

WRENCH & WOOD


Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News





August 2022

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The Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council
presents
3rd Annual Chillin' & Grillin'
August 20, 2022



BARBEQUE
Competition



 


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 Guide Dogs of America  Tender Loving Canines



Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council Sponsor the 3rd Annual 'Chillin and Grillin' Virtual BBQ Competition for Guide Dogs of America & Tender Loving Canines

Saturday, August 20, the Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council (MWPPC) held its third annual virtual BBQ competition fundraiser for [Guide Dogs of America / Tender Loving Canines](#) (GDA.) The successful event **brought in over \$14,500 for GDA.** Watch our video above for a glimpse of the virtual BBQ Competition and the contest entries. Guaranteed to make you hungry!

And the winners are..... Congratulations to everyone:

1st Place Grand Champion: James 'Stretch' Little, Southern Territory— (reclaimed his 2020 title)

2nd Place Grand Champion: Chuck Bennett, DL W2021

3rd Place Grand Champion: James Price Jr., Retired, Government Employees Department

Pork Rib Champion: Andrea Tortorich

Chicken Champion: Laurel Henry

A big thanks go to our Volunteer Judges who viewed all the entries without the benefit of eating! Thank you Mary McHugh from the Winpisinger Center (W3), Laura Ewan-Legal Department, Yvette Sheehan-GDA and Henry Bagwell-Retiree from W3. There is always next year!

Washington State Supreme Court Affirms DNR Management of State Trust Forest Lands



The IAM and the Washington State Council of Machinists, along with several allied organizations in defense of IAM woodworkers and others in the wood, pulp, and paper industry, have successfully beat back an attempt to take forest management away from the people of Washington state.

The Washington state Supreme Court recently unanimously ruled that the Washington Department of Natural Resources continues to have the fiduciary duty to manage working forests, known as state trust lands.

READ: [Machinists Join Fight to Protect Washington State Forestry Jobs](#)

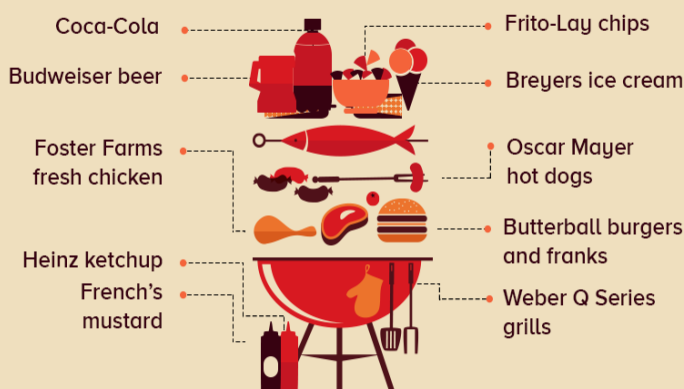
The case, *Conservation Northwest v. Hilary Franz*, upholds more than a century of precedent of public lands being used to both sustain the environment and protect good jobs, which help fund schools, local economies, and more.

“This is a victory for every IAM woodworker, their families, and the countless Washington state communities who rely on this critical industry,” said IAM Woodworkers Department Chief of Staff Mike Rose. “I’d like to thank every ally in this fight, especially the American Forest Resource Council and the IAM Legal Department, for standing up and winning in the face of this attack on our livelihoods.”

The IAM represents approximately 2,000 members in the wood, pulp, and paper industry in Washington state.

“The IAM will always stand for policies that both grow good jobs and sustain our environment,” said IAM Western Territory General Vice President Gary R. Allen. “IAM woodworkers and the communities who manage our treasured forests have rightfully won a huge victory for the future of sustainable forest management. Let this victory serve notice that the Fighting Machinists will fiercely defend our member’s interests anywhere anytime!”

This Labor Day Barbeque Make It Union-Made in USA



DL W24 TAKES THEIR SEAT AT THE TABLE WEYERHAEUSER NEGOTIATIONS

The IAM is currently in contract negotiations with Weyerhaeuser at 14 of the 17 represented facilities across the northwest. This presents the opportunity to harness an even larger voice at the table to bargain collectively. The memberships' elected Committee and Chief Negotiator are speaking on behalf of all employees at the table to collectively bargain for better wages, benefits, and work conditions to come out with the best possible contract.

WEYERHAEUSER EMPLOYEES MAKE THEMSELVES HEARD



The successful campaign to organize the Weyerhaeuser distribution center in Albany, Oregon, was the culmination of efforts from the Organizing Committee in partnership with Western Territory Organizing Director Joe Solis and Lead Organizers Jessica Deming and Jon Irvine. However, this win would not have been possible without assistance from District Lodge W24 Staff, Local Lodge W246 President Tom Thede and Vice President Kevin Lane—especially during the door knocking campaign.

The Brothers and Sisters of this distribution center withstood an aggressive anti-union campaign by a company that was earning record profits, while refusing to fairly pay their workers. The employees at the distribution center sent a strong message with their 2 to 1 vote in favor of their right to bargain collectively, and in support of their union. Hopefully, their success and commitment will be an example to others of the benefits of union representation and an example of how the IAM continues to fight for

workers' rights every day.

In preparation for negotiating their first contract, the newly IAM represented members will begin Shop Steward and Bargaining Committee training. We are looking forward to our most recently joined Brothers' and Sisters' participation in their Local Lodge and the IAM.



FIRE SEASON IN OREGON— SOME GOOD NEWS AMIDST BAD NEWS

August 15, 2022—ODF— “Frankly, our people have been kicking butt,” said the Oregon Department of Forestry’s Tim Holschbach, Deputy Chief of Policy and Planning for the Fire Protection Division.

As of today, ODF Districts have suppressed 418 fires, and held them to 582 acres total. The 10-year average for this point in the fire season is 590 fires and 56,121 acres burned.

“Although there is a possibility for holdover fires from the recent lightning to add fires to the map, ODF’s firefighters have been doing a remarkable job keeping them small,” Holschbach said.

More people have been the key to knocking out fires on lands the department is responsible for protecting.

“Investments into the wildfire protection system from Senate Bill 762 allowed us to not only hire additional season firefighters to increase response, but also additional full-time positions to increase response capacity year-round,” said Holschbach. “I can’t say how many millions of dollars in firefighting costs we have saved by being able to quickly suppress these fires—keeping them small, off the landscape and out of our communities.”

A big part of putting out wildfires is detecting them early and a key part of that effort is the multi-mission aircraft (MMA) that is in its third season of operation. This unique aircraft was made possible through an investment from the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund—which consists of landowner dollars paid for fire protection each year. Other resources can include ground-based firefighters and equipment, or one or more of the 27 aircraft on exclusive use contracts with the state. The mix of aircraft include eight tankers, five fixed wing detection/aerial supervision aircraft, along with 14 helicopters.

“Our aircraft and other fighting equipment is decentralized to allow each of our fire districts to quickly respond to any fire,” said Holschbach. “But our most valuable asset is our people. They live and work in communities they protect, and they have been doing a great job this fire season.”

“For more information on ODF’s firefighting efforts, visit ODF’s [Wildfire Blog](#) or follow them on ODF’s Facebook account.

BIO-CORNER

Kevin Lane is currently Local Lodge W246 Vice President, working at Weyerhaeuser Cottage Grove, Oregon. His career at Weyerhaeuser began in 2003 and in 2004 he was elected the position of Shop Steward and continues in that role today, too.

Brother Lane worked a variety of machine centers in the sawmill until 2011. This is when he began a 4 year apprenticeship which led him to become a journeyman electrician in 2015. Passionate about workers rights, he joined the Lane County Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee.

Kevin has held a number of union leadership positions from Shop Steward (2003-present), Plant Standing Committee member (2005-present), Executive Board Trustee (2006-2020), District Delegate (8 years), Oregon Machinist Council (6 years), Local Lodge Vice President (2020-present) and Head Steward Plant Standing Committee member (2022-present.)

In addition to this Brother's broad experience in the union, his interests span everything from sport shooting and collecting firearms to cooking and making sushi to attending metal shows. Kevin is a family man and enjoys spending time with his wife of 27 years and 2 kids, ages 18 and 21.



Kevin Lane, VP and Shop Steward—Local Lodge W246

WOODWORKERS

ON-THE-JOB



GET YOUR WOODWORKERS GEAR

Big Bill Hickory Shirts with our Woodworkers logo are available now in the IAM Store. (Limited selection of Tall sizes.) Find your shirt and other IAM apparel and accessories online now. Contact the Purchasing Department at 301-967-4712 or email wcramer@iamaw.org. Or, shop now at:

MachinistsGear.com



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