

Autumn Magazine 2021

Montana Message by Brad Longcake

SUMMER GREETINGS

from the Big Sky State!

As we endure what has been the hottest and driest summer on record, we hope you have found a way to stay cool and still enjoy your summer. Montana is amongst the Western states facing horrible drought conditions and a terrible fire season. We are also seeing record breaking numbers of visitors to our great state and all have culminated into conditions that are stretching our resources.

The MPMCSA has been very busy addressing some of the logistical challenges facing our members secondary to the unusual conditions of the last year. Unprecedented demand for fuel, workforce shortages, and significant fire activity have put a strain on resources across the state. Jet fuel shortages have been a major concern given the fire activity and the firefighting efforts. Our members have been working hard to overcome challenges related to supply chain disruptions and truck driver shortages. We have been collaborating with the Governor's and Attorney General's offices to find solutions. There are several key stake holders involved in this issue and we are hopeful that we will be able to come to a solution to help ease the pressure on our members.

In brighter news, our convention in June was a huge success. It was so good to see everyone again and spend time in Fairmont. We had beautiful weather for our largest number of golfers and shooters. MPMCSA wants to congratulate the winning golf team from Cross Petroleum of Ron Serpe, Charlie Status, Robbie Miller, and John Hanchett. These guys were not only able to fend off the other golfers, but they had to test their skills at corn hole, beersbee, ax throwing, and last but not least, putting from the toilet. We try to make this as fun as possible and I think we nailed it this year. The shooters had a good day as well, though with fewer shenanigans. Aaron Bethke with Doyles Sheehan was the shooting winner. Wednesday we were very happy to welcome several legislators from across the state, the Attorney General Austin Knudsen and Governor Greg Gianforte. Senator Daines was able to join via Zoom and provide several updates from the federal level. We finished off the convention with our live and silent auctions. This is a great event that helps bring our members and vendors together to celebrate the end of a great year. MPMCSA would like to thank our sponsors, vendors, members, and support staff that help to make this the greatest convention around.

The MPMCSA Board of Directors is proud of the work we have accomplished in 2021 so far. The value of our group has been evident. The collaboration between our members, industry leaders, consultants and vendors has proved to be an effective means to protect our collective interests and we are proud to be a part of it.

Brad Longcake, Executive Director MPMCSA