

# update

Michael J. O'Connor, President

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## William B. Holtzman is the 2017 Virginia Oilman of the Year



Sunday evening at the Homestead, William B. Holtzman (*pictured left*), owner and president of Holtzman Corp, in Mt Jackson received the industry's highest award when he was named Virginia's 40th Oilman of the Year. He was presented the traditional Wedgewood clock by 2016 recipient Mike Neish (*right*). A native of Mount Jackson, VA, Bill Holtzman initially began his career in agriculture in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. In 1972 while working full time in the apple industry, he purchased a small, local Gulf fuel business for \$37,000, and worked tirelessly in the evenings and on weekends to launch his new business, Holtzman Oil Corp. Today, Holtzman Oil Corp. distributes petroleum fuels under the Exxon, Mobil, Shell, Liberty and Pure brand names in Virginia, Maryland and West Virginia and is one of the largest employers in Shenandoah County, Virginia. In addition, Holtzman Oil Corp. distributes bulk and package lubricants and operates Holtzman Equipment and Construction.

Under his leadership, several additional companies have been started. In 1991,

Little Apple Corp. opened their first Burger King restaurant and in 1996 Little Apple II Corp. opened their first Denny's restaurant. In 1997, Holtzman Propane, LLC started operations followed by Valley Ice, LLC in 2005. Holtzman Oil Corp. is also a part owner of a Liberty Petroleum, LLC which markets the Liberty brand of petroleum products throughout the country.

Bill Holtzman was named an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in 2001 and the Shenandoah University Harry F. Byrd, Jr. School of business Entrepreneur of the Year 2005. In February 2013, Bill was awarded the Virginia General Assembly's "Outstanding Virginian" award for "his prominent role in the economic growth and vitality of Shenandoah County while faithfully serving its residents" in 2012.



*(L to R) Michelle Koontz, Rick Koontz, Bill Holtzman, Ann Holtzman, Jill Holtzman Vogel, Todd Holtzman, Matt Tusing.*

To view all pictures from the VPCGA 69th Annual Meeting, visit our [Facebook page here](#).

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## **It's the Greenbrier for 2018**

Yesterday, Board Chairman Charlie Parker announced that the Annual Meeting will be returning to the Greenbrier in 2018. Mark your calendar now for September 30-October 2, 2018.