



# PROPANE EXCHANGE

Oct–Nov 2014 \* West Virginia Propane Gas Association

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in this issue.*

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| March 16-17, 2015 | Spring Membership Mtg<br>Embassy Suites<br>Charleston, WV |
| April 13-15, 2015 | NPGA Southeastern<br>Convention<br>Atlanta, GA            |
| June 22-26, 2015  | CETP Training<br>Days Inn<br>Flatwoods, WV                |



New Board Elected

## Industry Gets Ready for Winter

**Vowing not to be unprepared**, members of the West Virginia Propane Gas Association spent the last membership meeting of the year focusing on how to avoid the mistakes of last winter and be better prepared.

**Presentations covered** the supply situation, shale gas availability, regulatory and legislative relief available and consumer and safety training materials to use to position one's company for supply and deliver a cohesive message to customers.

**Information, consumer messages and regulatory updates** continue to be come out from NPGA and PERC to those who have signed up for these email bulletins. WVPGA's website continues to provide valuable information as well.

**Also at the Fall Annual Meeting**, a new Board of Directors for 2014-16 was elected and installed. Here are your new officers and directors:

President: Caroline Hensley, AmeriGas/PTI  
 Vice President: Karen Elliott, Roach Energy  
 Immediate Past President: Rick Bowen, Airgas USA  
 Directors: David Bertelsen, Matheson Tri-Gas  
 Brian Crespo, Blue Flame, Inc.  
 Forest Herron, Herron's Training & Consulting  
 Jim Mason, Gas Equipment Company  
 Dave Meyers, Dominion Transmission  
 Pat Shay, Tarantn Tank & Equipment  
 Rusty Surface, Southern States Cooperative  
 David White, Thompsons Gas

Executive Director Tom Osina will fill in as Secretary & Treasurer.

Committee Chairs are:

Legislative: Brian Crespo  
 Marketing & Meetings: Karen Elliott  
 Membership: Forest Herron & Jim Mason  
 Safety & Education: Rick Bowen & Rusty Surface

**The next membership meeting** is set for March 16-17, 2015 at the Embassy Suites, Charleston, WV

## NPGA Weighs In

**NPGA has made** its views formally known with the Department of Energy as part of the agency's Quadrennial Energy Review (QER). According to DOE, "this first-ever review will focus on energy infrastructure and will identify the threats, risks, and opportunities for U.S. energy and climate security, enabling the federal government to translate policy goals into a set of integrated actions. The Presidential Memorandum created an interagency task force co-chaired by the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy and the Special Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change. The Department of Energy will help coordinate interagency activities and provide policy analysis and modeling, and stakeholder engagement."

**NPGA noted** the industry's unique position in America's energy landscape: "The propane industry differs from many of the other energy industries in that propane is transported by a variety of modalities-pipeline, rail, motor carrier, ship, and barge. While these modalities give the propane industry considerable optionality compared to the other energy sectors, it also creates a more complex industry.

**As the challenging conditions** of the winter of 2013-14 demonstrated, efficient functioning of this infrastructure is essential to serving America's propane consumers. The rapidly changing patterns of energy flow in North America are causing dramatic changes in energy infrastructure. Pipelines, the most economical and safe means of transporting propane, appear to be diminishing in significance for propane as they are being repurposed. Rail and motor carriers appear to be becoming more critical, yet each faces challenges, as the propane industry found this past winter. The dramatically increasing volumes of propane exports are also having a disruptive effect on propane infrastructure and propane markets."

**The QER process** played out in several meetings across the United States on various topics, including: energy infrastructure finance, electricity transmission, infrastructure constraints, rail, barge, and truck transportation, and petroleum product transmission and distribution. NPGA participated in the former meeting and was represented at the meeting dedicated to New England Regional Infrastructure Constraints. Final recommendations are expected in early 2015.

*"The rapidly changing patterns of energy flow in North America are causing dramatic changes in energy infrastructure."*

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## Getting Ready for Winter



*Get your copy of NPGA's "Propane Supply Planning" white paper by contacting the WVPGA Association Office.*

**One of the key benefits** of propane is that it doesn't degrade or go bad like other fuels, making it safe and easy to store during the winter months. Still, here are some additional safety tips to share with customers:

- \* **Gather the unused propane cylinders** bought for gas grills, mowers, or forklifts. Secure the cylinders in an outdoor storage cage or other protected storage area away from ignition sources.
- \* **Mark your propane tank** with a flag, pole, or stake higher than the average snow cover depth for your area. These markers will help you avoid plowing into or shoveling snow on top of your tank.
- \* **Maintain winter access** to your outdoor storage tank, keeping a path clear of snow and ice.
- \* **Take advantage** of automatic delivery options if available. This allows the propane retailer to efficiently plan a route and keep your tank adequately supplied.
- \* **If you're not part** of an automatic delivery program, it's recommended that you call for delivery when your tank is at 30 percent full. This will avoid running empty in times of heavy snowfall when roads may be inaccessible for delivery.

## National Propane Gas Foundation Scholarship Fund

Education. Success. Scholarship.



## Apply Now for 2015-2016 NPGF Scholarships

Applications open on August 15, 2014.

Planning for your child's college fund? Apply for a NPGF Scholarship today. Completed applications must be submitted by February 15, 2015.

View eligibility requirements and complete your application at: [www.npga.org/scholarship](http://www.npga.org/scholarship)  
Successful applicants will be notified by May 2015.



# WIP... OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

WOMEN IN PROPANE COUNCIL

Some of the strongest industry leaders created WIP and connected us across the nation. Our mission is to provide positive opportunities for all members of our industry to support the advancement and success of women.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Hands-on training sessions • Education seminars  
Networking opportunities • Mentoring programs  
Professional Development

Opportunities for leadership roles within WIP

Corporate Members are allowed unlimited number of employees to enroll which will support the professional development of each employee

## IT'S EASY TO JOIN

Visit [www.npga.org/wip](http://www.npga.org/wip)

Simply click on either the Individual Membership link or the Corporate Membership link and fill out the application form.

\$25 Individual Member • \$25 Friend of WIP • \$500 Corporate Member

# NPGA

NATIONAL PROPANE GAS ASSOCIATION  
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