



# Georgia *Post Convention Recap*

## Tire Tracks

The Westin Savannah  
 Harbor Golf Resort & SPA  
 July 21—22, 2023

A Publication of the Georgia Tire Dealers and Retreaders Association, Inc.

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 Nick Grooms  
 Erwin Harrell  
 Craig Roll  
 Lowell Tench

**Administrative Director**  
 Stacy Jarrett

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings fellow members!

What an awesome 2023 convention at the Savannah Westin! Thank you to all our sponsors for making this such a great event. A huge thank you to our GTDRA Administrative Director Stacy Jarrett. Without Stacy leading us, events such as this would not be possible.

Once again our Scholarship Foundation found two very deserving recipients for 2023. The foundation has given over \$300,000 in scholarships to date. Congratulations to this year's winners!

Brett Battle, Macon, Ga  
 Elyse Matheny, Stone Mountain, Ga

We also celebrated and honored three Hall of Fame inductees at this year's convention.

Bobby Franklin - B&C Tire  
 Steve Fulton – Mohawk Rubber/Rubber Inc.  
 Bill Duckworth, Jr. – Bill Duckworth Tire

Part of the purpose of our association is "to advise and safeguard the business interests of its members, to promote harmony, good will and understanding among its members, and to maintain a high level of responsibility, skill, and integrity." This year's inductees certainly exemplified these traits. Congratulations!

I would like to show our appreciation to Dana Williams. Thank you for your hard work and dedication as President the last 2 years. Also, we have added a new face to the board of directors. Please welcome Erwin Harrell, Wholesale Battery, Tire and Auto, to the board.

Mark your calendars for the 2024 convention July 19-20 at the Westin Jekyll Island. I look forward to seeing everyone there!!

David Polhill

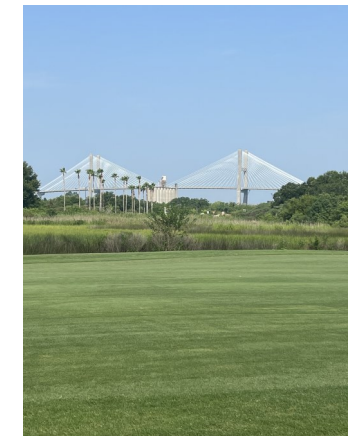
**Inside This Issue:**

Golf Tournament	2
Banquet	4
Scholarship Winners	5
Educational Sessions	5
Trade Show	8
Board & Annual Meeting	10
Save the Dates	12
Sponsors	13

## GOLF TOURNAMENT

Despite the record breaking high temperatures, teams played on Friday morning at the beautifully renovated Club at Savannah Harbor. First place went to the team of Joshua Chamblee, Johnathon Chamblee, and Steve Fulton. Second place went to David Polhill, Trey Miller, Lance McCullough, and Wayne Gainey. Third place went to Bill and Molly Duckworth, Jeffery Blocker, and Mike Burns. The longest drive winner was Joshua Chamblee, and the closest to the pin winner was Brett Battle. Gift certificates from the golf club gift shop were given to them all at the Friday night banquet.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Rob Miller for organizing the event!



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## BANQUET

The 2023 Scholarship Banquet started with everyone meeting inside the Harbor Ballroom for a few hors d'oeuvres and cold beverages. After an hour of everyone socializing, David Polhill then welcomed all of the guests to Savannah, GA. He encouraged everyone to bid on the Silent Auction items. After enjoying a delicious dinner buffet and ice cream bar, David, along with two 'little' helpers, chose a ticket for the Early Registration prize. Congratulations to Tom Matheny for receiving the \$100 cash! Next, Rob Miller, Foundation President, recognized the 2023 GTDRA Foundation Scholarship Winners. Wishing both Brett Battle and Elyse Matheny the very best of luck throughout their college years and beyond. Rob then initiated a scholarship pledge drive. Over **\$8,000** was raised! To date, over **\$300,000** in awards have been paid to well deserving recipients. Next, Dana Williams awarded both Craig Roll and Lowell Tench a plaque for serving as a Director for the last three years. The Board of Directors meet several times a year to discuss and vote on Association matters. Thank you Craig, Lowell, and all the other Officers and Board of Directors for your input, time, and service. This year, three exceptional people were inducted into the Hall of Fame. Congratulations to Bobby Franklin, Bill Duckworth Jr., and Steve Fulton! All of these men have worked in the tire industry for many years, and they have all been members of the Association and served on the Board of Directors in various capacities throughout their careers. Lastly, winners of the Silent Auction bids were announced. Guests left with wonderful items - Nebo Silver flashlight, True blade knife, BBQ grilling set, grill brush, Yeti cooler, UGA tailgate tote full of snacks, UGA football tickets, Milwaukee drill driver and battery, and (2) Two night's stay at the Westin Savannah with the buffet breakfast. Thanks to the Board Members who generously donated items for the Silent Auction!



## 2023 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

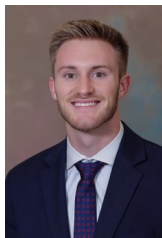


**Brett Battle**



**Elyse Matheny**

## EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS



### ***Federated Insurance***

**Carson Stricklin**

“Marketing Representative”

**Noah Blackwell**

“Marketing Representative”

**Beware Auto Fraud Schemes**



### ***Simply Savannah Marketing/Savannah Master Calendar***

**Marianne Ganem-Poppell**

“President”

**The Benefits of Cause Marketing and Customer Service in Small Business**



### ***Auto Service Processing***

**Craig Roll**

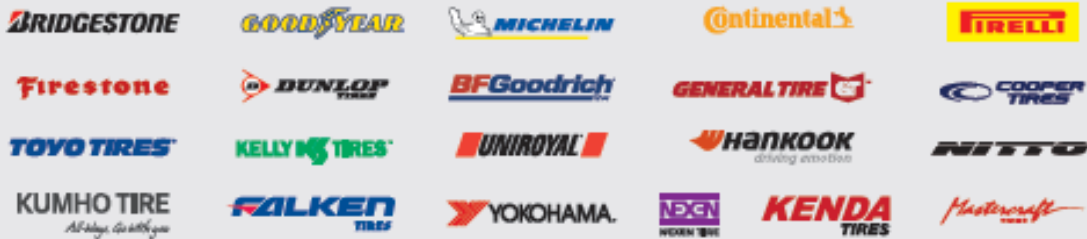
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# TABLETOP TRADE SHOW

Attendees enjoyed a gourmet deli lunch buffet while learning from Suppliers.  
Thanks to David Polhill for organizing the event.

## EXHIBITORS

- Advance Auto Parts
- ATD/Hercules
- Auto Service Processing
- Concrete Coatings
- Falken Tire
- Federated Insurance
- Independent Tire Dealer's Group
- Rubber Inc.
- Tire Distributors of Georgia
- Titan/Goodyear Farm Tire
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## BOARD MEETING AND ANNUAL MEETING

After the Tabletop trade show, a Board of Directors and Annual Meeting took place. Dana Williams gave the Presidential oath of office to David Polhill who will serve as President for the next two years. David then thanked Dana for his service as President and awarded him a Presidential plaque and gift.

David gave the Director oath of office to both Craig Roll and Lowell Tench who agreed to another three year term on the Board of Directors. The Board also welcomes Erwin Harrell as a new Director.



**THANK YOU!**

**Georgia Independent Tire Dealers**  
For Your Business

We appreciate you and can support you  
through the following people

**Joel Aldridge**

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[jaldridge@falkentire.com](mailto:jaldridge@falkentire.com)

Mobile (772) 208-7158

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Rubber Inc. is a warehouse distributor selling to the automotive, commercial, and off-the-road industries.

We provide the tools, equipment, tire repair materials and supplies to these industries. Rubber Inc. has been in business since 1939 with locations in Chicago, IL, Charlotte, NC, Durand, WI, and St. Louis, MO. We have a trained customer service department and outside sales force to help provide the right products to solve today's service problems.

"We believe in servicing the customer through face-to-face consultation, bringing product knowledge and support to our customers."

"We combine a local sales force with on-hand inventory in four distribution centers and quick and accurate delivery."

"Our belief is that a true measure of a business partner is defined by how quickly and correctly people react when there is a problem to be solved. This response is what builds long lasting business relationships that last from generation to generation."

We look forward to becoming a partner with you and your business.

Rubber Inc. Opened a 4th branch in Charlotte, NC, in January 2023 to service the tire supply needs of Tire Dealers (both commercial and passenger) in the southeast.



**Rubber Inc. Georgia Sales Team**



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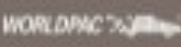
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## SAVE THE DATES

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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The Westin Jekyll Island

Mark your calendars for next year's Annual Conference. Details will be announced shortly!



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