

# SEPA NEWS

SOUTHEAST PROPANE ALLIANCE

DECEMBER 2023



**DIXIE PIPELINE DILEMMA** PAGE 9

**CONTAINERS ON PLATFORMS, OPERATIONS, AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES** PAGE 12

**2024 UNEMPLOYMENT TAX RATE NOTICES ISSUED THIS MONTH** PAGE 14



# BLT Tanks LLC

800-753-5467

BLTTanks.com



## Selling & Refurbishing Propane Tanks Since 1994

100 % Family Owned, Operated, and Funded in the USA



### Rebuilt Tanks

250 gal \$725-\$925

330 gal \$875-\$1075

500 gal \$1295-\$1775

1000 gal \$2200-\$2850

\*All prices are plus freight.

Other sizes and conditions available.

Warranty on all rebuilt tanks.

Storage tank inventory updated frequently at BLTTanks.com

Prices are subject to change



**WE PURCHASE GOOD & JUNK TANKS  
IN LOAD LOTS NATIONWIDE**



# Looking for a reliable, customized supply plan?

Crestwood offers experienced NGL professionals committed to creating reliable, yet flexible supply plans that meet your needs.

## Things you may not know about Crestwood:

- Assets include Tirzah, SC, pipeline connected with storage and truck racks, Heath Springs, SC, equipped with storage, truck and rail rack, and Rose Hill, NC, a rail to truck terminal.
- One of the largest shippers of propane on the Dixie Pipeline.
- Manages over 350,000 bbls/day of propane across the country with assets connected to major supply hubs.
- One of the largest truck and rail propane fleets in the country, with over 250 trucks and 2,000 rail cars.
- Offers flexible price risk management solutions.



## Want to know more?

Call today for help with supply programs, index pricing agreements, fixed price and option hedges or our transportation and storage capabilities.



**Crestwood**<sup>®</sup>

Connections for America's Energy<sup>®</sup>

**Max Johnson**

Director, Supply & Marketing — Southeast  
Max.Johnson@crestwoodlp.com

D: (816) 329.5316

C: (913) 972.5721

ICE ID: mjohnson31

**Elizabeth Wilkerson**

Marketing and Asset Manager — Southeast  
Elizabeth.Wilkerson@crestwoodlp.com

D: (816) 714.5471

C: (413) 464.2095

ICE ID: ewilkerson



# Gardner Marsh + Propane Trucks & Tanks

From Brass To Bobtails:  
Delivering Quality, Service, & Dependability



**Gardner Marsh Gas Equipment Co.**

Raleigh, NC and Florence, SC  
NC: (800) 334-9245 SC: (800) 868-8988  
[www.gardnermarsh.com](http://www.gardnermarsh.com)



## Rinnai



**Tankless Water Heaters and Home Heating**

**Your Value Added Distributor For Gas Equipment & Appliances**  
**Family Owned & Operated Since 1961**



**Propane Trucks & Tanks, Inc.**

Apex, NC: (888) 362-5150  
[www.propanetrucksandtanks.com](http://www.propanetrucksandtanks.com)

### Services Include:

Propane Bobtails (New & Re-chassis)  
Cylinder Exchange Trucks  
Service & Crane Trucks  
Bobtail and Transport Repairs and Service  
Required MC-331/DOT Tank & Equipment Inspections  
Meter Proving/Calibration  
Technical Support  
Blasting and Painting  
Large Inventory of Parts for Repair or Ordering

**Don't see what you need here?**  
**Call us today to discuss your needs!**

# WHAT'S INSIDE?

## FEATURES

- 10.....Non-DOT Compliant Cylinders Notice
- 12.....Containers on Platforms, Operations, and Maintenance Procedures
- 14.....2024 Unemployment Tax Rate Notices Issued This Month
- 19.....The Gasman's Christmas
- 22.....Events Recap — Milner Terminal, Spalding County GA and Lamar County Commissioners



## DEPARTMENTS

- 06.....Chairman's Letter
- 09.....President's Letter
- 25.....Calendar of Events
- 26.....What's Wrong with This Picture?



### PUBLISHED FOR

Southeast Propane Alliance  
5109 Hollyridge Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
p. 919-787-8485  
f. 919-781-7481

### PUBLISHED BY

E&M Consulting, Inc.  
p. 800-572-0011  
www.emconsultinginc.com



### MANAGERS

Caleb Tindal & Kayla Grams

### LAYOUT & DESIGN

Dan Opheim

### COPY EDITOR

Victoria Luing

To submit editorial or request info—email [lauralee@southeastpropane.org](mailto:lauralee@southeastpropane.org) or call 919-787-8485.

For advertising information, email [advertising@eandmsales.com](mailto:advertising@eandmsales.com) or call 800-572-0011.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Editorial and contents of this magazine reflect the records of the Southeast Propane Alliance (SEPA). SEPA has done their best to provide useful and accurate information, but please take into account that some information does change. E&M Consulting, Inc., publishers, and SEPA take no responsibility for the accuracy of the information printed, inadvertent omissions, printing errors, nor do they endorse products and services. We take no responsibility regarding representations or warranties concerning the content of advertisements of products/services for a particular use, including all information, graphics, copyrighted materials, and assertions included in the advertisements. The reader is advised to independently check all information before basing decisions on such information. Any views or opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of E&M Consulting, Inc., publishers.







BY TYLER MISEL,  
SEPA CHAIRMAN

### CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS, SEPA MEMBERS!

**>>** As we approach the close of another remarkable year, I extend my heartfelt wishes to each of you. This season of joy and reflection allows us to appreciate the strength of our propane community.

Together in 2023, we faced challenges head-on, embracing innovation and sustainability in our industry. As we gather with family and friends, let's take a moment to recognize the collective accomplishments that have shaped our shared journey.

The upcoming year holds new opportunities for growth and collaboration. Your dedication to excellence propels our Alliance forward, ensuring a bright future for the propane industry.

May this holiday season bring you warmth, peace, and the company of loved ones. Here's to a prosperous New Year filled with shared successes and continued camaraderie within our exceptional propane family. 🔥

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season,

*Tyler Misel*

SEPA Chairman



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

# 23

### STAFF

- John R. Jessup, *President/CEO*
- Dave Donahue, *Director of Code Compliance*
- John Peña, *Director of Education*
- Jon Carr, *Lobbyist, Legal Council*
- Bob Moore, *SEPATEC Trainer*
- Laura Lee Perry, *Events & Member Services Manager*
- Beverly Dodd, *Finance Manager*
- Matt Leonard, *Chief Strategy Officer*
- Steve Milks, *SEPATEC Student Enrollment Coordinator*
- Lynn Lake, *Administrative Assistant*
- Jonathan Blewer, *SEPATEC Student Enrollment Counselor*
- Jonathan Delvalle, *SEPATEC Instructor*

### SEPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Tyler Misel, *Chairman*
- Angi Harris, *Vice Chairwoman*
- Richard O'Sheal, *Secretary*
- Eric Taylor, *Treasurer*
- Scott Prewitt, *Past Chairman*

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Kim Folger, *Meetings & Committee Chair*
- Donnie Bullock, *Finance*
- Dan Richardson, *Georgia Advisory Council Chair*
- Donald Godfrey, *Safety and Education Committee Chair*
- Charles Breland, *Governmental Affairs Committee Chair*
- Bryan Overcarsh, *Member at Large*
- Robert Hernandez, *Member Services Chair*
- Jay Little, *North Carolina Advisory Council Chair*
- Preston Lee, *South Carolina Advisory Council Chair*
- Adam Riggs, *Suppliers Committee Chair*
- Anthony Clifton, *Autogas & Technology Chair*

5109 Hollyridge Drive | Raleigh, NC 27612  
Ph. 919-787-8485 | Fx. 919-781-7481

Notice: As the official publication of the Southeast Propane Alliance, *SEPA News* carries authentic notice pertaining to the activities of the Association. In other respects, statements of fact and opinion are made on the responsibility of the authors and contributing writers alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the Board of Directors, the Officers, or the Membership.

# It all started with a FREE valuation...



These successful transactions all began with a valuation completed by Cetane Associates.

Cetane helps more owners sell their propane and fuel delivery businesses than anyone. We bring more buyers to the table, higher offers, more options, and smoother transactions.

Visit us at [www.Cetane.com](http://www.Cetane.com) or call **860-592-0089** for a confidential, FREE business value estimate.



Cetane Associates

AWARDED BY FINANCIAL SERVICES REVIEW

**CETANE**  
ASSOCIATES  
A Seller's Most Valuable Asset



**Big changes  
are coming.**

855-384-3988 | [terravestlpg.com](http://terravestlpg.com)

**TerraVest**  
INDUSTRIES

One Source, Many Solutions.





## DIXIE PIPELINE DILEMMA (MILNER)



**We are closing out the second full year of SEPA, and it has been quite a ride in 2023.**

We are currently working on a serious issue with the County Commissioners of Spalding County in Georgia. In Late October, after 60 years of use, they posted “No Through Trucks” signs throughout the county. This closes about a six-mile stretch of Old Macon Road, a county road in Spalding County due North of the Milner Terminal.


I drove down to the Milner Terminal in November to see this road firsthand. The road is freshly paved and is in pristine condition. Old Macon Road was planned, designed, and built as a major north/south thoroughfare from Chicago to Miami shortly after the turn of the last century in 1919. It was some of the first pavement in this section of Georgia back then. Over the years, it was improved to accommodate and facilitate the growth of our country and interstate commerce in general.

We spoke to Spalding County Commissioner James Dutton, and he is under the impression that our transports are “breaking like glass” under trucks; he was certainly not speaking to the design and structure of this particular road. According to Jimmy Taylor of Southeastern Tank Lines, LLC, the Commissioner was incorrectly comparing other less developed roads (typically county tar and gravel roads).

One other key issue that I think is critically important is that this is the only terminal on the Dixie Pipeline System that does not have direct, uninterrupted access to a state or federal road. This terminal is, for lack of a better word, “landlocked” to county roads.

The other Lamar County roads add 30 minutes to the route and are simple tar and gravel roads. Old Macon Road in Lamar County has a structurally deficient bridge just south of the Dixie Terminal.

The route north from the Dixie Terminal through Spalding County on Old Macon Road is the best, most reasonable, most practical, and SAFEST route for these transports to travel as they head north or east of the Milner terminal for their deliveries.

Dan Richardson, Matt Wimpy, and Jay Roberts, along with many other SEPA members, have had many discussions going on at all levels of Government as we try to resolve this issue. In addition to these discussions, we are researching obtaining special permits, filing for an injunction for restricting interstate commerce, as well as a few other options. 

Thank you,

*John Jessup*

SEPA President and CEO



**BY JOHN R. JESSUP,**  
SEPA PRESIDENT/CEO

# NON-DOT COMPLIANT CYLINDERS NOTICE



**BY DAVE DONAHUE,**  
DIRECTOR OF  
CODE COMPLIANCE



**Cylinders manufactured** in Mexico have been brought into the United States, packaged, and sold with new food trailers. These cylinders do not have any Department of Transportation (DOT) required markings on the shroud, an example of these cylinders is pictured above. **These should not be refilled.** If a non-DOT compliant cylinder is brought into your location for refilling, please advise the consumer that the cylinder is not legal for use.

As a reminder, propane can be transported and stored in more than one type of DOT cylinder. Therefore, several DOT cylinder design codes are approved for use with propane. DOT or ICC design code markings typically consist of two basic parts:

- Specification design code
- Service pressure

**DOT CYLINDER CODE CHART**

DOT/ICC Cylinder Codes for Propane Service	Typical Cylinder Material	Cylinder Construction	Service Pressure (PSIG)
3A	Steel	Seamless	240 or 300
3AA	Steel	Seamless	240 or 300
3B	Steel	Seamless	240 or 300
4B240	Steel	2 or 3 pc., Welded, or Brazed	240
4BA240	Alloy Steel (Prescribed)	2 or 3 pc., Welded, or Brazed	240
4BA260	Alloy Steel (Prescribed)	2 or 3 pc., Welded, or Brazed	260
4B4300	Alloy Steel (Prescribed)	2 or 3 pc., Welded, or Brazed	300
4BW240	Steel (Prescribed)	3 pc., Welded	240
4BW300	Steel (Prescribed)	3 pc., Welded	300
4.00E+240	Aluminum	2 pc., Welded	240
45300	Aluminum	2 pc., Welded	300
39-240/300 (Non-refillable)	Steel	Welded	240
*ICC 26-150	Steel	Welded	150
*ICC 26-300	Steel	Welded	300

\*NOTE: Cylinders are no longer manufactured under this code; however, cylinders manufactured under this code are still in use today. Also, the term "service pressure" for these codes had a different meaning at the time code was written.

## DESIGN OR MANUFACTURING CODES



**DOT-4E240** is a common DOT specification for cylinders. The 4E indicates that the cylinder is a welded (series 4) aluminum (series E) cylinder. The number 240 indicates the service pressure is 240 psig. 🔥



# 3eightEnergy

VISIT US AT [3EIGHTENERGY.COM](http://3EIGHTENERGY.COM)

**EXPERIENCE  
3EIGHTENERGY**

**JEFF RUFFNER**  
jruffner@3eightenergy.com  
(724) 672-8622

**JAMES HARRIS**  
jharris@3eightenergy.com  
(828) 273-5637

**KATHY STANDLEY**  
kathy.standley@3eightenergy.com  
(816) 844-5679

**PHIL FARRIS**  
pfarris@3eightenergy.com  
(704) 609-6117

**NICOLE MYRICK**  
nicole.myrick@3eightenergy.com  
(228) 669-0796

WE SUPPORT



**New & Used Trucks | Leasing & Financing Available**

Truck Maintenance & Repair (Engine, Frame & Drive Train)  
Changeovers, Transport Inspector, & Repair  
Meter Proving & Certified DOT Construction  
Annual Inspections (V.K. & DOT Chassis)  
Pressure/Internal Inspections & Testing (P.I.)

Celebrating  
**25+ Years**

Proudly Serving  
The LP Gas  
Industry

108 Fitch Lane    Goldsboro, NC 27530    1-800-326-8950    [www.apachelptrucks.com](http://www.apachelptrucks.com)

# Containers on Platforms, Operations, and Maintenance Procedures

## >> Containers on Platforms

We are finding many containers on wooden platforms near the coast and in flood-prone areas. These installations violate code requirements. There are also concerns about what the Federal Emergency Management Agency has to say about these container installations. This is not the first time I have written about this issue. In fact, I wrote about this last September. This discussion will be limited to containers of less than 4,000 gallons and to residential and business installations.

First, let's look at the requirements from the *LP-Gas Code*. The requirements for horizontal ASME tanks are the most clearly defined. These are contained in section 6.8.4 (2024). (The text in the 2024 edition has been modified from the 2020 edition a lot, but the requirements changed little.)

If the container is not on steel supports, then the support must be noncombustible or self-extinguishing material. Also, combustible materials shall not accumulate or be stored within 10 feet. (6.8.1.2) Being on a wooden platform violates both. Also, if the tank is on non-insulated steel supports, the height above ground is limited to 36 inches. There's no justification for allowing tanks to be higher on non-steel supports.

Installation of small vertical ASME tanks and cylinders is less well-defined. They must be on a firm foundation or otherwise firmly secured. Firmness of wooden structures deteriorates over time, especially

in humid climates. The restriction on combustible materials within 10 feet also applies.


There are *Building Code* rules that require utility devices (heating and A/C units, water heaters, etc.) to be above the flood level. Those rules do not apply to propane containers. Where flooding is expected, containers shall be secured against flooding. (6.8.1.6) The manner of securing is not specified in the code, so we have information on our website saying what is acceptable to us. This document is 10 years old, but the concepts are current, even if some of the links are not. This is being fixed and updated as the department moves to a new Internet platform.



**BY RICHARD FREDENBURG,**  
NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE AND  
CONSUMER SERVICES







Further complicating this are some FEMA and National Flood Insurance Program rules that require propane tanks in certain flood-zone category locations to either be elevated above the flood level or be buried. See the September 2022 SEPA magazine for details on these rules. Elevating the tanks to above the flood level, sometimes more than 10 feet, creates several issues, including stability, access, fall safety, and cost. The inconsistencies between the *LP-Gas Code* and the FEMA and NFIP rules have not been resolved. Burying tanks is acceptable to all, but not all containers, especially cylinders, may be buried.

See the *What's Wrong with this Picture?* feature on page 26 for an example of an improper platform.

#### Operations and Maintenance Procedures


One of the common violations we note on bulk plant inspections, and a frequent source of civil penalties, is the failure to complete and document maintenance activities as defined in the maintenance procedures. There are some inspection intervals specified in the *LP-Gas Code*. However, much of the equipment needing maintenance is not included in the code, even though it is needed to be able to control operations, both normal and emergency.

safety office or is determined by your company. You should take a realistic look at your equipment and determine schedules that ensure reliability. There may be suggestions or warranty requirements in the installation or operating instructions from the manufacturer.

Please be aware that there is a new code requirement to test internal valves and ESVs for proper closing monthly. This should be added to your operations procedure and your maintenance checklist.

The Propane Education and Research Council publishes the *Operations & Maintenance Handbook for LP-Gas Bulk Storage Facilities*. This manual can help you draft your O&M procedures. There are multiple editions of this handbook, each based on the requirements of the most recently published *LP-Gas Code* at the time. The latest edition of the handbook was made available last summer. It says it is based on the 2019 edition of the *LP-Gas Code*, but that edition does not exist. I have asked PERC to explore and correct this. The handbook is available for downloading at <https://training.propane.com/#/resources/88222031-79f1-40b9-b12f-7a6f20b0338d>. You must have an account with PERC to access this site, but I think you can sign up for a free account at the sign-in page where the link takes you.

The North Carolina Propane Gas Association created a North Carolina addendum to the O&M handbook in 2012 to address some site-specific information required by the handbook at that time. The addendum instructions are not applicable to the version currently available. This edition appears to take care of this site-specific information by having pages with fillable spaces. Follow those instructions, and you'll likely have good procedures. If the handbook includes activities that are not performed at your site, such as unloading railcars, those activities must be deleted before you adopt the procedures as your own.

Some careful review of the O&M handbook and drafting your procedures to comply with its instructions can save you from violations of O&M procedures. 

**“If the container is not on steel supports, then the support must be noncombustible or self-extinguishing material.”**

The equipment for normal operations probably gets “exercised” regularly, but maybe not over the summer at a remote bulk plant. Emergency equipment may not get “exercised” for years and may not be operable due to sluggishness or corrosion. The maintenance procedures and checklists direct that certain inspections and activities be performed according to a specified schedule. For items not dictated by the *LP-Gas Code*, the schedule comes from your corporate headquarters’

# 2024 UNEMPLOYMENT TAX RATE NOTICES ISSUED THIS MONTH

>> **The South Carolina** Department of Employment and Workforce and the North Carolina Division of Employment Security have started issuing 2024 unemployment tax rate statements.

Employers in South Carolina pay unemployment tax on the first \$14,000 of wages earned by each employee during each calendar year. There are 20 tax rate classes that range from a low payment of \$8.40 per employee per year to a high of \$764.40 per employee. The tax rate class an employer is assigned to is based on the dollar amount of unemployment benefits the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce paid to eligible current or former employees during the three most recently completed experience years, which end on June 30.

In North Carolina, 2024, unemployment taxes will range from a low of \$18.72 to a maximum of \$1,797.12 per employee who earns at least \$31,200 in a calendar year. The formula the state uses to determine an employee's tax rate

is different than South Carolina's, but it is still based on unemployment benefits paid to former employees.

We often speak with clients who are surprised by the amount they are paying in unemployment taxes annually. We stress to them that this is one of the few instances where a tax rate can be controlled.

If you are a South Carolina employer and are not in tax class 1 with the \$8.40 per employee rate or a North Carolina employer and not paying the \$18.72 per employee rate in 2024, you should take a closer look at how employee terminations are being managed. Supervisors should be held accountable for properly documenting employee performance and behavior issues and for having a record of employee counseling prior to separation for ongoing issues such as attendance and job performance. Terminations without prior counseling or documentation should be limited to incidents of gross misconduct, such as theft, dishonesty, acts or threats of violence, intoxication at work, etc.

Well done if your company is paying the lowest tax rate, but remember that just one chargeable unemployment claim will significantly increase your





**“ Employers in South Carolina pay unemployment tax on the first \$14,000 of wages earned by each employee during each calendar year.**

taxes the following year and for at least two years after that. If your company is not paying the lowest tax rate, give us a call to discuss steps, such as management training on proper discipline and separation practices that can assist in lowering your unemployment costs.

Clients are encouraged to forward a copy of their 2024 tax notice to our attention at [office@sloanmontgomery.org](mailto:office@sloanmontgomery.org) and to contact us with any questions regarding the rate. 🔥

*If you have questions regarding the topics covered in this Information Release, you may contact our firm, Sloan, Montgomery, Gregory & Hall, Inc., at 803-782-9246.*

*This bulletin is provided as a service to clients and is only to give information of a general nature. It is not intended as, nor should it be considered, legal advice or opinion.*



Palmetto Oak Package  
ITEM # PKLPO24NV  
/ PKLPO24PV



Charred Frontier Oak Package  
ITEM # PKLCHFR2415N  
/ PKLCHFR2415P



Highland Oak Package  
ITEM # PKLHO24NV  
/ PKLHO24PV



Flint Hill Package  
ITEM # PKLFH24NV  
/ PKLFH24PV

## CUI has Never Made Ordering Vent Free Log Sets **EASIER & MORE** Cost Effective!

CUI offers Log Packages from the Vendors you know and trust - EverWarm, Empire, Monessen, and RH Peterson. Each Log Set Package will include a Burner, Log Set, and Remote Control.



HQ: Simpsonville, SC | Ocala, FL | Cullman, AL | Mt. Sterling, KY | Carrollton, TX

800.845.5301 • fax: 800.447.6854 • [www.cuiheat.com](http://www.cuiheat.com)

# PROPANE EQUIPMENT?

*Look no further*



**Tarantin**  
INDUSTRIES, INC.

Tarantin.com • 1.800.922.0724  
Order days, nights & weekends at tarantin.com



**Pat Shay**  
Regional Sales Manager  
PA • WV • MD



# Piedmont Propane

Propane Sales & Service

## Residential & Commercial

Athens, Homer, Washington, Elberton, GA  
Abbeville, SC

Looking to buy good/used  
bobtails, service  
trucks & propane tanks.  
Sizes varying from 120 to  
1000 gallon tanks.



706-678-6111

WHEN YOUR  
TICKETS DON'T WORK,  
YOU'RE NOT MAKING  
DELIVERIES...



## WHY TAKE THE RISK?



Roll  
TICKETS



Slip  
TICKETS



Computer  
TICKETS



800-221-1209  
FormsPro.net

TICKETS  
THAT  
WORK



PROPANE, HVAC  
COMPRESSED GAS



HEARTH



OUTDOOR LIVING



[WWW.RAYMURRAY.COM](http://WWW.RAYMURRAY.COM)

- Place Orders
- Check Inventory
- Access Resources

REGISTER FOR ACCESS NOW!



- FAST SHIPPING
- TOP BRANDS
- EXPERT SUPPORT

888-260-1900

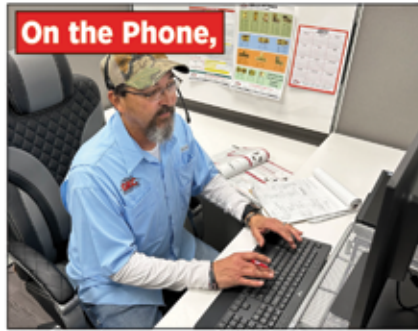


# GEC Has You Covered

Since 1937, GEC has been providing dependable equipment supported by knowledgeable people in the field, exceptional customer service on the phone and, in recent times, 24-hour access via our online web store.



**In the Field,**



**On the Phone,**



**And Online.**

GEC is a proud Distributor for the following equipment manufacturers.



A MAKEEN Energy Company

**Atlanta GA**  
(800) 241-4155

**Houston TX**  
(800) 334-7816

**Little Rock AR**  
(800) 643-8222

**Chandler OK**  
(800) 763-0953

**Indianapolis IN**  
(800) 241-1971

**Richmond VA**  
(800) 368-4013

**Dallas TX**  
(800) 821-1829

**St. Louis MO**  
(800) 423-4685

[www.gasequipment.com](http://www.gasequipment.com)

**Fayetteville NC**  
(800) 447-1625

**Kansas City MO**  
(800) 821-5062

**Sebring FL**  
(800) 821-0631



Willie Anderegg  
Southern Georgia

Steve Smith  
Georgia & South Carolina

Steve Barton  
North Carolina

We offer a wide selection for all of your heating and gas needs

- Fireplaces
- Tankless Water Heaters
- Fireplace Logs
- Outdoor Grills
- Woodburning Stoves
- and much more
- Fire Pits/Bowls



[www.tri-statedistributors.com](http://www.tri-statedistributors.com)

1.800.476.6164



TRUE FLAME

**TrueFlame...  
THE NEW NAME IN FIRE!!**



Sizes available: 26", 32" & 40"

Contact your Tri-State Territory Manager for more details!



**Georgia:**  
Robert Hernandez :: 770-468-4683  
[rhernandez@tsdsupply.com](mailto:rhernandez@tsdsupply.com)

**South & North Carolina:**  
Matt Lane :: 225-279-0128  
[mlane@tsdsupply.com](mailto:mlane@tsdsupply.com)

**Eastern North Carolina:**  
Ray Lopez :: 864-556-2356 :: [rlopez@tsdsupply.com](mailto:rlopez@tsdsupply.com)



# *The Gasman's Christmas*

*T'was the night before Christmas, all windy and wet  
Almost seven-thirty and I wasn't home yet.  
I called the office on my truck radio  
At last it was ending, just two names to go.*

*I'll wrap this up quickly and then head for the farm  
Where the family waiting with food and drink warm.  
The Smith's took 150, I pumped it with ease,  
Now hurry to the last one, it's starting to freeze.*

*The Jones' tank is an old one and just my luck.  
When I get the gas in there, the damn fill valve stuck.  
Lost my plastic hammer so I picked up a rock,  
Then got it shut off with a good solid knock.*

*I headed for the office to wrap up the day,  
A man flagged me down for motor fuel on the way.  
When I parked in the drive, the clock was past eight,  
The call book is empty, all done, this is great!*

*At home was the family, the table was set.  
I changed from my work clothes, dirty and wet.  
The house was so cheery – decorated and bright,  
There would be much laughter and joy here this night.*

*I was now ready, fresh bathed and dressed.  
We gathered at the table, a fine meal was blessed.  
A sugar cured ham I started to slice,  
I answered the phone as the bell sounded twice.*

*"Sorry to bother you, especially tonight,  
But the oven is off and I can't make it light."  
"I'll be right over", I said with forced cheer,  
Then made my excuses to my family dear.*

*Just one hour later, the oven was right,  
Now back to my family for my Christmas night.  
My warmed over dinner I gulped down with zeal,  
Again the phone rang at the end of the meal.*

*"Sir, I am sorry, I know it's late at night,  
But I need to fill my bottle for my Coleman light."  
It was back to the office for the five gallon fill,  
He paid for the purchase with a five dollar bill.*

*"Used to cost me two dollars," he said solemn and dry,  
"Now you charge me five, I think that's too high."  
I thanked the man kindly and bit my lip tight.  
The clock in the office read almost midnight.*

*Cold, tired and weary, I opened the door,  
Everyone was in bed so I crept cross the floor.  
My pillow was soft and deep sleep came at last.*

*Must have been 2:30 when my wife shook my arm,  
"Sorry to wake you honey, but the house is not warm."  
I went to the furnace, the pilot was out.  
Then went to the kitchen, I wanted to shout!  
I turned on a burner and discovered alas!  
I've been so busy, I let myself run out of gas. 🔥*

NO SMOKING

# KIROS ENERGY MARKETING

PROPANE

Providing Propane Marketing, Supply and Logistical Solutions Throughout North America



**KIROS**  
ENERGY MARKETING

Al Lajoie  
VP LPG Trading & Marketing  
403-477-2995  
alajoie@kirosenergy.com

Northeast / Mid-Atlantic  
Jeff Steppat  
605-760-0839  
jsteppat@kirosenergyusa.com

Midwest / Southeast  
Sumeet Paul  
403-585-6270  
spaul@kirosenergy.com

Southeast  
Warner Jones  
662-414-5254  
wjones@kirosenergyusa.com

[WWW.KIROSENERGY.COM](http://WWW.KIROSENERGY.COM)



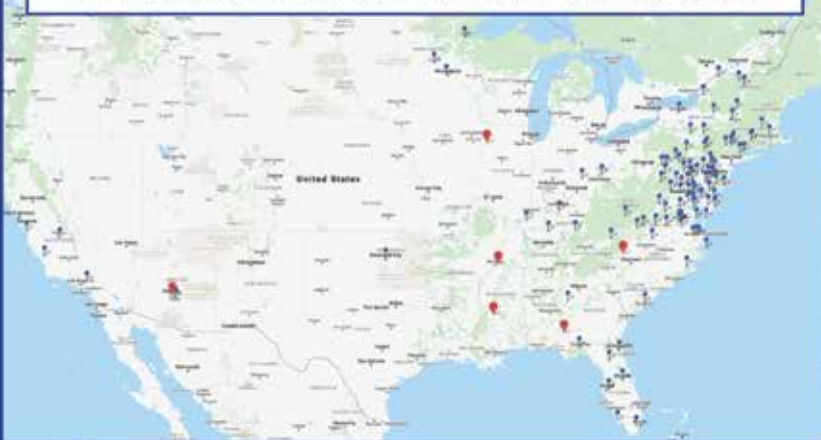
**R.E. MICHEL COMPANY**  
— Since 1935 —

and



**DEALERS LP EQUIPMENT**

**Wholesale Equipment Warehouse Locations from Coast to Coast!**



**Scan QR code below to see our DLPE Digital Catalog!**



[remichel.com](http://remichel.com) / [dealerslp.com](http://dealerslp.com)





Dispensing Cabinet



Phone: 800-457-3826

P.O. Box 429

Fax: (919-284-6199)

KENLY, NC 27542

E-MAIL: PETCO@PETTANK.COM



Greg Narron - President

***“WE HAVE YOU COVERED”***



***FROM INSTALLATION,  
TO MAINTENANCE,  
TO TOOLS  
AND ACCESSORIES,***



***TO DELIVERY AND REPAIR***

**NEW & RECONDITIONED BOBTAILS**

**CRANE SERVICE TRUCKS**

**SWITCHOVERS**

**BOBTAIL RENTAL & LEASING**

**BOBTAIL PARTS & REPAIR**

**TRANSPORT PARTS & REPAIR**

**V, K, I, P INSPECTIONS**

**METER CALIBRATION**

**TANK TRAILERS**

**LP DISPENSING UNITS**

**NBIC “R” STAMP REPAIRS**



***Serving the LP Industry Since 1954***



Meeting with Lamar County Commissioners.



Old Macon Road – Spalding County GA.



Milner GA Storage.



Bridge just South of terminal.



Lamar County Commissioners.



John Jessup touring Milner, GA.





# Thank You

TO ALL OF OUR ADVERTISERS

**YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT MADE THIS PUBLICATION POSSIBLE.**

FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION, CONTACT E&M AT  P. 800-572-0011 / [ADVERTISING@EANDMSALES.COM](mailto:ADVERTISING@EANDMSALES.COM)

Trust the sale of your business to  
experienced professionals with  
proven results.



Legacy Energy Consulting has over 30 years of direct industry experience. Since forming our family-owned business in June of 2020, we have successfully completed over 15 sales nationwide. Please visit our website to view our services and success stories.

*"When we originally decided to sell our business, we thought we would try to sell it ourselves, and after a long-drawn-out process we realized we needed competition in the sale process. At that point we contacted Chad at Legacy Energy Consulting to sell the business and we were able to maximize our sale price and get the deal closed. Until now I never understood why sellers used a broker, now I do."*

Ryan Gunderson, Como Oil & Propane of Florida



[chad@legacyenergyconsulting.com](mailto:chad@legacyenergyconsulting.com)

763-772-2834

[www.legacyenergyconsulting.com](http://www.legacyenergyconsulting.com)



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPA & NC TEC | 2024



**April 4-7**

2024 SEPA Spring  
Board Meeting  
Charlotte, NC



**April 24-25**

2024 Georgia State  
Membership Meeting  
The Graduate Hotel  
Athens, GA



**June 9-12**

2024 Annual  
SEPA Convention  
Wild Dunes Resort  
Isle of Palms, SC



**September 15-17**

2024 SEPA Fall Meeting  
Harrah's Casino Resort  
Cherokee, NC

## INNOVATION MADE SIMPLE



EXCELA-FLANGE™



EXCELERATOR™



EXCELA-WYND



TURBO-FLO LE™



ACCU-MAX™



EXCELA-FLO™



VERSA-FILL™



**MARSHALLEXCELSIOR**

1 {269} 789-6700 | sales@marshallexcelsior.com | www.marshallexcelsior.com

PLANT | TRANSPORTATION | DOMESTIC | RECREATIONAL | INDUSTRIAL



SUPERIOR  
QUALITY  
STANDARDS

NO  
HASSLE!  
5 YEAR  
WARRANTY

RIGOROUS  
TESTING  
PROCEDURES

## Your largest controllable expenses are delivery labor and vehicle costs.

Affordable Universal Tank Monitoring helps drive better customer service and distribution profitability.

- Universal SIM card connects to all major carriers: US Cellular, AT&T, Verizon, T-Mobile, Sprint, & their partners.
- Easy installation - Remote-ready and sender cables with dial and universal adapter. Magnetic mount.
- Class 1 / Div 1 certified
- Dependability - 20 yr. battery life, 5 year warranty, rugged with all-weather construction.
- Bergquist dedicated technical support and training staff.

  
**Bergquist**

bergquistinc.com | 800.448.9504

Your questions answered by the people who know propane equipment.



## LPG SYSTEM DESIGN & ENGINEERING

- | INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE SERVICES
- | TRANSPORTATION
- | BULK TANK SALES



**HILTZ**  
PROPANE SYSTEMS



ph. 717.799.4322 | [www.hiltzpropanesystems.com](http://www.hiltzpropanesystems.com)



## WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

This picture exemplifies some of the installations we see in flood-prone areas, be they near the coast or in floodplains along a mountain river. The building code often requires utilities to be installed above the flood level and this platform does a good job. The *LP-Gas Code* specifies anchoring tanks and cylinders whether above ground or underground. See the Containers on Platforms section of Richard Fredenburg's article for an explanation on this installation's violations.





# controlsinc.

## We carry parts for:

- Residential Gas Appliances
- Commercial Gas Appliances
- Gas Furnaces
- Gas Fireplaces
- Gas Space Heaters
- Gas Water Heaters
- Gas Clothes Dryers
- Gas Pool Heaters

... along with a wide assortment of brass fittings, gas hoses, thermostats, regulators, test equipment, & more!

## *How Controls Inc works for YOU:*

- Thousands of popular parts for most gas appliance manufacturers, in-stock and ready to ship.
- Same-day shipping on in-stock items.
- Special ordering of non-stock parts is available.
- Competitive Pricing
- Knowledgeable Parts Team

**(800)334-5886**

[www.controlsincgas.com](http://www.controlsincgas.com)  
[parts@controlsincgas.com](mailto:parts@controlsincgas.com)

*Proud members of*



**PLACE  
ORDERS BY PHONE**

**OR VIA OUR  
ONLINE PORTAL**







# Sonar Tank Monitoring - the step ahead



## RECREATIONAL/RESIDENTIAL APPLICATIONS



## COMMERCIAL/STORAGE APPLICATIONS



- *>100% more accurate than Read Ready Gauges*
- *Drive Business Profitability and Customer Service*
- *Solutions for tanks 20lb - >90,000 Gallons*
- *Simple & Fast - Installation by Drivers in just 3-4 mins*
- *Realtime monitoring straight to your Desktop, Mobile or Smartphone to sharpen your Inventory and Delivery Management*

Imagine your Gas, Oil, Water or any other liquid based business having an advantage above all others. In partnership with Sonariot and Mopeka Products, Rutherford Equipment will bring you that advantage. With Mopeka Product's patented Sonar Tank Monitoring Technology, you can quickly, easily and above all ACCURATELY monitor the levels of all your pressurized and non-pressurized tanks.

*Learn more at [www.sonariot.com](http://www.sonariot.com) or contact your Rutherford representative for more information!*