



News Release

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FRED BALL PRESENTED WITH CLARENCE G. ADAMY “GREAT AMERICAN AWARD”

National Grocers Association President and CEO Thomas Zaucha presented Fred Ball, president and CEO of Four B Corporation, the Clarence G. Adamy “Great American Award” in Kansas City, Kansas during a retirement dinner honoring him as the chairman of the board of directors at Associated Wholesale Grocers.

Ball’s stores, including 13 Hen House Markets, 15 Price Choppers and Ball’s Neighborhood Market, serve the communities in the Kansas City metro area. Ball has served on the AWG board of directors for 32 years and as chairman of the board for over 25 years. Under his leadership, AWG, a cooperative serving independent grocery companies in 21 states, has grown to \$4.6 billion in sales. Today Kansas City is the largest independent market in the U.S.

Speaking to Ball, Zaucha commented, “You are a grocer who cares about the communities you serve, where your customers and associates are also your neighbors; you exemplify what is best about being an independent community-focused grocer.”

While presenting Ball with the award, Zaucha said, “He is an industry visionary: always on the cutting edge of change providing innovative formats, high quality products and the best service and value while always providing the customer with an exciting shopping experience.” N.G.A. congratulates Fred Ball on his success and is pleased to recognize him as a great American.

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For an electronic photo of the event please email Sarah Castleberry at scastleberry@nationalgrocers.org. N.G.A. is the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry. An independent retailer is a privately owned or controlled food retail company operating a variety of formats. Most independent operators are serviced by wholesale distributors, while others may be partially or fully self-distributing. Some are publicly traded but with controlling shares held by the family and others are employee owned. Independents are the true “entrepreneurs” of the grocery industry and dedicated to their customers, associates, and communities. N.G.A. members include retail and wholesale grocers, state grocers associations, as well as manufacturers and service suppliers. For more information about N.G.A. and the independent sector of the industry, see the N.G.A. website: www.NationalGrocers.org