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ROOM BLOCK FILLING UP FAST FOR 2009 WPMA CONVENTION AND CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO

Make your reservations soon at The Mirage Hotel for the upcoming 2009 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo. The room block is filling up fast, so act now! The room block cut-off date is January 16, 2009.

You may call The Mirage at 1-800-499-6311 and **ask for the WPMA rate**. The room rate is \$195.00.

ENTER TO WIN A 2009 ARCTIC CAT ATV AND SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION!

The WPMA Scholarship Foundation will be giving away a 2009 Arctic Cat ATV at the upcoming WPMA Convention in Las Vegas! The ATV is a limited edition sport utility model with a beefy 550 HI EFI engine. A 3000-pound winch, hand warmers, machined aluminum rims, and a 2" ball receiver hitch sweeten what is already an incredible package. To get a look at this stunning ATV, go to the Arctic Cat Web site: <http://www.arctic-cat.com/atv/dirt.asp?category=UTILITY&model=550H1EFILE>.

Raffle tickets for this ATV cost \$100 each. Only 250 tickets will be sold, so your chances of winning are great! Buy one or buy 10 to increase your chances! But hurry - tickets are expected to sell out by the end of December. A great stocking stuffer! For more information on how you can purchase raffle tickets, contact the WPMA office: 801-263-9762, or toll-free (888) 252-5550.

Void where prohibited. Must be 21 or older to participate. You need not be present to win. Taxes and licensing not included. Shipping within the continental US will be provided.

ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CHAIRS MAY SWAP GAVELS

In what would amount to a significant philosophical shift in the House Subcommittee with leadership of climate change legislation, Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA) and Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) may switch subcommittee chairs in the 111th Congress. Boucher has led the Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee since 2007, and has been criticized by environmentalists as being too soft on industry in his development of global warming legislation.

Markey chairs the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, and he also introduced his own climate bill (HR 6186) in June, which would cap greenhouse gas emissions at 85 percent below 2005 levels by 2025, a target far more aggressive than Boucher and Dingell proposed.

Markey is the third ranking Democrat on the full committee and Boucher is the fourth. Although Markey may be reluctant to give up his position on the Telecommunications Subcommittee, he is strongly allied with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), who named him chairman of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming in the 110th Congress, and with the new Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry A. Waxman (D-CA).

If Boucher does turn over his gavel to Markey, he will also retain his membership on the Energy Subcommittee and he will remain actively involved in trying to shape a more moderate climate bill.

PMAA FORMS ALTERNATIVE FUELS TASK FORCE

PMAA Chairman Matt Bjornson has formed a new PMAA Alternative Fuels Task Force to help craft PMAA policy recommendations to Congress and federal agencies on the plethora of renewable and alternative fuels initiatives expected in 2009. Iowa marketer and PMAA Director Bret Richards of K & S Oil in Irvin, Iowa has agreed to chair the task force and he brings practical experience in marketing ethanol, biodiesel and other alternative fuels to the position. PMAA's Manager of Congressional Relations, Rob Underwood, will provide staff support for the task force. Bret Richards plans to conduct periodic conference call meetings, as needed.

Task Force Members appointed are: Mike Bailey, Wyoming; Mark McBride, Tennessee; Dawn Carlson, Iowa; Dawna Leitzke, South Dakota; Benny Hodges, New Mexico; Davis Cosey, Georgia; Mark Morgan, PTSA; Andrea Martincic, Arizona; Tim Keigher, Nebraska; Matt Cota, Vermont; Lea Wilson, Washington; Aaron Wilcox, Washington; and Bob Kroghman, Minnesota.

ENVIRONMENT AND BUSINESS GROUPS OPPOSE E-15

A coalition of lobbying groups including the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers, Clean Air Task Force, Earthjustice, Environmental Working Group, International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, Motorcycle Industry Council, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Specialty Vehicle Institute of America, National Petrochemical and Refiners Association, America Lung

Association, Sierra Club, and the Engine Manufacturers Association have urged EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson not to take action on raising allowable ethanol content in regular gasoline blends without undergoing extensive research on the impact on consumer safety protections and environmental factors. PMAA's Alternative Fuels Task Force will be examining the issues surrounding higher ethanol blends.

One of the latest ideas being vetted with some officials is allowing E-15 for regular unleaded gasoline but restricting premium to E-10. We are not making this up. In this scenario, consumers purchasing gasoline for small engines (chainsaws, lawnmowers, outboards, etc.) would only buy premium. The potential complications with this approach are numerous.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE WPMA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION SILENT AUCTION

In 2009, the WPMA Scholarship Foundation will award \$32,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors. The Foundation receives a large portion of its working capital through income from the annual Scholarship Silent Auction held at the WPMA convention in February. Please support the Scholarship Foundation by donating an item to the 2009 Scholarship Silent Auction.

Past Silent Auction donations have included tickets to sporting events, vacation packages, decorator items, electronics, sports equipment, logo clothing, jewelry, tools, accessories, etc. If you would like to donate an item, please contact Kathy Michaelis at the WPMA office: 888-252-5550, or e-mail kathym@wpma.com.

EIGHT \$4,000 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR 2009 GRADUATING SENIORS!

Do you or your full-time employees have graduating high school seniors in your homes? All children of full-time employees of WPMA member companies are eligible to apply for the 2009 WPMA Scholarships. Eight \$4,000.00 scholarships are awarded each year – one in each of the WPMA states, and one to a student from an associate member company.

With such a select group applying for the scholarships, your students' chances are greatly enhanced. Please take the time to inform your employees about this great benefit of WPMA membership! For more information, contact Kathy Michaelis at the WPMA office at 801-263-9762, e-mail kathym@wpma.com, or download an application from the WPMA Web site: www.wpma.com, under the Scholarship link. **Application deadline is March 1, 2009.**

2009 WESTERN PETROLEUM MARKETERS CONVENTION & CONVENIENCE STORE EXPO LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Start planning now for the 2009 WPMA Convention and Convenience Store Expo. It will once again be held at the Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mark your calendars for February 17-19, 2009.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2009

June 9-11, 2009 – MPMCSA Convention, Trade Show & Golf – Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT
June 18, 2009 – UPMRA Golf Classic – Wasatch Mountain State Park, Midway, UT
June 23-25, 2009 – WOMA Convention and Golf Tournament – Suncadia Resort, Cle Elum, WA
July 29-30, 2009 – IPM&CSA Convention and Golf Tournament – Sun Valley Resort, Sun Valley, ID
August 30-31, 2009 – NMPMA Convention and Golf Tournament – Embassy Suites, Albuquerque, NM
September 20-22, 2009 – UPMRA Convention and Golf Tournament – Courtyard Marriott, St. George, UT

Petro Pete: "Accept that some days you are the pigeon and some days the statue."

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If you do not wish to receive information via fax or e-mail, please contact WPMA at: (801) 263-9762, Fax: (801) 262-9413, or e-mail: janr@wpma.com. Thanks.