



OGA News & Views

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*We want to hear from you!
Ideas, concerns, ways to make the
association more effective for you.*

Tom Rider
Executive Director
Oklahoma Gas Association
308 N.E. 27th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-2717
E-mail: tom@meso.org

OGA News & Views is published four times a year by the Oklahoma Gas Association. Any comments or article suggestions should be forwarded to:

Oklahoma Gas Association
308 N.E. 27th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-2717

Phone: (405) 528-1752
Fax: (405) 524-5095
Website: www.okgas.org

OGA Legislative Forum Will Host Two Statewide Elected Officials

The annual OGA Legislative Forum scheduled for February 7, 2019 in Norman, OK will feature two statewide elected officials.

The Forum is a half-day prep session for the 2019 Oklahoma Legislative Session and other policy issues with the potential to impact the industry and association members.

“Looking forward to 2019 and the potential legislative, policy and regulatory impact on our industry, I believe we have put together what will be a very informative session,” said OGA Executive Director, Tom Rider. “I expect attendees to take a great deal of important information with them from the session.”

Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner Dana Murphy will discuss “Issues Facing the Regulated Gas Industry,” and Leslie Osborn, Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner-Elect, will discuss the “Role of Labor Commissioner as It Relates to the Regulated Natural Gas Industry.”

(see LEGISLATIVE FORUM page 3)

OGA to Redesign Website with Members in Mind

With goals of an enhanced online look; better communications; and, improving member’s ability to complete transactions with the association, the OGA has started work on a website redesign.

The new website is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2019.

In addition to a new website, the vendor selected also offers association management software. This software has “behind scenes” tools that allow members to register for events and conduct routine business.

“We expect members will see both a new updated website that we all can be proud of and increased ease of use when executing transactions with us,” said Jeff Kaufmann, Director of Communications who is leading the implementation.

In addition to transaction capabilities, it is expected the new website will offer value to members with features including a job board to post openings; an area for industry news; and, an online password-protected member directory. The board also will consider offering opportunities to sponsor the website.

2019 OGA Leadership Conference Will Be in May

The 2019 OGA Leadership Conference will be May 2, 2019 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Norman Hotel & Conference Center in Norman, OK.

The theme of the annual one-day leadership session is “Initiative: The Ball is Yours” and will include a series of speakers who achieved success for either themselves or their organization based on their individual efforts.

“We expect this session to benefit anyone who wants to enhance their leadership skills,” said OGA Executive Director, Tom Rider.

“The goal is to leave the session with a personal action plan that can be used for personal growth and increasing value to deliver to their organization. The plan will hopefully contemplate resources the attendee’s company currently has in place or be attainable with individual effort.

The day-long training session will include speakers covering four areas followed by attendees working in small groups to develop pieces of their personal action plan.

The first topic will be “What do you want?”. Brainstorming is expected to include personal and professional goals; are those goals compatible?; and what skills are needed to achieve them?

The second topic will address “What do you bring to the organization?” The group work will be designed to answer the questions: what should your

organization expect from you and what should a person do to help the organization succeed?

The third topic is “Transfer of knowledge.” Participants will address questions including: how can I best prepare myself for success?; how can I help subordinates best prepare themselves for success?; and, what can I ask my supervisors do to help me be successful?

The fourth and final topic will be “Positioning Yourself for Success”. During this final work, participants will develop a preliminary action plan using ideas from the first three sessions. The expected outcome is for the attendees to depart the training with prioritized steps needed to move forward on a success path.

For example, after hearing speakers and brainstorming sessions, an attendee identifies the need to improve skills in leadership. The actionable steps may include but not be limited to: talking to leaders in their organization about things they have done to become leaders; identify leadership development training in their organizations or outside their organizations; or to identify reading or listening materials designed to improve leadership skills.

Final details of the 2019 OGA Leadership Conference are expected to be announced soon. Questions or comments about the session may be directed to Tom Rider at tom@meso.org.

OGA Annual Corporate Sponsorship Returns for 2019

The OGA Annual Corporate Sponsorships — an opportunity for OGA members to make an annual investment in their association and its programs to advance the natural gas industry — returns for 2019.

The OGA Annual Corporate Sponsorship delivers two significant benefits to enhance membership in the association.

First, the program provides companies the opportunity to plan long-term — look ahead for an entire year. Some of the benefits are improved time management and budgeting.

Second, the program also puts associate members in front of decision makers at OGA events which are excellent opportunities to network with industry leaders and grow business.

The sponsorships range between \$5,000 and \$1,000 and offer benefits based on the investment. Complete details are available at www.okgas.org and clicking on the 2019 Annual Corporate Sponsorship Program in the Announcement section.

T.D. Williamson was a Platinum Corporate Sponsor for 2018 and Enable Midstream a Silver Sponsor.

To become an Annual Corporate Sponsor, association membership is required. For more information about OGA Memberships, Associate Memberships, the 2019 Annual Corporate Sponsorship Program, events, etc., please contact Tom Rider, Executive Director at 405-528-1752 or tom@meso.org.

Two Complete 2018 OGA Leadership Course

T. D. Williamson's Joe Sloan and James Eye from Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc. successfully completed the 2018 OGA Leadership Course.

"Completing this course is a significant accomplishment," said OGA Executive Director Tom Rider who teaches the course. "It involves a significant amount of commitment and work, so I gladly congratulate Joe and James."

The course included thirty-six hours of classroom instruction, outside reading assignments, and the

development and implementation of a Leadership Project. The course covered the following topics: Leadership 101, Leading Change, Visioning, Communicating the Vision, Developing Others and Leading People. The course culminated with a presentation of the individual's Leadership Project.

Rider will work with the Board to determine the future of the program, in part, based on feedback from the two most recent graduates.

"We will look at what we believe our membership needs and consider building a new program or other options," Rider said.



Joe Sloan and Tom Rider



James Eye and Tom Rider

Legislative Forum

(continued from page 1)

Joining Murphy and Osborn as speakers are Adria Berry from the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce who will review "Medical Marijuana laws in Oklahoma and potential legislation and its Impact on the industry." Craig Perry, Oklahoma Natural Gas, and Bill Phelps, Phelps & Associates, will discuss "What's Different with this Legislature?"

The Forum will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will end by 12 noon at Embassy Suites by Hilton Norman Hotel & Conference Center in Norman, OK. The registration fee is \$59 and includes breakfast. Register at www.okgas.org by clicking on OGA 2019 Legislative Forum in the Announcement section.

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A Warmer Winter Will Mean U.S. Natural Gas Customers May See Lower Bills

From the American Gas Association

October 18, 2018

The American Gas Association (AGA) said that customers nationwide may see residential natural gas bills 7 to 11 percent lower on average than the previous winter, due to expectations of a warmer-than-normal winter. Additionally, AGA says increased natural gas production nationwide may be changing how the market uses natural gas storage.

“As natural gas utilities prepare for another winter heating season, record levels of production are offsetting lower storage inventories in the supply mix while prices remain low and stable. We continue to see robust supply that is well positioned to serve customer needs. These trends could speak to an evolution of how utilities and others make strategic use of natural gas storage,” said Richard Meyer, AGA’s Managing Director of Energy Analysis.

AGA held its 2018-2019 Winter Outlook event today, which focuses on supply, demand, storage, temperatures, weather events, pipeline capacity and potential impacts on customer bills. Meyer and AGA Senior Energy Analyst Brendan O’Brien presented their findings and methodology.

“AGA asked its members what their expectations were for the winter heating season with 74 percent responding that bills this winter will be the same or lower than last year,” said O’Brien. His presentation also noted that:

- On January 1, 2018, natural gas utilities set a new record for a peak-day delivery of natural gas to consumers. The amount of natural gas delivered to just residential homes and commercial businesses on that day is roughly equivalent to the energy that nearly the entire fleet of U.S. power plants could generate running at full capacity for 24 hours.
- Natural gas will continue to be the lowest-cost energy option for home heating.
- Expectations are for a warmer-than-normal winter based on National Weather Service 2018-2019 Winter forecast (3,713 HDD vs 3,816 normal HDD)
- EIA’s winter forecast for Henry Hub price of gas remains on target with five-year average winter price (\$3.32 vs \$3.18).

2019 OGA Events

- Legislative Forum – February 7, 2019
- Leadership Conference – May 2, 2019
- Annual Conference – August 26 – 28, 2019

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