

# 2023 PERA News

June 2023

Vol. 36 Issue 3



**Join us in 2023 in Houston, TX  
September 20-22  
Omni Hotel & Resort Galleria**



The Four-Diamond Omni Houston Hotel is welcoming guests after undergoing a \$30 million renovation that elevates the guest experience. Located in prestigious Uptown, near the Houston Galleria Mall, and situated in a park-like setting, this luxurious hotel offers all the comforts and amenities of a resort with the convenience of an urban setting. You will find it hard to believe that you are in the heart of the city of Houston.

[www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston](http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston)

**Room Reservation Link:**

<https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/houston/meetings/pera-2023-09182023>



## Convention Teaser

The Program Planning Committee has just about wrapped up its work for the 2023 convention in Houston and it will be another great program. All but one topic is from the surveys of past conventions. Again, the committee is delivering what you're asking for.

HR has been a hot topic for a good number of years so we have two HR presentations. Adam Skaggs of AER Manufacturing will talk about their use of temp agencies and some of the out-of-the-box sources they've used to recruit shop floor employees. Liz Whalen of Whalen Search Group will address recruiting and retaining professionals such as engineers and sales and marketing pros.

Roy Berndt of LKQ Remanufacturing—MO and President Skip Hartley of Impaco will do the deep dive into the LS/LT series engines. Word is that you're starting to see a lot of LT engines today so this is very timely.

There will be a 4-part discussion on valve seats including powdered metal—Dura-Bond, cast seats—LS Jones, machining—Rotter Manufacturing and with Chuck Lynch, Director of Technical Services for AERA tying it all together from the remanufacturers side.

Cleaning is another hot topic from the surveys so the committee has recruited Jack Daul of Allen Woods & Associates to discuss the advances in aqueous cleaning technologies, Madison Chemical to talk about the cleaning solutions and Jeff Paduano of ESCA Blast to talk about automating your blasting operation.

Cass Choate of Choate Engineering Performance has been so popular he's been asked to do a return performance but on the Cummins diesel.

Ajax Tocco Magnethermic will talk about the many uses of induction heating in your shop and will include real life examples and fixturing from REVIVA.

Not to be left out, LKQ will talk about remanaging lifters and Casey Calouette of Cal Grinding will discuss how they've implemented a new ERP system which he says should be completed before convention.

Lake Speed, Jr. of Total Seal Piston Rings has been added to the program to talk about coatings and how they can improve your build.

Golf will be at the Pearland Golf Club in Pearland, TX.

The Friday tour will be at LKQ Best Automotive, LKQ's consolidated core processing facility. We've scheduled it for Friday to be sure all those who are golfing and want to see this fantastic facility will be able to do so.

There will be no Thursday tour so we've added three more hours of programming including another HR topic and using the Internet in your production process.

Mark your calendars now to reserve September 20-22, arriving on Tuesday, September 19th.

# Webinars & Member News

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## 2023 Webinars & Sponsorship

### 10 Webinars for 2023

- January 18: Cass Choate, Choate Engineering Performance, The Daunting Dilemmas of the DuraMax Engine
- February 15: Doug Anderson, Dissecting The 3.6L Pentastar Engine
- March 15: Lake Speed, Jr., Total Seal. Surface Finish Matters to Engine Performance
- April 19: Cancelled
- May 17: Cancelled
- June 21: Dana Incorporated - Victor Reinz Gaskets  
Reinzosil—What is it and how can it help in your shop?
- July 19: Dan Begle, MAHLE Aftermarket, Shake, Rattle & Roll of Cranks and Bearings (Assist by Randy Neal of CWT Industries)
- August 16: Ajax Tocco Magnethermic; How Can Induction Heating Improve Your Processes?
- September: None—convention month
- October 18: Brian Messenger & Kipp Karris, MAHLE Aftermarket, What Does Swapping Parts In Your Build Do To Drivability?
- November 15: Randy Neal, CWT Industries  
TBD
- December ? : Open

### 2023 Sponsors:

All eight fantastic sponsors have returned for the 2023 webinar series! A big thank you goes to:

Corteco  
CWT Industries  
The ERI Group  
King Engine Bearings  
Mahle Aftermarket, Inc.  
QualCast, LLC  
Rottler Manufacturing  
S.B. International

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### Jasper adds Little Rock

Jasper Engines & Transmissions has opened its 51st branch office to better serve businesses in and around Arkansas. The new location is found within Crossroads Business Park at 1305 North Hills Boulevard, Suites 105 and 106, in North Little Rock.

“As we continue to expand our Nationwide footprint, improving our availability and customer service is something Jasper is very committed to,” says Kevin Powell, Jasper director of branch operations. “Our new Little Rock facility will allow us to service most customers in this market with a Jasper truck up to five days a week.”

The 8,712 sq.-ft., Little Rock facility will have diesel air and fuel components, gas and diesel engines, transmissions, and differentials in its inventory. “The growth in Arkansas has exceeded our expectations,” says Jasper Regional Vice President Richard Olson. “So, having a physical location for our great customers is only natural.”

Olson says Jasper now has 51 branch offices and two distribution centers serving the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico.



LKQ Corp. announced today it has priced its offering of \$1.4 billion aggregate principal amount of senior unsecured notes, consisting of \$800 million aggregate principal amount of 5.75% senior notes due 2028 and \$600 million aggregate principal amount of 6.25% senior notes due 2033. The offering is expected to close on or about May 24, 2023, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions.

The notes of both series will be fully and unconditionally guaranteed on a senior unsecured basis by certain of the company's subsidiaries. LKQ said it intends to use the net proceeds from the offering, together with borrowings under its CAD 700 million term loan credit agreement, to finance a portion of the consideration payable by the company in connection with its previously announced acquisition of Uni-Select Inc., including repaying existing Uni-Select indebtedness, to pay associated fees and expenses, and for general corporate purposes. If the Uni-Select acquisition is not consummated or terminated, in each case, on or prior to November 27, 2023, the company will be required to redeem the 2033 notes at a redemption price equal to 101% of the principal amount of such notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest.

The closing of the offering is not contingent on the closing of the acquisition.

# Member News

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## MAHLE

### MAHLE Renews Partnership with Drag Racer Melanie Salemi

MAHLE Aftermarket has renewed its sponsorship with renowned drag racer, Melanie Salemi, of Melanie Salemi Motorsports, for the 2023 season. The agreement includes serving as a sponsor with the Professional Drag Racers Association (PDRA) Pro Modified racecar series. In addition, Salemi plays a key role as contributor of the Team MAHLE engine parts test team. 2023 marks the third year of collaboration with MAHLE and Salemi.

"Teaming up with Melanie for the 2023 season was an easy and quick 'yes' for us at MAHLE; she is a fearless competitor and it's a privilege to have her represent our brand out on the track," said Jon Douglas, President, MAHLE Aftermarket North America. "We look forward to another successful year of collaboration and can't wait to see what the future holds."

Salemi and her team, which includes her husband, Jon, and brother-in-law, Jim, have already started off the 2023 season strongly with a first-place finish at the Drag Illustrated World Series of Pro Mod Chicago-Style Second-Chance Shootout in Bradenton, Fla. Salemi also recently won the PDRA season opener at the East Coast Nationals at GALOT Motorsports Park during the first weekend in April. The MAHLE Aftermarket and Melanie Salemi sponsorship will be highlighted through the 2023 PDRA Pro Mod Series.

Since first racing in Junior Dragsters at the ripe age of 11, Salemi has had a successful drag racing career. A few of her most notable achievements include back-to-back wins at the Radial vs. the World at World Street Nationals in 2019 and 2020, as well as cash prize titles in Pro Mod at the Shakedown Nationals in 2018 and at the 50th Snowbird Outlaw Nationals at BMP in 2021. She currently holds the PDRA Pro Boost E.T. record at 3.568 and is recognized as the only female driver in that category.



## ELGIN INDUSTRIES

### 11 Straight Years and Counting

Elgin Industries, one of the world's leading manufacturers of engine and chassis components for the automotive, heavy duty and industrial markets, has been recognized for the 11th consecutive year as a John Deere Partner-Level Supplier, the highest rating awarded through Deere & Company's Achieving Excellence (AE) program.

Established in 1991, the Achieving Excellence program evaluates John Deere suppliers annually in several key performance categories, including quality, cost management, delivery, technical support and wavelength, a measure of responsiveness. Elgin, which supplies piston pins and push rods to Deere & Company facilities worldwide, has earned Partner-Level status each year since 2012 and was the Achieving Excellence Powertrain Supplier of the Year in 2017.

"We thank Deere & Company for once again recognizing the value of our business partnership," said Elgin President and CEO Bill Skok. "Our long string of Achieving Excellence awards is a source of great pride for every Elgin team member."



## ROTTLER

### Rottler Celebrating 100 Years!

Rottler is holding the party of the century in celebration of its 100th anniversary. There will be live machine demonstrations, hands-on experiences with factory reps, lots of opportunity to network and share with peers and will be the final AERA Tech & Skills Conference of 2023.

Social events will include a dinner cruise on Elliot Bay, go cart racing and to top it off a private concert with ZZ Top.

You must register with Rottler as tickets are limited.

See page 6 for full details on this special event and to register!



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## **Sunnen Named Official Honing Equipment Partner of Hendrick Motorsports**

Hendrick Motorsports has named Sunnen Products Company its Official Honing Equipment Partner as the team pursues its record-extending 15th NASCAR Cup Series championship. The partnership puts the new Sunnen SV-series honing machine in the Hendrick Motorsports engine operation alongside numerous other Sunnen honing and engine building machines.



The SV-series is the next generation of the legendary Cylinder King® line of honing machines known worldwide, offering a wide variety of features ideal for automotive performance and rebuilding shops. Hendrick Motorsports fields four full-time Chevrolet teams in the elite NASCAR Cup Series with drivers Kyle Larson, Chase Elliott, William Byron, and Alex Bowman.

According to Hendrick Motorsports, Sunnen's state-of-the-art technology will allow it to produce the highest quality and most consistent cylinder bores in its history. The Sunnen partnership will help improve performance on the track and deliver the most consistent engine package possible to Hendrick Motorsports' teams and external customers.

"We are thrilled to be contributing to the continued success of this championship racing team," said Chris Miltenberger, President, and CEO of Sunnen. "This partnership is further evidence of Sunnen's commitment to delivering the highest levels of precision and versatility to our customers."

For more information about Sunnen Products Company, the SV-Series and the company's entire line of bore finishing equipment and accessories, please visit [www.sunnen.com](http://www.sunnen.com).



## **Genevieve L. Dombrowski Honored**

LKQ Corporation announced Genevieve L. Dombrowski, senior vice president of human resources, was recently honored at MOVES Magazine Annual Diversity Awards Event.



Dombrowski was recognized for her outstanding work in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) space, which has positively impacted LKQ employees and the broader community, the company says.

"We are extremely proud of Genevieve's recognition with MOVES Magazine Diversity Award," said Nick Zarcone, president and chief executive officer of LKQ Corporation. "Her leadership and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion have been instrumental in fostering a positive and inclusive workplace culture at LKQ. We congratulate her on this well-deserved honor."



Mr. Rick Miller, Chairman of E.R.I. Engine Rebuilders Incorporated is pleased to announce the appointment of Industry Veteran, Mr. William (Bill) Hay to the E.R.I. Group Team. Effective July 4th, 2023. Bill will assume the position of President of E.R.I. Engine Rebuilders Inc.

Bill's recent leadership roles and experience with various national parts supply and distribution companies within our industry is extensive. We wish Bill a warm welcome and are certain he will be a tremendous asset to the members, staff and suppliers of our prestigious group" says Rick.





Dana Incorporated has introduced two new sizes of its industry-leading Victor Reinz® Reinzosil® room-temperature vulcanizing (RTV) silicone. Originally available in 70 milliliter tubes, Reinzosil sealant is now also offered in 20 milliliter cans and 310 milliliter cartridge tubes for larger jobs.

A one-product solution that can take the place of more than a dozen RTV varieties, Reinzosil sealant is resistant to fluids, including mineral oils and synthetic oils, lubricants, gasoline, diesel oil, greases, water, and detergents and is safe for all sensors. It is ideal for use on two-dimensional flat surfaces where there is a sealing gap, such as gasket intersections and components originally sealed with RTV by the manufacturer, including intake manifolds, valve covers, and oil pans.

Reinzosil RTV silicone provides superior resistance under load, even at high temperatures. It is very suitable for rough sealing surfaces and can be used universally for all motor and vehicle makes. Unlike other RTV products, which may incorporate plasticizers of minor quality such as calcium carbonate or limestone, Reinzosil sealant will not shrink or lose weight in high-heat environments.

"As one of the world's leading manufacturers of gasket and sealing technology, Dana is proud to offer the industry-leading Victor Reinz Reinzosil brand on its DanaAftermarket.com e-commerce platform," said Bill Nunnery, senior director, sales and marketing, global aftermarket for Dana. "Reinzosil is ideal for sealing surfaces in engines, transmissions, axles, cylinder liners, and plastic housings on their vehicles. Now available in three sizes, this RTV silicone solution helps streamline ordering and reduce on-hand inventory, saving both time and money."

To learn more about Victor Reinz Reinzosil RTV silicone and other Dana products, contact a Dana sales representative or visit [www.DanaAftermarket.com](http://www.DanaAftermarket.com).



## MAHLE

### Choice of Champions Promotion Starts

MAHLE Aftermarket Inc. announces the launch of its 2023 "MAHLE: The Choice of Champions" promotion. Now through September 23, technicians can enter the sweepstakes for the chance to win one of two custom-built vehicles engineered by some of the industry's finest racing and automotive enthusiast legends. The vehicles up for grabs are a Petty's Garage Z06 Corvette and a Jeep Gladiator built by Casey Currie and CRC. Both feature the latest MAHLE components and high-performance vehicle parts.

"Last year's 'Choice of Champions' was such a great success we couldn't wait for this year's promotion to begin," said Jon Douglas, president, MAHLE Aftermarket North America. "This program really demonstrates the deep appreciation that we have for our customer base. And we are looking forward to the coming months during which we plan to showcase the Corvette and the Jeep at events and locations around the country. The grand prize will be awarded via a live drawing during a special, onsite ceremony in the MAHLE booth at AAPEX on October 31."

Technicians are eligible for the MAHLE: The Choice of Champion sweepstakes with the purchase of any qualifying MAHLE, CLEVITE or BEHR product. At the conclusion of the promotion, four finalists will be selected at random from all entries received. Each finalist gets a trip for two to Las Vegas to attend the AAPEX show.

The MAHLE: The Choice of Champions sweepstakes will also feature random monthly drawings for "Swag Packs" that will include merchandise from Team MAHLE racing partners. To participate, each purchase of a qualifying MAHLE, CLEVITE or BEHR product must be registered at [www.mahlechampions.com](http://www.mahlechampions.com). Selected products will qualify for multiple entries. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. For Official Rules, how to enter without a purchase, list of qualifying products, prizes, and entry period schedule, see [www.mahlechampions.com](http://www.mahlechampions.com).

Be sure to follow the MAHLE Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mahleusa>) and Instagram ([https://www.instagram.com/mahle\\_pulse\\_usa/](https://www.instagram.com/mahle_pulse_usa/)) pages for the latest promotion updates, including footage of the vehicles and special messages from the sponsors. For more information about MAHLE Aftermarket and its brands, visit [www.mahle-aftermarket.com](http://www.mahle-aftermarket.com), or contact your local sales representative.

### Production Engine Remanufacturers Association

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- Share Knowledge and Expertise With Other Rottler Machine Owners
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- Cruise Elliot Bay
- Win the Championship in a Go Kart Grand Prix

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## **Accommodations:**

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