

## REAL ESTATE OWNERS



LEFT TO RIGHT: MARTY KOGON, ROSS KOGON, GREGG COHEN & MARK COHEN

### Cohens & Kogons Pull-A-Part, Georgia

In the southeastern United States, self-service means Pull-A-Part. That name recognition has spread to the Midwest. Headquartered in Atlanta, Ga., Pull-a-Part (PullAPart.com) currently has 23 locations in the United States, with the newest Canton, Ohio location opening in 2009.

Four partners - Mark Cohen, Alan Cohen, Marty Kogon and Ross Kogon - split ownership of the nearly two dozen locations. Gregg Cohen is also coming up in the ranks.

Pull-A-Part emerged in the mid-1990s as a side business to Morris Cohen's (Mark's grandfather) scrap metal business, Central Metals. Today the self-service leader has locations in Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina and Tennessee.

The business is committed to the industry and the environment and not just focused on opening one facility after another. Ross spoke at the 2009 annual ARA convention in Lexington, Ky. and Pull-A-Part's executive vice president Steve Levetan champions auto recycler legislation like Cash for Clunkers.

"Pull-A-Part is an industry leader in the [self-serve] division and in government affairs," said ARA Secretary Chris Wright, owner of Capital Auto Parts, Inc. in Thomasville, Ga. "It has established a first-class operation and continues to spend endless time and resources to protect our industry. It is also a valued member of several industry associations."

Pull-A-Part has won numerous environmental awards, including two in 2009. The first-ever Conserve Georgia Recycling Award recognized an outstanding achievement to minimize the impact of waste and promote recycling. The Partnership for a Sustainable Georgia awarded its Sustainability Award to Pull-A-Part to recognize its efforts to reduce its environmental footprint.

"It is refreshing to see their method of operation," said ARA Immediate Past President Linda Pitman, owner of Dulaney Auto & Truck Parts in Amarillo, Texas. "The business layout and environmentally-friendly use of land demonstrates auto recycling at its best. Thanks to their business philosophy the consumer that uses their self-service facility is helped and encouraged." ❧

BY ERIN SANDAGE • PHOTO: SUE BUXTON