



# hook & winch

## FROM THE DESK OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BART GIESLER

### Help Wanted

I am sure that most of you have this sign hanging up at your shop or that you are always looking for possible new employees. Just like you, ITWA is hiring for Officers and Directors. During a recent chapter meeting, someone said they might be interested, however, they didn't know what they were applying for or how to apply. After the question was put forth, I said I guess I know what I am going to write about this month. This is how I get ideas. Please send me ideas for my monthly article. It is tough coming up with them every month.

#### Director Position – 2 per chapter

The director's position is for a 2-year term. Every year one position is up for election so that there is some continuity. The directors' responsibility is to pick a date and location for chapter meetings in the area. Directors also attend board meetings. We try to have 4 meetings a year (these meetings may be in person or via Zoom). At the board meeting, the directors will vote on various issues. Several years ago, the board voted on what ITWA's strategy was on the legislation that the insurers were pushing. Some members wanted to go all in and fight it, and just say no to everything. And others said to sit down and see what areas we can agree on, and what areas we can never agree on.

The main duties are to be the eyes and ears of the association for the area: identifying what the issues are; letting other members know of changes (legislative, BMV, other); and giving direction to ITWA about what the Association should be working on (like Move Over issues, EV Training issues, BMV issues, Legislative issues). There may be some things that are an issue in one part of the state and not in another. By having chapter directors, this allows us to hear from everyone. Here are the descriptions from the Bylaws:

#### President

The president shall be selected by, and from, the membership of the current or former board of directors. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall preside over all meetings of the board and of the members. The president, at their discretion, shall give permission to the association manager or any officer the power to run the meeting. The president shall have general and active management of the business of the corporation and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the board are carried into effect. The president shall appoint all committees, shall be an ex officio member of all standing committees and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the office of president of a corporation.

*Continued on Page 3*



## 2022 OFFICERS

**Chairman of the Board:**

**Tom Bertagnoli**

Double T Towing Recovery Corp.  
1950 N. Indiana  
Griffith, IN 46319  
Phone 219-972-2100  
Fax 219-972-2045  
Email: tombertagnoli@gmail.com

**President: Sue Moreland**

Northwest Towing and  
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2900 N. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Muncie, IN 47303  
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Email Sue@northwesttowing.com

**Vice President North: Crystal Rose**

Cheever's Towing  
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Email: crystalrose@netnitco.net

**Vice President Central: VACANT****Vice President South: Josh Hercamp**

31 Wrecker Service  
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**Secretary**

**Karrie Driscol**

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**Treasurer: Walt Hamilton**

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Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
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Fax 765-362-4600  
Email: waltsservice@sbcglobal.net

**Executive Officer: Bart Giesler**

John Frick & Associates  
135 N. Pennsylvania, Ste. 1175  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
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Fax 317-638-7976  
Email: bgiesler@wswi.com

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| Copart Auto .....                                      | 317-216-2186 |
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### **Vice President (North – Central – South)**

Three vice presidents shall be chosen from the current or former membership of the board of directors. Such vice presidents are board members, and in order of their seniority shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the president during the absence or disability of the president.

### **Secretary**

The secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and of the board of directors and the executive committee, and shall preserve in books of the corporation true minutes of the proceedings of all such meetings. The secretary shall safely keep in their custody the seal of the corporation and shall have authority to affix the same to all instruments where its use is required. The secretary shall give all notices required by statute, by by-laws or resolutions, and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated to them by the board of directors or by the executive committee. The secretary shall cause to be sent to all directors a copy of the proposed minutes of the last board meeting within twenty (20) days of the meeting or published in the next newsletter.

### **Treasurer**

The treasurer shall have custody of all corporation funds and securities and shall keep in books belonging to the corporation full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements; shall deposit all monies, securities and other valuable effects in the name of the corporation in such depositories as may be designated for that purpose by the board of directors. The treasurer shall disburse funds of the corporation as may be ordered by the board, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the president and directors at the regular meetings of the board, and whenever requested by them, an account of all his transactions as treasurer and of the financial condition of the corporation. If required by the board, the treasurer shall deliver to the president of the corporation, and shall keep in force, a bond in form, amount and with a surety satisfactory to the board, conditioned for faithful performance of the duties of his office, and for restoration to the corporation in case of their death, resignation, retirement or removal from office, of all books, papers, vouchers, money and property of whatever kind in his possession or under his control belonging to the corporation. At the discretion of the board of directors, signature of another director or agent may be used to validate checks or vouchers to further assist the treasurer in executing the business of the corporation. The treasurer shall present a written, complete financial report to all directors meetings and annual meetings.

### **Chairman of the Board**

The outgoing president may by a simple majority be voted to become the chairman of the board with full voting rights. He or she will continue to serve in this capacity until replaced. The duties will be to serve as advisor to the board of officers, and, may on any officer's request, serve in their capacity. There must be a majority vote of the board members present for the new incoming chairman.

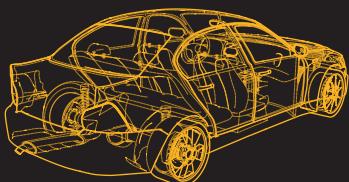
If anyone has made it through the two pages to get to this point, I probably should have said the Board's job is to represent the industry and to remind everyone in the industry that we are all better off when we work together for the collective good – versus the individual good. The Association is over 50 years old because members have stepped up and helped out when their help was needed. If you are interested, please let me know. For any new director or officer, we are doubling the pay and this is a limited offer. So call now!

A number of officers and directors have indicated that they do not plan to run for office again and there will be lots of open positions in the near future. ITWA has had several speakers to discuss succession planning for individual companies, now it is time for ITWA to have those plans for the Association. As part of those plans, ITWA will look at how we are setup as an organization; and if we were to set up the Association today, how would we set it up? When ITWA was formed, there weren't cell phones, emails, website, or even faxes. People's lives are much different today than when ITWA was formed.

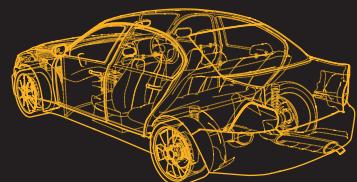
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***From the Desk of the Executive Director – continued from page 3***

As we start our succession planning, we need your input. What things are the most important? What are we doing that you think is a waste of time? What should we do better or differently? As we bring in new leaders, how do we adapt so that we make it another 50+ years? The time to start looking ahead is now.

If you haven't turned in your raffle tickets, please get them to us ASAP. We will also be sending out invoices at the end of the year. We will have a form to update your information (you can find the latest directory on the website). If you have others in your company to whom you want us to send emails, please add them as well.

Here is the slate of Directors that will be put forth at the Annual Meeting:

**President Sue Moreland**

**VP - North - Crystal Rose**

**VP - Central - Joey Driscoll**

**VP - South – Ken Parrish**

**Treasurer - Walt Hamilton**

**Secretary - Karrie Driscoll**

**Chairman of the Board - Josh Hercamp**



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## **FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT MORELAND**

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Happy November!

November is a month of gratitude. I truly am grateful for all of the amazing people that make up the Indiana Towing and Wrecker Association! Thank you for your friendship and support as we continue to navigate through challenging times. Robert Brault said, "Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things."

In December the ITWA Board will begin working on strategic planning for 2023 and beyond. We plan to have our first session right before the annual meeting on December 3rd. The main topic is strategic planning. Looking forward, we have many opportunities and many challenges that ITWA will be facing in the immediate and long-term future.

The future of our respective career field is going to look very different than today in a number of ways. Rapid technology growth, the introduction of EVs, communications, and human interaction in all its forms are creating interesting challenges for our work and our Association. In some ways, the future may call into question some of the long-standing orthodoxies of ITWA. This in turn creates the need for us to focus on these issues to ensure the long-term health of our organization. The ITWA Board is 100% committed to charting a course for our Association that will not only meet these future challenges, but also your high expectations for what the Association does. Said another way, we are laser-focused on ensuring ITWA continues to provide the high level of professional value it now provides to you as a member.

Looking ahead in 2023, we need to plan for several board members who will not be running again for office in 2024. We expect to have open positions for President, Vice President, and Treasurer in 2024. We need folks to step up and give us your support and ideas. Now is the time to get the younger members involved, as we get ready to lay the plans for the future vision of ITWA. I need everyone to be thinking about the ways you would like to see the Association evolve.

The Board still has some work to do. My plan is to cross the finish line as your president in a sprint, not a jog. You are going to hear more about ITWA's Strategic Plan in the coming months. We are excited to meet the future head on. We hope you are as well.

Lastly, as we head into the holiday season, I hope that you, your families, and co-workers had a peaceful and happy Thanksgiving. I will communicate with you again in early December to provide you with more updates.

Sue



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## DOT CHAT WITH BRENT HOOVER

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Hello and welcome back! If you are new to the column I would like to take a minute and bring you up to speed on who I am. My name is Brent Hoover. I am a Master Trooper with the Indiana State Police. I have started my 19<sup>th</sup> year with the ISP. I am assigned to the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division or CVED for short. My primary daily duty is to enforce the State and Federal Regulations for CMVs in the State of Indiana. I am certified to complete Part A and B Inspections as well as General Haz-mat and Cargo Tank inspections. I am also a Part B Instructor for the National Training Center, which means I teach new inspectors how to inspect and document Level 1 Inspections. I have competed twice in the North American Inspectors Championships. I am the current administrator of the CVED Facebook page where I post about tips and tricks to improve your pre-trip inspections and to avoid common roadside violations.

Aww November is here. Man, one day its 75 degrees and then next bam!!! – 30 degrees and snowing!!!

It is getting to be that time of year that you all, the real heroes of the road, are starting to get ready, making sure that the trucks are topped off with fuel, fluids, and warm clothes; getting equipment ready to move snow; and everything else it takes to get ready for the call.

This month I would like to step away from tips and share a story with you about the first winter I had as a rookie trooper. Being from southern Indiana I had seen snow and weather change before, but boy oh boy were northwest Indiana's winters different! I got to know the terms lake affect, no coverage, and the snowplows are done for the night, by heart. So anyway, on to the story. It was early December I think, and I was working an evening shift "typically" a 2-10:30 pm shift. I have always been interested in weather and new that a front was heading our way. I took the afternoon to do my own prepping like I had been taught by my FTOs, making sure I had enough warm clothes, food and water, a full tank of gas, topped off washer fluid, and notebook paper... that will come in later. About dark which was about 4:30 pm, in the region, the front began to hit. Boy did it hit at about 2 inches or more an hour. I was the only trooper for 50 miles of Interstate I-65. I sat in the car at an exit holding my breath, waiting on the call 13-528 Lowell 10-50! And so it began, only it was a 10-50 semi. Long story short, 14 hours and 7 full semi crashes later, it was up to me and my friends at Cheever's towing to keep the roadway open and clear. At one point the entire interstate was shut down and the coolest sight of my career was seeing two large wreckers, fully lit up in a snowstorm, pulling up on scene. I was stressed to the max, and it was great to have a friend like Rick Rose say "It's all good Hoovey! We got this, just get your paperwork straight!" I remember that night as not only the busiest and craziest night, but going through an entire notebook for crash information. What I learned that night was not only could I make it, but to have an experienced and qualified tow company to work with made all the difference in the world. So, this year I hope and pray for all of you out there to not only be safe this winter, but be the best that you can to all you serve out there. Please know that everyone sees and takes notice on how you represent yourself and your industries in a time of need.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me at [bhoover@isp.in.gov](mailto:bhoover@isp.in.gov)

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## **ITWA LADIES AUXILIARY**

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I am writing this just a few days before Thanksgiving and each year at this time I reflect on what I have been most thankful for in the past year. This year it is friendships. To me what makes a true friend is someone who is a good listener, who doesn't just hear you, but listens for the meaning and understands what is in your heart. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends leave footprints in your heart." May you experience true friendship this holiday season!

Now for an update on the 2023 Tow Show. The show will take place on August 18-19, 2023 at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Lebanon, Indiana. Not only will we be utilizing a much larger parking area than we had at Fair Oaks, but we also have the use of air conditioned buildings where the vendors will be set up. There is also indoor space for the Ladies Luncheon as well as room for seminars to take place. We have so much indoor space that inclement weather should not be a concern as it has been at Fair Oaks the last 2 years.

We will be reserving room blocks at a few hotels in the area. We also will provide a shuttle service back and forth for those who need it. For those of you who like to camp, something new this year, there are a few RV sites available on the Fairground property.

We are looking for some ideas of what you would like to see happen at the 2023 Tow Show.

- Is there an interest in bringing back the Driving Competition?
- Would you like to see an indoor Awards Banquet on Saturday night instead of an outdoor cookout?
- What would you like to see for seminars?
- Do you want any particular children's activites?
- For Beauty Contest, Driving Contest, Challenges, etc. would you like to see trophies, plaques, or cash prizes?
- Are there any other activities that you would like to see take place at the same time as the Tow Show? Such as a Car Show?

We are very excited about this new venue for the Tow Show! Please reach out to Sue or me with any questions or suggestions. Also let us know how you would like to help. We hope to make this the best show yet and will need lots of volunteers to make it happen. There will be updates each month with more information forthcoming.

Hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving!

Crystal

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