

# WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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## DISTRICT LODGE W3 HOSTS THEIR TWELFTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

District Lodge W3 called their Convention to order on Friday, August 5, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in Rothschild, WI. President/Directing Business Representative Jere McFalda opened the conference and fraternal guest speakers followed including, Midwest Territory General Vice President Phil Gruber, District Lodge W3 Assistant Directing Business Representative Brian Jarvensivu, Political Director Rick de la Fuente, District Lodge W3 Secretary-Treasurer Char Andreachi and Woodworkers Special Representative Bob Walls. Ray Moore from Employee Benefit Systems and Jill Hartley from the Previant Law Firm attended as guest speakers, as well.

Brother Walls spoke to the group about the Wood, Pulp & Paper Council and the importance and benefits of education and communication to keep all District and Local Lodges with wood products membership up-to-date on industry information.

The delegates took action on two resolutions:

- 1) Endorse candidates in concurrence with the AFL-CIO and,
- 2) Organizing as a priority

Elections for officers and trustees were held and all current officers and trustees were elected to a new 4 year term. They are:

Joe Schwartz – Trustee	Kevin Moran - E Board
Jere McFalda – P/DBR	Russ Nagle - E Board
Brian Jarvensivu – ADBR	Doug Hilfer - E Board
Char Andreachi – ST	Brian Roberts - E Board

The convention concluded on Saturday August 6, 2016.

Pat Stashek - E Board  
Jay Kinney - E Board



*Pictured left to right: General Vice President Phil Gruber, District Lodge W3 President/Directing Business Representative Jere McFalda, Jill Hartley from the Previant Law Firm and IAM Political Director Rick de la Fuente.*



## NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDE AT WESTROCK

IAM members at Fernandina Beach WestRock Papermill in Florida ratified their most recent contract on August 18, 2016. The 6 year contract was accepted and the members will receive 2% increases the first 3 years, 2.5% years 4 and 5 and, 2% the sixth year. They will also receive an additional \$25 food allowance along with the other protections their contract has allowed.

The Committee worked hard and was dedicated in trying to improve the lives of their members and their families.



*Local Lodge 1106 Negotiation Committee left to right:*

*LL Secretary-Treasurer Jason Strickland, DL 75 Business Representative Stephen P. Jordan, LL President Frank Bright and LL Vice President Frank Linton*

## DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE RAIN -

## FIRE SEASON REMAINS IN EFFECT



*An abandoned campfire on Aug. 1 in Douglas County burned one-half acre and cost more than \$12,000 to put out.*

The 2016 fire season was off to a promising start. Following three consecutive prolific fire seasons, the Oregon Department of Forestry had early success. But as always, there is room for improvement. As of mid-August, 470 wildfires have burned 2,685 acres on ODF-protected land. Acres burned at this time each of the last three years accounted for 93,613 (2013), 46,583 (2014) and 17,800 (2015) respectively.

Preparedness has played a key role. The state's wildfire organization, which protects nearly 16 million acres of private, county, state and some federal lands, coordinates with other private landowners, forest workers, fire districts, and state and federal partners to keep fires small. In early August ODF shifted several west-side crews, engines and aircraft east of the Cascades to prepare for lightning and high winds. The strategy paid off as initial-attack crews and supporting resources worked nonstop to keep up with multiple lightning ignitions from Friday through Sunday.

Weather and conditions on the ground have also attributed to the low number of acres burned as the state continues to recover from four consecutive years of drought. Cooler conditions and the occasional shot of rain this summer have been a nice reprieve from the previous three sweltering summers.

The wildcard is people. To date, 87 percent of all fires started on ODF-protected lands have been caused by people. And leading the way are things that can and should be prevented: burning back yard debris and campfires escaping control.



## Weyerhaeuser Company to Shut Down Lumber and Plywood Mills in Columbia Falls

Weyerhaeuser Company (WY) said it will permanently close its lumber mill and plywood mill in Columbia Falls, Montana, in late August or early September, permanently eliminating about 100 positions. The closures follow a decision earlier this year to move corporate positions that do not support manufacturing in Montana to Weyerhaeuser's Seattle headquarters. As a result, the company also plans to close its main office in Columbia Falls at the end of the year.

After the mill closures and office moves, Weyerhaeuser expects to employ about 550 people in Montana. It will continue to operate three mills in Montana: a lumber mill in Kalispell, a plywood mill in Kalispell, and a medium-density fiberboard mill in Columbia Falls, the company said in a statement late Wednesday. "For some time now our operations in Montana have been running below capacity as a result of an ongoing shortage of logs in the region," said Doyle Simons, the chief executive officer of Weyerhaeuser said. "These closures will allow us to align the available log supply with our manufacturing capacity, including adding shifts at our Kalispell facilities.

### CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT DISTRICT LODGE 112



*Retiring District Lodge 112  
P/DBR Steve Hernandez*

A retirement dinner was held Saturday, August 13th in Jacksonville, FL to honor District Lodge 112 President and Directing Business Representative (P/DBR) Steve Hernandez. We wish Brother Hernandez a well-earned retirement.

Steve has been a professional and friend to the Woodworkers Department and our membership in District Lodge 112.

Please join us in welcoming Brother Branson as he joins the Executive Board of District Lodge 112 —the Woodworkers Department and Wood, Pulp & Paper Council looks forward to working with him.

"Brother Branson is well qualified for his new position, which includes servicing the fourteen (14) Florida, Georgia and South Carolina Local Lodges within District 112", said Hernandez.

Best wishes to Steve in his retirement!



### Local Lodge W12 Holds Their First Annual Picnic

A new tradition was born of Local Lodge W12 and Roseburg Forest Product members as they held their first-ever Annual Picnic in Weed, CA on August 21, 2016.

W12 Shop Committee Members Tim O'Toole and Shawn Vanderjack were the grill masters, serving up hamburgers and hotdogs with a side of IAM pride and enthusiastic conversations about organizing.

Not only was the picnic a great time for brothers, sisters, friends and family to get together in a show of solidarity but, the invitation was extended to the nearby community members from unorganized shops who participated in the celebration, too.



# BIO CORNER



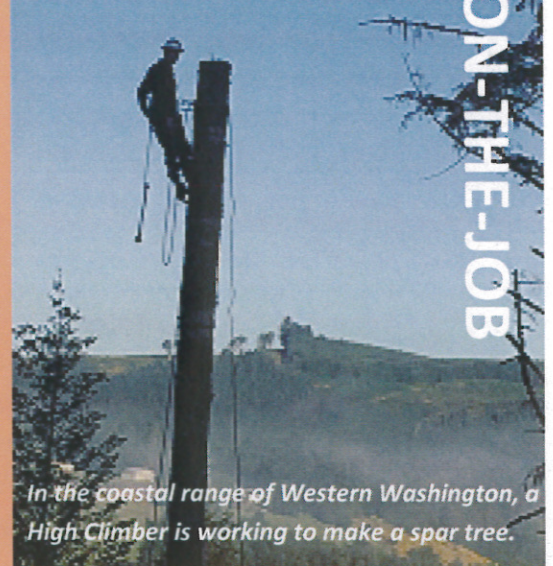
*Brad Summers, President  
IAM Local Lodge 1034*

Brother Brad Summers currently works at Graphic Packaging International in Macon, Georgia. He is a member of District Lodge 131 and is currently Local Lodge 1034 President. Brother Summers began his union career at Pipefitters Local Lodge 102 as Shop Steward and Local Lodge 72 Bull Steward, each for 2 years. Brad is a 20 year IAM member having served 6 years as Local Lodge Vice President preparing for his current role as Local Lodge 1034 President for the last 2 years.

Brad and his wife, Jeannine, enjoy spending time with their 4 grandkids. He also loves to fish crappies and is a Master Mason and Shriner.

## WOODWORKERS

ON-THE-JOB



*In the coastal range of Western Washington, a High Climber is working to make a spar tree.*

## District Lodge W24 P/DBR Jerald "Chip" Elliott, Jr., Retires

Third generation logger, Chip Elliott, Jr., began working in the woods in 1973 first as a rigger and worked his way to running equipment. Brother Elliott's union involvement began in the late 1970's becoming a Committeeperson then, Committee Chairman and by 1997 Local Lodge W130's Business Representative. In 2004 Chip became Woodworker District W1 Business Rep until 2011 when District W1 merged with District Lodge W24 and he became Assistant Directing Business Rep of the newly combined District W24. This position was to prepare him to become District W24 Directing Business Rep in 2013.

About his own retirement Chip said, "Priorities for District W24 were to service the membership, organize and make tough decisions during tough times, fairly. Upon leaving this organization, I can only hope that I will leave knowing that I have done the best job I could do and leave it in a better place than when I started."

A retirement reception and dinner was held in his honor Saturday, July 23, 2016 in Portland where attendees and speakers sent Chip off with their personal stories and best wishes. ♦



*Chip accepts retirement plaque from  
General Vice President Gary Allen*



*Pictured left to right from District Lodge W24: ADBR Britt Cornman, Retiring P/DBR Chip Elliott, Jr. and P/DBR Noel Willet*

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