Producing Essential Energy ... Pledging a Cleaner Fuel Future

# 2021 Year in Review



### chairperson's welcome

**Sometime around 500 BC,** the Greek philosopher Heraclitus wrote "the only constant in life is change." As the events of the past few years have shown us, those words are as true today as they were 2,500 years ago.

Without question, 2021 has been a year of change for the ethanol industry. A new president and new Congress settled into Washington, creating a distinctly different energy and environmental policy landscape than we've ever experienced. Policymakers and business leaders around the world announced bold carbon reduction commitments. Auto manufacturers revealed ambitious targets for battery electric vehicle production. Court decisions created new obstacles for us to navigate. Energy markets began to rebound from the COVID-related demand destruction of 2020 but struggled to reach prepandemic conditions. Meanwhile, some long-standing travel patterns, social and cultural customs, and business norms appeared permanently altered in the wake of the coronavirus.

In short, it's been a dizzying and turbulent year.

But through it all, the Renewable Fuels Association has continued to lead the industry forward, just as the organization has done for 40 years. RFA quickly built relationships with key officials in the new administration, and members of Congress and their staffs continue to count on the association as the go-to source of ethanol information and ideas. Through a comprehensive government and public affairs strategy, RFA staff continues to position ethanol as a critical solution to the most pressing challenges facing our nation: climate change, human health, energy security and affordability, and rural prosperity.

And whether it is advocating for a national Low Carbon Fuel Standard, restoring incentives for flex-fuel vehicle production, exploring potential new uses and markets for ethanol (like heavy-duty transportation, sustainable aviation fuels, and even electricity generation), RFA continues to take creative approaches to growing demand for ethanol and our co-products.

I was especially proud of RFA's leadership this summer when our board of directors unanimously approved a bold pledge to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, on



**Jeanne McCaherty** CEO, Guardian Energy Management

average, by 2050 or sooner. We expressed this commitment in a letter to President Biden, which got the attention of senior officials in the administration, the media, and the general public. Others may now be emulating our pledge, but we were there first. That's what a leader does.

Our carbon neutrality commitment is a poignant example of RFA's reputation as a thought leader and an agent of change. As stated by another eloquent sage, Benjamin Franklin, "When you are finished changing, you are finished." We must welcome change and adversity, not run from it. I look forward to working with RFA's members and staff as we embrace change and zero in on new opportunities for ethanol. It has been a privilege to serve as chairperson this year, as RFA celebrates 40 years of leadership. Here's to the next 40.

# the year's highlights

### **RFA Takes the Pledge**

In a July letter to President Biden, RFA members from across the country memorialized their commitment to ensuring ethanol achieves a net-zero carbon footprint, on average, by 2050 or sooner.

Specifically, RFA's board of directors–which is exclusively composed of renewable fuel producers–committed to the following goals:

- By 2030, ensure that ethanol reduces GHG emissions by at least 70 percent, on average, when compared directly to gasoline.
- By 2050, ensure that ethanol achieves net-zero lifecycle GHG emissions, on average.

#### **Our Carbon Commitments**

2030: Ensure ethanol reduces GHG emissions by at least 70%, on average, when compared directly to gasoline.

2050: Ensure that ethanol achieves net-zero lifecycle GHG emissions, on average.

To support the achievement of its goals, RFA encouraged the administration to move forward with several key policy initiatives: development of a national Clean Fuel Standard, support for CCUS, and deployment of more flex-fuel vehicles.

### **Other Highlights**

- After the 2020 election, RFA congratulated President-elect Joe Biden on his victory and quickly began meeting with the incoming Biden administration to lay out our top priorities.
- RFA's advocacy resulted in passage of legislation that specifically included renewable fuel producers as eligible to receive COVID-19 emergency relief aid; and this summer, USDA announced \$700 million in pandemic relief will be coming to biofuel producers.
- Our efforts also led to the introduction of other proethanol legislation, including bills to establish a high -octane low-carbon fuel standard; provide \$1 billion in infrastructure funding; establish a tax credit for FFV production; and re-assert Congress' intent behind small refiner exemptions.
- On the night before the inauguration, RFA filed a lawsuit to stop three midnight-hour small refinery exemptions granted to Sinclair by the outgoing Trump administration. The suit resulted in the three SREs being invalidated.
- RFA also defended the industry in the Supreme Court, as the high court reviewed the Tenth Circuit's ruling on "extensions" of small refinery exemptions. We also helped lead industry efforts to defend the EPA's year-round E15 regulation in the D.C. Circuit.

- For the 13th straight year, RFA educated tens of thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts about the benefits of ethanol-blended fuels at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.
- More than 500 industry stakeholders gathered virtually for the 26th annual National Ethanol Conference, which featured energy markets guru Daniel Yergin and many thought-provoking panel discussions and presentations.
- Our top-notch technical and regulatory staff helped secure E15 approval in Oregon and Nevada, and continued to lead the E15 emissions testing effort required for approval in California.
- We continued to position ethanol for success in new markets and applications, launching a New Uses Committee and speaking at a White House roundtable on sustainable aviation fuel.
- RFA welcomed many new members to the family this past year, including three producer members and 11 new associate members. Three new staffers joined the Washington office this year.

## advancing sound policy

Throughout the year, RFA strongly advocated for dedicated COVID-19 relief to the renewable fuels industry, which was hit especially hard by the effects of the pandemic. A flurry of year-end activities saw a major COVID-19 relief bill become law, and RFA's advocacy resulted in biofuels producers being specifically included as entities eligible to receive COVID-19 emergency relief aid. This summer, USDA announced \$700 million in pandemic relief specifically for biofuel producers, and RFA has interacted regularly with the Department to ensure the program is designed and executed effectively.

After the 2020 election, RFA congratulated President-elect Joe Biden on his victory and voiced strong support for Tom Vilsack's nomination to lead the USDA. RFA leadership quickly began meeting and corresponding with incoming leaders at EPA, DOE, USDA and the White House to lay out our top priorities. In April, RFA held a briefing to provide an ethanol policy outlook to administration and Capitol Hill staff.

RFA was heartened by comments from EPA leadership about preserving the Renewable Fuel Standard. In a March letter we asked newly confirmed EPA Administrator Michael Regan to "stay the course" on the RFS, as the important policy faces renewed attacks from oil refiners. Specifically, we asked Regan to ensure the upcoming 2021 and 2022 RVO proposed rules include conventional renewable fuel volumes of at least 15 billion gallons per year, as required by the statute, along with the court-ordered 500 million gal-



April's virtual board meeting included visits from (clockwise from upper left) Rep. Michelle Fischbach, Rep. Randy Feenstra, Rep. Jim Hagedorn, and Sen. Amy Klobuchar, among others.

lons illegally waived from the 2016 standards.

This came after EPA in February announced its support for the Tenth Circuit Court's January 2020 decision in *Renewable Fuels Association et al. v. EPA.* After careful review of the decision, EPA's new leadership agreed with the court and the biofuel litigants that small refinery exemptions were meant to be temporary and that only preexisting exemptions may be "extended" by the agency.

Reversing the decline of flex-fuel vehicles on the road is an important priority for RFA, and the organization spearheaded the effort to introduce the Clean Fuels Vehicle Act of 2021. The legislation, introduced by Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), would establish a tax credit to encourage automakers to increase the production of FFVs. RFA's efforts also helped ensure the \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation bill included nearly \$1 billion in funding for biofuels infrastructure, as well as enhancements to the 45Q tax credit for carbon sequestration and longterm extensions of key tax provisions like the Second Generation Biofuel Producer Tax Credit.

In April, RFA teamed up with allies to relaunch the High Octane Low Carbon Alliance (HOLCA), with former Sen. Tom Daschle at the helm. The alliance is advocating with the Biden Administration for the inclusion of a high octane (98-100 RON) fuel requirement in the next round of passenger vehicle fuel economy and GHG standards.

The tremendous potential of a High Octane Low Carbon fuel program to boost ethanol demand led RFA to work with Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL) and other allies to craft the Next Generation Fuels Act. Introduced originally in September 2020, the bill was revised and reintroduced in August by Bustos and five bipartisan co-sponsors. Congresswoman Bustos' bill establishes a requirement for 98 RON gasoline and adds guardrails to ensure the octane boost comes from low-carbon sources-not more aromatics. Advancing the Next Generation Fuels Act will remain a top priority for RFA.

Meanwhile, RFA continued to lead industry efforts to establish a nationwide technology-neutral Low Carbon Fuel Standard. RFA co-founded the "Drive to Zero," a broad coalition of environmental groups, automakers, agricultural interests, and other low-carbon fuel producers. The group held dozens of meetings to advance the concept of a national LCFS and RFA participated in a House Energy & Commerce Committee roundtable on the topic. Committee discussions on national LCFS legislation are expected to heat up in 2022.

State-level LCFS legislation in Washington, New Mexico, New York, and Minnesota also remained a top focus for RFA, with Chairperson Jeanne McCaherty invited as the only ethanol industry witness during a hearing on the Minnesota bill.

RFA continues to play a key role in getting legislative language in place that would assure corn-based ethanol the opportunity to participate in the emerging market of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and to qualify for the SAF tax credit currently under consideration by Congress. RFA President and CEO Geoff Cooper was a featured participant in a White House roundtable on SAF, where the administration announced a goal to achieve 3 billion gallons of SAF production and reduce aviation-related emissions by 20 percent by 2030.

RFA welcomed three new staffers to the Washington office this year. In January, Troy Bredenkamp came on board to serve as Senior Vice President for Government and Public Affairs. He most recently served as Executive Director of Renewable Fuels Nebraska. In January, we also welcomed Gidel Dawson as Manager of Government Affairs and Communications. Our latest hire, Jared Mullendore, joined RFA in June as Director of Government Affairs.



### Defending Ethanol in the Courtroom

RFA found itself before the U.S. Supreme Court as it reconsidered the landmark Tenth Circuit Court decision on small refinery exemptions. Despite compelling oral arguments before the Supreme Court from RFA and Department of Justice counsel, the judges overturned one key aspect of the Tenth Circuit decision. Fortunately, two other pillars of the Tenth Circuit decision remain intact, meaning it remains likely that EPA will significantly narrow the number of exemptions granted.

#### Also in the courts:

RFA filed a petition and emergency motion in January to halt the outgoing EPA administration's granting of three last-minute small refinery exemptions, less than 24 hours before the inauguration. The action was stayed and ultimately vacated. An RFA analysis noted the waivers would have erased RFS blending requirements for 260 million gallons of renewable fuels.

In a January court filing, RFA continued to call on the EPA and the Department of Energy to release the names and locations of refineries granted exemptions from their RFS obligations. The dispute centers on EPA's refusal to provide basic information about refinery exemptions as requested by RFA and Growth Energy under the federal Freedom of Information Act.



In early September, RFA and allies opposed an EPA motion to remand but not vacate the 31 small refinery exemptions the Trump Administration granted in August 2019. EPA's motion came without a deadline and without addressing the SREs' ongoing damage to the biofuel industry.

RFA continued to urge courts to hold EPA accountable for a mandated remand of 500 million gallons illegally waived in the 2016 compliance year, filing a joint petition in November in the U.S. Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia, and a reply filed to EPA's response in January.

The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals in July reversed a 2019 rule by the EPA that lifted outdated restrictions on the sale of E15. RFA, NCGA, and Growth Energy were intervenors on behalf of EPA in the case and expressed disappointment in the court's ruling. Together, we are working on permanent solutions to the RVP barrier by the 2022 summer driving season.

### **Global Leadership**

RFA has remained a leader, not just a player, on the world stage. In Brazil, RFA led efforts to oppose retailers seeking to reduce blend volumes and called for end of import tariffs on U.S. ethanol. After the government issued a draft resolution that allows for the direct sale of ethanol from producers to retail stations, we requested it allow importers to also market to gas stations.

In March, RFA and partners urged U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and USDA Sec. Tom Vilsack to reset talks with Mexico to advocate for greater North American coordination on ethanol blends.

RFA met with White House officials in March to press biofuels inclusion in the Paris Agreement and asked Senate and House champions to weigh in with the Biden administration regarding biofuels inclusion in the U.S. Nationally Determined Contribution.

As Quebec considered a Clean Fuel Standard, RFA provided individual and joint industry comments on new CFS regulations in March and June. RFA asked for a tighter timeline for the E15 ramp-up and targets past 2030 for 25% ethanol use. We also sought to apply blending requirements to all grades of fuel and ensure CCS counts toward carbon intensity of imports.

RFA General Counsel and Vice President for Government Affairs Ed Hubbard was appointed to the USDA's Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Grains, Feeds, Oilseeds and Planting Seeds. He attended the APAC/ATAC Summer Camp and an ethanol and GHG emissions briefing in June and took part in a dialogue with Sec. Vilsack and Ambassador Tai in August.

# communicating clearly

**RFA President and CEO Geoff Cooper** was invited by *The Hill* to provide an opinion essay in October on California Gov. Gavin Newsom's executive order requiring all new vehicles to be zero-emission by 2035. Cooper pointed to the success California has had with its low-carbon fuel standard, thanks predominantly to renewable fuels like ethanol, saying "the beauty of the LCFS is that it is fueland technology-neutral. It takes a market-based approach and does not dictate what fuels and vehicles must be used to reduce emissions."

In August, *The Hill* ran another guest essay from Cooper stressing our position on the White House's attempt to encourage OPEC+ countries to boost oil exports to the United States and reiterating our members' pledge to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, or sooner. "Before the Biden administration looks to OPEC+ countries or mineral-rich nations like Afghanistan, China and Bolivia for help, it has an opportunity to turn to America's heartland for a homegrown solution."

RFA held several media conference calls this past year, reaching at least 30 reporters each time. Subjects ranged from the impact of COVID-19 on the industry, recent legal action around small refinery exemptions, and Brazil's tariff on U.S. ethanol, as well as June's Supreme Court decision on SREs.

In January, Cooper had a guest essay published in the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, one of Iowa's top newspapers, titled "Iowa has room for all renewables - solar, wind and ethanol." In it, he argued that, because ethanol is already proven to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it should be embraced by those seeking a low-carbon or "net-zero" future-a theme to which RFA has often returned.

RFA sponsored a series of virtual focus groups in January, in conjunction with Minnesota Corn. Sessions were held with drivers in San Diego, Atlanta, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and rural and suburban Minnesota. The insight provided helps us better understand consumer and voter perceptions about ethanol; track attitudes towards specific ethanol policy issues such as the RFS and lowcarbon fuel standards; and define the most effective messaging to communicate the value of ethanol to America's voting consumers.

In June, RFA released a poll showing that voter support for the RFS hit its highest levels in at least five years. Meanwhile, the tracking poll shows support for the use of biofuels like low-carbon ethanol has remained consistently high, with a bipartisan majority of voters expressing a favorable opinion. A September poll found that most voters say the U.S. should either increase or maintain the same use of ethanol in the U.S. fuel supply in future years, and approximately two in three voters agree that ethanol should be part of the strategy to achieve zero emissions economywide by 2050, to help diversify America's fuel supply, and to help ease price spikes that come from disasters.

When *The Wall Street Journal* published an editorial in May attempting to tie the Renewable Fuel Standard to higher fuel prices, RFA responded with a letter to the editor that was published online a few days later, setting the record straight: Because ethanol extends fuel supplies and is cheaper than gasoline, the RFS deserves credit for reducing pump prices and saving Americans billions each year.

### 2021 NEC Goes Digital

The 26th annual National Ethanol Conference took place in February, bringing an all-new format that allowed for more industry leaders to participate in what has always been the most widely attended executive-level policy and marketing conference for the ethanol industry. Pulitzer Prize-winning energy expert Daniel Yergin's keynote



address discussed energy, geopolitics and the pandemic, and RFA honored former Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN), longtime chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, with the



RFA Industry Award for decades of service as a biofuels champion.

The 2022 National Ethanol Conference will take place February 21-23 in New Orleans.

# providing technical savvy

**RFA's technical and regulatory expertise** was crucial in helping secure the approval of E15 in both Oregon and Nevada this year. Only California, Montana, and several counties in Arizona remain "hold-outs" on E15, and RFA is executing a strategy to secure E15 approval in these areas.

In April, RFA responded to proposed changes by the EPA to E15 fuel dispenser labeling requirements and underground storage tank regulations to accommodate the safe storage of E15 and other higher blends. RFA Vice President for Technical & Regulatory Affairs Kelly Davis noted that with a few modest revisions, the labeling modifications and UST compatibility provisions proposed by EPA will result in expanded availability and use of E15, a cleaner, more affordable fuel blend that improves our nation's energy efficiency, air quality, energy security, and resiliency to climate change.

At the request of the NTSB and following collaboration with our EHS Committee, RFA updated a key publication to promote the safe and compliant shipment of ethanol via rail. A key change is the placement of older DOT-111 tank cars toward the back of high-hazard flammable trains to minimize the risk of derailment and tank



In seeking a new fuel pathway for E15 in California, RFA's Kelly Davis has led work that continues through the three-tier Multimedia Evaluation program. This includes performing oversight of the vehicle exhaust and evaporative emissions testing at University of California-Riverside related to increased ethanol content. car breach, with newer DOT-117 cars in front.

RFA kicked off the RFA New Uses Committee this year, hosting a popular New Uses Panel at the National Ethanol Conference, and fielding multiple calls presenting potential opportunities of interest to members.

Davis also was reappointed to a fourth consecutive term on the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee, which directly advises Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo on programs and policies to expand U.S. renewable energy exports. She also serves as Secretary and Editorial Chair for ASTM Committee D02.A0 for Gasoline and Oxygenated Fuels. This year, Davis participated in task forces of ASTM and the National Conference on Weights & Measures (NCWM), updating relative standards reflecting new streamlined U.S. EPA motor fuel regulations.

RFA's technical and research staff also provided written comments and oral testimony in response to numerous proposed regulatory actions and requests for information from EPA, DOE, USDA, state agencies and other entities including:

Comments to EPA arguing against general waivers from the 2019 and 2020 RFS obligations, as well as public testimony and written comments against extensions of 2019 and 2020 RFS compliance deadlines.

Documentation to EPA substantiating ethanol's contribution toward the criteria that are to be considered in developing the post-2022 RFS Set Rule.

Comments to the USDA substantiating why the use of ethanol for power generation should be eligible for funding through the Rural Renewable Energy Pilot Program.

Comments to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality regarding draft long-term illustrative compliance scenarios that had been developed in connection with the planned expansion of the Clean Fuels Program.

Verbal comments during two public meetings of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's committee on current methods for life cycle analyses of low-carbon transportation fuels in the United States. RFA Chief Economist Scott Richman sits on the organizing committee for the CRC life cycle analysis workshop.

Director of Market Development Cassie Mullen assisted dozens of companies in completing applications for the second round of USDA's Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP), which offered \$100 million in funding but had a decidedly brief application window. Across both rounds of HBIIP, RFA directly helped a total of 33 companies in 21 states secure \$24 million in infrastructure grants which, when coupled with matching retailer commitments of \$40 million, would add over 1,200 new dispensers at 244 locations across the country.

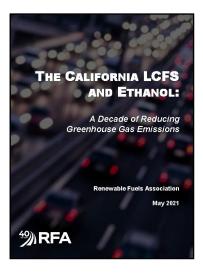
In December, RFA's industry-leading safety program, led by Director of Safety and Technical Programs Missy Ruff, celebrated 10 years of service. Over the past decade, RFA's award-winning safety training has reached thousands of first responders, rail shippers, ethanol plant workers and others.

All tallied, RFA has hosted 328 training events reaching more than 13,000 attendees since December 2010. Its ethanol Emergency Response Seminars and Webinars have reached over 8,000 people, while "Train the Trainer" programs and the Online Ethanol Emergency Response Course have reached more than 4,000. In-person training has been held in 49 states, and RFA has also trained attendees in 26 countries on five continents. For this year's safety work, RFA was awarded \$75,000 in grants by the Federal Railroad Administration and Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

### **Industry-Leading Research**

Throughout 2020, RFA's Scott Richman conducted analyses of the economic impact of the pandemic on the ethanol industry, which served as the starting point for discussions with USDA about COVID-19 relief funding. Richman's December 2020 analysis showed the ethanol industry lost roughly \$4 billion in gross revenues last year due to pandemic-related demand destruction.

In February 2021, RFA released two reports summarizing 2020 U.S. ethanol and distillers grains export and import data. These annual reports provide industry advocates, policymakers, the media and the general public with the



latest information on the important role U.S. ethanol and distillers grains play on the world stage.

RFA released a white paper in May 2021 looking at the 10th anniversary of California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard. The use of ethanol under the LCFS has generated 26.9 million metric tons of GHG savings

(credits), or 35% of the total since implementation began. That's more than any other low-carbon fuel used in the state. All liquid biofuels combined accounted for 77% of total reductions during the decade.

Richman also analyzed the impact that the ethanol industry will be expected to experience as a result of the D.C. Circuit Court decision on E15 if no action is taken to allow year-round sales to continue. The August report found that the cumulative volume of lost ethanol sales from 2021 to 2024 would be 630 million gallons. At today's prices, foregone ethanol sales revenues through 2024 would be \$1.3 billion.

Other research supported by RFA included an annual review of the ethanol industry's impact on jobs and the economy, by John M. Urbanchuk of ABF Economics; an update on greenhouse gas reductions due to the Renewable Fuel Standard, by Stefan Unnasch of Life Cycle Associates; and a demand forecast for hand sanitizer, published in December 2020 by IRI.

RFA also supported a review by researchers at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville of two recent studies examining purported cropland expansion in the Midwest, finding they were based on a flawed methodology that suffers from accuracy and certainty issues.

Importantly, RFA backed a review that suggests that ethanol-blended fuels widely available at gas stations as E10, E15, or E85 result in fewer toxic emissions from vehicles and present a lower risk to human health than regular gasoline.

# making friends, building markets

The 81st Annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally welcomed a very large crowd of over 525.000 bikers and lots of ethanol education. RFA again partnered with the Buffalo Chip Campground to host Free Fuel Happy Hours for four days this year. RFA gave away more than 3,000 gallons of 93 octane E10; 1,000 t-shirts; 1,200 koozies; hand sanitizer, beach balls and more. **RFA** also participated in Women's Day, an event dedicated to female riders. The highlight of this particular promotion was RFA staff and members promoting ethanol on stage just ahead of Kid Rock's concert, which sold more than 100,000 tickets.

In September, RFA exhibited at the nation's largest farm show, the Farm Progress Show, in Decatur, III., an event attended by more than 200,000 people. RFA's large exhibit area was adjacent to the media center, and staff displayed RFA's Flex Fuel Jeep Wrangler and an E85 -powered Polaris Ranger. Hundreds of attendees came through the outdoor exhibit to ask questions about ethanol, and to express their gratitude for RFA being there and for what we do for agriculture. Rep. Cheri Bustos also attended and spent some time at the RFA exhibit. She was very interested in hearing the needs of the ethanol industry and, as an avid Jeep fan, wanted to learn more about RFA's Jeep project.

RFA was well represented at the 2021 Fuel Ethanol Workshop, with Geoff Cooper featured as the keynote speaker. Troy Bredenkamp

#### Rep. Cheri Bustos

Enjoyed the Farm Progress Show yesterday — the Jeep behind me is powered by high octane, low carbon E85 made with corn from right here in the Midwest.

Let's get the second day rolling!



followed on a policy panel during the General Session, and Robert White spoke at the Ethanol 101 preconference event. The RFA FFV Jeep was the talk of the Expo Hall. Steve Markham of CHS, who has served on the RFA board since 2017, was awarded the annual High Octane Award, which is given to those who have helped the ethanol industry mature and progress over the years. In addition, RFA member Commonwealth Agri-Energy received the Good Neighbor Award and members Absolute Energy and Lallemand Biofuels & Distilled Spirits received the Collaboration of the Year Award.

The Renewable Fuels Foundation once again served as a major sponsor of Iowa RFA's annual Congressional staff tour event, which brought nearly 30 legislative staffers to lowa to learn more about ethanol, biodiesel and agriculture. Robert White joined the tour and spoke to the group. During the week, the group toured Lincolnway Energy, lowa State, an aquaculture business, a renewable natural gas plant, two family farms and more.

RFA sponsored the Tidd Racing team's initiative to convert a Can-Am X3 to run E85 for an upcoming television series. The vehicle is a build for a globally recognized company, and we hope to be able to share more details soon. The filming will create a standalone video that RFA can use to promote the conversion to E85 for off-road enthusiasts and racers, along with other portions that will cover multiple episodes. RFA also cosponsored Tidd Racing for a series of off-road races this year.

#### **New Members**

RFA welcomed several new members this past year, including three producer members: Calgren Renewable Fuels, Gevo, and Mid America Bio Energy. Also coming on board were 11 new associate members: Antea Group, Ascensus Specialties, Booster, Bushel, Chase Nedrow Industries, Corn Marketing Program of Michigan, Data Gumbo, National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center, Navigator CO2 Ventures, Next Wave Energy Partners, and Terracon.

### 2020-21 board of directors

Jeanne McCaherty, **Chairperson** Guardian Energy Management, LLC

> Erik Huschitt, **Vice Chair** Badger State Ethanol, LLC

Charles Wilson, **Treasurer** Trenton Agri Products, LLC

Rick Schwarck, **Secretary** Absolute Energy, LLC

Geoff Cooper, President and CEO

Neal Kemmet, Ace Ethanol, LLC Ray Baker/Bob Carlson, Adkins Energy, LLC Eric McAfee, Aemetis, Inc. Randall Doyal, Al-Corn Clean Fuel, LLC Jim Leiting, Big River Resources, LLC Lyle Schlyer, Calgren Renewable Fuels Chad Friese, Chippewa Valley Ethanol Co. Steve Markham, CHS, Inc. Ryan Drook, CIE, LLC Mick Henderson, Commonwealth Agri-Energy, LLC Scott Mundt, Dakota Ethanol, LLC Carl Sitzmann, E Energy Adams, LLC Bill Pracht, East Kansas Agri-Energy, LLC

Tim Cesarek, Gevo, Inc. Dave Sovereign, Golden Grain Energy, LLC Mark Ricketts, Grain Processing Corp. Jeff Oestmann, Granite Falls Energy, LLC Gary Anderson, Heartland Corn Products Brian Kletscher, Highwater Ethanol, LLC Seth Harder, Husker Ag, LLC Chuck Woodside, KAAPA Ethanol Holdings, LLC Eric Mosbey, Lincolnland Agri-Energy, LLC Prestin Read, Mid America Bio Energy Chris Wilson, Mid-Missouri Energy, Inc. Thomas Corle, New Energy Blue\* **Bob Pasma**, Parallel Products **Delayne Johnson, Quad County Corn Processors** Dana Lewis, Redfield Energy, LLC Walt Wendland, Ringneck Energy Brian Pasbrig, Show Me Ethanol, LLC Mike Jerke, Southwest Iowa Renewable Energy Anthony Leiding, Trenton Agri Products, LLC Dennis Balakian, West Coast Waste, Inc.\* Tim Winters, Western New York Energy, LLC Derek Peine, Western Plains Energy, LLC \* Prospective Producer Member

In July, RFA's board gathered in St. Louis to meet face-to-face for the first time since January 2020. Joining the board at the meeting was the entire board leadership team from the National Corn Growers Association.



### **Our Vision**

Help the world breathe easier with the power of renewable fuels.

#### **Our Mission**

Drive expanded demand for American-made renewable fuels and bioproducts worldwide.

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