

The End of Summer

I am having a hard time believing it is already the first of September.

I look back and wonder where the summer has gone - and then I remember. After the WPMA Convention wraps up, WPMA starts our Spring Day on the Hill with EMA. We then move to May, with Nevada's Big Dogs' event, followed by WPMA Budget reports. June brings our Montana State Convention, and WPMA has its Spring Board Meeting in Salt Lake City. Our Washington State Convention wraps up WPMA's activities through June. Then we move into the hot summer days of July, with the Oregon Fuel Association conference, followed by the Idaho and New Mexico Petroleum Marketers Conventions in August. Next, the Utah Petroleum Marketers Convention is held in beautiful Park City, Utah in September. We then will wrap up with the Hawaii Petroleum Marketers annual golf fundraiser on the Island of Oahu on October 17, which will conclude the WPMA States' Conventions and Trade Shows. I am happy to report all our state's convention attendee and exhibitor attendance was up, and in many cases the trade show floor was sold out.

EMA's Spring Day on the Hill was a huge success, and they had record attendance from the marketers. Everyone should thank Rob Underwood and his staff for a great time in Washington D.C. We gained a lot of information at this conference. Now more than ever, our Federal Legislative challenges are going to test us. Rob reported EMA is tracking four to six issues affecting our industry; however, with this Administration, there are well over thirty issues being tracked. Information on these issues is available at www.energymarketersofamerica.org/advocacy/legislative-issues. Depending on the elections in November, our government could move this legislation to the fast track, so more than ever, it is important to be legislatively active. We will need to continue our financial support and our conference support to let our legislators

know our views, because without our voice they will steam-roll right over our industry.

The WPMA Board of Directors Meeting in June reviewed the member services provided, the membership and dues categories, the legislative issues occurring in each state, and the proposed WPMA Annual Budget. The networking was good, and the Board of Directors approved the 2022-23 annual budgets.

I closed out my summer when I attended the Utah Petroleum Marketers and Retailers Association Convention and Trade Show in Park City, Utah. John Hill and his Board of Directors worked hard on the schedule of events to be more attendee friendly and chose a beautiful venue to host the show. The Speaker lineup was fantastic! Each state convention's management sessions helped me network and get some great take-home value.

After reviewing the past months, I know how my summer was spent. I can also look back and see what a successful summer it has been, and what a great ride it has been into the fall season - where I am looking forward to snow skiing and the holiday season ahead. I am not counting or anything, but as of today there are only 116 days until Christmas — but I am not counting, really!

When you think of WPMA, think of us as a business partner - a partner who exists solely to serve you and your company's needs. If you can think of any services or management sessions you would like WPMA or our State Associations to offer, please let me know.



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