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Healthy Growth and Success will continue in 2016 for ServNet

By Kevin Brown, ServNet President

It is a long-standing tradition set by the ServNet owners who have preceded me as President of this great group of auctions to take some time at the close of the year to assess our achievements over the past twelve months and to look forward to the great things in store for us in 2016.

As ServNet's new president, it is with gratitude and tremendous admiration that I acknowledge the contributions of two great leaders who have held this position before me. This year, R. Charles Nichols steps down as ServNet's Chairman of the



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Board after many years of inspired and tireless service on our Board of Directors. He has been instrumental in extending ServNet's influence on the industry and presence in the marketplace. Taking Charles' place as Chairman is Patty Stanley, who has been equally diligent in serving the past two years as ServNet's president. She has built a tremendous legacy in her leadership role with ServNet, shaped by integrity and a work ethic that has been crucial in ServNet's recognition as an industry leader. I appreciate the examples both Charles and Patty have set as independent auction owners and their efforts on behalf of all the auctions in the ServNet Auction group.

2015 was another year of healthy growth for ServNet, and we were pleased to welcome three new locations who now carry the ServNet brand: Akron Auto Auction in Ohio, Greater Rockford Auto Auction in Illinois, and Greenville Auto Auction in North Carolina. Being approached by auction owners who want to align themselves with ServNet is a tremendous acknowledgment of the success of our organization and a testament to the ServNet auction owners who continue to set such fine examples of committed, customer-focused leadership.

In addition to the new locations joining ServNet, other ServNet auctions launched important expansion projects in 2015, evidence of their success in the marketplace: the Brasher family opened a new location in Fresno, California. Missouri Auto Auction completed a major remodeling project to make way for new accounts and added consignment. BSC Bel Air Auto Auction broke ground on an all-new 10-lane, 175-acre auction facility. Greater Rockford Auto Auction opened a new Reconditioning Facility just last summer and recently reconfigured and remodeled its auction arena.

Sparkling City Auto Auction in San Antonio continues an almost non-stop pattern of growth and expansion: after adding a 6th auction lane and an additional sale day just last year, the Walker family will add seven acres and two more lanes in mid-2016. And we are excited by the latest news from John Luce and Bill Williams, Jr, owners of Flint Auto Auction, who will open a new auction in Detroit in mid-2016. ServNet's growth will continue in 2016, as we evaluate additional independent locations across the country who see the value of working with the leading auction owners in the country, learning from one another and offering the very best in service and commitment to national commercial accounts.

In 2016 we will continue to address the CFPB Compliance issue. I follow Patty Stanley's lead in addressing this issue not as a problem to be solved but as an opportunity for growth and improvement for every auction in our group. We are working closely with our commercial partners to develop and implement critical strategies, alongside superior service in every aspect of the auction process.

We are excited to announce that ServNet will host the World Automobile Auctioneer Championships at Missouri Auto Auction in 2016. That event will precede trademark

promotions at ServNet auctions that have become not only nationally recognized but have set an industry standard: The Smoker Sale at Brasher's Idaho Auto Auction, the Rock & Roll Sale at DAA Northwest, and Guitars & Cars at KCI Kansas City, to name just a few. I am also happy to announce that we will roll out ServNet's scholarship program in 2016, in support of the next generation in our auction families.

As we move into the New Year, I have every confidence that one thing will not change: the commitment and dedication of ServNet auction owners, who are in the lanes every sale day providing the very best in auction service. Backed by generations of experience and carried forward by second and third generation owners, the auctions in the ServNet Auction group share a tradition of excellence and spirit of cooperation that has made ServNet a vital and moving force in the remarketing industry.

On behalf of all the ServNet auction owners, I express our gratitude for the great relationships we have built in the industry, for the successes we have shared in 2015 and for the promise of good things ahead in 2016. We wish you the happiest of holidays, and a prosperous New Year.