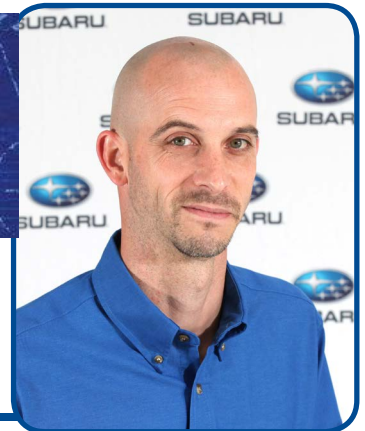




## SPECIAL EDITION

01

6TH ANNUAL SUBARU TECHNICIAN COMPETITION



Seth DeGraff of Capitaland Subaru in Glensville, NY is this year's **Subaru US National Technician Competition Champion.**

**Cherry Hill, NJ – September 26, 2016** – Subaru of America, Inc. has announced the winner of the 2016 National Technician Competition, a biennial event featuring Subaru technicians from across the country testing technical knowledge, skill and on-the-job excellence in a combination of written, diagnostic and hands-on challenges. Seth DeGraff of Capitaland Subaru in Glensville, NY was awarded top honors in this year's competition and will receive an all-expenses paid trip to compete at the Subaru World Technical Competition in Japan.

The individual event was composed of five events, one hour each, scored on accuracy, speed and service quality, including a written test on technical knowledge, on-car drivability, diagnostic and engine-only diagnostic events, alongside a bench electrical circuit event. This year, thirteen contestants from across the country participated in the competition held at Subaru of America's U.S. headquarters in Cherry Hill, NJ.

This year's winner is Seth DeGraff, a Senior Master Technician at Capitaland Subaru in Glensville, NY, who has made a career out of his passion for working on vehicles and tinkering with anything that has an engine. As both a Zone Champion (Subaru Distributors Corporation) and overall winner, DeGraff receives a prize of \$2,500, a crystal trophy and will travel to Japan next Fall to compete in the Subaru World Technical Competition.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

**CAUTION: VEHICLE SERVICING PERFORMED BY UNTRAINED PERSONS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY TO THOSE PERSONS OR TO OTHERS.**

The Subaru TechTIPS newsletter is intended for use by professional technicians ONLY. Articles are written to inform those technicians of conditions that may occur in some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper servicing of the vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and know-how to do the job correctly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that your vehicle has or will have that condition. Impreza, Legacy, Justy, Loyale, Outback, Forester, Subaru SVX, WRX, WRX STI, L.L. Bean, Baja, Tribeca, BRZ, XV Crosstrek and "Quality Driven" are Registered Trademarks.

**SUBARU OF AMERICA, INC. IS ISO 14001 COMPLIANT**

ISO 14001 is the international standard for excellence in Environmental Management Systems. Please recycle or dispose of automotive products in a manner that is friendly to our environment and in accordance with all local, state and federal laws and regulations.



QUALITY DRIVEN® SERVICE



From the remaining Zone Champions, second place honors went to **Will Wright** of Hyman Brothers Subaru in Midlothian, VA (\$1,500 total prize) while **Alan Wolfe** of Diablo Subaru of Walnut Creek, CA was awarded third place (\$1,000 total prize).

Zone Champions and runners up (in alphabetical order):

**John Campbell**

Baierl Subaru, Pittsburgh, PA

**Zachary Gibbons**

Dick Hannah Subaru, Vancouver, WA

**Gustave Hoelscher**

Austin Subaru, Austin, TX

**John Knapp**

Lee's Summit Subaru, Lee's Summit, MO

**Kevin Lopez**

Subaru Santa Monica, Santa Monica, CA

**David MacDonald**

Subaru of Orange Park, Jacksonville, FL

**Keith Mack**

Flatirons Subaru, Boulder, CO

**Christian Rawski**

Hawk Subaru, Joliet, IL

**Jonathan Scott**

Subaru of Grand Blanc, Grand Blanc, MI

**Benjamin Spidle**

Johnson Subaru of Cary, Cary, NC

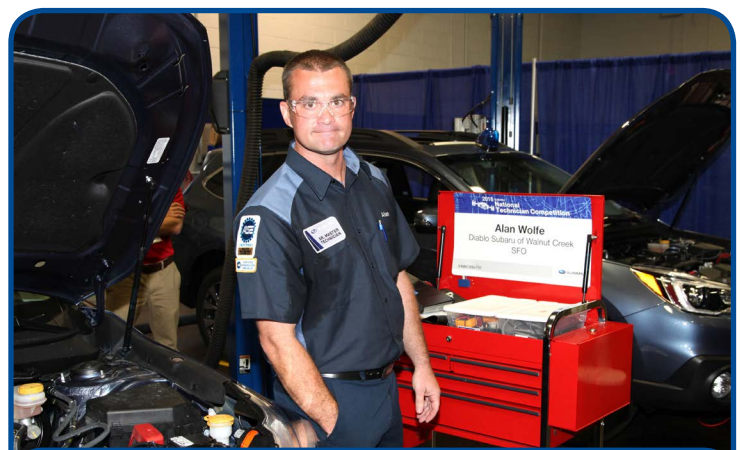
“Customer service remains a core pillar of the Subaru experience, and that includes holding our technicians to the highest standards to ensure our vehicles are returned to their owners after a service in the best possible shape to take them on their next adventures.” said Thomas J. Doll, president and COO, Subaru of America. “All of our participants this year represent the very best of our technicians throughout the nation, and we are excited to see how Seth fares in the international final in Japan.”



**Top left:** Keith Mack, Benjamin Spidle, Christian Rawski, Alan Wolfe, David MacDonald, Will Wright, Jonathan Scott, Zachary Gibbons  
**Bottom left:** Gustave Hoelscher, Seth DeGraff, John Campbell, John Knapp, Kevin Lopez



**Will Wright**  
Hyman Brothers Subaru in Midlothian, VA



**Alan Wolfe**  
Diablo Subaru of Walnut Creek, CA



The 2016 Technician Competition also featured the first ever Team Pit Crew Challenge and Express Service Challenge. For these events, the Zone Champions joined forces (by region) to compete against teams from SOA departments such as CRS, FUSA, The NRAB, and even the Subaru Executives!



#### Pit Crew Challenge Podium Winners

**Left:** Kevin Lopez, Keith Mack, Alan Wolfe, Zachary Gibbons, Jonathan Scott, John Knapp, Christian Rawski, Gustave Hoelscher, Shigeo Mizuno, Teppei Suzuki, Takahiro Saito, Masayuki Matayoshi, Jason Mesulam



#### Express Service Participants

**Left:** Jonathan Scott, Christian Rawski, Gustave Hoelscher, Kevin Lopez, John Knapp, Keith Mack, Zachary Gibbons, Alan Wolfe, John Campbell, Will Wright, David MacDonald, Seth DeGraff, Benjamin Spidle, Chad Catalano, Mark Madiraca, Scott Adickes

