
Virginia Petroleum Convenience and Grocery Association



update

Michael J. O'Connor, President

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www.vpcga.com

70th Anniversary Meeting in Key Largo Deadline Fast Approaching

Room Block Almost Full!

We are less than 2 months away from the VPCGA 70th Anniversary Celebration at the Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, FL . Our event will begin with a gala opening reception on Friday, April 20th by the lagoon. Today, we are pleased to announce the speakers for our business session to be held Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. PMAA President Rob Underwood will join us to update members on regulatory and legislative initiatives they are pursuing in Washington DC. As many will recall Steve Uphoff sold the UPPY's convenience store chain in 2010 to focus on other business interests. He didn't stay out of the industry for long, however, purchasing a Key West based oil distributorship with twelve convenience stores. Steve will share with us the challenges of transporting product more than 100 miles on a two lane road and the significant impact Hurricane Irma had on his stores, employees, and customers. The rest of Friday and Saturday will be open to explore the tremendous recreational opportunities offered at the resort. We also have a golf round set up for Saturday at the Hammock Course which requires additional registration fee. Sunday evening will feature cocktails on the beach followed by the anniversary dinner.

The reservation deadline is March 30th. Our block of individual rooms at the \$369 oceanfront rate has dwindled to just a couple, however there are two-bedroom condos available outside of our block at the rate of \$699/night. To make your reservations with the Ocean Reef Club, [click here](#).

Our group rate has been extended beyond the 23rd, however those reservations are on a space available basis.

Please register with VPCGA [here](#).

Strauss Scholarship Applications Now Accepted

Applications are being accepted for the 2018 S. Frank Strauss Scholarship Program. This program was established in the 1970's in recognition of Mr. Frank Strauss, who was the long time executive director of the Virginia Food Dealers Association. This program is open to VPCGA members, their employees and the children of VPCGA employees. Awards are made after review by the Association's scholarship committee, which considers need as well as academic achievement in their evaluation. Recipients must be high school graduates by June of this year and attend a post secondary institution of higher education in the fall of 2018. You can view the [application here](#). Complete applications must be received by April 15. You may also post [this flyer](#) for your employees.

SE Petro-Food Show Next Week

Don't forget to register for the SE Petro-Food Expo to be held next week, March 7th & 8th, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center, Myrtle Beach, SC. The tradeshow, which we co-host with North and South Carolina associations, will feature exhibits by manufactures, suppliers and distributors of products and services used in the operation of bulk plants, convenience stores, major oil companies, car washes, service stations, transport carriers, environmental services and others which will include many of our VPCGA associate members. The show also features free educational seminars. This event is a great way to network, meet and connect with the retail industry's leaders and innovators, as well as see and learn about the latest technology trends and products. For more information and/or to register to attend the tradeshow, visit the link below. VPCGA will again be hosting our reception in the McNair Suite, our hospitality room, on Wednesday after the trade show. We hope to see you there.

For more information or to register to attend, [click here](#).