

# Wakefern Food Corp.

## **Wakefern Food Corp. Hosts 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tribute to Women and Industry Awards**

**Keasbey, NJ (April 1, 2011)** – In honor of its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of supporting the YWCA’s Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN) program, Wakefern Food Corp. hosted this year’s 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Awards Dinner. Through its partnership with the Central New Jersey TWIN branch, Wakefern donates annual funds and services to help the organization provide career and mentoring services to women in business. The awards dinner, which took place on Thursday, March 31, in celebration of Women’s History Month, the awards dinner was held at the Palace on Davidson Avenue in Somerset, New Jersey.

“We are proud of our twenty year affiliation with this praiseworthy program and are pleased to serve as host of this prestigious awards ceremony,” said Dean Janeway, Wakefern President and Chief Operating Officer and honorary chair of the event. “The TWIN program’s support and mentoring of women throughout our great state is the perfect complement to Wakefern’s longstanding commitment to the community. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with them well into the future.”

TWIN annually recognizes outstanding businesswomen and their companies. Its mission is to honor women who have excelled in their fields and who have made significant contributions to industry in executive, managerial and professional positions. The award also recognizes corporations whose policies and practices encourage high achievement by women and that provide equal advancement opportunities for women of diverse backgrounds. TWIN honorees, in turn, lend assistance to young women entering industry by acting as career speakers, role models and mentors.

This year’s Wakefern honorees include Nancy Alibrando, Business Manager, Wholesale/International division; Allison Berger, Assistant General Counsel; and Linda Peterson, Manager, Advertising. For the first time, this year’s honorees also include three women from Wakefern’s member companies: Paula Boss, Director of Training and Development, ShopRite of Hunterdon County; Joanne Zambrello, Vice President of Human Resources and Customer Relations, Sunrise ShopRite, Inc.; and Linda Lussier, Director of Labor Relations and Human Resources, ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc.

“We at Wakefern congratulate this illustrious group of women on this momentous achievement and thank them for their many contributions to the company and to the industry at large,” added Mr. Janeway.

### **Honoree Bios**

#### **Nancy Alibrando**

As Business Manager of the Wholesale/International Division, Nancy is responsible for acquiring and retaining wholesale customers for Wakefern Food Corp. Nancy collaborates with Gristedes and other domestic and international customers, introducing new products and maintaining dynamic business relationships. Among her many accomplishments, Nancy has spearheaded efforts to become an approved New York City vendor and has collaborated with clients in Bermuda to bring innovative solutions to their business challenges. Well-known for her focus on building long and lasting relationships in and outside

of the company during her thirty-nine year tenure, Nancy has twice received the Wakefern Customer Service Excellence Award.

**Allison Berger**

As Assistant General Counsel, Allison is responsible for overseeing all legal matters facing the Wakefern cooperative, including corporate governance, intellectual property, real estate, corporate and financing transactions, cooperative member relations and corporate compliance. Prior to joining Wakefern Food Corp., Allison was a partner with a national law firm. In her almost 20 years in private practice, Allison's focused on commercial law, including bankruptcy, corporate finance, real estate and labor and employment issues.

**Paula Boss**

As Director of Training and Development, Paula's responsibilities include overseeing the hiring process, orientation, performance reviews, management development and succession planning for more than 1,200 associates for ShopRite of Hunterdon County. She also serves on the Wakefern Retail Human Resource Committee as co-chair of the Personal and Professional Development sub-committee. In addition, Ms. Boss was the catalyst for the development of retail management competencies, forming the framework for selection, assessment and development of ShopRite's retail management team in over 200 stores.

**Linda Lussier**

Ms. Lussier has earned numerous awards during her thirty-six year career in the supermarket industry, including the distinction of being the first female store manager, director and vice president of Big V Supermarkets, Inc. Currently Director of Labor Relations and Human Resources, Linda is responsible for all labor negotiations and the administration and interpretation of five collective bargaining agreements for ShopRite Supermarkets, Inc. She also supervises the administration of payroll and benefits for more than 6,500 associates.

**Linda Peterson**

Linda Peterson has served as Advertising Manager for Wakefern Food Corp. for nine years, and is the key contributor to creating exciting print materials in support of the company's corporate events – from the famous Can Can sale and seasonal programs in support of holiday merchandise to produce campaigns and new product launches. Linda provides creative direction on all of the ShopRite circulars and collateral advertising initiatives. Prior to joining Wakefern, Linda held the position of Vice President at Gianettino & Meredith Advertising, with her primary responsibilities dedicated to servicing the advertising needs of Wakefern and ShopRite stores.

**Joanne Zambrello**

As Vice President of Human Resources and Customer Relations, Joanne is responsible for hiring; management assessment; training and development; and associate and customer satisfaction for Sunrise ShopRite, Inc.. In addition to her HR responsibilities, Joanne initiated the food sourcing efforts on behalf of the company for the benefit of the Community FoodBank of New Jersey and coordinates volunteer events both at the food bank and at St. John's "Feed the Hungry" soup kitchen in Newark. As a champion of health and wellness, Joanne coordinates a health fair involving six municipalities, serving hundreds of ShopRite customers. She is also proud to supervise the tireless efforts of the company's two registered dietitians to promote healthy eating habits throughout the community. For the past eight years, Joanne has chaired the golf committee for the Charles Matejka Memorial Golf Outing which has raised more than \$170,000 for the American Cancer Society and The Rachel Coalition.

### **About Wakefern Food Corp.**

From a small, struggling cooperative with eight members – all owners of their own grocery stores – Wakefern Food Corp. has grown into the largest retailer-owned cooperative in the United States. Founded in 1946, the cooperative is comprised of 47 members who today individually own and operate more than 200 supermarkets under the ShopRite banner in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware. In 1996, Wakefern introduced PriceRite stores, extending the company's reach into Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Today, there are 46 PriceRite stores in six states. As the merchandising and distribution arm of both ShopRite and PriceRite, Wakefern, together with its member companies, employ more than 50,000 people; making it one of the largest employers in New Jersey. In addition, Wakefern also distributes products to other supermarkets throughout the northeastern United States and Bermuda. For more information, please visit [www.Wakefern.com](http://www.Wakefern.com).

### **About ShopRite**

ShopRite is the registered trademark of Wakefern Food Corp., a retailer-owned cooperative, based in Keasbey, NJ and the largest supermarket cooperative in the United States. With more than 230 ShopRite supermarkets located throughout New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Delaware and Maryland, ShopRite serves more than five million customers each week. A long-time supporter of key community efforts, ShopRite is dedicated to fighting hunger in the communities it serves. Through its ShopRite Partners In Caring program, ShopRite has donated more than \$24 million to 1,700 worthy charities and food banks since the program began in 1999. As a title sponsor of the LPGA's ShopRite Classic, ShopRite has raised more than \$23 million for local schools, hospitals and community groups. For more information, please visit [www.ShopRite.com](http://www.ShopRite.com).

### **About Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN)**

TWIN (Tribute to Women and Industry) originated in New Jersey in 1975 and was introduced to Central New Jersey in 1979. Now a national and international awards program of the YWCA, TWIN annually recognizes outstanding businesswomen and their companies.