

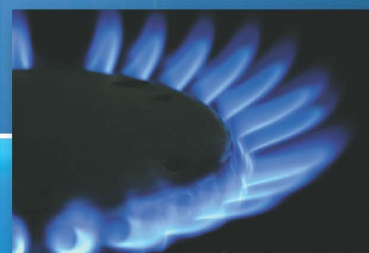
TGA NEWSLETTER

PROMOTE

ADVOCATE

COLLABORATE

EDUCATE



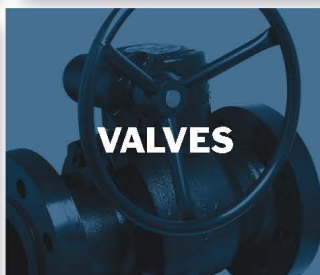
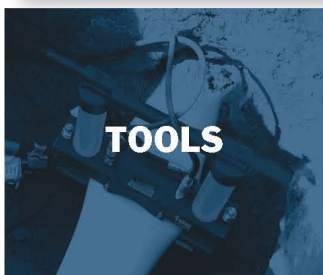
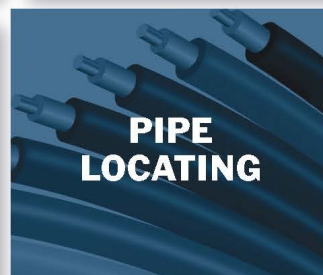
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ARTICLES

- 6 President's Message
- 7 Executive Director's Message
- 8-9 Legislative Reception
- 12-15 Scholarship Foundation
- 20 State Energy Policy Council
- 23-25 Regional Spotlights
- 28-30 Committee Communications
- 33 Calendar of Events

ADVERTISERS

- 2 CGS, Inc
- 3 Martin Contracting
- 4 USI Consulting
- 10 Powell & Meadows Insurance
- 11 B.H. Holmes Construction
- 15 Clark Engineering & Utility Solutions
- 18-19 Tri-Star Energy Consultants
- 21 Consolidated Pipe & Supply
- 22 Equix, Inc.
- 22 J.B. Gibbs & Son
- 26-27 SJ Patterson Company
- 31 Blankenship CPA Group
- 31 Tri-State Meter & Regulator
- 31 James N. Bush Construction
- 32 G&C Supply
- 34 Jackson Thornton
- 35 Central Service Association
- 36 Team Construction

TGA NEWS is a publication of the Tennessee Gas Association.
If you have information for the TGA Newsletter: please submit for the NEXT ISSUE
Send to: Kelley Zamboni, Editor
E-mail: kzamboni@tngas.org

MARK O'NEAL



“ENGAGE”..... Jean-Luc Picard (Sir Patrick Stewart) made this one-word line famous as he served as Captain of the Starship Enterprise (StarTrek-The Next Generation). This is our time in the history of our beloved industry that we must ENGAGE! We must protect the citizens and business who depend on safe, abundant, reliable, and clean Natural Gas to warm their homes, heat their showers, cook their food,

Your Officers, Board of Directors and Staff are ENGAGED in setting the course for TGA for the next few years. We are working on providing more opportunities for Emerging Leader Development, revamping our technical training opportunities, fine tuning our committee structures and other important programs to create more options for all TGA members to ENGAGE. More information will be available as we work toward the

FROM THE PRESIDENT

producer their goods and fuel their livelihoods from the attacks that are being waged against our industry.

If you did not attend our Legislative Meet and Greet on February 23rd, you missed a tremendous opportunity to ENGAGE with those who craft legislation in Tennessee. Although the weather did affect the Legislator attendance, we had several key members of the General Assembly Leadership to attend. I truly believe this evening event is the best way to have a relaxed and genuine interaction with our General Assembly.

Please continue to reach out to each of your State and Federal Lawmakers, ENGAGE in building a relationship with them.

implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Please carefully examine all the TGA coming training and meeting opportunities listed in this publication. Take the time to attend and pour yourself into the topics and then commit to take what you learn and implement that knowledge in you work and personnel lives.

Remember if your company is a member of The Tennessee Gas Association, then you are a member of The Tennessee Gas Association.

So let's all ENGAGE!

KELLEY ZAMBONI

TGA's core objectives have been to Promote, Advocate, Educate and Collaborate. Each of those objectives was actively on display at the recent Legislative Reception held at the Hermitage Hotel. It was well attended by General Assembly, other State leaders and TGA members. Impactful conversations were happening in all areas of the room. Natural gas distribution company leaders networking and promoting our great commodity to state decision makers.

The last year has put the natural gas industry back on defense. It is more important than ever that we all find ways to educate and promote our industry. Tennessee Gas Association Membership is strong.

Tennesseans understand the benefits of natural gas but with all the questionable information being spread by various parties against it they may find themselves confused. It is our job as the ones who provide this great energy source to speak louder than ever.

As the TGA Board of Directors continue to develop the strategic plan for the membership, the focus is the success of the Association thru the achievements of its membership. If our members succeed, we succeed. In the coming year, TGA will finetune its focus and we encourage you to do the same.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Corporate Membership category alone represents 6,000+ employees and over 1.3 million meters. Talk about a loud voice for natural gas in the state of Tennessee.

Imagine the impact those 6000+ employees and end-users can have on the future of natural gas if we remain focused on our purpose. As an industry, we have strived over the years to educate consumers on the values of natural gas. We successfully shifted the mindset as it pertains to natural gas from "like to have" to "must have."

Where do you want to be in 10 years, 20 years?

Everyone is facing employee retention, leadership retirements, and competition issues. We must stay strong in our message and continue to be the voice of natural gas. I encourage you to find your purpose in TGA, where can you be involved and help push natural gas forward.

TGA Legislative Reception

On Wednesday, February 23rd, TGA membership gathered for the first time since 2019 to network with the leadership of Tennessee. Legislators and other State leaders were invited to the Hermitage Hotel for an evening reception. The Association has held grab-n-go breakfasts and lunches in recent years but chose to shift back to a reception. The event was well attended on this cold and rainy evening. TGA members networked with district legislators and shared information on the value of natural gas. Several TGA members spent time on the Hill both Wednesday prior to and Thursday following the reception to further promote natural gas. We encourage members to consistently connect with your Legislators and explain the key roles natural gas plays in Tennessee. TGA also appreciates the support from the leadership of TN. We value the partnership and level of communication that has grown over the years. If you missed out on this year's event, we hope you will make plans to attend our event in early 2023.







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from the
**SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION
PRESIDENT**

DANIEL C. HICKS



Dear Fellow TGA Member:

I am pleased to report that the Foundation remains financially strong.

The Foundation Board met November 8 during the Fall Management Conference to adopt the Budget for 2022 and review and approve the applications for use in 2022 for graduating high school applicants and those that are already enrolled in higher education. In addition, the Board approved establishing four scholarships in the amount of \$500 each to be awarded to TGA Member employees pursuing higher education opportunities while employed. A new application and selection criteria were established to begin in 2022. The online scholarship application links can be found on the TGA website, www.tngas.org. The application deadline is March 31st.

In addition, the Board elected Sasha Benjamin to become Foundation Secretary immediately to relieve Ms. Zamboni from those duties due to her responsibilities as Executive Director of TGA. Ms. Zamboni will continue as a Foundation Board Member.

Donations from our related associations, groups, and contributions from several individuals, remain strong.

I would also like to encourage you to remember the Foundation as you consider ways to honor or memorialize an individual close to you and/or our industry throughout the year. In addition, we now have a new income stream available if we can accomplish 1,000 pre-orders of the TGA developed "Natural Gas" license plate. I would hope that out of over 5,700 active natural gas employees in the state and who knows how many retirees,

we can find 1,000 proud enough of their industry to get these license plates into production next year.

Members need to be thinking of items for the 2022 silent auction and raffle to be held at the Annual Meeting in Chattanooga in June. We need plenty of items that will draw spirited bidding and generate funds for the scholarship program.

The Tennessee Gas Association Scholarship Foundation

extends sincerest appreciation to the following donors:

January 1, 2022 through March 3, 2022

James & Carolyn Sager

Rob Neil

In Honor of Les Enoch

Jean Meyers

In Honor of Dan Hicks

Jean Meyers

In Memory of John H Hicks

Dan & Fran Hicks

In Honor of Mike Davidson

Middle TN Natural Gas Employees

In Memory of Charles F. Schmeal, Jr.
(Father of Jamie Wellman)

Kelley Zamboni

In Memory of Gene Koonce

James & Carolyn Sager

Dwight & Brenda Work

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In Memory of Butch Parkerson
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Jean Meyers

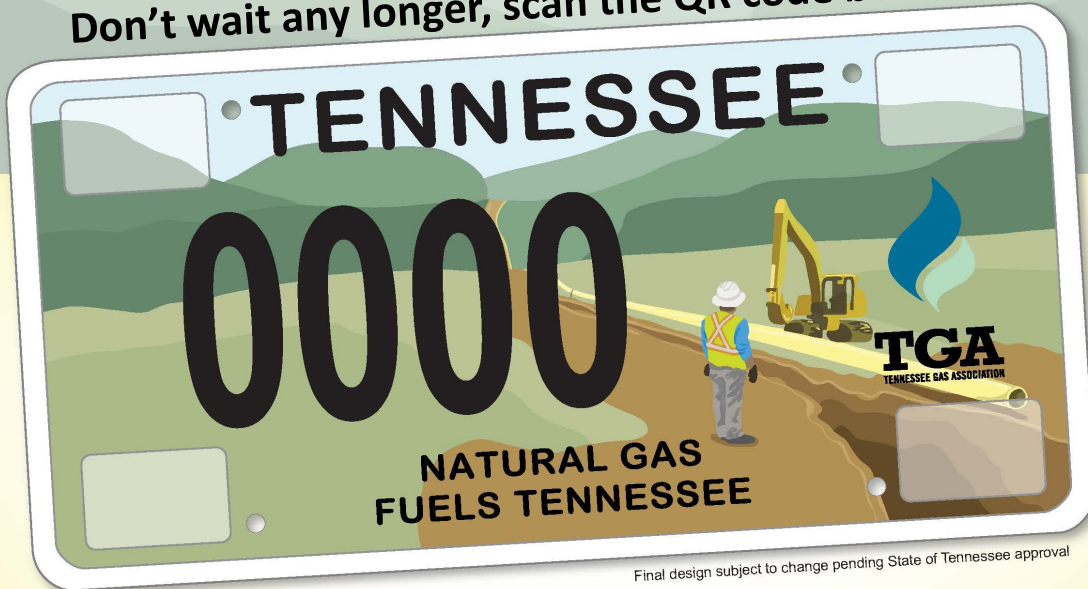
Don't Let This Opportunity Pass You By!

We must reach our goal by May 1st to finish the process and submit to the State. We are **only at 325 plates reserved** with **6 weeks left to reach 1,000**.



TGA
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Sign up today to help us get to 1,000 pre-orders... It's a great way to promote and celebrate natural gas while helping students with college expenses!

Funds raised through the sale of the license plates go to the Tennessee Gas Association (TGA) Scholarship Foundation, a non-profit entity that offers assistance to academically qualified students pursuing their degree. To date, the TGA Scholarship Foundation has awarded 292 scholarships totaling \$487,000 to children of employees of member natural gas companies, pipelines and business partners of TGA. A portion of your \$35 contribution will help continue the mission of the Foundation.

To sign up for pre-order, scan the QR code above or visit www.tngas.org. For questions, call TGA @ 615.872.2412



The Tennessee Gas Association (TGA) Scholarship Foundation is a 501(c)3 and offers assistance to TGA member employee's children who are academically qualified students and intend to pursue a degree at a two- or four-year accredited university, college, or technical school. Scholarships are based on criteria such as academic achievement, financial need, community involvement, etc. The majority of the scholarships awarded are \$2,000 with the exception of three \$3,000 named scholarships each year. The Foundation is overseen by a working committee and receives funds from various sources, including annual scholarship tournaments, silent auctions, business donations, and individual member contributions.



TGA Scholarship Foundation Application Links Available

Deadline to Submit Applications is March 31

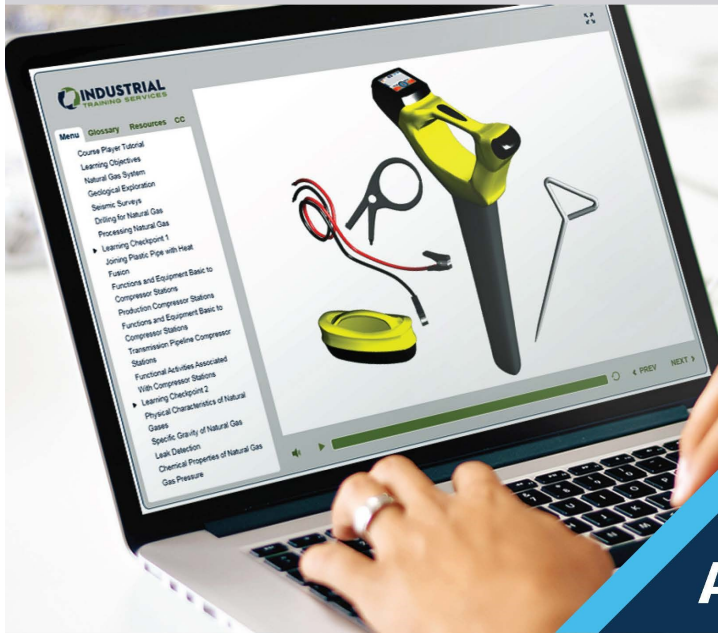
Visit www.tngas.org for more information

The TGA Scholarship Foundation annually awards two scholarships each in the amount of \$3,000 named for John H. Ward, Leslie B. Enoch, II and Dwight S. Work. Based on available funds, additional scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$2,000 each. Beginning in 2022, the Foundation will award up to 4 - \$500 scholarships to TGA Member Employees seeking a degree. Funding for these scholarships is collected throughout the year from golf tournaments, and silent auctions as well as donations from individuals, foundations and business partners.

New this year, all applications are to be submitted online. Links to these scholarship applications are available on the scholarship page at www.tngas.org



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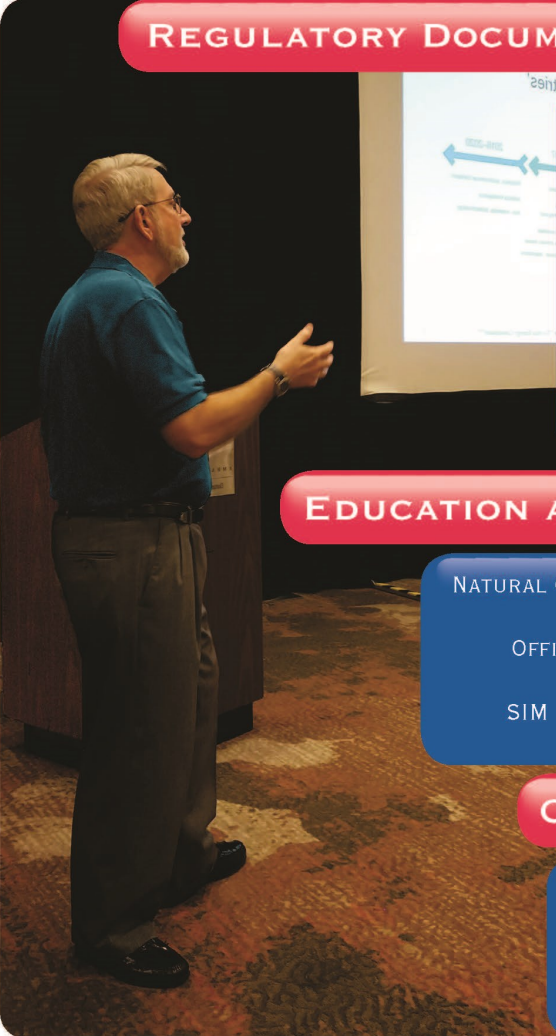


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ENERGY EFFICIENT SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Submitted by: Matt Stennett

During the EESI virtual Meeting on March 3, 2022, we discussed some procedures and legalities of how the Council can approve projects, tabled a request from Staff for \$100,000 in fees for a 3rd Party Consultant contract to help streamline our loan process, and unanimously approved a \$500,000 grant to Humphreys County Schools to help upgrade HVAC and indoor air quality measures in some of the schools that were NOT damaged by recent catastrophic flooding in the area. EESC funds could not be used to rebuild the damaged schools, so we felt that it was worth helping upgrade the remaining undamaged schools to help the students get through this difficult time as that falls under our purview.

TENNESSEE STATE ENERGY POLICY COUNCIL

Submitted by: Matt Stennett

The SEPC found some conflicting information regarding how much of an issue Natural Gas Supply constrictions were across the State, so we hired UT's Baker Center for Public Policy to perform a four prong survey across the State to document exactly what the issue is and how much of the Council's focus it should take.

Prong one of the survey went out to all TGA Members, and out of 94 gas systems surveyed, only 37 responded. We're still working through the data, but from an initial glance it seems that supply issues are very specific to the East TN region. We'll see how the other parts of the survey go, but with a low response rate from the gas companies themselves and relatively small regional issue, I don't know that the Council will allocate many resources toward natural gas moving forward. Economic Development practitioners, National firms that might locate to TN, and Experts representing industry (e.g. Chamber of Commerce, MTIDA, etc.) have yet to be surveyed.

I'll definitely stay focused and keep pushing to be our interests are represented, and report to the Board when and if anything changes. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any suggestions or questions about our work on the Council.





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TGA MEMBER Spotlight

West TN Member

Lake County Utility District
123 North Court Street
Tiptonville, TN 38079
Manager: Joel Bargery

What year was your system established and how many employees to you have?

The Lake County Utility District which was established in 1965, has 13 employees.

How many customers does your utility provide service to?

LCUD provides service to around 2400 customers and 146 miles of mains in portions of Lake and Obion Counties including Ridgely, Tiptonville, Wynnburg, Hornbeak, Samburg and areas along our distribution lines.

In addition to gas service, does your system provide other services?

Lake County Utility District also provides maintenance for customer appliances, furnaces, central units and also provides piping and venting to our customers.

Can you provide us with a few interesting facts about your community?

Lake County is located in the northwest corner Tennessee. As of July 2019, the population estimate was 7,016, making it the forth-least populous county in Tennessee. It shares a border with Kentucky to the north and is separated from Missouri to the west by the Mississippi River. Lake County also has Reelfoot Lake, formed after the New Madrid earthquakes in the early 19th century, occupies much of the northern part of the county.

What are some of the challenges facing your community and your utility?

Some of the challenges that face our small, rural, farming community and our utility is the need for industry, not only for our utility, but to help our community grow.

Who is your utility director and how long have they been in place?

The Lake County Utility District has had three managers since it was established:

Frank Bobo: 1957 – 1992

David Gooch: 1992 – 2021

(employed since 1977)

Joel Bargery: 2021 (employed since 1989)

Can you tell us about how your system participates in community activities?

Lake County Utility District also participates with our schools and senior citizen centers with Public Awareness Programs, also Lake County Utility District does local newspaper, radio and billboard advertisement for our local schools and little league teams.

What value do you get from your membership in TGA?

Being a member of the Tennessee Gas Association is a tremendous value to Lake County Utility District, with their Training Courses, Conferences, Safety Summits and being a part of their Public Awareness through the TN Association of Broadcasters, also the availability to be able to talk to someone.

TGA MEMBER Spotlight

Middle TN Member



BEDFORD COUNTY UTILITY DISTRICT

214 Bethany Lane Shelbyville, TN 37126



How many customers does your utility provide services to?

Bedford County Utility District (BCUD) provides gas service to approximately 500 customers. BCUD has about 400 residential customers and 100 commercial customers. The commercial customers generally consist of large production barns for the chicken industry.

In addition to gas service, does your system provide other service?

BCUD is also a water service provider for Bedford County outside the incorporated city limits of the municipalities within the County. The District serves about 8,000 water customers.

What year was your system established and how many employees do you have?

The BCUD natural gas system was established in 2000. There are four employees dedicated to the operation, maintenance, and administration of the BCUD gas system.

Can you provide us with a few interesting facts about your community?

Bedford County is located south of Rutherford and Williamson Counties. The area is experiencing significant residential growth due to its proximity to these communities. In addition, Shelbyville/Bedford County is home to the Tennessee Walking Horse community. There are many farms within the County dedicated to the training of walking horses. Finally, Bedford County was the center of pencil manufacturing. This was due to amount of cedar trees in the area.

Can you tell us about how your system participates in community activities?

BCUD's employees participate in various charities within the County. This includes United Way, local church activities, and natural gas utility safety measures. This includes meeting with

local contractors, industrial recruiters and developers about the importance of calling before digging.

What value do you get from your membership in TGA?

TGA provides training and networking opportunities to BCUD. Since the District has a relatively short history with a small customer base, this provides invaluable resources to BCUD. The knowledge of the personnel by other TGA members have been critical to the District's ability to provide safe, reliable gas service to its customers.

Who is your utility director and how long have they been in place?

Randy Head is the General Manager of the Bedford County Utility District. He has occupied this role a little over a year. Prior to this position, Mr. Head was on the Board of Commissioners for nearly twenty years.

TGA MEMBER Spotlight

East TN Member



Oak Ridge Utility District
120 S. Jefferson Circle
Oak Ridge, TN 37831



Who is your director and how long have they been in place?

Jeff Patterson is our President and General Manager. He

has been in this role roughly a year. Previously, he was our Vice President of Operations. He's been with ORUD for a total of 29 years.

How many customers does your utility provide service to? We have 15,201 services and 484 miles of main throughout Anderson and Roane counties.

In addition to natural gas, does your utility provide other services? We are a gas only utility. However, we do sell and install gas appliances for our customers.

What year was your system established and how many employees do you have? We were chartered as an independent non-profit utility in 1951. We currently have 56 full time employees. We have 5 commissioners on our board.

What are some challenges facing your community and your utility? We are facing similar challenges as other gas systems right now due to the electrification movement and the legislation against fossil fuels.

Can you tell us a few interesting facts about your community? We are based in

Oak Ridge, TN. Oak Ridge is a unique city that was created in secret by the Federal Government in 1942. We were one of the major sites for the Manhattan Project and helped to develop the

technology that ultimately led to the end of World War II. It was only meant to be a temporary location, but in the years after the war Oak Ridge transitioned from a military town into a self-governing city. In 1949 the gates were opened to the public, and two years later ORUD was formed.

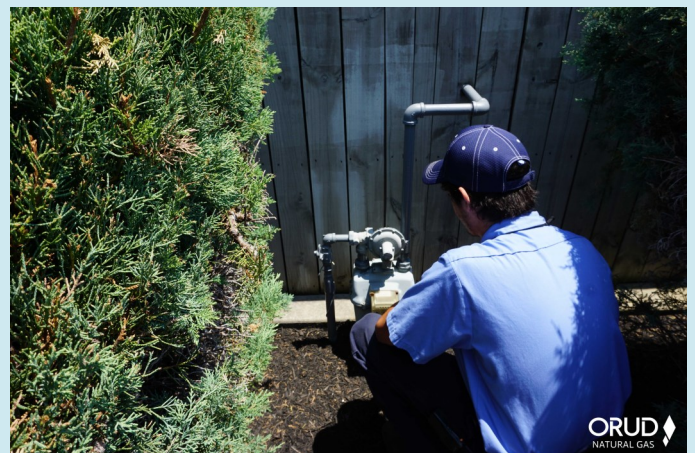
Can you provide us with a few interesting facts about your utility? As you read before, the City of Oak Ridge was technically open to the public in 1949 but did not become incorporated until ten years later in 1959. Since we were formed by a private act in 1951, we predate the City in our official formation. For many years we served Oak Ridge only, then in the early 2000's we grew our service area by purchasing the Kingston system. That set us up to serve natural gas across two counties.

How does your utility participate in your community? We truly believe in contributing to and being involved in the communities we serve. We



have employees who dedicate their time, talent, and efforts to serving on a variety of community agency and non-profit boards and committees. We are also very involved with our three local Chambers of Commerce. We love cultivating community partnerships that can enrich the lives of our customers and employees!

What value do you get from your memberships from TGA? We value the ability to meet and network with our peers and neighboring systems. Our employees are invested in key TGA committees and that helps us stay on top of legislation, trends, and training within the industry.



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Committee Communications



Randall Griner
Annual Meeting

The Annual Committee met the beginning of January to finalize the agenda and activities. We are working on begin able to highlight the 60th Anniversary of TGA at the June meeting being held in Chattanooga, TN at the Westin Hotel June 13-15. Registration is now open. We look forward to having everyone there.

The Business Partners are looking forward to the D&O event and being back in an exhibit format for the first time since 2019. The Business Partners are adding some friendly competition to the exhibit hall but having a “Best Booth” contest voted on by the attendees. The Business Partner Council will be meeting during the D&O Conference to discuss opportunities and elect a 2nd Vice Chair for the upcoming year.



Chris McCabe
Business Partner
Council

The 2022 Customer service Committee met Tuesday January 25, 2022 to finalize the agenda for our Customer Service Workshop. The 2 workshops with identical agendas will be held May 5 at Greater Dickson Gas Authority, and May 19 at Oak Ridge Public Utility District.

Registration is now open.

Josh Lewis
Customer
Service



The Committee has completed the 2022 Distribution and Operations conference agenda and confirmed all presenters. The committee has done a great job putting together an agenda that offers a wide range of industry information, subject matter experts and round table breakout sessions. The committee has also put together a contingency plan for back up presenters for those that may have travel restrictions still in place making them unavailable at the time of the conference. The 2022 D&O conference will be held in Murfreesboro, TN April 26-28 at the Embassy Suites. Registration is now open.



Jeff Patterson
D&O

Jocelyn McInturff
Education Steering



Six (6) sessions of TPUC instructed classes for 2022 inspection preparation were offered in January and February at six separate locations across the state. Special thanks to Travis Aslinger and the host gas systems: The Educational Steering Committee is meeting in late February to start planning the upcoming year including:

- Fall Management Conference, October 25 – 26 in Memphis, TN
- Business, Accounting & Professional Development Oct 26-27 in Memphis
- TPUC-led training for DIMP Inspection, Mid-October, 3 locations – west, middle, east
- TPUC-led training for Valves, Leaks & Patrolling, Mid-December, 3 locations – west, middle, east

The Committee still has a goal to develop a training plan that follows the guidance and direction of TGA Executive Committee's Strategic Plan. We look forward to including TPUC and our business partners to serve the needs of our members. Please reach out to Jocelyn McInturff (Jocelyn.McInturff@kub.org) if you have ideas or improvements that you would like to see offered.

The TGA Legislative Reception was held February 23rd at the Hermitage Hotel from 5-7 p.m. The Committee began holding weekly calls on Thursdays in mid-January. The weekly legislative reports can be found on the TGA website and the weekly call-in information is in the TGA Tuesday email.

Regie Castellow
Legislative



Madison Endres
Marketing



The Marketing Committee met on January 19th, by Zoom. The Committee discussed options to continue to increase license plate sales. A letter will be sent out to the past 5 years scholarship recipients with the license plate information and encouraging students and parents of recipients to give back by signing up for a license plate. There is also going to be a post card sent out to all members of TGA very soon that looks like the license plate on one side with information on the back for signups. With these efforts and continued social media post, the Committee hopes to see an increase in license plate signups.

The Spotlight of a Utility Articles for West, Middle, and East will be continued in the upcoming TGA magazine. We hope this helps members learn about other utilities within TGA. If you would like to be featured please email me at Madison@wptud.com.

The TGA Membership Committee communicated via email on Monday, January 24, 2022. Committee members were given information concerning a list provided by TGA staff of new members that are being submitted to the TGA board for approval at the February 15th board meeting. Members of the committee were each challenged to contact at least one or two potential members over the next couple of months. Members were encouraged that TGA membership growth can only have success if we as members do our part in promoting our organization.

Jerry Massie
Membership



Sam Andavazo
Safety Summit



The 2021-22 TGA Safety Summit Committee has developed a safety topic survey to be distributed during the TPUC Regional Inspection Preparation classes sponsored by the TGA. The most actionable and relevant topics from these surveys will be selected by the committee for the agenda of the 2022 Safety Summit. Eric Giguere has been selected to be the keynote speaker at this year's summit. His story represents a testimony of how trench safety changed his life. He will be co-sponsored by United Rentals and TGA. Montgomery Bell State Park has been chosen as the venue for the safety summit. The dates for the Safety Summit are August 2-4, 2022.

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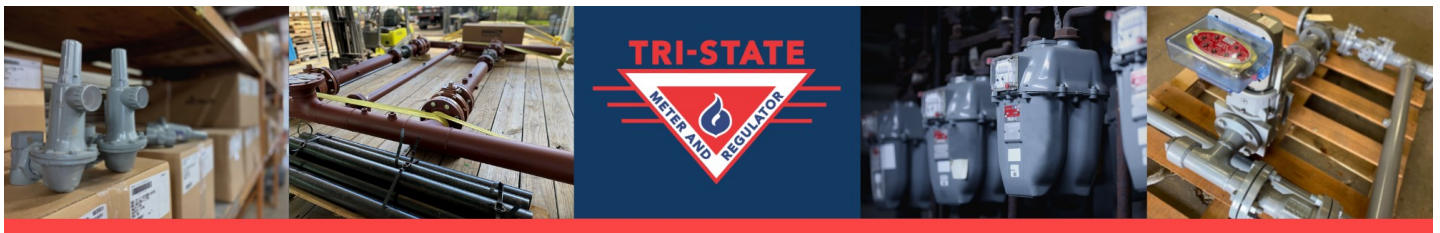
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2022 Calendar of Events

Date	Educational Opportunity or Event	Location
April 26-28	Distribution & Operations Conference	Embassy Suites Hotel Murfreesboro, TN
May 5	Customer Service Workshops –Middle/West	Greater Dickson Gas Authority– Dickson, TN
May 19	Customer Service Workshop—East	Oak Ridge Utility District—Oak Ridge, TN
June 13-15	Annual Meeting	Westin Hotel Chattanooga, TN
August 2-4	Safety Summit	Montgomery Bell State Park Burns, TN
August 23	Scholarship Foundation Golf Tournament	Hermitage Golf Course Hermitage, TN
October 25-27	Fall Management & Business, Accounting & Professional Development Conferences	Hyatt Centric Memphis, TN

Watch for updates and registration information in the TGA Tuesday emails
or visit www.tngas.org





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