

PRESIDENT'S CORNER _

Where are we headed?

It seems only fitting that we take a look back at the past year's accomplishments and short comings, most of us had a busy summer with gross sales much higher than previous years which is a very good accomplishment but I think we also need to look at what it took to achieve that and who gained the most?

It seems the last few years with the development of the DQ app there has been a mad dash to make sure that we have the lowest price of anyone and have the most items at a deep discount and many times the discounts are on items with high food costs already, when bacon is a high-cost item, we discount the bacon cheese burger or if burger prices are high, we discount burgers, and the number of free items on the app and mobile orders is forever increasing.

I know having aggressive discounting and marketing brings people into the store and hopefully they purchase more items but I also know that they can buy just about anything they want for their meal at a deep discount. With the increase in promotions and sales, the increases in cost of goods and the amount of labor needed for the kitchen and drive-thru our costs are way up and the only answer I hear is offering more and deeper discounts to bring more people into the store.

I look around and see the

remnants of other large chains like Drugstore chains, Dollar stores and even some restaurant chains that have given up and gone out of business and left empty

tomkarylcleary@aol.com

TOM CLEARY

buildings. I don't think it's possible for us or anyone to be the cheapest, fastest, offer the most products and survive very long. This is my opinion and I know some other store owners will disagree but I think the dialog needs to begin on ways to offer items that can bring customers in and offer them a good deal and we still can be efficient and profitable.

For those of you that have found ways to successfully navigate through the deep discounting and increasing food and labor costs, I would encourage you to attend the upcoming N.E.S.O. Convention and Trade Show at The Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio on Jan. 23rd to 25th In addition to the great water park we are putting together a great list of suppliers, speakers, entertainment, our banquet and seminars where you and your managers can interact in a forum that will allow you to share valuable ideas that work for you and ideas that work for others.

ServSafe Class will be offered on Thursday Jan 23rd.
I look forward to seeing and talking with many of you there.
Details and Registration at www.NesoNews.com.



Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to call of its directors, the annual meeting of all members of North Eastern Store Owners, Inc.

To be held at Great Wolf Lodge, Mason OH. January 25, 2025 at 9am.

- for the purpose of considering and voting upon the following matters:
 Election of Directors Two (2) Directors will be elected to a new term.
- Whatever other business, if there is any, which may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof. By Order of the Board of Directors

Note: Directors whose terms are up:
Vicki Sellers, Martinsburg WV • Tommy Vance, Lewisburg WV
If you are interested in running for the board, contact:
Tom Cleary (216-390-3127) • Jeff Haynes (304-610-1338)
or any Board member.
Non-Member stores are welcome.

NESS MEMBER PROXY NESS

If you will not be present, please complete, sign this proxy, and return to the NESO office - **OR** - Scan the QR code at bottom of page to fill out and instantly submit from your phone.

I, (print name) Me	ember in Good Standing of NESO	
IDQ# and Address of Main Store:		
*If Multi-Store owner, List additional Store IDQ#s:		
I Hereby assign myvote(s) (1 vote per store) (t	the number of stores will be verified by current NESO membership)	i
as a voting block for the Northeastern Store Own	ers Annual Meeting being held on Saturday January 2	25, 2025 to:
(insert name of your representative who will	be present or "NESO Executive Secretary" as your representative)	
Store Owner Signature		
Email address:		
Scan • Email • Fax: 510-740-358	86 - Photo • Text: 304-610-1338	

Mail to: NESO C/O Jeff Haynes 67 Vanderlin Ct Fuquay Varina NC 27526
- Scan QR Code - OR - fill out online at www.NesoNews.com
Questions: contact Jeff Haynes, 304-610-1338 voice/text or NesoNews@gmail.com







THURSDAY January 23rd

8am-4:30pm

ServSafe Course (Pre-Register)

9am

Registration Free Time at the Water Park 2pm

Board of Directors Meeting

6pm

Meet your Suppliers Hors D'oeuvres Cocktails **Bingo and Prizes**



JANUARY 23-25, 2025 CINCINNATI (MASON), OH

Fun for the whole family!

FRIDAY
January 24th

Breakfast

Seminar on Clamshell, Jon VanGilder, Taylor

Cake Decorating Seminar, Jackie Baker







SCAN HERE OR GO TO NESONEWS.COM





SATURDAY January 25th

Breakfast

9am

General Session
Random \$50 Drawings
Tom Cleary, NESO President
Josh Schmieg, DQOA Executive Director
Jason Dilly, DQOA Purchasing Director

Annual NESO Meeting, Election of Directors

12pm

Free Time at the Water Park

Casino is a short drive

Dinner Instant Money





