

The Power of Endurance: NEPPA's Fall Expo

NEPPA members gathered on September 15th and 16th for the annual Fall Expo, embracing this year's theme: The Power of Endurance. For the second year in a row, the DoubleTree in Andover hosted our trade show, while the Annual Meeting and Dinner took place at the Autograph American Tavern.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner brought together 55 members for a night filled with fun, good food, and great conversation. A highlight of the evening was the NEPPA Cares raffle, supporting our President's charity, the German Shepherd Rescue of New England. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we raised \$1,000 for this incredible cause.

We also welcomed the incoming 2026 Board, a talented group ready to lead NEPPA into the future with fresh energy and vision. The atmosphere was warm, celebratory, and filled with excitement for what's ahead.

This year's trade show was a sell-out for exhibit booths, and the energy on the floor was nonstop. Attendees connected with vendors, explored new opportunities, and enjoyed the fantastic giveaways provided by our generous sponsors.

Events like this don't just happen, they are made possible by the dedication of the NEPPA board, our hardworking committees, and incredible volunteers. To all who contributed your time, energy, and resources: Thank You. And of course, a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, whose support ensures the continued success of these gatherings.

The Fall Expo reminded us of the strength and spirit of our community. We are excited to carry that momentum forward and hope to see everyone at our upcoming Holiday Party on December 11th.

Together, we are building something enduring—and the best is yet to come.

Co-chairs

Jessica Casaubon, Gemline

Ben MacDonald, The Ad King

NEPPA's Annual Meeting

NEPPA's Annual Meeting was held on September 15th, the evening prior to the Fall Expo, at The Autograph American Tavern in Andover, MA. Led by President Lori Donovan, elections for NEPPA's 2026 Board of Directors took place.

Nominating Committee members were announced: NEPPA President Lori Donovan of NC Custom, NEPPA Vice President Ben MacDonald of The Ad King, Nancy Bercovitz of BAG MAKERS, Christine Carpenter Gleason of Halo and Jessica Nepris of Stran Promotional Solutions.

The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate:

President: Ben MacDonald, The Ad King

Vice President: Jessica Casaubon, Gemline

Treasurer: Emily Codner, iPROMOTEu

Secretary: Sarah McMahan, BAMKO

Immediate Past President: Lori Donovan, NC Custom

Directors:

Lisa Fosdick, The Promo Playbook

Tim Fox, Spector & Co.

Kathy Lojacono, Halo Branded Solutions

Nick McAlley, Hit Promotional Products

Halle Moore, PromoCorner
Todd Wallace, SourcePromo

The 2026 Board will take office on January 1st.

Lori recognized Past Presidents in attendance: Nancy Bercovitz, Loren Cayer, Dale Johnson Cornell, David Kennealey, Pat Dugan and Christie Miselis, and introduced our Ambassadors, an extension of the board and supporters of NEPPA. In attendance were Nancy Bercovitz, Lee Coscia, David Kennealey and Christie Miselis.

The Fall Expo Committee was introduced. Co-chairs: Jessica Casaubon and Ben MacDonald. Committee members: Tracy Campbell, Beata Miller, Nicole Wolfrum and Tom Zuliani.

Our theme this year was "The Power of Endurance: through every turn, we are built to last." In closing the meeting, Lori reflected on what makes our association so special – supporting one another as we face challenges both in our business and our lives and adapting to whatever comes our way. She inspired us all with her message as we raised a glass, "Here's to NEPPA; here's to endurance, and here's to being built to last!"

NEPPA Cares Fundraiser

We had a blast holding our President's Charity Raffle for German Shepherd Rescue of New England at the Annual Meeting before the Fall Expo! This amazing organization rescues, rehabilitates, and rehomes German Shepherds, giving them a second chance at a happy life — and you all showed up big to support them.

From the fantastic raffle prizes donated by our members both supplier and distributor to the excitement of everyone buying tickets and joining in, the energy in the room was incredible. It was great to see so many people step up, have fun, and make this raffle such a huge success. Check out the top 3 raffle items below!

Thanks to your generosity (and maybe a little friendly competition), NEPPA Cares was able to donate \$1,000 to German Shepherd Rescue of New England.

We couldn't have done it without you — thank you for bringing the fun, the heart, and the support for such a great cause!

Top three promo item raffles:

ORIGAUDIO

HPG #99250 Chillamanjaro™ 24 Can Venture Cooler Backpack

STORMTECH

Oregon 24 Cooler Backpack

SNUGZ

BC22705 - Basecamp Mt. Rainier Cooler Backpack

Co-chairs

Nick McAlley, Hit Promotional Products

Todd Wallace, SourcePromo