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Propane Centennial Celebration Plans Picking Up Speed

WASHINGTON, D.C (December 21, 2010) —On May 17, 1912, a liquefied petroleum gas called propane began lighting the lamps and cooking the meals for John Gahring, the owner of a humble farmhouse in Waterford, Pennsylvania. Out of this single event came an energy industry which for the past century has radically increased the standards of living for people worldwide. Once considered to be an impractical fuel at its discovery, propane is now used by millions of people each day in virtually every aspect of modern life.

In 2012, the propane industry will celebrate its centennial anniversary. This milestone year will incorporate a new Centennial website dedicated to the history and accomplishments of our industry, celebratory events at each major industry trade show and convention, media events, and other outreach throughout the year. The program is being managed by the diverse and dedicated Propane Centennial (PCC) Task Force comprised of representatives from 29 companies across the nation.

“There are lots of exciting ideas in development for this celebration. This is a volunteer-driven program, and these task force members are committing a great deal of their time and expertise to make the Centennial an event our industry will never forget,” said Roland Penta, NPGA and PCC Task Force Chairman. “It is absolutely awe-inspiring and quite humbling to see what our industry has done over the last 100 years—not only for those of us who make our living in it, but for people all over the world. This program will inspire so much pride in our industry, as well as recognition from customers and media about what our industry and our fuel truly is,” he continued.

In recent news, the PCC announced that it has hired industry consultant Rita Pecilunas of Strategic Marketing Resources (*former NPGA Vice President of Marketing and Member Services in the 1990s*) to serve as Project Manager. She will help to coordinate and organize the work and programs of the task force, ensure that the program meets its fundraising goals to cover all Centennial costs, and develop media and industry events. The program will be in development throughout all of 2011 to build momentum for a grand launch at the Southeastern Convention and International Propane Expo in April of 2012.

Watch for more details on the Centennial website: www.propane100.org, to be launched in late January, 2011.

Special thanks to the program's early sponsors to-date: **Platinum**- AmeriGas, Ferrellgas, Heritage Propane; **Gold**- Inergy; **Silver**- Blossman Gas, Suburban Propane Partners; **Bronze**- Eastern Propane Corp., Paraco Gas, Phelps Sungas, Quality Steel; **Donor Sponsors**- Ancient Gassers, Delta Liquid Energy, Jarco, New Jersey PGA, PGA of New England, Quack Pak, and Ray Murray; as well as contributing sponsor- Missouri PGA.

For more information on being involved in the Centennial through company sponsorship, please contact Rita Pecilunas at (630) 325-8910.

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