

NRHA Awards Program to Honor Seven Young Retailers of the Year

Seven young hardware retailers are being honored for outstanding achievement as owners and managers of independently owned hardware and building supply stores in the United States and Canada. They are honorees in the 2008 Young Retailer of the Year program, now in its 12th year.

The purpose of the program, which is coordinated by the North American Retail Hardware Association (NRHA), is to recognize outstanding performance and encourage talented young people to pursue a career in the retail hardware business. To date, the program has honored 85 young retailers. This year's honorees include:

- Todd Kirschner, general manager of Trio Hardware, Plainview, N.Y.
- Terry Byers, co-owner of Town Center Hardware in Harrisburg, N.C.
- John Bettendorf, owner and general manager of Isanti Hardware Hank, Isanti, Minn.
- Maurice Chevalier, owner of Morinville Home Hardware, Morinville, Alberta, Canada
- Jeff Johnson, owner of Del's True Value Building Supply, Myrtle Creek, Ore.
- Shawn Roehr, vice president of Arrow Lumber and Hardware in Buckley, Wash.
- Eric Hassett, president of operations at

Palo Alto Ace Hardware in Half Moon Bay, Calif.

Nominees for the Young Retailer award must be 35 years of age or younger and are judged for their career advancement, professional accomplishments, goals for the future, education and community involvement. Honorees will be special guests at NRHA's 2008 National Convention July 28-30 in Monterey, Calif., where they will be recognized at a banquet in their honor.

Sponsors of the program are 3M, The Scotts Company, Cooper Hand Tools and the American Hardware Manufacturers Association. ➡