

# CEO's Update




Published by the  
The Master Grocers' Association  
A.C.N. 004 063 263  
A.B.N. 44 004 063 263  
Suite 9 No 1 Milton Parade  
Malvern VIC. 3144  
Phone: (03) 9824 4111  
Fax: (03) 9824 4022

## Our Directors



Rod Allen  
President  
Mt Martha Supermarket  
Phone: 5974 2525



Jean Cowley  
Vice President  
Barwon Heads & Pt Lonsdale  
Phone: 5242 2525  
0419 370 660



Steve Miller  
Ritchies Supermarkets  
Phone: 9770 1077



Sandy Bucello  
Foster Supermarket  
Phone: 5682 2495



Michael Daly  
Daly's Supermarkets  
Koriot & Portland  
Phone: 5565 8220



Peter Morgan  
Morgan's Supermarkets  
Phone: 9743 4411



Tim Chen  
Chelsea Heights  
Phone: 9772 5098



Debbie Smith  
Allora Queensland  
Ph: 07 4666 3375



Last month the Master Grocers Board nominated Ms Debbie Smith from Allora FoodWorks to take up the casual board vacancy. Debbie was elected to the AUR Board in 2003, and participated in the successful merger with FoodWorks in 2004. Debbie is passionate about the growth of independent liquor and grocery retailing, skilled at business management, and also brings to the Master Grocers a wealth of experience in Board responsibilities and corporate governance. Debbie is pictured with president Rod Allen, who warmly welcomed her to the Association.



The Australian Electoral Commission will soon be contacting members in regard to election of Directors for 2006/7. Mrs Sandy Bucello (Foster FoodWorks), Mrs Jean Cowley (Barwon Heads and Point Lonsdale IGA) and Ms Debbie Smith retire from office in accordance with the Rules and Constitution, and may re nominate. The AGM will be conducted on November 22 at this office, when election results are advised by the AEC.

Master Grocers Association has been invited to consider rejoining the National Association of Retail Grocers (NARGA) under a new Chairman, Mr John Cummings from West Australia, and a new CEO, Mr. Ken Hendrick. Rod Allen (MGAV President) and I joined the inaugural 'reformation' meeting two months ago, with the structure, direction and disciplines and activities of NARGA again more formally addressed at a later meeting. Ken Hendrick will be providing commentary from the national scene each month, see page 4 for an update on the ongoing plastic bag issue.

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Marsha Thomson MP, has formed the Liquor Control Advisory Council. Representatives are specifically nominated by the Minister, gained Cabinet approval on May 22, and will hold office for three years. Probity checks have now been completed and terms of reference are about to be issued. Representing the Master Grocers, I am pleased to be able to participate on this important Council, along with CML and Woolworths representatives.

WorkChoices has not caused the high demand for new agreements that we expected, and while Master Grocers has been conducting weekly training sessions in Victoria for two months now, attendances were surprisingly low (at 45), with a great deal more members interested in the Responsible Service Alcohol conducted at the same time (130 attendees). We will be repeating the RSA offer as you need to have ALL liquor staff trained in RSA under the new Code of Conduct. Cost is \$44 per head for a 2-3 hour training session. Allison can come to your store for groups of 10 or more. (Plus travel and accomodation costs outside of metro area)

We currently have approximately 25 new agreements in the pipeline for members, and encourage all members to consult with us before embarking on WorkChoices AWA's or agreements. Please ring Allison and request a brochure if you would like to read about the offer at your leisure. Again I remind members to protect their business reputation, protect the brand and take quality advice to avoid any damaging press reports, and destructive staff morale.

The Master Grocers Association commenced in 1898, and the Board has undertaken a project to have the history written. Please contact us if you have any documents or memorabilia that you would like to see included. The collection this office currently holds will be given to the National Library on completion.

We are looking forward to seeing many members from Victoria and interstate at the IGA Expo. Please visit us and say hello. Melissa and Allison will be at Expo with me, and we aim to catch up with as many members and non members as possible.

Jennifer Flanagan CEO MGA