



THANKS TO ALL

Who Made the 2017 WPMAEXPO a Success!

What a great WPMAEXPO this year! It was another very successful year with outstanding speakers, trade show exhibitors and sponsors. I would like to thank the WPMA Executive Committee: Rick Reese – President, Ron Berry – 1st Vice President, Mark Lytle – 2nd Vice President, Dennis Campo – 3rd Vice President, Steve Clark - Senior PMAA Director, and Brad Bell – Immediate Past President, for their countless hours of preparation to make our convention successful.

Our event started with the Doug Alexander Memorial Scholarship Reception on Monday evening, hosted by WPMA President Rick Reese and his wife Karen in one of the Mirage Villa suites. We would like to thank Core-Mark and Genesee Energy for their generous sponsorship of the Scholarship reception. One hundred percent of the money donated for the reception goes to the Scholarship endowment fund. Another scholarship funding event was the Scholarship Open Golf Tournament, held Tuesday morning at Bear's Best Golf Course. All the money raised at this event helps fund the thirty-two \$4,000 Scholarships currently being paid out.

Also on Tuesday, our six Educational Sessions offered the latest updates and information on industry topics. I would like to thank the following speakers, who gave our attendees true take home value: Nancy Couch with Maverik who taught us about "Security and Tracking;" Elaine Levin and David Thompson with Powerhouse who discussed the question "Does OPEC Still Have the Power to Move the Markets?;" Adam Noble with Federated Insurance gave us a presentation on "Drive S.A.F.E.;" Michael Davis with the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS) who educated us on "Courting Generation Z;" and Lee Weech with Executech, who taught us about the "Threats and Solutions for Cybersecurity."

Our goal is to bring *WPMAEXPO* attendees some great information, to help them become more effective managers, more profitable, and more efficient. If you have any suggestions to help us achieve this goal, please give me a call or drop me an e-mail. WPMA wants to offer the type of programs you need to help your business in these competitive and challenging times.

The Wednesday Opening Session Keynote was former mayor of New York City Rudy Giuliani, who enlightened us on the six characteristics of

leadership, the issues currently facing our country, and the hard decisions that will need to be made. During this session, we honored our newest WPMA Hall of Fame Recipient, Craig Kellerstrass of Kellerstrass Oil in Salt Lake City, UT.

Wednesday's Ladies' Luncheon keynote, Noelle Pikus Pace, shared her inspirational journey to the Winter Olympics as a Silver Medalist in Skeleton. Her uplifting story of staying focused on goals and keeping a never-give-up attitude uplifted and inspired the ladies. Also on Wednesday, members were educated with a Federal Legislative Update by Rob Underwood, President of PMAA.

Thursday morning's management session was headlined by Crystal Maggelet, CEO of FJ Management. Crystal and some of her upper management gave us their "Thoughts and Preparations for the Future of Petroleum".

If you would like a copy of the presentations, use this link: www.wpma.com/national-convention/speakers.

We concluded our *2017 WPMAEXPO* with a breakfast buffet on the Trade Show Floor, and the closing of our WPMA Scholarship Silent Auction.

I hope all of you had the opportunity to attend the *WPMAEXPO* this year, and enjoyed the Keynote speaker Rudy Giuliani, educational sessions, and outstanding trade show. WPMA's Convention Committee and staff work all year on this event, and we will be having our first convention meeting in April for the "*2018 WPMAEXPO*." If you have any input on how we can improve your experience or your success at our *WPMAEXPO*, please let give me a call at 888-252-5550 or e-mail me at genei@wpma.com.

I would like to personally thank our exhibitors, attendees and sponsors for helping to make 2017 another successful year for WPMA and all its partners. Start planning for next year's *WPMAEXPO* – to be held at the Mirage Convention Center in Las Vegas on **February 20-22, 2018**.



*WPMA CEO,
Gene Inglesby*