a great time. We will be back out at Quicksilver next year as well, so join us next June for this great event.

Also in tire industry news, every time I pick up an article or receive an email it seems that in some form or another our industry is under attack by legislators who listen to special interest groups instead of asking the people who sell tires and service vehicles. Those who do this job on a day to day basis try to resolve whichever issue they may be confronted with. For instance, I recently read that in many states they have been trying to push through anti-aging tire bills which would prevent our customer from using tires after a certain date. Although we all know what a tire looks like that should not be driven on, or the causes and effects of older dot numbers, it still will not solve anything in my eyes.

I also see that some of the states that voice concerns over this also do not do annual vehicle inspections for cars and light trucks. This I find absolutely mind boggling. Why aren't they concerned that a vehicle has ball joints or tie ends, brakes etc. that are not on the verge of falling off or aren't there? Better yet, perhaps someone driving beside you on the turnpike or interstate has an aged vehicle. Would you be more comfortable in a 20 year old vehicle that was never inspected by a mechanic to see what faults it may have? Or if a vehicle that's inspected and has 10 year old tires without ozone cracking (not dry rot) and has 8/32nd left on it. Not to mention the panic that it has created with some of the public, as if tires were like grenades that may blow up your car at the red light. So it seems that until we have a uniform vehicle inspection from sea to shining sea, we will always face these issues. I would bet that a lot of the vehicle safety issues that are faced out on our roads would be decreased immensely with a uniform vehicle safety inspection.

I know not one person that sells tires who would knowingly sell someone a bad tire. The bad tires are out there, on the car of a guy who will not get his tire fixed, but instead puts \$.75 cents in the air machine every day, and then put his family in the car to go on a road trip with his tires that have been run flat for weeks at a time. These are the tires that are out there; however, I think some of our public officials are not looking at the whole picture here. There is a need to come up with uniformity across the country. Yes, you may find a car rolled over on some of our highways and byways, but they should pay even closer attention to the vehicle's maintenance records as well. We see it almost every day at our shop--A vehicle that is just truly unsafe. Whether it is knowingly or unknowingly, a lot of the issues we see have nothing to do with the tires. Instead there are underlying issues causing the problems. I do believe however tires like anything on this green earth are affected by weather, time, misuse or abuse. But, I think we need to look at the rest of the puzzle prior to pursuing this route which will not fix the common culprits and will cause more cost increases and less availability to our customers. This, as we've seen before, will only cause customers to drive tires even further than they already are. It is there that I will end.

If you have any questions or concerns, would like to participate, volunteer, to help out the Western Pennsylvania Tire Dealers Association, do not hesitate. We are waiting for you.

Bill



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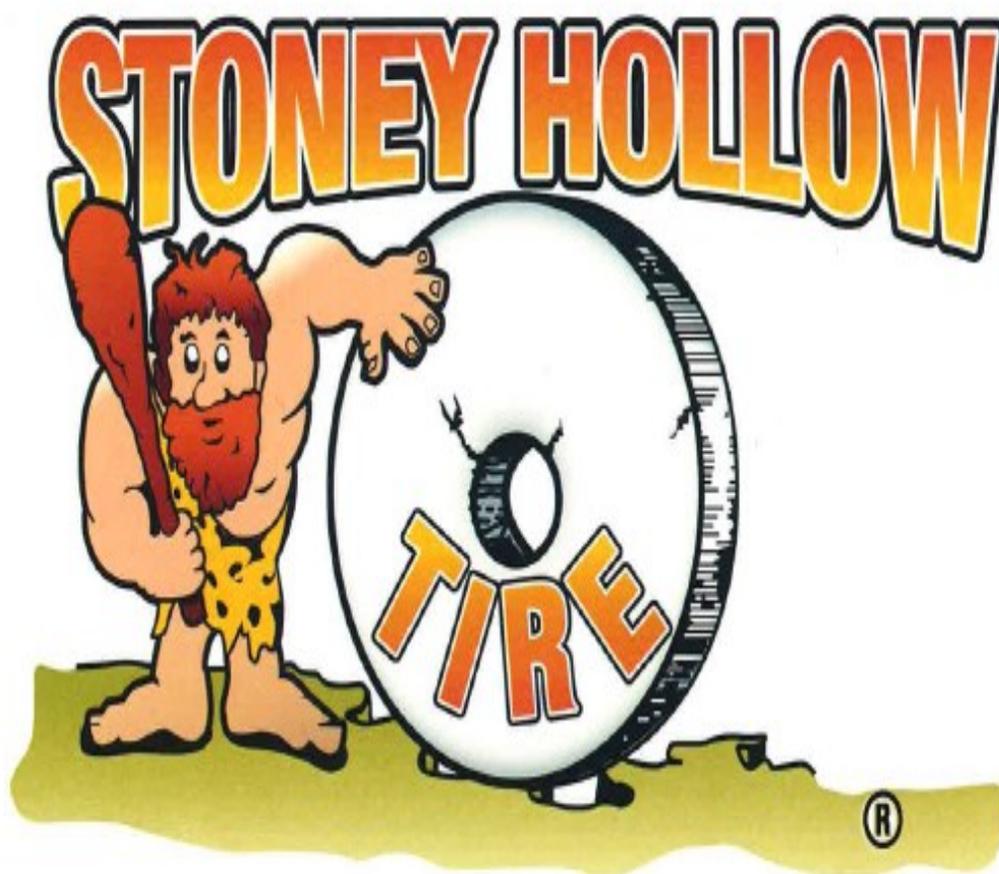
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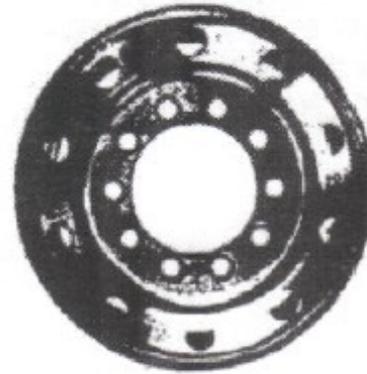


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