

## Utah Update

By John Hill, UPMRA Executive Director

# Meet New UPMRA Board Member – *Blain Boelter with Holiday Oil*

*Blain grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah.* He graduated from Granger High School, served an LDS mission to London, England, where he fell in love with fish and chips drizzled with malt vinegar, and then attended the University of Utah, where he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Economics and a Political Science minor. While attending college, Blain coached football at a local high school, thinking this could be his "career," until he realized compensation for teachers and coaches is not sustainable. Blain does still enjoy supporting and coaching his sons in whatever sport they are playing at the time.

Blain has worked at Holiday Oil for 29 years. Owner, Jerry Wagstaff offered him the opportunity to learn the business shortly after Blain became engaged to his daughter, Amy. *"I think Jerry just wanted to keep a close eye on me,"* Blain jokes, *"and Jerry had me work in almost every aspect of the business."*

Blain started part-time, then was a manager, store supervisor (while managing), district manager, and is currently Vice President of Fuel Systems and Transportation. *"What I like best about the business is working with people in and out of the company to resolve the needs of our business,"* states Blain.

Blain and his wife Amy are the parents of 6 children: two girls and four boys (Adrienne, Adam, Ben, Collin, Lauren and Alec), and currently reside in South Jordan Utah.

As a family, they enjoy spending time together traveling, playing games, boating and supporting each other at various sporting events. During the summer, you can find Blain's family at a baseball game or boating on one of the nearby lakes and reservoirs.

Blain enjoys living in South Jordan, because of the relationships developed among the families in the community, who come together to support their children in whatever activity is currently being played. Through sports, dance and other community events the people in South Jordan have become close as friends, and as a community feel united.

As a new UPMRA Board Member, Blain has asked to serve where needed, and he would love to help smaller companies and single store operators manage and resolve some of their pressing issues, such as working with EPA and DEQ regulators, but also helping them improve daily operations, human resource needs, and building their businesses.

Welcome aboard Blain, and thank you for your willingness to serve UPMRA and its members!

## State Legislative Highlights

The legislative session began on January 22 and ends March 8, 2018. This year has seen the most bill files opened ever, and as of this writing, there are still eight days left in the session and a lot is yet to come. Of note thus far ...

Utah's **Petroleum Storage Tank Trust Fund** was reauthorized for an additional 10 years. **The bill increases tank upgrade or removal loan amounts to \$100,000 per tank and \$300,000 per facility.**

The UPMRA Board of Directors voted to oppose SB71 Toll Road Provisions, which passed and now allows **UDOT** to circumvent the Legislature and **designate future and/or existing roads as toll roads.** The bill that passed does not designate any toll roads, but it does establish the mechanisms for collecting future tolls and starting the process.

**With respect to alcohol issues** the .05% DUI legislation enacted last year failed to be postponed another year, and will go into effect on Dec 31, 2018. Amendments to Utah's 3.2% beer alcohol level were not tackled this session. There was an impasse on the 3.2% beer issue between general support from the legislative body and leadership. Senator Jerry Stevenson agreed to prepare a bill that would have allowed for the sale of 4.8% beer (ABW) to be sold in grocery and convenience stores, but when he requested final approval to move forward from Senate President Niederhauser, he was told "No."

Senate leadership decided to follow the recommendation of the LDS Church and take a "wait and see" approach; and gather information on how many beer SKUs disappear from store shelves, and if beer sales drop following the implementation of production beer legislation in Oklahoma, Colorado and Kansas come 2019.

**HB 324, Tobacco Regulations Amendments** adds new regulatory requirements on "specialty" tobacco stores, including local licensing, but it also adds some increased regulations and local licensing on all tobacco retailers. The State Tax Commission is getting out of licensing and enforcing tobacco to focus only on the taxation of tobacco. **The bill creates 13 local licensing boards administered by County Health Departments.** For regular retailers, the local license will remain a two-year license and stay at current rates.

Join the UPMRA Grass Roots Lobbying Team and start receiving emails on industry and association news and events, plus weekly email updates when the legislature is in session. Sign up with me: [johnhill@upmra.com](mailto:johnhill@upmra.com).

## **Park City DoubleTree to Host 2018 Convention & Trade Show**

**September 12-14, 2018**, the UPMRA Convention & Trade Show is returning to Park City and the DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton.

Mark your calendar, beginning with an afternoon member/board meeting on **Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>**, prior to our opening reception and an evening of Supplier hospitality.

**Thursday (Sept 13)** opens with our general business session, followed by lunch and the trade show. The evening is capped with a keynote dinner and live auction!

**Golf is Friday** morning at the challenging and scenic Canyons Golf Course. ***Hope to see you there!***