



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

# REFLECTING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD



**JIM WALLACE**  
THE ALBERTSONS COMPANIES

### **THE CGA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CELEBRATES ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR. OVER THE YEARS THE FOUNDATION HAS PROVIDED NUMEROUS EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CGA-MEMBER COMPANY EMPLOYEES.**

In this issue of California Grocer we celebrate the California Grocers Association Educational Foundation's 25th anniversary. It's an opportunity to reflect on its many accomplishments, but more importantly gaze into its future.

The Foundation was created in 1992 as a vehicle to provide educational opportunities to CGA-member companies and their dependents. Its earliest trustees will attest that this impressive undertaking was a daunting task to say the least as few trade associations back then realized the enormous benefits of such a program.

Over the last quarter century, CGAEF has solidified itself as one of the top grocery foundations in the country, due in large part to the generous contributions of grocery retailers and their trade partners. We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to these numerous companies and individuals.

While we pause to reflect on the Foundation's successes and those who blazed this new frontier, I believe it's more important that we share where the Foundation is headed, and what that means to CGA-member employees and their dependents.

The Foundation's impressive college scholarship program will only continue to grow and provide deserving students with needed financial assistance, thanks in large part to the dedication of the Board of Trustees and staff. This could not occur at a more important time as college tuition costs continue to escalate.

While the Foundation will continue to expand its financial assistance programs, it recently embarked on several worthwhile projects that will provide tremendous value

to CGA member companies; including the release this month of an affordable online workplace harassment prevention training program designed specifically for the grocery industry.

Learn more about this timely and cost-saving program on page 10. In the coming months, the Foundation will unveil several new and exciting programs I know you will want to engage and support.

If your company's employees have benefitted from Foundation involvement, I encourage you to continue providing this valuable resource. If not, make it a priority in 2017. I am confident your company and employees will join with those of us that have benefitted from the educational and research programs the Foundation has had to offer. ■

