



GFIA EXPRESS LINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

VOL. 21 NO. 2

What is Your Secret Sauce?

By Kathy Kuzava, GFIA President

Every company has something special and unique about them...Why do people shop with you or buy your products?

The Georgia Food Industry Association has its own secret sauce - our members! The service that the GFIA sells is not something that you can easily describe, but we have something so special, and it was certainly evident at our convention in July.

After cancelling our in-person events last year, GFIA members were so excited to be back together. Virtual events have some advantages, but there is NOTHING like being together with this terrific group of people!

I love hearing the reaction from legislators and guests when they

first experience the GFIA family. They are naturally impressed. This year, a former legislator, Brett Harrell, sent a surprise donation of \$10,000 to the Foundation. When I called to thank him, he talked about how wonderful our members are and how he was happy to donate to this impressive cause. (Yes, I cried!)

There are so many people that make GFIA special. I want to thank Jamey Leseueur, Food Depot, for leading this association over the last two years, and to GFIA's new chairman, Tim Brown, who took over the reins in July.



This newsletter issue is packed with great memories of a fantastic convention, and I want to give you a preview of what you can expect.

GFIA's Legacy Award, our highest honor, was given this year in memory of the remarkable Moses White of Wayfield Foods, who passed away in 2020. Read more about this emotional presentation on pages 8-9.

How do you respond when a pandemic limits the way you traditionally raise money for a great cause? The Georgia Food Industry Education Foundation trustees came up with innovative and creative ways to fund scholarships. I want to give a huge shout out to Warren Brown, Education Foundation Chairman, and to all the trustees who knocked it out of the park with this year's exciting fundraisers. A special thanks to fundraising committee co-chairs Kerry Hitchcock, Wayfield Foods and Lindsey Koch, Koch and Associates, who made this year's auctions and raffles a resounding success. Look for more details on page 15.

How do you transport everything needed to pull off a successful event? Mike Coggins, Harvest Sherwood Foods stepped up with a 52-foot truck! We are SO grateful for your service!

Don't forget to check out our impressive list of sponsors on pages 18-19. These companies make our convention possible!

As I stood at the podium the final night, I bragged about our "special sauce" It is YOU, the GFIA members, whose enthusiasm makes this association so very unique. I have said it before and I will say it again...It is an honor to represent this fine industry. We are Supermarket Strong!

Want to be a part of this great group? VOLUNTEER! We will see you in a few weeks for our golf tournament in Chateau Elan!

With the Delta variant affecting so many of our members, the GFIA board has cancelled our holiday party for 2021. (Can't have an outdoor event in December!) THANK YOU to those companies who are continuing to support the organization! We are so VERY grateful for your support! (We will highlight those companies in the December addition of our newsletter.)

JOIN US!

GFIA Board of Directors' Fall Golf Tournament

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

CHATEAU ELAN GOLF CLUB
Braselton, Georgia

Purchase \$10 raffle tickets for
the chance to win fantastic prizes!

Registration and details at www.GFIA.org

Contact Michelle Boyer for sponsorship
information mboyer@GFIA.org
(678) 654-3316



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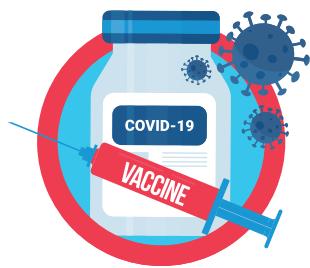
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Are Mandated Vaccines or Weekly Testing Coming to Your Business?

President Biden's "Path out of the Pandemic" will mandate employers with more than 100 workers to require them to be vaccinated or test for the virus weekly with penalties of up to \$14,000 per violation.



According to the plan, The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is developing a rule that will require all employers with 100 or more employees to ensure their workforce is fully vaccinated or require any workers who remain unvaccinated to produce a negative test result on at least a weekly basis before coming to work. OSHA will issue an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) to implement this requirement. This requirement will impact over 80 million workers in private sector businesses with 100+ employees.

President Biden calls his plan a "six-pronged, comprehensive national strategy that employs the same science-based approach that was used to successfully combat previous variants of COVID-19 earlier this year. This plan will ensure that we are using every available tool to combat COVID-19 and save even more lives in the months ahead, while also keeping schools open and safe, and protecting our economy from lockdowns and damage." Covered employers will be required to provide paid time off for the time it takes for workers to get vaccinated or to recover if they are under the weather post-vaccination.

According to the plan, vaccinations will also be required for health care workers in facilities that receive Medicare/Medicaid funding, and for federal contractors and most federal employees. For these workers, weekly testing will no longer qualify as a substitute for vaccination. Some GFIA members have asked if their pharmacy operations taking Medicare and Medicaid would put them in this category.

Republican governors vowed to fight the mandates, arguing that this rule change is unconstitutional, and an attack on private businesses and states' rights. Georgia's Governor Brian Kemp immediately responded in a tweet saying, "I will pursue every legal option available to the state of Georgia to stop this blatantly unlawful overreach by the Biden administration."

The plan calls on entertainment venues like sports arenas, large concert halls, and other venues where large groups of people gather to require that their patrons be vaccinated or show a negative test for entry.

While the supermarket industry has worked hard to provide vaccinations through our retail pharmacies, business owners are left with many questions. Some had concerns that with an already tight labor market, employers could lose employees. Others had major concerns with the record keeping and penalty provisions. Still other employers expressed that a mandate could keep more of their employees healthy and mentioned that some companies already have a mandated vaccination policy. Strong opinions on both sides of the issue!

By the time you read this article, many of these questions may already be answered, but for now, here is a sample of the questions that need answering.

- When will the Emergency Temporary Standard be issued?
- Will there be a comment period?
- Is the 100-person employer threshold per location or company-wide?
- What is the likelihood of a successful legal challenge?
- If an employee refuses to get tested or provide proof of a negative test, would that employee qualify for unemployment benefits?
- Who is required to pay for the weekly test?
- What type of test will be required for the unvaccinated?
- What type of records need to be kept by an employer?
- Does the definition of "fully vaccinated" include the booster vaccination?
- Does the president have the authority to enforce this mandate?

*Thank you to our national associations, FMI and NGA, who are examining every detail in the language.
We will keep you informed as we learn more.*

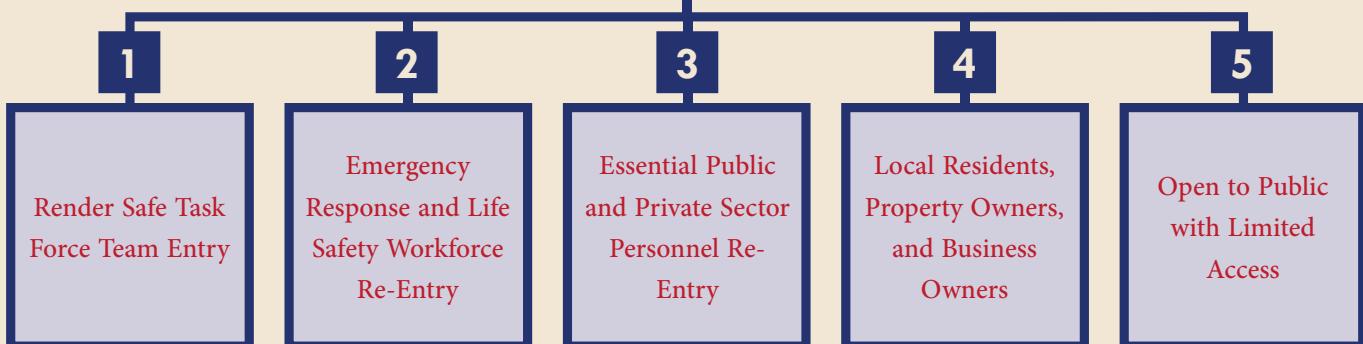
GEMA/HS QUICK GUIDE

GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
& HOMELAND SECURITY AGENCY**DISASTER RE-ENTRY PERMIT PROCESS****BE PREPARED FOR A DISASTER WITH A RE-ENTRY PASS!**

GEMA/HS knows that one of the fastest ways for a community to recover after a disaster is to ensure essential companies gain access into a disaster area to begin the process of getting the community running again.

The supermarket industry falls into Phase 3 of GEMA's re-entry plan, providing crucial supplies like groceries, pharmaceuticals, and fuel. Re-entry permits expire every three years, so please make sure your company's application is up to date!

Need an application? Send a request to externalaffairs@gema.ga.gov or GFIA's website.

FIVE DISASTER RE-ENTRY PHASES

RE-ENTRY PERMITS ARE ONLY ISSUED FOR PHASE 2 & PHASE 3 OF THE RE-ENTRY PROCESS

WHAT YOU NEED ONCE RE-ENTRY PERMITS ARE RECEIVED

Upon receipt of a re-entry permit application, GEMA/HS issues electronic re-entry permits to pre-identified organizations, agencies or companies that may deploy emergency response/life safety workforce and essential public/private sector personnel

- Personnel entering should be prepared to present a State of Georgia Disaster Re-Entry Permit, employee credentials (marked vehicle, ID Badge, etc.), valid state-issued identification card.
- Approved individuals working as contractors or subcontractors for an organization or business are also required to have an employer authorization letter.
- Residents and individuals attempting to gain access during this phase will be expected to present valid state-issued photo identification that includes an address in the impacted area; or, valid state-issued photo identification along with a property deed, recent utility bill verifying an address, current voter registration card, recent property tax statement, business credential, or pay stub from a local business.
- Local officials will determine that a county or portions of the county are relatively safe for entrance by the general public. Restrictions may remain in place for a period of time limiting access to daylight hours.

CONTACT EXTERNALAFFAIRS@GEMA.GA.GOV FOR RE-ENTRY PERMITS

WWW.GEMA.GA.GOV

1-800-TRY-GEMA

Permanent SNAP Increase Begins Oct. 1st

The permanent 25% increase in federal SNAP benefits will affect more than 1.6 million Georgians, beginning in October. This replaces the temporary 15% increase, which ended September 30.

In Georgia, that means the average four-person household will go from receiving a maximum of \$680 per month in SNAP benefits last year to \$835 beginning Oct. 1, according to data from the Division of Family and Children Services.

"With their October issuance, eligible families may qualify to receive SNAP benefits at a higher maximum allotment than before COVID-19 began," said Jon Anderson, the head of DFCS' Office of Family Independence. "The increase in the maximum allotments will help Georgia's families meet their nutritional needs to purchase healthy foods."

Need for food assistance skyrocketed at the beginning of the pandemic and has remained at higher rates than before COVID-19 caused many Georgians to lose their jobs. As of June, of 2021, more than 732,000 households received benefits, with an average of \$339 per month. That's a decline from a pandemic-high of nearly 912,000 households in September 2020, but still tens of thousands above the 627,000 households that received benefits in February 2020.

Federal and state governments have increased access to food stamps during the pandemic by waiving work requirements, giving every household the maximum allowed under federal guidelines and increasing the payments by 15%.

GA Dept. of Revenue

New Instructions for the Issuance of Alcohol and Tobacco Licenses

Effective with the 2022 renewal season and as of September 1, 2021, the Department of Revenue will no longer issue and print alcohol or tobacco licenses on color bonded certificate paper containing a watermark. Additionally, the Department will not provide a license pick-up service or mail licenses to licensees. All alcohol and tobacco licenses will be available for viewing through the Georgia Tax Center (GTC) and must be printed by the licensee. Go to <https://dor.georgia.gov> to print an alcohol or tobacco license.

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) Will Be Distributed This Fall

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) provides a temporary benefit called Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) for children who were without access to free or reduced-price school meals during the 2020-21 school year, **and** for SNAP eligible children enrolled in childcare and K-12 schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This program will provide extra help to families with children who qualify through participation in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Programs due to income restrictions, AND if the school was required to close or reduce operating hours for least **five(5) consecutive days** during the 2020-2021 school year. Those children may be **entitled to a P-EBT payment of \$6.82 per day**. These benefits are tentatively scheduled to be distributed in the coming months. (GFIA will notify you as to the dollar amounts and the exact dates when they are finalized.)

All children under the age of six in households that received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly food stamp) at any time since October 1, 2020, are **eligible for P-EBT benefits (\$6.82 per day)** if they live in or attended childcare in an area where one or more schools or childcare facilities was closed or operated with reduced attendance or hours -- for the months they received SNAP. These benefits are tentatively scheduled to be distributed in the coming months. (GFIA will notify you as to the amounts and exact dates when they are finalized.)

P-EBT benefits not used within 274 days after a last purchase or return, will be removed from the card and cannot be replaced. Unused funds will go back to Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) after they expire.

For general information about the P-EBT benefits program and for assistance with troubleshooting issues, visit www.dfcs.ga.gov.

Senate Study Committee to Address Georgia's Food Deserts

Senate Resolution 283, introduced by Senator Harold Jones (D-Augusta), created the Senate Improving Access to Healthy Foods and Ending Food Deserts Study Committee. According to the resolution, over two million Georgians, including 500,000 children, live in food deserts—communities that lack access to affordable fruits, vegetables, and other foods that contribute to a healthy diet.

SB 283 goes on to say that food deserts occur in both rural and urban areas, which are primarily located in low-income communities, and specifically mentions that grocery stores are reluctant to locate in low-income communities. Rural areas face food deserts because of income levels but also because of the unique challenges in remote living.

The committee's goals are to determine if there are policies or legislation needed to ensure that all Georgians have access to healthy and affordable food. Three meetings were scheduled in August–October and took the committee to Augusta, Valdosta and Atlanta. At the time we went to press, the October meeting in Atlanta had not been finalized.

More than ten years ago, a broad group of community leaders joined with leaders in the food industry to explore these challenges through the Georgia Supermarket Access Task Force. The Georgia Food Industry Association worked closely with the group and published a report on our findings. The industry has changed drastically since then, although many of the recommendations made by the group still hold true today. The study committee asked for an update on the task force and was interested in understanding the barriers to opening a supermarket, especially in a food desert.

In the committee's first hearing in Augusta, GFIA president Kathy Kuzava testified for over an hour, educating the senators on the competitive supermarket industry and the low profit margin grocers face. She stressed that finding the right location is essential to staying in business. Population, competition, neighborhood demographics, visibility, traffic patterns and crime rates are all factors taken into consideration when grocers consider investing in a new store location.

Kuzava also discussed additional barriers to opening a new location, including the need for faster local and state license approval for the potential store. Modifications of the Georgia WIC Program's authorization process was an example given.

She also discussed the challenge retailers are experiencing with finding employees. "Staffing has been a huge problem since the pandemic began."

GFIA board member Tom Coogee, President of Reynolds Foodliner, testified in Valdosta and educated the committee on the high costs of opening a new supermarket. He discussed that as the population in some rural areas continues to decline, there are additional challenges of running a full-service grocery in rural areas when a store supports several small towns.

Coogee explained that while the pandemic has increased grocery sales, retailers experienced increased costs, including higher labor and PPE costs to protect their customers and employees. Supply chain issues continue to cause concern for retailers, with rising costs in many areas. Grocers, especially smaller independents, are also experiencing challenges in sourcing product. Coogee mentioned other concerns such as the rising costs of premise liability and other insurance, which continues to increase every year.



Senators Billy Hickman, Harold Jones and Russ Goodman with Kathy Kuzava



Tom Coogee of Reynolds Foodliner with Georgia senators Freddie Powell Sims, Harold Jones and Russ Goodman

The Senate Improving Access to Healthy Foods and Ending Food Deserts Study Committee:

Chair- Senator Harold Jones, (D-Augusta).

Senator Billy Hickman (R-Statesboro)

Senator Steve Gooch, (R-Dahlonega)

Senator Russ Goodman (R-Cogdell)

Senator Freddie Powell Sims, (D-Dawson)

Meet GFIA's New Chairman- Tim Brown



Our new chairman's 44-year career with the Kroger Company has taken him across the country, serving in leadership roles in 9 Kroger divisions and the corporate office in Ohio. After 14 moves with the company, yes..14 moves, Tim came back to Georgia in 2018 as the President of the Atlanta Division.

Can you tell us about your career path in the grocery industry?

My first job was bagging groceries when I was 15 years old at Bailey's IGA, a single store independent owner in Southern Illinois. At 17, I went to work with Kroger, starting as a courtesy clerk. In 1981, I joined Kroger's management training program and the company has given me plenty of opportunities in both the merchandising and operations sides of the business.

I spent four years serving as Vice President of meat, seafood and deli/bakery operations in the corporate office in Cincinnati OH before serving as Vice President of Merchandising in both the Columbus OH and Atlanta divisions. In 2012, I moved to the Mid-Atlantic division in Roanoke VA as Vice President of Operations. I was promoted to Division President and served in this role in the Kroger Delta division in Memphis TN and Cincinnati/Dayton division before happily returning to Atlanta in 2018.

In your current role, what do you enjoy most about your job?

The most joy I get is visiting our stores and talking to our store teams. I like talking to them about the challenges they face day to day. It allows me to stay close to the business and help them find solutions. I also love hearing their stories about family and friends and getting to know them on more of a personal level. It also gives me joy watching many of them get promoted to new jobs and becoming great leaders.

Running a division during a pandemic has been something no one could plan for! What has been your biggest frustration?

My two biggest frustrations are not having the product availability to serve our customers and associates, and the heartache of seeing so many of our associates and their families deal with COVID and not being able to do much to help them.

What are you most proud of?

I am most proud of our total store teams. The work they did to service our customers and associates at the height of the pandemic was truly amazing! We learned how to pivot in

ways we never thought possible, and we learned so many new ways of working differently under these conditions.

I'm also proud of our pharmacy team, who has played a vital role in getting our customers vaccinated. Every retail pharmacist and pharmacy technician deserve kudos for the job they continue to do to get shots in the arms of thousands of Georgians!

What has been the biggest surprise for you?

What surprises me the most is like what I'm most proud of. I am so surprised at how rapidly our teams were able to make adjustments to manage our stores and keep the food supply flowing. I'm also surprised that the supply chain – both food products and store supplies and equipment – is still not flowing like we expected.

What do you have to teach? What do you have to learn?

What I teach is helping our store and division leaders how to think differently in today's environment. I enjoy helping them find solutions to the opportunities they are currently facing. I also like to teach and encourage them as leaders to keep our associates morale up as much as we can during these challenging times.

There isn't a day that goes by in this business that I don't learn something new and most of this learning comes from our store associates. I also must learn patience (been working on that one for most of my career). I must be able to assess our ability to move and pivot at a rapid pace, but not let my impatience impede progress. I want to push our team to move fast but with a cadence that the organization can follow.

You are back for your second term as GFIA chairman. With your busy schedule, how do you have time to dedicate to the association?

GFIA is extremely important to our company and division. Under Kathy's leadership, the association has incredible relationships with government officials and regulatory agencies. Kathy and her team help retailers, from the chain stores to the independent retailers, and our vendor partners navigate and understand the complexity of rules and regulations required to operate our stores and businesses.

GFIA is important to me personally because being a part of the GFIA family- and it is truly a family- has been very rewarding. I've worked in several other states, and the GFIA culture is unique and special. I have made great friends at our meetings, events and board retreats and we enjoy spending time with them. Competitors by day, but friends when we gather with the GFIA.

What advice would you give someone interested in volunteering or even joining a GFIA committee or board?

JUST DO IT! You will find it to be very rewarding and informational. You will be glad you did!

The association is only as strong as our volunteers, so I would encourage every GFIA member company to definitely get involved. The value of your membership will multiply greatly when you become an active member!

Why was coming back to Atlanta important to you?

Coming back to Atlanta was very important and exciting. First, my children and grandchildren all live in the Atlanta area. Secondly, my wife grew up in Georgia and her family all live here. It's been like coming home for Angie and me.

Additionally, running the Atlanta division means a lot to me. It is one of our largest divisions with lots of geographic diversity. I enjoy spending time in our stores throughout the entire division that includes North and South Georgia, Savannah, South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee. The Atlanta division and our associates hold a special place in my heart and have from the first time I came here.

Tell us more about your family.

I am very lucky to be married to my beautiful wife Angie. She is there by my side every single day. She is an awesome life partner and a great person to bounce work things off. She gives me different perspectives from her past work experiences that are helpful. She is my rock and keeps me well-grounded and that's important in this fast-paced industry.

I have three wonderful adult children, Karen, Katy and Jake, and I'm very excited to be back close to them. It was 9 years before I was transferred back to Atlanta, and now get to spend time with not only my kids, but my beautiful baby granddaughters, Piper 5 and Amelia 9 months! I've long

been told that grandkids are the best thing to ever happen, and it is so true. My grandfather was a huge influence in my life. When I was just a young lad, he was teaching me "life things". I want to be that grandfather for them, and I tell them both, "I will be your favorite".

Everyone thinks of Kroger as a huge corporation. Can you remind us how Kroger got started?

In 1883, Bernard ("Barney") Kroger invested his life savings of \$372 to open a grocery store in a suburb of Cincinnati Ohio. Kroger was a former coffee and tea salesman and was the son of a grocer. He opened that first store, the "Great Western Tea Company" with a partner but bought him out two years later. In 1885, the company owned four stores. Barney Kroger could never have imagined the grocery business today!

What do you do in your downtime?

Downtime? Seriously? This is the grocery business! Angie and I have a house on Hilton Head Island and when we get the chance to go there, we love the beach and boat time. We find it very relaxing. We both love to try new restaurants and experience different foods from different cultures. We also love to travel and be on the go.

What is your perfect meal?

Fried chicken, collard greens and mashed potatoes with creamed corn on top of the potatoes. That's what my grandmother used to make for us on Sundays. (actually, Angie turned me on to the creamed corn on the potato thing) I think the best fried chicken is at a terrific restaurant called Southern Charm in Blueridge. I'm picky about my collard greens and they also make them wonderfully.

We know you love to cook. What is your favorite meal that you prepare?

I love to cook Italian food. Angie loves my veal parmesan, but my eggplant parmesan is my favorite.

If you weren't a grocer, what would your fantasy job be?

My fantasy job if not a grocer would be professional golfer. I love the game and have played since age 12. (Although if you saw me play, you might question the length of time I have played :) I know that's very hard work too, but I have a passion for the game and can't wait to get back out on the course again in the future.



Tim and Angie Brown

GFIA's 2021 Legacy Award Winner

Mr. Andre "Moses" White, Wayfield Foods

1944-2020



Each year, the GFIA honors an individual who makes a measurable difference in his or her community, the food industry and to our association. This year's Legacy Award honored the life and accomplishments of the legendary Mr. Andre "Moses" White.

Sadly, our highest honor was awarded posthumously for the first time. Moses and his beloved wife Joyce passed away within months of each other in 2020 as a result of complications from COVID-19.

Ron Edenfield, Board Chairman of Wayfield Foods, presented the award, surprising Moses' children and grandchildren, who accepted on behalf of this special man. Convention attendees were treated to a moving presentation of a man whose political influence and passion for the GFIA has left an incredible legacy for Georgia's supermarket industry.

According to Ron, "Moses White was a special man and was like a brother to me. His kindness and passion for all people made a difference in so many lives. Moses loved life and he loved people. He was loyal, genuine and compassionate."

Moses was honored with resolutions in Congress as well as the Georgia State Capitol. Congressman David Scott rose to honor his friend and fellow Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) classmate, saying that "Mr. White will be forever remembered as a dedicated servant."

Born in Tampa Florida, Moses was an accomplished athlete who played football for FAMU. He was drafted by the Denver Broncos as a tight end and played for the San Diego Chargers and the Cincinnati Bengals.

After a knee injury ended his football career, Moses turned to the music industry. He was the road manager for Marvin Gaye, and long-time confidant and business colleague of James Brown. The daughter of James Brown spoke at Moses' celebration of life service and described Moses in three words... loyalty, love, and respect.

Moses knew that music could be used to bring people together. At 71 years of age, Moses wrote and performed a patriotic anthem, "We're Americans" and



another song, "My Man". The GFIA convention audience was treated to an emotional presentation of the video of Moses singing "We're Americans".

The White family moved to Atlanta in 1988. Moses and his son Andre established The Georgia Sentinel, a progressive news outlet for Atlanta's African-American community. Moses first met Ron Edenfield to discuss advertising opportunities for Wayfield Foods. What started as a business meeting turned into a treasured 30 year friendship.

Moses White began consulting for Wayfield Foods in the early 1990's and shortly after became a board member for the company. He and Ron made an effective team when advocating for the industry. Whether in Atlanta or Washington, elected officials had tremendous respect for our winner. Moses' son Andre referred to his father as a "political Svengali"!

Going to the Supermarket Industry Washington Fly-in every year was a perfect opportunity to see Moses in action. "He could lobby like no other," according to GFIA president Kathy Kuzava. "The relationships he helped build will benefit our industry for years to come."

GFIA board member Tom Coogle, president of Reynolds Foodliner, has been part of the Georgia delegation to Washington for many years. According to Tom, "Moses could walk into any legislator's office and immediately command respect."

The national food industry associations also recognized how influential Moses was on Capitol Hill. "Moses had wonderful relationships with members of Congress and could get them to support whatever initiative or legislation that we were working on at the moment," said Jennifer Hatcher, Chief Public Policy Officer and SVP of Government and Public Affairs for FMI.

"Moses was a uniter – he brought people together, and he lifted people up, and that included people from all walks of life, from all backgrounds," said Greg Ferarra, President and CEO of the National Grocers Association.

"Our industry is going to have a void without him."



The White family accepted the award on Moses' behalf, following an emotional tribute to this charismatic man.



Moses was an instrumental member of the GFIA delegation to the annual Supermarket Industry Fly-In.

Moses founded and served as the President of the Moses White Foundation to honor his father Moses who was a community leader in the Tampa area. The Foundation's motto is "Improving lives so communities can thrive." The legacy will live on, with Moses' son Andre chosen to replace his father's position.

What do you say about a man who has lived the life of Moses White? Daughter Roquelle says her father was "larger than life

More accolades for Moses White:

Skip Vaughan, Pepsi Beverages Company - "Moses knew how to lift people up through his kindness, his dedication to the industry and through his stories. He connected with all people and was truly one of a kind. He had a story for every occasion and there was always a message in his stories."

Jeff Downing, Foothills IGA - Watching the tribute to Moses was one of the most heart-warming presentations I have had the pleasure of watching. What a perfect choice for the 2021 Legacy Award Winner!

with a persistent, loving, adventurous spirit". She recalls how her father loved playing Santa Claus for more than 30 years at Wayfield Foods.

According to son Andre, "My father was a tireless and unyielding advocate for the poor and disenfranchised, and he even worked as a city garbage man. Nothing was too big for him or beneath him. He was a true servant who could do anything."

Andre continues, "His big booming voice, huge presence and heart led him to an amazing life. The lessons he taught me would be too many to enumerate, but, more than that he was my shade tree, my foundation and the screen by which I experienced the world."

To Roquelle and Andre – Your father was an inspiration, and very special to the GFIA family. Your precious mom and dad will not be forgotten. This association has truly lost a legacy. It was our honor to recognize GFIA's 2021 Legacy Award Winner, Mr. Andre "Moses" White.

Kathy Kuzava, GFIA President - "I have never seen anyone that was able to connect with every person like Moses White did. Whether you were a United States Congressman or a janitor, Moses brought out the best in everyone who had the pleasure to spend time with him.

Ron Edenfield, Wayfield Foods - "Moses was so special because he always found the good in people. If we could all learn to do that, this world would be a better place. When so many things seem to divide us, people like Moses are needed more than ever."

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WELCOME

NEW GFIA MEMBERS

*joined after 05/11/2021

ASSOCIATE LEVEL

3Bros Cookies
Benefit Support, Inc.
CDE Services, Inc.
Celsius Holdings, Inc.
Chosen Foods
CMA Insurance Agency, Inc.
Delta Community Credit Union
Heraeus Noblelight America
Hoist
John Soules Foods
JuneShine
Lipari Foods

Marquez Foods International

Principal Financial Group
Rancho La Gloria
Rebel Hard Coffee & Tea
Sauer Brands, Inc.

RETAILERS

Lost Creek Market, Sale City, GA
Berry Foods IGA, Cleveland, GA

Do You Love Being in the GFIA Family?

Spread the word to your industry friends and vendors

The majority of our new members are referrals - who do you know that would benefit from our industry expertise and networking events?



Dave Fricke of Savannah Distributing won the membership drawing at this year's convention.

Send new members our way, and you may find yourself on stage at next year's convention being recognized for your efforts!

SAVE THE DATE



October 13, 2021
Fall Golf Tournament
Chateau Elan
Braselton, GA



Holiday Extravaganza
Cancelled



January 25, 2022
Legislative Reception
The Sloppy Floyd Building
Atlanta, GA



March 2022
Spring Golf Tournament
Mirror Lake Golf Club
Villa Rica, GA



July 13-17, 2022
GFIA Convention
Omni ChampionsGate
Orlando, FL



Notice to our members:

The GFIA board of directors made the decision to cancel the December Holiday Party due to the inability to provide social distancing measures at the event. It's pretty lonely to be by yourself at the Blackjack table, and Santa can't get a mask over that giant beard. We will miss you!

Meet Our Newest Trustees



Kris Helms
Empire Distributors, Inc.

Kris worked for Publix Super Markets 10 years before joining Empire Distributors in 2006 as a Sales Representative. He was quickly promoted to District Manager, then served as the Publix Key Account Manager from 2010-2015 before accepting his current role as Chain Director. Kris and his wife Kristie have been married for 19 years. When they're not working, you can find them at the ballpark with their kids – Kayla (15) and Kellen (8). Kris is looking forward to using the knowledge he has gained by many years of experience in the food industry, and 10 years of involvement with GFIA, to serve the Foundation.



Giselle Bynum
Campbell's Snacks

Giselle has been with Campbell's Snacks for 10 years, and has been involved with GFIA for 7 of those years as she represented the Pretzel Crisp and Snyder's-Lance brands. Her current position is Retail Operations Manager for the Atlanta and Charlotte Publix divisions. Giselle is so passionate about education that she founded a leadership club at her daughter's school to help 4th and 5th graders build confidence and intellectual growth thru public speaking. She is excited to bring her passion to the Foundation. Giselle is married with two children and two fur babies. Ask her about her past life as a morning radio host!



Danny Dunbar
Stratus Group Duo

Danny's signature smile has been seen at GFIA events for the past 21 years, and he is one of the Foundation's most loyal advocates. We are very excited about his return to the board, having been part of the executive leadership team as Treasurer, Vice Chairman and Chairman during his prior tenure. Danny recently accepted a position with Stratus Group Duo as Senior Key Account Manager for the southeast, representing KOE Organic Kombucha and Perfect Hydration High Alkaline Water. Danny and his wife, Sherri, have been married over 30 years and have two grown daughters, Cassidy and Jaycie.

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A RECORD BREAKING SCHOLARSHIP YEAR!

117 AWARDS PRESENTED WORTH \$151,050

The 2021 scholarship program winners were selected in May. The Foundation awarded over \$151,050 to 117 deserving students associated with our industry. Congratulations to the following GFIA member companies whose employees or children of employees won scholarships this year. Many had multiple winners!



ALL GFIA member companies are eligible and are encouraged to promote the annual scholarship program to their employees. If your company name is not on the list below ... it can be next year!

The 2022 Scholarship Program will Open January 4, 2022!

Adams IGA	The Kroger Company
Associated Wholesale Grocers	Local Grocery
BIOLYTE	MDI
Bryce Emory / Freshway Market	Milkco, Inc.
Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED, Inc.	Milo's Tea Company
Constellation Brands	Mondelez International
Diaz Foods	Nam Dae Mun Farmers Market
Dill's Food City	PepsiCo Beverages North America
Dixie Discount	Piggly Wiggly AL Distributing Co.
Empire Distributors, Inc.	Postec, Inc.
Floco Foods	Publix Super Markets, Inc.
Flowers Foods	Quality Foods, Inc.
Food City	Reynolds Foodliner, Inc.
Food Depot	Satilla Grocery
Foothills IGA Market	Wayfield Foods, Inc.
Georgia Crown Distributing Co.	The Wine Group
J & J Foods	

Funding for these awards is made possible each year through the generous donations of participating member companies and annual fundraisers such as the auctions, raffle ticket sales and the spring golf tournament. The Foundation also receives funding thru other programs and grants. Please join us in thanking our 2021 donors for their support.

Publix Super Markets Charities generously funds a \$15,000 grant each year towards the Foundation's scholarship awards.



Walmart Foundation provided \$7,000 in grant funding to the Foundation in 2021.

Georgia Crown instituted a program in 2019 with The Kroger Company and Publix Super Markets that raised \$30,000 for the Foundation in 2021.



Former Georgia House of Representatives member Brett Harrell (2011-2021) and friend to the GFIA graciously donated \$10,000 to the Foundation this year. In his personal note, he expressed his thanks and how much he enjoyed meeting our members.



2021 CAREER PATH SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

Now, more than ever, the grocery industry needs valuable employees who want to train and stay in our industry. Recognizing students who have developed a passion for our industry and are choosing to make it a long-term career choice is the primary goal of the Career Path Scholarships. In addition to standard judging criteria, these awards also require an essay submission explaining the industry job the student currently holds and why they want to pursue a career in the food industry.

This year, 26 essays were submitted and judged by a panel on a variety of criteria. Judges are not privy to candidate name or employer name. This year's winners are not only great students, but also stood out for their hands-on experience and vision for their future in the food industry. Congratulations to these outstanding winners!

\$4,000 CAREER PATH AWARD WINNER - Nicholas Rivord, The Kroger Company

- Courtesy Clerk
- Columbus State University, Chemistry

"Currently, I am a bagger, cart collector and I also use the Zamboni machine to clean the floors [at Kroger]. Soon, I will begin my training as a cashier. In college, I have declared chemistry as my major. I hope to go into food science and find ways to make food more available with healthier options. As a senior in high school, I am in my fourth year as a varsity pole vaulter. Because so much of my success is based on my healthy eating, the science behind the foods we eat has intrigued me. In addition to the health aspect, working at Kroger has intrigued me as to the packaging of foods and how that may impact our health,

environment, and distribution processes ... Working at Kroger has benefited me personally. I have developed great time management and communication skills. Before I started, I was quiet and socially awkward. As a bagger, I was pushed into speaking with strangers and giving directions to other baggers. This has led me to reach out and complete new goals that I never thought I could reach. I am thankful for the food industry and would like to continue working in it in the future."



\$3,000 CAREER PATH AWARD WINNER - Alvinesha Lewis, Wayfield Foods

- Customer Service Manager
- Georgia State University, Accounting

"I have been employed with Wayfield Foods for more than eight years. I started as a cashier, and I have worked my way up to becoming a customer service manager. I want to continue my career with Wayfield to work in the corporate office as an assistant accountant. I want to use my knowledge and skills to improve the organization's profit and sales. I strive to use my education to enhance the company that gave me my first job opportunity. The grocery industry has helped me develop fantastic customer service skills. I have learned different ways to interact with all types of customers. My most significant interactions are with the

customers I can help daily to improve their shopping experience. I try every day to improve myself to create a much-desired environment for our customers. Being a customer service manager has given me the courage and ability to influence my cashiers and office clerks positively. I can provide advice and provide leadership. My cashiers and office personnel have also taught me to be a much better manager. I allow them to be open and honest about how I can improve my front-end. I look forward to improving Wayfield."

(No photo available)



\$2,000 CAREER PATH AWARD WINNER - Collin Fears, The Kroger Company

- Front End Manager
- Clayton State University, Accounting

"My years of service in grocery retail have prepared me for a promising career in either management or internal auditing. My educational experience thus far has shown me the opportunities available for an accounting major. The different accounting, business communication, economics, and marketing courses have provided me with the confidence to pursue a managerial or accountant role in the grocery industry. Even if I did not have the opportunity to attend college, the experience from several retailers in the grocery industry coupled with the employee and customer interactions over the years have additionally prepared me for a career in the grocery industry that puts people first. Equally important is understanding inventories, merchandising stores for optimal selling, working with suppliers, and continually scanning the external grocery and retail environment. These are just some objectives I've learned as a grocery worker for Kroger, Walmart and Harris Teeter stores. The overall satisfaction of the customer is my main motivation for working in the grocery industry. Safety is a #1 pri-

ority. Even as an essential worker during the pandemic, I find my work efforts are worthwhile when a customer can come by the store to see a smiling face (behind a mask) or when a young teenager can come to a place after (virtual) school for his or her first part-time job. The monetary compensation is important, but the satisfaction of the customer and the ability to get tasks completed through a team effort is the biggest reward. A GFIA Career Path Scholarship will serve as a vital component toward my wishes to complete school and to land an opportunity in a rewarding and exciting career with Kroger management."



Congratulations to the 2021 Foundation Scholarship Winners!

Congratulations to the 117 students selected as winners of the 2021 scholarship program! The continued support of the GFIA membership allows us to make a difference in the lives of so many students. Below are just a few excerpts from the thank you notes we received.



Faith Yearwood, Dill's Food City Winner of a \$1,000 Dill's Food City Piggyback Scholarship

Thank you for the opportunity to apply and receive this scholarship which will help offset expenses associated with continuing my education. I appreciate so many people in my life that have provided and invested in me and my education. I am also appreciative to my employer, Dill's Food City, and the GFIA for investing in me and making this scholarship possible.



Catelyn O'Farrell, Flowers Foods Winner of the \$2,000 Herb Horner Memorial Scholarship

I would like to extend my thanks to the members of the committee for the honor of receiving the Herb Horner Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will help reduce my expenses as I pursue my undergraduate degree as a double major in International Studies and Political Science. My plan is to attend law school to obtain my law degree and to pursue a legal career as an advocate for children with special needs.



Aubrianna Green, Food City Winner of a \$1,000 Zuma B. Richardson Memorial Scholarship

I would like to thank you for faithfully investing in my future. This opportunity allows me to truly focus on my education and studies rather than stress about the money aspects. Thank you for your time and consideration in hand-selecting me to receive this scholarship in honor of Mr. Zuma Richardson. I know this award holds high value and needs to be held at the highest honor and I plan to do so.



Aaron Brown, The Kroger Company Winner of a \$2,000 Ron Bishop Memorial Scholarship

Thank you so much for this scholarship! As an independent college student this financial support helps me avoid accumulating debt. I appreciate this crucial assistance so much, thank you once again!



Timya Harden, Wayfield Foods, Winner of a \$1,500 Wayfield Foods Scholarship

This scholarship means a lot to me! It gives me the chance to pursue my dreams of graduating with a CS degree! I am very thankful and appreciative for being selected this year!



Ansleigh North, Reynolds Foodliner Winner of a \$1,000 Reynolds Foodliner Piggyback Scholarship

There are not enough words to describe how incredibly thankful I am for this award. My main goal has been to graduate from college debt free, and receiving this scholarship makes that goal so much more achievable. I want to thank everyone who took the time to review my application, and I especially want to thank all of those who contributed! This has made a huge impact on my education and future career, and I know it will do the same for so many others.



Ryan Long, Publix Super Markets, Inc. Winner of a \$500 Publix Super Markets Scholarship

I am honored to have been selected for a GFIA Scholarship. Due to your generous support, my educational goals are one step closer. I will use this scholarship to help cover the cost of my tuition. I promise to do my very best in all my academics to honor your generous donation. I would like to say a personal thank you to Publix Super Markets for this award and the opportunity to work for an amazing company.



Mekkayel Phillip, Food Depot Winner of a \$1,000 Food Depot Scholarship

Receiving this scholarship is an honor. Not only does it help me financially, but it means that the hard work I have put in is being recognized by others as well. I will take this scholarship as further motivation to complete my studies.



Madison Roger, Quality Foods Winner of a \$1,500 Quality Foods Piggyback Scholarship

Thank you for the scholarship award that I received for working at a participating grocery store. I enjoy working at Quality Foods and the opportunity they gave me to apply for this award. This award will help me to pay for books and tuition and lessen my need for student loans. Thanks so much again for the scholarship award.



Elliott Paisner, Postec, Inc. Winner of a \$1,500 GFIA Scholarship

I would like to thank GFIA for providing me with this scholarship. Receiving this scholarship makes my goal of becoming a Fire Protection Engineer (FPE) much easier. I am excited that I will be able to give back and contribute to making this world safer.



Robinson Gallego, Nam Dae Mun Farmers Market Winner of a \$1,500 Nam Dae Mun Piggyback Scholarship

This scholarship means a lot to me. It gives me more financial freedom for things I would like to purchase for college, like supplies, rather than my parents having to pay for it. It also allows me to advance in my college career so I can finish faster to get the job I want.

Funding Scholarships: A GREAT Employee Benefit!

This year, 86 scholarships worth \$95,500 were funded by GFIA members through the Piggyback arm of the Education Foundation. These members "piggyback" on the established program so they can award scholarships specifically to their employees. As a Piggyback funder, you are only responsible for funding the awards; the Foundation judges and handles all administrative tasks.



J & J President Darrell Wiley (right) presents a \$2,500 scholarship to employee Johan Vargas (center) with store Manager, Richard Tyner (left).

Foundation Trustees Chart a Course to Fundraising Success!

Our convention fundraisers brought in over \$55,000 for the Foundation this year! We are so thankful to each of you who donated items to sell, bought tickets, volunteered your time, and shopped at our auction. All proceeds from the Super Raffle, Cash Raffle, and Silent Auction benefit not only our Scholarship Program but also fund many educational and training programs for the food industry.



John Gehring, Publix Super Markets & Bettina Hall, The Kroger Company team up to sell Super Raffle tickets benefitting the GFIA Education Foundation

We are so thankful to our auction donors this year! They really stepped up to bring over 160 high value and popular items to the silent auction. Many items sold at or above their stated values, and there were quite a few bidding wars on popular items! We sold coolers, iPads, electronics, beach gear, event tickets, theme park tickets, a Simone Biles autographed jacket, autographed football helmets, designer purses, DIY handyman gear, outdoor entertainment items and the breakout hit of the evening - a terracotta tabletop pig grill! Thanks to all of you who donated items or cash, and who purchased items!

SUPER RAFFLE PACKAGES WERE A SELLOUT

Our Foundation trustees are always looking for new and innovative ideas for fundraising, and this year's new Super Raffle packages were a big hit with convention attendees.

We are listing the winners for you so you know who will be hosting the best parties this fall -

PRO GRILLING PACKAGE

Traeger grill donated by
Reynolds Foodliner
Nathan Wise, Tosca

SUPERMARKET SWEEP

Three minute shopping spree
Donated by The Kroger Co.
& Sparkling Ice
Scott Blackwell, Trinchero Family Estates

BACKYARD MOVIE NIGHT

Outdoor movie theatre setup
Donated by Koch & Assoc., Anheuser-Busch,
Wayfield Foods & China Doll / Dixie Lily
Marco Antonio Achirica, 2amigos Distribution

STOCK THE BAR

Outdoor bar and all the fixins'
Donated by Republic National Distributing
Keith Aikman, O'Neill Vintners & Distillers

COOKOUT PARTY PACKAGE

reqteq grill, spice rubs, cooler and
Dury Gurl Mixers products
Babs Paine, Leon Farmer & Co.



CASH RAFFLE – STILL A WINNER

Traditional cash raffle tickets were sold by trustees before and during the convention. Three lucky winners were drawn - \$500 Thursday, \$1,000 Friday and \$1,500 Saturday.

Gary Rosser of Wise Foods is all smiles as he accepts the cash prize at Saturday night's dinner



WINE “PULLS” IN PROFITS

The wine pull brings lots of excitement to the registration area each year as members draw corks to see which wine bottle they have won. We had over 200 bottles of wine this year and sold every one of them – our members love a good bottle of wine!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TRADE SHOW BOOTH CONTEST WINNERS

Trade show exhibitors were judged based on theme, crowd interaction and how well they showcased their product. Vice Chairman Tim Brown, The Kroger Company presented our winners with their awards at Saturday night's dinner.



The Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED team went for the gold and won first place in the multi-booth category



PepsiCo Beverages North America charted their course to a first place win in the single booth category.

THANK YOU



Transporting all of the convention boxes, sponsor equipment, and auction items to the convention venue requires a whole lot of volunteer labor, but the most important part of the equation is the TRUCK. This year, Harvest Sherwood Foods graciously donated the transportation for our convention equipment using one of their refrigerated trucks. Many thanks to Mike Coggins and Harvest Sherwood Foods Distributors for their support of our association! And, of course, the many volunteers who load and unload in the July heat!



Thanks also go to PrintSouth Media/Graphic Media Solutions for providing all of our convention signage.



It is such a great benefit to have our signs printed and delivered during those busy days!

The spirit of connection that makes the GFIA convention so unique begins at the registration desk. Our volunteers have fun greeting attendees, selling wine and handing out everyone's favorite con-

vention item - the snack shack band! We are grateful to Laura Ritcey of Quality Foods for her dedication and long hours at the registration desk. Our volunteers' commitment ensured that everything ran smoothly, and we appreciate their help!



Laura Ritcey with her husband, David



The comments and feedback we get from our members is a reminder of what makes the GFIA convention unique. Thanks to all of you who continue to attend and support our events. Here are a few of the notes we received from this year's convention attendees.

You all blow me away as you have the best convention of all that I have attended. Everything you guys do is amazing.

Joe Moody - Owner, Smart.Market

Thank you for what I felt was one of the BEST conventions that I have attended so far. Everyone on the Coke UNITED team had a blast! Coming off a year like 2020 and not knowing what the attendance would be in 2021, your team did a phenomenal job!

Sandee Cosper - Special Events Manager, East Region, Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED

Wow, what an event! I can only imagine the amount of planning and work that went into it. It was flawlessly executed, and I met some great people.

Scott Siegel - Founding Partner, Momentum CPG

Thank you for all you do for your members. An incredible effort in doing so much for so many in the industry since the start of the pandemic. This convention was another success, and as usual a LOT of work for the small but exceptional staff.

Greg Crook - Owner, Crook's Marketplace

I had a PHENOMENAL time at the 2021 GFIA Convention in Orlando, Florida! It was my first GFIA Convention...the atmosphere was very welcoming and family friendly. Love the theme...Chart the Course! Thank you very much for organizing a wonderful conference.

Stacey Dawson - Senior Sales Director, PepsiCo Frito Lay Southeast Region

I know your team worked tirelessly to plan and execute the GFIA convention flawlessly. It was easy to feel the energy and excitement from everyone that attended. Along with catching up with our suppliers, wholesalers, and our newest members, this was no doubt the best convention we have ever had. The GFIA is stronger than ever thanks to your leadership and commitment to the industry. I am very fortunate to be a part of such an incredible organization and work with such great leaders!

John Gehring - Atlanta Division Director of Merchandising, Publix Super Markets, Inc.

I wanted to thank each one of you for an AMAZING job at the GFIA Convention. Since this was all the Riteway attendees' first convention, we had no idea what to expect. You exceeded every expectation. I will definitely build on the relationships that I made!

Susan Bennett-Haglund - Owner, Riteway Sales & Marketing

Just wanted to let you all know that we really enjoyed the convention. It was honestly one of, if not THE best conventions I have attended in my 20 years.

Kevin Jaglowski - Director of Corporate Sales, Tom's Amusement

THANK YOU for your hard work and a job well done. We at Lewis Bakeries attend many industry events, and by far hands down the GFIA is absolutely the best. I will continue to tell everyone that is in our industry about the AWESOME job that you ladies and your staff do.

Dwight Witherow - District Sales Manager, Lewis Bakeries

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Monday Night Brewing

Sparkling Ice

Bimbo Bakeries USA

Campbell Snacks

Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED

Colorado Boxed Beef / Quirch Foods Company

Constellation Brands

Don Francisco's Coffee / Café La Llave

E & J Gallo Winery

Empire Distributors, Inc.

Atlanta Hard Cider

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Georgia Crown Distributing Company

Crook & Marker

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Stella Rosa Wines

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MDI

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mike's hard lemonade

New Belgium Brewing

Red Tazz Energy Drink

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UNFI

United Distributors, Inc.

BEATBOX BEVERAGES

Boston Beer Company

Dury Gurl Cocktail Mixers

SweetWater Brewing Co.

United Distributors, Inc.

DIAGEO Beer Company

mike's hard lemonade

Sierra Nevada

Warsteiner

UTZ Quality Foods

Wise Foods

◊ These companies each donated \$10,000 or more in sponsorship

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Quality Foods, Inc.
Red Bull North America
Stratus Group Duo LLC

GFIA CONVENTION



Barbara & Ed DellaPiana,
Warsteiner



2amigos Distribution, LLC enjoyed handing out samples at their trade show booths



Randy Lamb and
Sandy O'Neil,
Heineken USA



Jerry McCann, Piggly Wiggly Ala Dist.;
Mark Hoffman and Ramona Mendoza,
Tropicale Foods; Jeff Brown, Piggly Wiggly
Ala Dist.



Dwight Witherow, Lewis Bakeries



Andre White, Wayfield
Foods; Dave Alvarez,
Milo's Tea Co.



Blake & Kristin Legrand and Tim
Waite, Constellation Brands



Jonathan Riffle, Amanda Collins, Sindy
Ramirez, Catherine McGalliard, Cary Sullivan
Durty Gurl Cocktail Mixers



The Frito-Lay & PepsiCo Beverages North America
team are sailing away at our Opening Night Party



Jim Linderman, Georgia Lottery; Mike &
Paula Overton, Blue Bell Creameries



Jim Cetrulo and Hugo Flores, Don Francisco's Coffee



Doug Matuszak & Mike Many,
Delicato Family Wines



Ruben Fernandez, The Kroger Co.;
Lynn Micale, Mondelez
International; Dave Black,
Northeast Sales



Sonny Davis and Chris White,
Mayfield Dairy Farms



Donna & Brandy Maine,
Sunset Farm Foods



Melissa Enlow, The Kroger Co.; Chris Nesmith and Beau Dickerson, Crook & Marker; Clayton Enlow, The Kroger Co.



Scott Greer, D.G. Yuengling & Son; Clint Gilchrist, Albany Beverage Co.



Jennifer & Keith Aikman, O'Neill Vintners & Distillers



Jason Miller, BIOLYTE; Mike Cinnella, Savannah Dist.; Kyle Boyer, J Lohr Vineyards; Kevin Wise, ZEN WTR



Mark Chirchirillo, Sapporo USA & Tom Bradford, Chihuahua Brewing Co.



John Bishop, Republic National Dist. Co.; Louis Barbato & Cassie Gokey, The Wine Group; Mario Zamora and Kristyn Chaple, PERNOD RICARD USA



Rob Harris, mike's hard lemonade; Chuck Caricofe, Northeast Sales; Angela Magnuson, mike's hard lemonade



Dave Fricke, Savannah Dist.; Glen & Nicole Wilkins, Walmart; John Black, Three Taverns Craft Brewery



George Cano, Food Depot; Jack Carlile and Mike Whelan, UNFI



Mike Smith, Copper Cane; Lenny Roberts, Capriccio Sangria; Leslie Golden, Copper Cane; Kris Helms, Empire Dist.; Kaitlin Connor, Rancho La Gloria



Tim Dawkins, BENESTAR Brands; Kerry and Terri Hitchcock, Wayfield Foods



Mike Burns and Daniel King, United Distributors



Michael Gay, Foodfresh; Greg Crook, Crook's Marketplace; Mike Coggins, Harvest Sherwood Foods



Jeff & Sandy Downing, Foothills IGA; Brian George, Alex Lee, Inc.



Rich Flaherty & Tim Brown, The Kroger Co.; Danny Dunbar, Stratus Group Duo LLC; Angie Mitchell & Clayton Enlow, The Kroger Co.; Dan Kelly, Georgia Crown

GFIA CONVENTION



Christine & Jeremy Vester; Republic National Dist. Co.; Daniel & Carrie Buchanan, Empire Dist.



Sammy Hayes, Gary Rosser, George Tolson, Wise Foods



Mark, Liz & Ariel Deno, Atlanta Hard Cider



Pat Griffin and Jorge Castenada, Ole Mexican Foods



Francisco & Julio Bayona, The Ricky Joy Co.



Taylor Bowman, Stella Rosa Wines; Monica Sengbusch & Mike Rivers, Georgia Crown; Rodney Bentley, Deutsch Family Wine & Spirits



Senate Majority Leader Mike Dugan & Missy Dugan; Kevin Perry, Georgia Beverage Association



Bethany & Wells Logan, New Belgium Brewing; Clint Wood, Monday Night Brewing



Tristan Connelly and Lindsay Koch, Koch & Associates; Stephanie Reid, The Shelby Report; Mike Parrott, Colorado Boxed Beef / Quirch Foods



Ken McLeod, Anheuser-Busch, Inc.; Chad and Sarah Ross, Atlanta Beverage



Jeri and Cary Jones, Mitchell Grocery Group



Seth & Cheremine Herman, Creature Comforts Brewing Co.; David Jones, United Dist.



Greg Ozburn, Georgia Crown; Amy & Jon Schwartz, Mass. Bay Brewing Co.



Teross Young, Delhaize America; Commissioner Gary Black; Tom Goode, Reynolds Foodliner



Wesley Heine, UTZ Quality Foods; Verlin Reece, Quality Foods; Ashley Cox, UTZ Quality Foods

GFIA CONVENTION



Keith Knight, Keith Martin and Darryl Miller, Associated Wholesale Grocers



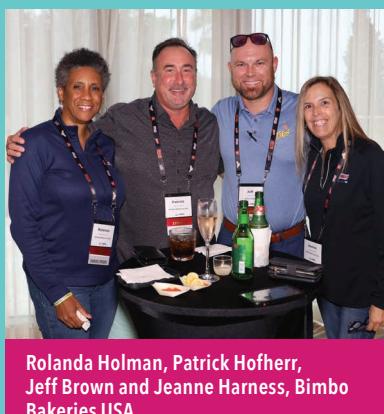
Zach Green, RBG Foods; Brian Bird and Lauren Fabbri, Tom's Amusement



Beth Nowak, Copper Cane; Charis Nunez, E & J Gallo Winery



Joe Johnson, SweetWater Brewing Co.; Lauren McCandless, Boston Beer Co.



Rolanda Holman, Patrick Hoferr, Jeff Brown and Jeanne Harness, Bimbo Bakeries USA



The Nam Dae Mun Farmers Market team proudly displays their new Namdo-Cha product line of green teas and ginger candies



Larry & Cindy Higdon, Ira Higdon Grocery Co.; Jeff & Sandy Downing, Foothills IGA; Representative Rick Jasperse



Shane Walker, Merchandising Solutions Group; Ron Edenfield and Kerry Hitchcock, Wayfield Foods



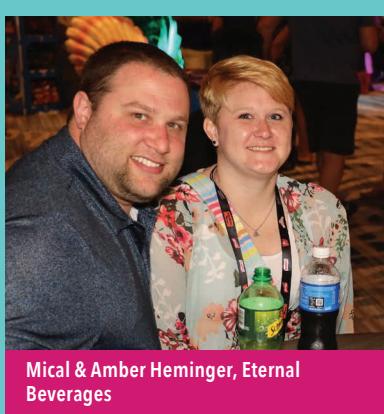
Robb Finkey, Eagle Rock; Jimmy Allen, Loud Lemon Beverages; Ken Shurin and Joe Keebler, Essentia Water



Daniel & Don Barnette, Market Grocery Co.; Sebastian Souto, Souto Foods; Greg Crook, Crook's Marketplace



Monica McHale, Kelsie Kopicki, Liam Gourlay, Kraft Heinz



Mical & Amber Heminger, Eternal Beverages



Kathy & Tommy Sibley and Mark & Ashly Lord, Flowers Foods



Dave Logue, MDI; Warren Brown, Quality Foods



Mary Blair & Heather Ray, Domino Foods, Inc.



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GEORGIA FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION VOL. 21 NO. 2

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