

## AGA: ALL ACCESS



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ELECTRICITY



*American Gas, President's Message, November 2017*

Americans want natural gas—both to fuel their homes and to serve as a catalyst for economic growth. Natural gas utilities will continue to meet their customers' needs—safely and reliably—and work with policymakers to extend service to those who want it, need it and prefer to have it.

Natural gas touches every aspect of our lives, bestowing benefits and forming the foundation of prosperity and security for our nation. That pervasive impact is also felt in our public policy arena. Advocating for our fuel and the companies we represent calls upon every aspect of my background as I extol the virtues of natural gas in conversations about economics, environmental protection, transportation and national security.

The case is clear, but it always bears repeating: The affordability and stability of natural gas prices, driven by our domestic abundance, has boosted the bottom lines of homes, businesses and governments at every level. Greater use of natural gas across many sectors has been the key to unlocking the most substantial greenhouse gas emissions reductions in our nation's history. Clean natural gas is offering a much-needed alternative to petroleum-based fuels in transportation, providing savings and lower emissions to all those who have made the switch. Finally, having an abundance of natural gas under our feet has created an era of energy security that was unimaginable decades earlier. Policymakers at every level are trying to figure out how to use more natural gas to meet our economic and environmental needs.

Americans want natural gas. All of the qualitative and quantitative evidence that we have bears this out. People who have it love it, and people who do not have it want it to heat their homes, warm their water and cook their food. More homes and businesses use natural gas today than ever before as affordable and stable prices drive the economic case for its comfort and reliability.

Visit [www.aga.org](http://www.aga.org) for complete article.



## Get Your Ballots In!

Reminder: Get your ballots in to vote/ approve the nominees for the three open board positions! Ballots were emailed out to members early November and are due by Friday, December 1, 2017.



## QUOTE OF THE QUARTER

*“A calm and modest life brings more happiness than the pursuit of success combined with constant restlessness.”* *Author: Albert Einstein - Theory of Happiness*



### AGA: Waste Management Opened Its 100th Natural Gas Fueling Station

**American Gas, Digest, November 2017**

Waste Management opened its 100th natural gas fueling station in August - a significant milestone in its natural gas fleet journey. Industry representatives and local and state officials joined the company to dedicate the fueling station at a ceremony in Oklahoma City. In addition, the company celebrated another milestone: It now operates 6,000 natural gas trucks, which is the largest heavy-duty fleet of its kind in North America.

### AGA: Greater Security – Energy Supply Forum highlights role of technology in energy dominance

**American Gas, Pipeline, November 2017**

At the recent 10th annual Energy Supply Forum, hosted by the U.S. Energy Association, Edward Johnston, senior vice president of research and technology at Gas Technology Institute, shared his optimism about domestic energy security and how technology can keep the momentum going.

“The path to domestic energy security is clearly in sight if shale is developed more efficiently-shale has become the world’s new ‘swing supply,’” Johnston told American Gas. He notes that the grand challenge is that the recovery rate of available resource of U.S. shale gas and shale oil is typically below 20 percent and 10 percent, respectively, and sometimes much lower, which leads to rapid well decline rates and intensive drilling operations that are inefficient. But advanced hydraulic fracturing research sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy and industry is targeted to improve recovery rates and will help reduce the environmental footprint and community impact of shale production.

Currently, shale gas saves the average family \$1,372 per year through lower utility bills and reduces carbon dioxide from the power sector by 21 percent, Johnston said. In addition, shale resources tremendously decrease energy imports and provide a plausible pathway to net energy exports, providing significant improvement for balance of trade.

“Today, we in the U.S. are energy privileged, thanks to oil and gas from shale.”

Visit [www.aga.org](http://www.aga.org) for complete article.

### Mark Your 2018 Calendars:

Tuesday, June 5

Blue Flame Fishing/Networking Event

Thursday, June 14

Blue Flame Golfing/Networking Event  
Cannon Falls Golf Club

Thursday, August 23

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 3

Minnesota State Fair

Tuesday, September 18

Commercial/Industrial Conservation  
Conference



# Member News

## 2018 Membership Dues Invoices Coming in December!

It's that time of year again. Time to Renew your Membership for 2018!! Invoices for 2018 membership dues will be mailed out early December so watch your mailboxes! Thank you for your support and for being a member!

## CenterPoint Energy Celebrated 25 years of Volunteerism for Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

Throughout its relationship with Habitat for Humanity, CenterPoint Energy has delivered approximately 20,000 volunteer hours thanks to the participation of more than 2,100 employees and retirees. According to Jean Krause, community relations director at CenterPoint, "Giving back to the communities we serve is highly important to our company and directly reflects our core values. We're passionate about doing more than just providing our customers with a reliable utility service. We also want to lend helping hands where needed, because when our communities are strong, we're all strong."

## Mulcahy Company Acquires Blesi-Evans

Blue Flame member Mulcahy Co. was happy to announce the acquisition of Blesi-Evans, moving the company into steam boiler sales to further serve the heating industry. "We expanded pretty mightily into the boiler market and industrial space," said Jim Burns, principal owner of Mulcahy. "This market dovetails nicely with our other products and offers an opportunity to fill a market need that we know is there."

## Loren Bahls Retires

Loren Bahls with Ziegler Power Systems retired at the end of September. Loren was a long-time member of the Blue Flame and served on the Blue Flame Industrial/Commercial Committee since 1995. He served as Committee Chair for many years and we wish him the very best in his new endeavors!

### INTERESTED IN JOINING THE ASSOCIATION?

Contact Diane at [dswintek@blueflame.org](mailto:dswintek@blueflame.org) or visit our website at [www.blueflame.org](http://www.blueflame.org) Associate memberships are \$200 per year.

**Join the team now!**

**Benefits to joining:**

Website exposure on Blue Flame website (Natural Gas Product Finder), Networking Opportunities, Industry Contacts, Advertising Opportunities, Member rates (reduced rates) for Association events, seminars, etc., and many more.

**Have something to submit?**

**E-mail change?**

If you would like to submit information to be considered for the next member newsletter or have an e-mail change, contact Diane at [dswintek@blueflame.org](mailto:dswintek@blueflame.org)

### INTERESTED IN JOINING A COMMITTEE?

Join the State Fair Committee, Commercial/Industrial Committee or the Conservation Committee and get involved! If you're interested, contact Diane at [dswintek@blueflame.org](mailto:dswintek@blueflame.org)



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