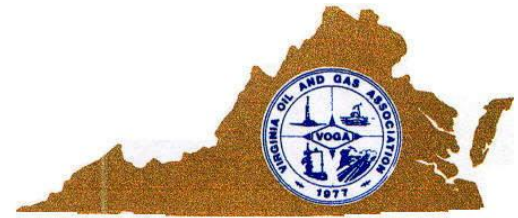


VIRGINIA OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 2285
Abingdon, VA 24212



January 12, 2012

Dear VOGA Member,

In November at the State Soccer Tournament, Tommy our best player and Captain had been ill most of the week. He had only practiced the day before we left for the Tournament. In the locker room before the Championship Game Tommy gave an inspiring talk to the Team and they headed out for warm ups. He was smiling and very upbeat. Once the Team left it was only Tommy and I in the locker room and he wasn't smiling. I have known Tommy for four years as his coach. He is not only a great player but he has an incredible attitude and work ethic. I looked at Tommy and said, "How are you." It's rough coach he responded." He hadn't had anything to eat all day and had made numerous trips to the bathroom. Tommy looked me in the eye and said, "But I can do *anything* for 80 minutes. In the Championship Game he scored an incredible 3 goals and had an assist as he led us to our third straight State Boys Soccer Title. I tell you this because Tommy DECIDED not to let his circumstances dictate his future. Very few people knew how bad he was hurting and he wasn't about to let his teammates know. Tommy decided that he was still going to achieve his dream of a state championship in spite of his adversity.

As an industry we are experiencing adversity in the form of gas prices and EPA regulations to name just two of our challenges. We still have people giving us negative press in spite of all we have done. I have been in front of a number of public forums recently and people particularly outside of the areas we operate still think we are evil and can't be trusted, that we pollute the environment and poison the ground water. We are working with a company to help us with our social media and internet presence. They did a little internet research and then Will Clear and I had a conference call with them. They were stunned by all of the negative about our industry on the internet. It is easy to assume it is true. Will and I got the impression that they felt they had just made a pact with the devil so we took the time to explain the truth about each of the concerns they had. They were OK after that. They point is that we are facing many challenges. It can be frustrating. We need to be like Tommy and persevere. We can win our battles if we do. Just like Tommy we "can do anything for 80 minutes" or at least for a while. What we do is important to our State and our Nation even if many people don't understand. Keep up the good fight it is worth it. We can persevere.

Just a reminder, our Winter Meeting will be held at the Marriot in Richmond on Thursday January 26th. This is a shorter meeting than most. At 1:30 the Board of Directors will meet and at 5:30 VOGA is one of the sponsors for the Southwest Virginia Counties Reception at the Richmond Omni.

Some other dates to keep in mind are; April 26th which is our annual spring barbeque at Noah Horn's shop in Grundy. The Summer Meeting will be back at the Cavalier in Virginia Beach on June 27th-29th. We look forward to seeing you at these VOGA events.

I can be contacted at; Gregory.Kozera@nabors.com or gkozera@aol.com or at (304) 545-7259. Make it a great month!

Greg Kozera- VOGA President