



2010 LPGA Members

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Lacox Propane Gas
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American Welding & Tank LLC
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CUI Distribution
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Moulden Supply Co. Inc.
Quality Steel Corp.
Smith's LP Supply
Tarantin Tank & Equipment Co.
Targa Resources
Trinity Containers, LLC

Dear LPGA Family...

As the year 2010 rolls to a close, we welcome the first signs of winter, which offer a chilly breeze and a touch of frost in the morning. Most might not wish for colder weather; but we propane folks greet it with a smile.

And here's better news: Our Market Development rebate program is off and running! Propane hot water equals year-round gallons that we can surely appreciate. Existing funds will allow for 666 rebates. Multiply that times an average of 200 gallons a year, and we have increased domestic gas sold per year by 133,200 gallons. Fellow members, this is only the tip of the iceberg. I foresee even stronger support for this rebate program and sense a strong possibility that it will soon include other appliances like clothes dryers and the coveted central heat! If you have yet to sign up for the rebate program, go to <http://www.louisianapropane.com>.

On behalf of the LPGA, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Commission Director John Alario for working so hard on the rebate program and helping to make the proposal a reality.

Don't forget that our 2011 Summer Convention will be in New Orleans this year. A good time will surely be had by all! We are looking for new ideas this year that could help the Association raise funds and, perhaps, have some fun while we're doing it. So please, contact me with your thoughts.

We must, as an Association, bear in mind the importance of three things: invest, unite, support. INVEST: Monetary investment comes automatically with your dues. In order to get complete, comprehensive benefits from the Association you must invest time and plain, "old school" service. UNITE: We should unite not only with member companies within the Association and LPG Commission, but outside companies as well. We need to break down walls and open dialogue. We also need to build stronger relationships with professionals such as builder associations and HVAC contractors. SUPPORT: LPGA needs your support! Legislation can be a challenging measure in our industry. We have accomplished a great deal in the past, but we still have much work ahead of us; and it will not get done without your leadership, dedication and financial support. Membership participation and dedication is crucial to the efforts and viability of our beloved Association.

I hope your 2010 has been a prosperous and enjoyable year. I also hope that your 2011 will be even better. Remember, nothing is possible without the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. I ask His blessing on you and the LPGA. May you have a Merry Christmas and a happy, safe New Year!

Sincerely,

David L. Reed, 2010-2011 LPGA President

2010 Leadership Summit in D.C.

The National Propane Gas Association and the Propane Education and Research Council held an annual Leadership Conference on November 3 and 4, 2010 in Washington D.C. This annual meeting is an opportunity for State Association leaders to meet and discuss best practices and issues. The conference also gives members a chance to learn about industry news.

At the meeting, NPGA announced the following:

- National Propane Gas Fund scholarship has had changes. Applications must be submitted by March 1. See page 4 for details.
- 2011 Dues Increase. There will be a 3% Dues increase for all NPGA members.
- NPGA stated the Association's current primary goals:
 - *Preserve check off programs
 - *Achieve natural gas parity
 - *Promote alternative fuels vs. renewable
 - *Change federal policy
 - *Differentiate from oil and link to natural gas

•NPGA provided a legislative update stating priority issues including:

*Climate/energy policy - According to the legislative update provided, the November 2 election "rings a death knell" for comprehensive climate legislation and opens up opportunities for smaller pieces of NPGA growth agenda like autogas vehicle conversion reform and tax incentives.

*Alternate fuel tax extenders.

*Propane Education and Research Act (PERA) defense – NPGA is seeking legislation to reform commerce methodology so PERC can continue consumer education programs. The Government Accountability Office report found nothing improper but raised questions about PERC spending priorities. The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources hearing echoed GAO; thus, NPGA goals have evolved to focus on defending PERA.

*Natural Gas Act expansion.

*Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (HMTA) reauthorization.

*Chemical Plant Security.

*Card Check.

•Consumer advocacy group, Public Citizen, reopened Hours of Service Docket regarding concerns that HOS regulations were not stringent enough. The final rule is required by July 2011. This means that 11 hour driving times could be reduced to 8 hours.

•NPGA reported efforts to support the Full Fuel Cycle ap-

proach to the Department of Energy's method of measuring appliance energy efficiency. This approach measures from point of extraction to processing plant through transmission and distribution systems to point of use. Propane has a much more favorable evaluation than electricity.

•NPGA discussed involvement in codes and standards practices, including NFPA 58-2011 edition. Specifically cathodic protection requirements and the National Fuel Gas Code – 2012 edition. Major changes in NFPA 58-2011 include:

*Cathodic protection required for underground and mounded containers.

*Restrictions on interchangeable containers do not apply to cargo tanks. Containers 3,000 gallons or less, that have been used to store anhydrous ammonia cannot be converted to propane service. Temporary installations limited to 12 months unless approved by the Authority having Jurisdiction.

*Refurbished cylinders must have valves and appurtenances protected during refurbishment process.

*Flexible, non-metallic conduits must meet UL 1660 as new material permitted for venting regulators.

*Seven foot relief stack is no longer required.

*Overfill Prevention Device valves on motor vehicle systems must be tested annually. Can use Fixed Maximum Liquid Level Gauges (FMLLG) or other means to verify OPD operation.

*Must remove plastic sleeves from cylinders prior to refilling to facilitate more thorough visual inspection.

•National Fuel Gas Code (on purging)

*Smaller systems can be purged indoors through:

-An appliance burner with continuous ignition source

-A purge burner with a continuous ignition source

-When monitored by a listed combustible gas detector

-When using written procedures developed by the gas supplier

-Smaller systems can also be purged outdoors

•CETP Recertification - current certifications have no expiration. NPGA General Counsel believes that by continuing to hold someone as a qualified professional, there needs to be a way to demonstrate that individual remains qualified. NPGA CTEP Certification Committee will propose to set expirations on certification period. Details have not been

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National Propane Gas Foundation Scholarship Fund

The National Propane Gas Foundation Scholarship Fund was established in 1994 by a committed group of energized volunteers. Its purpose is to foster education opportunities for the children of National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) member companies by offering scholarships to colleges or vocational/technical schools. The fund provides annual scholarships in the amounts of \$1,000 and \$2,000.

For eligibility, all candidates must meet the following criteria:

- High school senior or an undergraduate student with a grade point average of at least 2.6 (or equivalent).
- Plans to be a full-time student for the upcoming school year in an undergraduate degree program by an accredited college or university, or enrolled in a vocational or technical school.
- A legal dependent of an employee of a member of the National Propane Gas Association. The parent or guardian's work must be directly related to the propane industry, and the parent or guardian in the propane industry must claim the applicant on as a dependent on his/her federal tax return.
- When an affiliated state or regional association is a Platinum Donor, the employer must also be a member of that association for the applicant to be eligible for that state's award.

The application process begins each year on September 15. To apply for an NPGF scholarship, you must submit your application directly online:

- Visit www.npgs.org.
- Click on the NPGF Scholarship Fund link from the homepage.
- Click on "Apply Online."
- Please note the following change for the 2010-2011 Application Year and all subsequent years: Applications must be started no later than March 1. It will not be possible to begin an application after March 1. The application must be completed and all required information must be received by March 15, 2011.
- Successful applicants will be notified in mid-to-late June 2011.

The following data are required from each candidate:

- An official application form (submitted online only).
- Two completed evaluation letters (E-1 and E-2), submitted by email only to scholarship@npga.org, directly by the evaluator.
- Official transcripts of all high school and college records

(college students who have completed one or more years of college only need to send their college transcripts). Transcripts may be emailed, faxed, or mailed to NPGF Scholarship Program at the address listed below and must be postmarked by March 15.

- Authorization to release family financial information (located on the last page of the online application).

If you have questions, please contact Stuart B. McLean, NPGA, 1899 L Street, N.W., Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20036, phone 202/355-1328, fax 202/466-7205, email: smclean@npga.org.

For additional information on the NPGF Scholarship Fund, visit NPGA online at www.npga.org.

Propane Safety Tips

Before you fry another turkey or grill another burger, remember these valuable propane safety tips to help you and your family stay safe during the holiday season:

- Never leave your propane tank inside a vehicle.
- Never attempt to fill your propane tank yourself; always have your tank filled only by qualified professionals.
- When transporting, always secure the tank in the upright position on the floor of the back seat. Keep a window open to provide ventilation in case the tank you are transporting begins to leak.
- Always store propane tanks outdoors, upright on a stable base that won't burn.
- Keep your tank a reasonable distance from your grill or other heat source where high temperatures are given off.
- Before turning your tank on, always inspect the tank for dings, rust, leaks, or other wear and tear. When in doubt, see a qualified professional for a repair or replacement.
- Never use a lighter or matches to check for gas leaks.
- If you detect a gas leak, contact your local fire department immediately.
- Always turn the grill off at the gas source first, then the burners.
- Always leave the lid on your grill open during lighting.
- Check your grill gas hose before each use for brittleness, tears, and leaks.
- Never store cleaning fluids, gasoline, oil soaked rags, or other flammable liquids near a gas-burning appliance where vapors could be ignited by the pilot light.
- Learn what propane smells like. Propane retailers have scratch-and-sniff cards to help you and your family readily identify a leak.



Let us be your propane supplier.

Contact

John Edwards (800) 259-9840 or **Muggs Athey** (800) 256-5122

Summit-Continued from Page 2
decided.

The NPGA Executive Committee also approved a New Exam Fee of \$85 and an annual new proctor fee of \$50 which applies to all proctors. This is to offset costs for extensive updates to programming services for proctor training modules. Pending Board approval in February, new fees will become effective March 1, 2011.

- The NPGA Member Services update provided clear definitions of multistate marketers in relation to dues.

- *A multistate marketer is defined as having 15+ retail locations with 7+ retail location outside their head-quarter state.

- *Intrastate marketers are marketers that do not qualify under the multistate marketer definitions.



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.....and more!