



Press Release

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SCRS Honors Outstanding Effort and Exceptional Commitment at the Industry Achievement Awards

Prosser, Washington, April 30, 2014 — The Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) recently announced the named recipients of the association's annual Industry Achievement Awards, which recognize industry professionals who have distinguished themselves through their outstanding efforts and exceptional commitment on behalf of the collision repair industry. The SCRS Industry Awards and Corporate Member Recognition Lunch took place on Wednesday, April 9th in Portland, Oregon. Also as a part of the week's events was held the SCRS Open Meeting, annual election and an SCRS-sponsored Repairer Roundtable.

"These individuals personify the best the collision repair profession has to offer; those who help drive effective change and positive results in their industry and surrounding communities," stated Dusty Womble, Chairman of the SCRS Nominations and Awards Committee. "It's always incredibly exciting to spend time recounting the positive example of these exceptional achievements and this year proved to be no exception."

This year's awards, their recipients, and the achievements being recognized are as follows.

COLLISION INDUSTRY INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AWARD

Recipient: Mike Anderson



Frank LaViola, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Mike Anderson

Mike Anderson owned Wagonwork Collision Centers in Alexandria, Virginia for over 20 years. Selling the business provided Mike the opportunity to focus his efforts on his true passion: helping collision repairers improve their businesses and—as a result—their lives, through his Collision Advice consulting company. In 2014, Mike spent more than 341 days on the road doing workshops, seminars and onsite consulting, and he is one of the most relied upon speakers amongst SCRS' Affiliate Associations due to his passion, presence and abundance of knowledge—in fact, Mike was unable to accept the award in person because he was working with a collision repairer actively engaged in the activity he was being recognized for.

"I was brought up in this business to give back as much as I can," Anderson explains. "My dad drilled it into me, and so did other influential figures in my life, including Sheila Loftus, formerly of the Washington Metropolitan Auto Body Association and Elaine Sachire, president of Square One Sys-

tems, who moderated a 20 Group that had a lasting impact on me. These mentors challenged and encouraged me to see that helping others opens the door to the best kind of success, that which is long-lasting and true. Whether I'm sharing information or providing education, I try never to lose sight of that important fact."

The Collision Industry Individual Service Award is intended for individuals in the industry that exhibit actions considered exemplary in maintaining and advancing the collision repair industry. Anderson is just its tenth recipient, and was presented with the award later in the week during one of his seminars in St. Louis, Missouri. Frank LaViola from Enterprise Rent-A-Car sat Anderson in front of the classroom and read the original presentation speech from the awards ceremony. "Even though I couldn't make it, just the thought of being in the company of all those industry greats makes me speechless," added Anderson. "I only want to help, so this recognition is humbling, but at the same time very much appreciated."

COLLISION INDUSTRY NON-INDIVIDUAL SERVICE AWARD

Recipient: Collision Repair Education Foundation



This award was created for SCRS to spotlight contributions to the collision repair industry from a corporate or company level. This year the award went to the Collision Repair Education Foundation (CREF), which is tasked to secure donations that support quality collision repair education programs that promote and enhances industry career opportunities. Approximately 60,000 students have been touched by the CREF programs, and close to 2,000 instructors and 1,150 schools support the programs. Last year alone, CREF coordinated more than \$18 million in donations to high schools and colleges across the country, with support from each side of the "industry aisle."

"We are surprised and absolutely delighted by the award," stated Clark Plucinski, CREF Executive Director. "Sometimes we wonder if the work we do is recognized as providing something the industry desperately needs, and then a validation like this award comes along and we're reminded that it most certainly is. The support continues to pour in and it makes a huge difference for our students. I want to express my incredible thanks to SCRS to make the commitment to thank us at this level; their involvement makes this award especially meaningful."



Ronald Reichen, SCRS Chairman
and Domenic Brusco, CREF
Treasurer

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD—REGIONAL

Recipient: John Mattos (posthumous)



John Mattos

John Mattos was a third-generation automotive refinish supplier. The Pro Finishes PLUS enterprise he owned together with his cousin Joe Mattos, remains a spiritual successor to the paint business started by his grandfather in 1928, a tradition passed down to his father and uncle and most recently to John and Joe.

While John was generous with his technical and refinish product knowledge, it is his work with the Washington Metropolitan Auto Body Association (WMABA) from its inception in 1967 to the present for which he is fondly remembered. "John was a good evangelist for WMABA in the early days, perfect for spreading the word because he had a gregarious personality and close relationships with many body shops in the area," said Joe. "His com-



Barry Dorn, SCRS Past
Chairman and Joe Mattos

mitment to the association lasted close to four decades; he never stopped spreading the word about WMABA's achievements, sharing his ideas how to make the industry stronger and better, and fostering leadership in others."

Joe didn't know until the presentation itself that he would be accepting on behalf of his cousin the Lifetime Achievement Award-Regional. "I really wished John could have been there to accept the accolades himself," he stated, "but it was extremely gratifying and quite an honor to see a lifetime full of effort on behalf of our industry validated in a most meaningful way. It was quite an event and very special to us indeed."

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD-INDIVIDUAL

Recipient: Gary Wano, Jr.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is SCRS' truest mark of distinction, and a rare recognition dispensed only ten times in the over three decades of the Society's existence. This year the special honor went to Gary Wano, Jr., owner of G.W. & Son Auto Body Shop in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, a professional who was raised in the industry and consistently exhibits his devotion to it, to the extent that the award seemed the only way to properly recognize it.



Aaron Schulenburg, SCRS Executive Director;
Ron Reichen, SCRS Chairman and Gary Wano, Jr.,
SCRS Past Chairman

"The Lifetime Achievement Award is a symbol of the most exemplary among us, and Gary Wano certainly fits the description," said Jeff Hendler who presented the award to Wano. "He never hesitates to assist those who need it, and has a knack for bringing out the best in someone, whether they're close to home or half way around the world. This award speaks volumes of his integrity and unselfishness, and as much as it is an honor for Gary to receive the award, nothing could top the honor I felt presenting it to him."



Kristi Wano, Tammy Tomberlin
and Gary Wano, Jr.

Receiving an award of this magnitude was hard for Gary to process initially. "I have to say maybe I still don't believe it," he said. "In my 51 years of life, the only milestones more incredible than this one were the birth of my children. Family is so important to me, I wouldn't have had the time available to offer help to other repairers around the globe had I not been blessed with my sisters Kristi Wano and Tammy Tomberlin and my parents Gary, Sr. and Leona who were willing to focus on the day-to-day operations of our store. "Their contribution also allowed me to work with some of the best leadership in the industry, the SCRS board. SCRS helped me grow into the professional I am

today, and it's no surprise as I see all of the attributes listed for this award in each SCRS board member. They share a passion for the industry and aspire to a level of fortitude and selflessness in their drive for industry improvement. If we keep moving forward, I have no doubt the best is yet to come."

SCRS wishes again to thank this year's award winners, pacesetters that establish a positive tone for the rest of the industry "It's satisfying to be able to devote a night to those individuals who serve as an inspiration for all of us that come into contact with them," added Aaron Schulenburg. "Their enthusiasm for the industry is infectious, and as a result, they motivate us to give our best as well."

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About SCRS: Through its direct members and 43 affiliate associations, SCRS is comprised of 6,000 collision repair businesses and 58,500 specialized professionals who work with consumers and insurance companies to repair collision-damaged vehicles. Additional information about SCRS including other news releases is available at the SCRS Web site: www.scrs.com. You can e-mail SCRS at the following address: info@scrs.com.

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