

April 17, 2015

Fellow ASCCA Members:

Another Legislative Day has come and gone. This year's, held on April 14, was the best ever with a 20% increase in attendance over last year.

The day began in the Eureka Room at the State Capitol. Our state president, Steve Vanlandingham, welcomed everyone and introduced our special guest, Pat Dorais, chief of the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR). Mr. Dorais gave an overview of recent BAR activities and praised ASCCA for creating the excellent working relationship we have with BAR.

Jack Molodanof, ASCCA's legislative advocate, was next on the agenda. Jack briefed us on the bills we were going to be discussing with our elected officials. He also spoke about some of the "do's and don'ts" when meeting with legislators.

Afterwards, we moved on to our legislative appointments – 86 meetings with legislators were scheduled for our group by ASCCA staff.

We discussed three bills with the legislators and their staff:

- SB 8 (Hertzberg), which would extend a sales tax to our labor operations
- SB 3 (Leno), which would increase the minimum wage in California
- AB 873 (Jones), which would give BAR the authority to redefine what constitutes a "minor repair" in our industry

In addition, we provided the legislators with a copy of the ASCCA Telematics Guiding Principles. Our members did an outstanding job communicating our concerns to their elected representatives.

Our special guest speaker during our luncheon period was Assembly Member Brian Jones (kudos to John Eppstein of Chapter 24 for confirming Mr. Jones). Mr. Jones is the author of AB 873 – one of the bills we are supporting. He gave a lively presentation and is definitely in our corner fighting for our industry.

A special thank you to ASCCA board member Jeff Stich, who attended Legislative Day even though he had suffered a heart attack two weeks prior to the event. NOW THAT'S A DEDICATED MEMBER! Jeff also gave us a passionate talk about how important Legislative Day is to him and why all of us should participate in communicating with our elected officials. Thanks, Jeff, and thanks to everyone who attended and made this the best Legislative Day ever.

Respectfully,

James Justus

James Justus, Vice Chair, ASCCA Government Affairs Committee
Chapter 24 Member