

2015 SWCA CONVENTION & EXPO



This February 22-24 the SCWA Convention is happening in Arlington, Texas. Sunday afternoon will start with a panel discussing "What's In Our Future" and then the EXPO floor will open until 6:30 in the evening. Monday has a group session, round tables and the state specific tables. Remember, last year Colorado had the largest state group requiring a second and third table be added! Before lunch and the EXPO opens the Keynote Address by Karl Rove will give us insight into the political landscape and it's impact on our businesses. Tuesday concludes with the Car Wash Academy and nine different sessions before the closing luncheon.

The Sheraton Arlington Hotel in Arlington near the Cowboy's Stadium is the place to stay so log onto the website to register and see all the details. HPWS will be there in Sonny's, Jim Coleman, Oasis, Lustra, Diamond Shine and Simoniz's booths so let us know if you will be attending!

HPWS RETIREMENT

Gary Walter retired this month after 18 years of working as Head of Electronics at HPWS. Moving to Texas with his lovely bride they will be close to their grand children with plans of RV excursions to many great places. We appreciate all that he has done with us over the years and know many customers were fond of his demeanor and work ethic. Almost always he was in by 6:30 in the morning and helped close up the shop at night. Our motto is "Your success is our common goal. It's why we get out of bed early and go to sleep late..." and Gary was a good example of this.

In similar news, Jerry Joe Edgington, in Manufacturing celebrated his 27th work anniversary this month, Jim Blake hit the 12 year mark in Equipment Sales and Pete Pascavage 3 years as our Purchasing Agent. It is fantastic to have the same faces around and same voices to hear over so many years and we hope it is the same for you as a customer of HPWS.

SONNY'S CARWASH COLLEGE

The 2015 CarWash College Training schedule has been posted on their website. Car Wash Maintenance, Management, Repair, New Investor, and AutoPilot courses are offered for anyone to attend. Most courses are five days with fly-in on Sunday night and out Friday afternoon. There is a Hampton Inn located within a quarter mile of the factory and a Marriott close as well for accommodations. If you would like to register go to www.sonnysdirect.com and under the products tab select CarWash College. You can also call 866.492.7422 for assistance.

CITY OF AURORA TAX ISSUE

Last month we wrote about the City of Aurora claiming they could start collecting sales tax from self-serve, automatic and tunnel car washes but also vacuums, air machines, and similar equipment. In addition, tax would still be paid on equipment purchases for each site.

The SCWA has been hosting conference calls and e-mails coordinating efforts to address this with Aurora. The Association's tax attorney has been actively involved in reviewing and plotting the course of action.

We ask everyone to become a member of the SCWA by visiting their website at www.swcarwash.org. Our concern is that this could set precedent for car washes in other cities under a broad brush so all owners should become involved. It is understood that city departments speak across borders and this could start a trend. In most areas this would result in several percentage points of revenue being paid in retail sales tax.

PRICE INCREASES

The following manufacturers have announced increases for January 2015:

Unitec - Wash Select 2 Parts, **DEMA** - Metering Tips, **Hach** - Test Strips, **Spraying Systems** - Spray Tips, **Hydrominder** - Parts, **Super Swivels** - Swivels, **Flojet** - Pumps, **Cleaning Systems, Inc.** - Chemicals, **Erie Brush** - Foam Brushes and **Cat Pumps** - Pump Repair Parts.