

# Distillery modern Age



MAY 19, 2017 | MODERN DISTILLERY AGE

VOLUME 8 | NUMBER 19

## WSWA – 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention & Exposition Awards

“Our 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention & Exposition was a resounding success,” said WSWA President and CEO Craig Wolf. “Thank you to all suppliers, wholesalers, service providers, industry employees and participants who joined us to renew friendships, forge new relationships and help plan for our shared future.”



WSWA President and CEO Craig Wolf

Fox News host Chris Wallace delivered General Session remarks followed by an onstage question and answer session covering the changing political and media landscape (viewable here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlUzdJ9qtcg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AlUzdJ9qtcg)).

At the second General Session, innovator and inventor Mick Ebeling of Not Impossible Labs inspired attendees with his stories of creative problem solving and outside-the-box thinking.

General Sessions featured remarks from incoming WSWA Chairman Carmine Martignetti of Massachusetts-based Martignetti Companies, and WSWA President and CEO Craig Wolf (viewable here: [vivacreative.app.box.com/s/oxo598sqro55h40y8jlyxsbmjoe9pypr](http://vivacreative.app.box.com/s/oxo598sqro55h40y8jlyxsbmjoe9pypr)).

During the week, WSWA honored two longtime industry members.

The Lifetime Leadership Award was presented to Alan Dreeben, a partner with Republic National Distributing Co. The award is presented each year to a wholesaler whose contribution to the association, beverage industry and community defines excellence, inspires loyalty and exemplifies leadership. Dreeben can be seen accepting his award here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qura7K\\_KGzs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qura7K_KGzs).

The WSWA Educational Foundation honored Gerry Ruvo, Chairman of Campari America, with the Sidney Frank Innovation Award presented by Mast-Jägermeister, given annually to a person who has made exceptional industry contributions in addition to noteworthy philanthropy and community service. The award is named for Sidney Frank, a leading innovator and marketer in the beverage industry who also set records for philanthropic contributions and service. Ruvo's presentation can be viewed here: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIY1FfyROkk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIY1FfyROkk).

“Alan Dreeben and Gerry Ruvo each have a long history of supporting charities, individuals and community organizations with their time, money

*continued on page 2*

## William Grant & Sons Acquires Tuthilltown Spirits in New York State

William Grant & Sons of Scotland has acquired Tuthilltown Spirits, New York State's first distillery since Prohibition. William Grant & Sons acquired Tuthilltown's Hudson Whiskey brand in 2010.



Based in the Hudson Valley north of New York City, William Grant & Sons has acquired the entire 36-acre Tuthilltown facility, which includes the distillery that produces Hudson Whiskey and a variety of other local craft spirits brands, the gourmet restaurant, visitor center and scenic grounds with riverfront views.

Known for its 130-year history of Scotch whisky distilling, this acquisition will expand the William Grant & Sons reach into craft American whiskey distilling for the first time.

“In 2010, William Grant & Sons bought the Hudson Whiskey brand as we were not only attracted to the possibilities within the American whiskey category

*continued on page 4*

## Hemingway Rum's Key West Rum Distillery & Experience Center

Hemingway Rum Co. in Key West, Fla., maker of Papa's Pilar rums, which were inspired by Ernest Hemingway, will officially open its Rum Distillery & Experience Center to the public on May 20. The new facility pays homage to Hemingway, who once called Key West home.



*continued on page 4*

**To read the entire issue and subscribe to Modern Distillery Age, click here: [Subscribe](#)**