



# theLEAF

SUMMER 2021



### President's Letter

Greetings from Appleton,

It has been about 15 months since I have traveled any distance in part due to the restrictions that were placed upon travelers. I had an opportunity last month to visit some old friends and spend some time with them. It was not the activities we got to do together but it was the "Big Bear" hugs we shared among one another that gave me the sense of getting back to normal. The laughs, the jokes and the playful ribbing was most certainly an added benefit, but it was seeing extended friends/family again that made it even more special.

SSA Convention 2021 (Oct 5-7) is coming together nicely, and your Board of Directors continues to work hard on getting everything set. We will be getting more details out in the coming months, so stay tuned! We have also heard from the Marriott Savannah Riverfront that Savannah is open for business and no restrictions.....what wonderful news!

Ever get to a point in your day when the paperwork piles up in front of you and it seems like you just cannot get a grip on your business or dealing with an employee issue or a supplier concern that just frustrates you to no end? This is the time when a person needs a little aroma therapy...take a walk into the middle of your shop and close your



eyes. Take a depth breath in through your nose and process those smells...the cattle trailer, the garbage truck, the grain trailer...those smells are the reason we get up every morning knowing we are helping the economy grow but keeping these vehicles repaired and back on the road.

Thank you for allowing me to be your SSA President. Blessings and Prosperity in 2021...

Hope to see you in Savanah,

Mark



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# SHOP PROFILE - LEXINGTON AUTO SPRING



Louisville Auto Spring (Lasco HD) is celebrating our 94th year in business. Both locations have diversified their shops. Our service work includes A/C service, abs diagnostics, wheel alignment, electrical, drive line, installation of transmissions and diffs, plus the continued service of suspension, front end and brake service.

In 1983, the hard work and success of Louisville Auto Spring allowed us to branch out to Lexington, KY and open Lexington Auto Spring / Lasco Heavy Duty. In the beginning we offered only spring and suspension repair services on large trucks.



Chuck Kaelin Charlie Ross



shop in Lexington into a full service heavy truck and trailer repair facility. We still offer complete suspension repair, but with our ongoing training we also offer diversified repair types such as Air Conditioning Repair, All Axle Wheel Alignments, Full Drive Line Repair, ABS and ECU Diagnostics, Full Service Trailer Repair and much more.

Over the years we have transformed our

Our Service Manager and General Manager in Lexington have both been with the company since 1984. Our facility in Lexington is 8000 square feet. We run a single shift with five technicians and two mechanics helpers. We have over 110 years of heavy vehicle repair experience at our Lexington store alone. Knowledge is power.

Being a wholesale parts distributor and partnered with HDA TruckPride helps a great deal with our shop production. Most of the product that we are installing is stocked in house and we don't use a lot of valuable time outsourcing our parts.

We are very excited to have added an additional service bay at our Lexington branch this year as well as plans for a complete shop floor restoration. This will allow us not only potentially much more production, but the ability to add more techs to our team. Our employees are the most important part of our business. Without them, we would struggle. We are investing in the future of our business and our people.

Chuck Kaelin has been the General Manager at Lexington Auto Spring Co. since 1998. Chuck started his career at Louisville Auto Spring in 1984. made a bold move to leave his home in Louisville for Lexington.

Another bold move taken, is by Charlie Ross, our service manager in

Lexington. Charlie also started his career in Louisville and made his move in 1987 as a tech. These 2 gentlemen have been nothing but a pure pleasure to work with for the last 37 years. They know what it takes to run a business and they do it with skill. Chuck was promoted to Vice President of Lasco Heavy Duty this year.





For more information about our companies, please visit our website at www.louisvilleautospring.net



Hello SSA members! Rick Sheen has found another amazing golf course for our SSA family to practice our "A game" on October 5th! The Club at Savannah Harbor offers unparalleled views of historic downtown Savannah, while it gently winds its way through tidal wetlands. Tee time will be at 11:06 and costs \$175 to play, which includes a boxed lunch.

Don't feel like traveling with all your equipment? Not a problem; the Club offers Callaway clubs for a rental fee of \$35.

If golf is not your thing, but you're looking for something to do Tuesday morning, we recommend The Heavenly Spa by Westin on the grounds of The Club, where they offer unique treatments and quality products delivered with care by skilled therapists.

Whether you are putting or getting pampered, there's something to do for you at The Club at Savannah Harbor on Tuesday, October 5th. Be sure to make your reservations when you register for the convention!







# Hazard Communication Standard Pictogram

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) requires pictograms on labels to alert users of the chemical hazards to which they may be exposed. Each pictogram consists of a symbol on a white background framed within a red border and represents a distinct hazard(s). The pictogram on the label is determined by the chemical hazard classification

### **HCS Pictograms and Hazards**



### STAY CONNECTED WITH THE SSA!

Visit www.servicespecialistsassociation.com for news and important information on all things SSA! Connect with other members and industry colleagues on social media – search "SSA – Service Specialists Association" and follow our Facebook and LinkedIn pages!

The SSA also has an app for IOS and Android! Search "Service Specialists Association" in your app store!

Are you receiving your SSA email updates? Be sure to add Dan Gookin at gookinbrand@gmail.com to your Address Book!

## FLASH BACK

Lets take another look back at where we came from and who helped to shape the association we have become. This quarter we found some faces from Orlando (85) and Washington DC (86).



Left to Right: Loyd Burgess, J. B Hussey (Salem Spring),
Martin Mard (Superior Spring), Gary Pringle (Dunbar Spring),
Thomas Giebner (Fleetpro), Angleo Paioletti, Ted Mills (Spring Service of Charlotte),
Wesley Ostrom (Standard Spring).
Front Row: John Stengel (Hemstreet/Stengel Bros.)







Do you have any photos from past conventions?

We would love to see them...

Send them to Dan Gookin at Gookinbrand@gmail.com.