

## 2022 NATIONAL PROPANE EDUCATION & TRAINING CONFERENCE

**MARCH 1 – 2, 2022**

### **SPEAKERS**

**Tucker Perkins, *President & CEO, PERC***

Tucker Perkins is President and CEO of the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC), a nonprofit funded and operated by the U.S. propane industry. PERC promotes the safe, efficient use of propane through safety, training, research and development, and consumer education programs. Perkins joined PERC in 2012 as Chief Business Development Officer and was promoted to Chief Operating Officer before the Council named him President and CEO.

Perkins has worked in the propane industry for nearly thirty years in a variety of roles for both large national companies and small regional propane marketers. He is active with many organizations aligned with PERC, including National Propane Gas Association, the Industrial Truck Association, the Outdoor Power institute, and the World LP Gas Association.

A Virginia Tech graduate with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, Perkins earned his MBA from the University of Richmond.



**Tom Clark, *Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Propane Association***



Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Propane Association since 2018. Prior to that I spent 25 years working in the propane industry as Vice President of Mountain State LP Gas Co, Intermountain Truck and Western Propane Storage. Extensive experience in 20# cylinder refurbishing, managing plants in Utah and Washington. Design and manufacturing of propane bobtails. Design and manufacturing of UL Listed Propane dispenser skids. Design and installation of propane bulk plants. Wholesale and transportation of propane operating a large regional fleet. Propane has given me an opportunity to travel the world

where I have conducted training throughout the Caribbean, South American, Canada and 48 states. I now train approximately 200 students a year in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana.

**Kimmie Guthrie**, *Director of Training, Thompson Gas*

**Margaret Hiatt**, *Educational Content Manager, PERC*

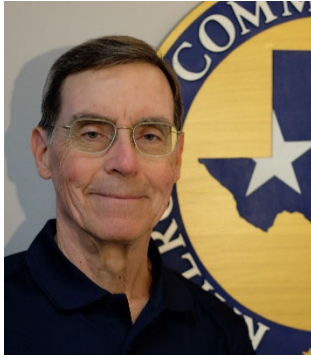


Margaret is the Educational Content Manager and is responsible for managing the design of content for PERC's educational, training and compliance programs. She joined PERC in the Fall of 2020. Margaret did her undergraduate work at The Pennsylvania State University and her graduate work at Boise State University.

**Christopher Hanson**, *LMS Administrator, PERC*



Christopher's primary focus is the overall management, maintenance and administration of the Propane Industry's Learning Management System (LMS) application and environment. He is the primary contact for vendor support, maintenance, notifications, releases and updates.



**Mark Hood**, *Training Manager, Alternative Fuel Safety, Railroad Commission of Texas*

Mark began his career as a design engineer with the LP-Gas division of Fisher Controls in 1976 where he held a variety of positions including Engineering Group Manager. He served for 18 years on the NPGA Technology and Standards Committee later moving to Marshall Gas Controls as Engineering Manager prior to joining the Railroad Commission as Training Manager in the Alternative Fuels Safety group. Mark sees this final phase of his career as “giving back” to the propane industry with his experience and by training those that will come after.

**Jessica Johnson**, *National Accounts Coordinator, ThompsonGas*



Jessica Johnson is the National Accounts Coordination for ThompsonGas and Thompson AutoGas division. Jessica started her propane career in 2016 with a passion for the Autogas industry and has found success by partnering with PERC and Clean Cities Coalitions across the country to conduct interactive educational and training events. Jessica is a seasoned speaker and trainer whose expertise also extends to market strategy, communications and account management. Her work through Women in Propane has also inspired her to continually learn from other professionals as the face of propane evolves. “We have a real opportunity to change the way propane is perceived in this country, not as a dirty fossil fuel but as a clean-burning, domestic energy source. That opportunity lies in Autogas.” Based in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina, Jessica enjoys being outdoors, collecting pottery and singing in her spare time.

**Eric Kuster**, *Vice-president of Safety, Education & Compliance, PERC*



Eric Kuster joined the Propane Education and Research Council as the Vice President of Safety, Education and Compliance in August of 2019. In this role Eric has overall responsibility for PERC's safety, training and compliance programs including the Certified Employee Training Program (CETP) and works with industry stakeholders on programs and delivery options for a variety of industry related educational programs.

Eric Kuster started his career in the propane industry in 1990 working in almost every aspect of wholesale and retail propane operations including Director of Safety and Training for a multistate propane and petroleum marketer. He then expanded his safety career as the National Director of Risk Engineering for an insurance underwriting company providing safety and compliance guidance, incident investigation and subject matter expertise for industries including propane, natural gas, and explosives. Most recently Eric held the position of Director of Safety and Certification for the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) before his move to PERC as the Vice President of Safety, Education and Compliance in August of 2019.

**Paula Laney**, *Director of Safety and Training, Energy Distribution Partners*



Paula Laney is currently the Director of Safety and Training for Energy Distribution Partners (EDP). We service more than 120,000 customers in 10 states, with a presence in rural America as well as in major metropolitan areas. Before joining EDP in 2019, Paula spent nearly 20 years as the Director of Safety, Education and Training for the OK LP Gas Commission as well as 10 years as a consultant offering safety, training, and compliance services to the propane industry. Raised in her family's small independent propane company, she has a lifetime of knowledge and experience in propane and a heart for the people and businesses she has had the pleasure to serve.

**Kim Lapierre, *Technical Training Manager, Suburban Propane***



Kim Lapierre has 37 years of LP Industry experience. Throughout her career she has held positions in Operations Management, Safety, and Technical Training at the local, regional and corporate levels. Kim's current focus is facilitating company-wide employee safety training and regulatory compliance. Kim supports local community Emergency Responders and currently holds the position of Chair for the Vermont State Emergency Response Commission (SERC).

**Sarah Reboli, Esq., *Senior Director, Regulatory & Industry Affairs, National Propane Gas Association***



Sarah is NPGA's lead point of contact on all regulatory matters. She identifies and prioritizes regulatory challenges as well as potential advantages for the propane industry, and develops advocacy strategies with the Regulatory & Technical team. She engages federal regulatory agencies and correlating efforts of coalitions according to the direction of NPGA task forces, committees, and the general interests of the membership. Sarah is also responsible for development of industry programs and webinars to assist in federal regulatory compliance.

Sarah joined the National Propane Gas Association in April 2015. Sarah completed her undergraduate work at the University of Florida and obtained her law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Lyndon Rickards**, *Director of Safety & Compliance, PERC*



Lyndon Rickards is the Director of Safety and Compliance with the Propane Education and Research Council. He has over 35 years of experience in the propane industry serving various job functions that range from a service technician, delivery driver, trainer, to safety, compliance and risk management.

**Elena Scott**, *Manager, Industry Training Programs, PERC*



Elena oversees PERC's industry and market specific training programs, which deliver market insights, performance solutions, and customized tools that empower propane marketers to leverage business opportunities in all market segments. She also leads the Train the Trainer, HVAC event, manages the Technical School Program, and supports workforce outreach.

Contact me for:

- Industry & Market Training (Sales and CSR training)
- Train the Trainer
- Technical School Grant Program
- Workforce Outreach



**Bruce Swiecicki, P.E.,** *Senior Technical Advisor, National Propane Gas Association*



Bruce Swiecicki is a registered professional engineer in the state of Illinois and has worked for the National Propane Gas Association since 1993. Bruce is the Senior Technical Advisor for the association and represents the propane industry on various codes and standards writing bodies, including the NFPA Technical Committee on Liquefied Petroleum Gases and the National Fuel Gas Code Committee.

Bruce is a member of several standards development committees of the NFPA, ASTM, Underwriters Laboratories and ASHRAE. He is the past chairman of the ANSI Z21/83 Committee on Fuel Gas Appliances.

Bruce holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois. Prior to joining NPGA, Bruce worked for the Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) model code development organization for 10 years as senior staff engineer.

**Gregg Walker,** *Director of External Communications, PERC*



Gregg is director of external communications at PERC, where he focuses on the industry's two biggest market sectors: residential and commercial propane. He has training and experience in writing, editing, public relations, and marketing. He lives in Virginia with his wife and two daughters.