

April 2020



***Newsletter of the Virginia Propane Gas Association***



# Notes from The President

Dear Members,

It is my hope this finds each of you well and healthy. COVID-19 has been an eye opener to us all here in Virginia and to everyone around the world. Let us all hope the stay at home order along with social distancing is beginning to turn this pandemic around. Remember all the medical professionals working tirelessly every day to bring an end to COVID-19 and those treating patients who need care. All patients and workers need our prayers.

After much consideration early in this outbreak, the executive board determined the Spring meeting at Kingsmill should be canceled. Thank you, Lesley, for all your work coordinating the cancellation without penalty to the association. Kingsmill was extremely professional and rescheduled our next spring VAPGA meeting back at Kingsmill in 2021. Please express your appreciation to Kingsmill anytime you have the chance. This action all took place prior to the Governors stay at home order, so all worked out for the betterment of the association.

On that note we are still set to have our board meeting by conference call on originally scheduled date of April 21, 2020. Call in instructions will be sent out to membership prior as well as scheduled time. On April 20, 2020, we will hold committee meeting via conference call at scheduled time intervals so members may participate in more than one meeting. I ask all committee chairs and members to truly focus on any issues that may need be presented to the board. I also encourage members to call in to the board meeting so all can stay abreast of what is going on in our state and association. We need you.

Moving on, certainly hope the pandemic is over prior to our wonderful annual meeting at Virginia Beach. This will be our last blast at the Hilton and should be fun. I know it will be great seeing everyone again and maybe, just maybe, shake your hand. In 2021 our annual meeting will move to the newly constructed Marriott, a couple miles up the road from the Hilton. Looks like a really great place and the change of scenery will be good.

A quick note, the nominating committee has completed their work for officers in the coming year. Those details will be released by the secretary within the next 30- 40 days.

PERC council member Randy Doyle held a Workforce meeting at Tiger Fuels in March prior to "stay at home order." The group was formed as a task force to investigate sources for training and recruiting propane industry personnel. I will not get into the details, as I will leave that to Randy, but several options are being explored and our plan is to create viable recruiting and training resources.

Stay safe, wash your hands, and maintain social distance until this passes. Look forward to seeing everyone at the beach.



Taft Yeatts, VAPGA President

## **Association Management Transition**

Virginia Propane Gas Association will transition to a new association management team on May 1, 2020. I want to thank Alliance Group, Rob, Lesley, and Conner for their service over the past few years. I wish you all the best going forward.

Our new association management team will be Eisenman & Associates, Richmond, VA. Rick Eisenman and his team are currently working on the transition in conjunction with Alliance, Nicole and other board members. Zach Eisenman will serve as our executive director. We can all look forward to meeting our new team at the annual meeting in July. E & A we welcome you.

# VAPGA Scholarship



## **VAPGA Scholarship Deadline: May 1, 2020**

We are rapidly approaching the extended deadline of May 1, 2020. Be sure to encourage any eligible applicants to apply today!

Scholarships are awarded based on a combination of factors such as academic performance, outside or extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, financial need, ability to follow submission instructions, etc. Winners are chosen by a committee to ensure that all applications are reviewed fairly.

## **Applications due May 1, 2020**

[Click here for Scholarship Application](#)



# VA Department of Emergency Management Information

Reminder: the Virginia Department of Emergency Management has developed a web page containing information on current state waivers, memorandum and guidance documents applicable to business coping with the impact of COVID-19. Members should bookmark this page for future reference.

<https://www.vaemergency.gov/coronavirus>

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## Upcoming Events

### **2020 VAPGA Annual Summer Meeting**



The VAPGA annual Summer meeting will take place July 12-15, 2020 at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront

3001 Atlantic Avenue Virginia Beach, VA, 23451

Click [here](#) to book your room at the Hilton

### **2020 VAPGA Annual Fall Meeting**



The VAPGA annual Fall meeting will take place October 11-13, 2020 at the Virginia located in Lynchburg, Virginia.



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# Safety Training Update

As everyone is aware by now Virginia is currently under a Statewide Stay at Home Order issued by the Governor. This order is in effect until June 10, 2020 unless amended or rescinded by further executive order.

The Virginia Propane Gas Associations training programs were scheduled to begin in May, however, in keeping with Executive Order # 55 and in the best interest of members, all training classes are canceled until further notice.

It is our intention to make training programs available as soon as allowed and it is deemed safe to do so.

At this time, we will not attempt to publish a schedule as it would likely create confusion should modifications become necessary.

VAPGA will continue to monitor developments and members will be notified as soon as we are allowed to proceed with this year's training programs.

As in the past, we still intend to offer classes in both Richmond and Roanoke for the convenience of attendees.

Should you have any questions please contact me at (434) 841-1636 or [propanetrainingservices@gmail.com](mailto:propanetrainingservices@gmail.com)

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## VAPGA Rebates

**WHO AND WHAT IS ELIGIBLE?** Rebates are available to Virginia propane customers who purchase a new propane vehicle or convert an existing vehicle with a propane system. Propane companies and their employees are eligible to receive rebates.

**WHAT VEHICLES ARE ELIGIBLE?** Any vehicle or retrofit system that is approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and/or the California Air Resources Board, and is registered and operated in the state of Virginia, is eligible for a \$2,500 incentive payment. All federal and state incentives must be applied prior to receiving rebate funds, and the funds may be used for the incremental cost of propane vehicle versus gasoline or diesel vehicle only.

**WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IN EXCHANGE FOR THE REBATE FUNDS?** An initial survey and final survey is required for each vehicle receiving an incentive. The rebate recipient also agrees to maintain and submit a quarterly report of miles driven, gallons of propane used, and anecdotal performance characteristics that will be submitted to the Virginia Propane Research & Education Foundation (VPREF) a year from the time the rebate is received. The data collected will be used to produce a document which will assist the propane industry and vehicle manufacturers with necessary data needed to evaluate vehicle performance on propane vs. gasoline, to make improvements to the vehicles and to sell the use of propane as an alternative motor fuel

We currently have **160** safe appliance rebates available.

We are once again offering the On-road Vehicle Purchase rebate as well. In total we are offering 19 rebates at \$2500 per.

Due to the transition Conner will stop taking applications on April 17, 2020 in order for Vickie to be able to process any checks and Alliance Group can hand over a clean tracking list to E&A on May 1, 2020.



# Virginia Propane Gas Association

## **PRESIDENT**

Taft Yeatts  
Davenport Energy, Chatham, VA

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Nicole Sullivan  
Anderson Propane, Fredericksburg, VA

## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Kevin Lloyd  
Augusta Petroleum Cooperative, Staunton, VA

## **TREASURER**

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## **SECRETARY**

Meghan Kulinski  
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## **NPGA STATE DIRECTOR**

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## **DIRECTOR TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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Hayley Karicofe, AmeriGas  
Stephanie Richards, Elite Power & Energy Corp  
Chuck Tunnell, CUI Distribution  
Tom Krupa, Supplier Representative, NGL Supply  
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