



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE NATIONAL GROCERS ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS AT THE 2008 N.G.A. ANNUAL CONVENTION

ARLINGTON, VA, -- The National Grocers Association (N.G.A.) elected and appointed six new members to its Board of Directors at the association's 2008 Annual Convention and Supermarket Synergy Showcase, held February 5-8, 2008 at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Retailer members newly elected/appointed to the board include:

- **Mike Byars**, *President & CEO, Minyard Food Stores, Inc., Coppell, TX*
Minyard Food Stores, Inc., consists of 65 supermarkets and warehouse stores and is served by Associated Wholesale Grocers, Inc.
- **Gerry Norkus**, *President, Norkus Enterprises, Inc., Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ*
Norkus Enterprises, Inc. operates seven stores and is served by DiGiorgio Corporation.
- **Jim Nilsson, Jr.**, *President, Geissler's Supermarkets, East Windsor, CT*
Geissler's operates six supermarkets and is served by Buzzuto's Inc.

Newly elected wholesalers include:

- **George Lankford**, *President & CEO, Affiliated Foods, Inc., Amarillo, TX*
Affiliated Foods, Inc. in Amarillo, TX that serves over 720 stores in Texas, New Mexico and four other south and western states.
- **Marc Smith**, *Co-President, C&S Wholesale Grocers, Keene, NH*
C&S Wholesale Grocers in Keene, NH that serves 4,000 stores in the northeast and throughout the United States.
- **Jim Ried**, *President and CEO, Olean Wholesale Grocery Coop --Olean, NY*
Olean Wholesale Grocery Coop serves 130 stores in New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania

Newly elected State Association Executive is:

- **Jim Rogers**, *President & CEO, Food Industry Alliance of NY State, Albany, NY*
The Food Industry Alliance of New York State represents the full spectrum of the grocery industry in New York.

The Board of Directors also re-elected retailers **Larry Collins**, *President, Collins Family Markets Philadelphia, PA*; **Roger Collins**, *President & CEO, Harp's Food Stores, Inc., Springdale, AR*; **Jay Lawrence**, *President, Lawrence Brothers, Sweetwater, TX*; **Rich Niemann, Jr.**, *CEO/President, Niemann Foods, Inc., Quincy, IL*; **Trygve Solberg**, *Chairman, T.A. Solberg*

Company, Inc., Minocqua, WI; and **Mike Stone**, President & CEO/Founder, Mollie Stone's Markets, Mill Valley, CA.

The Board of Directors also re-elected the following Wholesalers to the board: **Martin Arter** President, Affiliated Foods Midwest, Norfolk, NE; **Michael Bozzuto**, Chairman, President & CEO, Bozzuto's, Inc., Cheshire, CT; and **Dean Sonnenberg**, President/CEO, URM Stores, Inc. Spokane, WA

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N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating a variety of formats. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family and others are employee owned. Independents are the true "entrepreneurs" of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers, state grocers associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers. For more information about N.G.A. and the independent sector of the industry, see the N.G.A. website: www.NationalGrocers.org.