Big Shoes to Fill ...

by WPMA President, Lary Poulton

What an honor to be the 62nd president of Western Petroleum Marketers Association. As I look over the list of the past presidents, I know that I have big shoes to fill to maintain and grow what has been set in place. I will be calling on many of these past presidents and also our very capable executive committee, the staff of WPMA and especially all of you, the members. We are here to serve the association and the members, and my phone is always on. My door is always open also, so when passing through Malta, Montana, please stop.

As I am writing this on the 1st of August, harvest is getting started in our area, the County fair is this weekend and school is only two weeks away. Where did the summer go? We are very blessed to live in this great country and have the opportunities that we have. We have not had a lot of moisture this year, but the crops should be average and our livestock producers are seeing record prices. We have been fortunate to have had several good years of moisture, snow in the mountains for irrigating water and decent prices for what our customers raise for sale. As you can tell, our business is very dependent on the agriculture industry. Phillips County, where our main office is located, has a population of around 5,000 in an area of 5,212 square miles, and we have one blinking light; none of those three-color stop lights. It is a great place to do business and raise a family.

It is not too early to begin thinking about our national convention, to be held February 17th through the 19th at the Mirage in Las Vegas. We have planned a very entertaining conference, with Frank Caliendo for the main speaker. Frank is an American comedian and impressionist, best known for his work on Fox Network television, and as the in-house prognosticator for Fox NFL Sunday. We are also finalizing our speakers for the management sessions on Tuesday the 17th and Thursday morning the 19th. Our first-class trade show is shaping up to be one of the best we have seen. Make sure to visit as many vendors as you can, as these are the people that make our convention and association the best in the business. There will be more information coming out on ways that you can support our Scholar-
PMAA Membership

The Petroleum Marketers Association of America (PMAA), which consists of 48 state and regional associations, is the national trade association for oil marketers. Individuals do not belong to PMAA directly, but have membership through their state or regional organizations, such as the state associations within WPMA. Involvement in PMAA is as important as involvement in your local association. PMAA is our political arm in Washington, D.C., which represents and promotes our industry’s concerns before the U.S. Congress and the various governmental regulatory agencies. PMAA is governed by a Board of Directors which consists of one individual from each of the 48 member associations, along with eight officers. All board members have equal status and a single vote, regardless of the size of their individual association.

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