

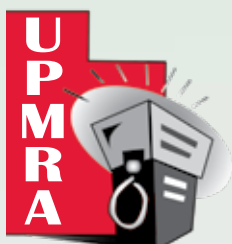
2022 WPMA State Report  
**UTAH** *Petroleum Marketers & Retailers Association Report*



John Hill  
UPMRA  
Executive Director

## 14% Gas Tax Increase Coming January 1, 2023

*In 2015, Utah State legislators* modified Utah's straight gas tax by adding an indexed aspect to the gas tax, which increases based on a rolling 3-year average. Because of high gas prices in 2022, the gas tax is set to readjust on January 1, 2023 with a 4.5 cent increase, which equates to a 14% tax hike.



UPMRA Lobbyist Gary Thorup and I attended countless fundraisers and took every opportunity to meet with legislators, encouraging them to go into special session and eliminate or at least suspend the indexed portion of the gas tax.

However, legislative leaders were opposed to suspending the indexed portion of the gas tax, so come January 1st, Utahns will be paying 36.4 cents tax per gallon for both gasoline and diesel.

## Successful 2022 Convention & Trade Show!

John Richardson with Hone Oil honored for his years of service on the UPMRA board



*Craig Bolerjack,* the voice of the Utah Jazz for over 18 seasons, was the 2022 UPMRA Keynote Speaker. Craig spoke about the importance of teamwork as he shared stories of current and previous Jazz players and coaches that stood out in his memory for their ability to build team cohesion. Over

**Dave Jardine with Rhinehart Oil also honored for his years of service on the UPMRA board**

100 attendees were present at the lunch on September 15th in Park City, Utah, where we also honored two members who retired from the UPMRA board of directors this year: John Richardson with Hone Oil and Dave Jardine with Rhinehart Oil.

## 2023 Convention & Trade Show set for St. George, Utah

*We are shaking things up in 2023...* After a long hiatus, we are returning to St. George, when the weather has cooled down. Mark your calendar for **October 25-27, 2023** and join us at the UPMRA Convention & Trade Show, in St. George, Utah.

Plan to drive your 4x4 to St. George (or we'll help you rent one), so you can participate in our first ever, Jeep Safari, with scavenger hunt and lunch on Wednesday, October 25th, followed by the UPMRA Fall board meeting and an early evening reception for networking and reconnecting. Thursday morning will begin with breakfast and educational seminars at our general business session at the Dixie Convention Center, followed by lunch served in the Trade Show area. The convention concludes with golf, lunch and prizes on Friday, October 27th. Don't miss out!

## EV Charging Infrastructure Future

*EV charging infrastructure deployment* is the most talked about topic at every national meeting we attend, because of the recently passed Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that is providing \$7.5 billion in grant funding for states to partner with the private sector to build out EV charging across the country.

EMA continues to oppose the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) proposed space separation distances that would put Petroleum Fueling locations at a big disadvantage to Quick Serve Restaurants (QSR), Hotels and other locations that don't have the potential fire hazard of motor fuel dispensing on their properties. But the even bigger threat is public utilities that use rate payer dollars to build out EV infrastructure.

## UPCOMING Meetings in 2023

### UPMRA Day on Capitol Hill – February 14, 2023

*Join UPMRA* members and State Legislators at our annual "Day on Capitol Hill" held during the 2023 legislative session. This year, on Wednesday, February 14th, invite your key employees to a noon lunch and meeting with State legislators to discuss transportation funding, EV charging infrastructure, the gas tax and other industry issues.

Depending on what issues are being debated by the legislature, we may ask you to join us after lunch to lobby State legislators.

### WPMAEXPO – February 21-23, 2023

*The 2023 WPMAEXPO* is in Las Vegas on **February 21-23** at The Mirage Convention Center, with Jon Dorenbos (Former Long Snapper for Philadelphia Eagles and a World-Class Magician) as keynote speaker. Don't miss visiting Las Vegas, where: "What Happens Here, Only Happens Here" and Vegas is ready for us!

Your attendance at the *WPMAEXPO* will benefit both you and UPMRA, which gets additional revenue-sharing dollars based on the number of attendees from Utah.

### State PAC Fundraisers – June 22 and October 26, 2023

*UPMRA holds two Golf events* every year that are the primary source of funding for our State PAC Fund, which we use to support state legislative candidates. In 2022, prior to the mid-term elections, UPMRA donated nearly \$15,000 to incumbents and industry-friendly candidates.

The UPMRA Summer Golf Classic will be held on Thursday, **June 22, 2023**, with the course still to be determined, and the UPMRA Convention Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, **October 26, 2023** in St. George, Utah.

