

WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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IN A SHOW OF SOLIDARITY WEYCO WORKERS RATIFY A CONTRACT

District Lodge W24 had a busy start this year, preparing for several Woods products contract re-openers.

Bargaining had been underway at Weyerhaeuser in Oregon and Washington over the last 3 months. These negotiations proved difficult and at times tenuous as the crews held a 90% strike vote. They then voted on a third proposal and on August 2nd, the votes were tallied and 635 approved and 282 rejected the contract which resulted in a 69% ratification.

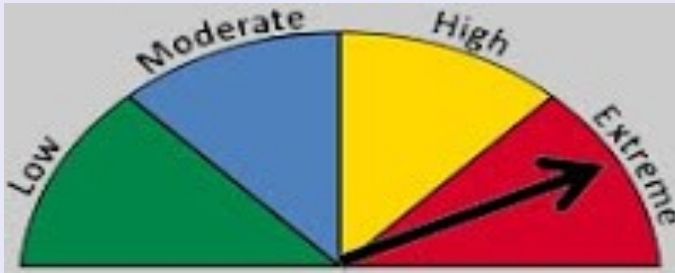
The major points of contention between the IAM and Weyerhaeuser were rising costs to fund health care, contribution retirement plans for new hires and the company's reduced harvest levels over the next 4 years which directly displaced members to other jobs outside of logging. In the end, over 40% of the membership were provided significant job classification bracket adjustments and all members earned and will receive on average a 16% wage increase over the 4 year term—which will provide our members with Industry leading wages.

District W24 P/DBR Noel Willet and the Negotiating Committee would “like to congratulate all of our members who have stood strong through these difficult negotiations. In solidarity, our crews held the line and rejected two company contract proposals before finally ratifying an agreement.”

The negotiations were completely transparent with continual communications between the negotiating team and the membership. The Negotiating Committee provided leadership and guidance throughout the process. Members of the team were: DLW24 P/DBR Noel Willet, LL W536 PR Kelly Zink, LL W130 PR Jon Irvine, LL W246 PR Tom Thede, DL W24 Business Representatives Brandon Bryant and Wayne Thompson. In a message to the membership P/DBR Willet said with respect and solidarity, “most of all, I want to thank you, the members for your strength and support as we move forward.”



Weyerhaeuser—Longview Export Facility



FIRE PREPAREDNESS RAISED TO ITS HIGHEST LEVEL

Due to prolonged extreme heat and dry conditions, and amid intense fire activity and demand for firefighting resources, Oregon's fire preparedness level was raised to its highest level-5 in early August. This matches the national level, which was raised July 27th. Oregon continues to be one of the states most affected by wildfires, along with California according to the National Interagency Fire Center.

They also report that on August 10th that 114 wildfires are burning on about 1.5 million acres of private, state, tribal, and federal land. 29,000 interagency fire personnel, about 590 crews, more than 1,800 engines, about 200 helicopters, and 24 Airtankers are deployed to wildfires.

You can check the Fire Danger Level for your location at ODF's Public Fire Restrictions web map: <https://gisapps.odf.oregon.gov/firerestrictions/PFR.html>.

Oregon State Totals for 2018 Year-to-Date Fire – as of 8/10/2018

	Human Caused		Lightning Caused	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
State Subtotals:	502	12193.03	146	16655.35
	Total Fires		ODF Protected Acres	
State Totals:	648		28848.38	

NEW FACE IN ORGANIZING



With the rollout of the new strategic organizing plan at the beginning of the year, also came the appointment of our newest organizing director, Vinny Addeo. If you have not met Vinny yet—you should know that he brings over 38 years of union leadership, community involvement and life experience to the table.

He retired in 2010 with 30 years in the aviation industry as a Machinist union member. Over the course of his earliest years, as an Aircraft Technician at Eastern Air Lines and then Line Maintenance Tech at US Airways, he served our membership in a number of leadership roles: Shop Steward, Grievance Committeeman, Local Committee Chair, Flight Safety Rep, EAP Rep and Recording Secretary—this is just to name a few of his commitments in the course of his career.

In 1998 the Transportation Department recruited Addeo as a District Organizer until 2005 when he was appointed as District Lodge 15 Organizing Director/Business Rep. As has been the case throughout Vinny's career he continued to serve the membership and his community in a number of other roles. He has been chosen by the IP to serve on the IAM's Blue Ribbon Commission conducting town hall meetings with IAM members across the country, New Jersey State Council of Machinists President, Executive Board Member of the Hudson County Central Labor Council, New Jersey AFL-CIO Lobbying Committee Member, elected City Councilman for Hoboken, NJ and Committee Member for the Democratic Party, and Vinny represented his community and country as a Delegate to the 2016 Democratic National Convention.

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GLR WALLS NOMINATED FOR FSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



GLR Bob Walls has been nominated to the 2018 Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Social Chamber of the US Board of Directors. Bob has been a member of the FSC since May 2017, representing the Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council.

“I have almost 30 years of experience in the wood, pulp and paper industry and have seen a lot of change over this time. I want to work with FSC and its members to try and do everything we can to ensure that core labor standards are a priority. That is, the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, protect and make sure that the core labor standards are applied to every step of the chain of custody, the freedom and flexibility for union access to workers, neutrality and permanent replacement of strikers,” said Walls.

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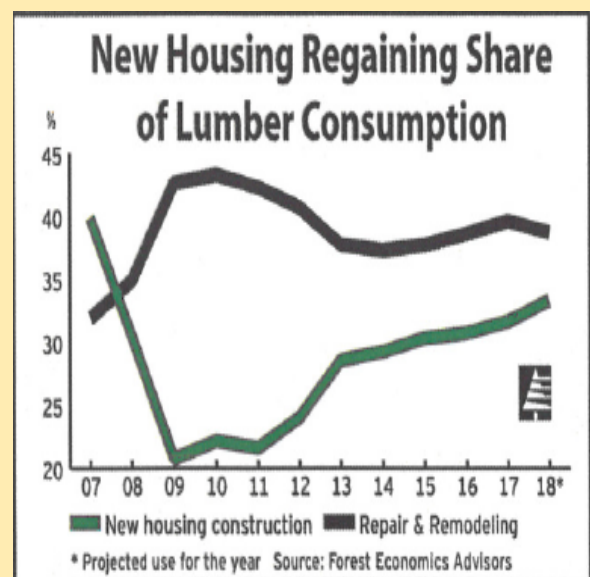
Brother Addeo earned a Masters of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts in Labor Studies, Union Leadership and Administration and a BA degree in Labor Studies from the National Labor College. He graduated from the Teterboro School of Aeronautics with his Federal Aviation Administration Airframe and Power plant Certifications. Vinny is a licensed pilot, and completed his flight training at Pan Air Flying Club in Miami, FL and he is a certified instructor for the National Safety Council.

Brother Addeo’s extensive background, contributions to labor and his community along with his tireless energy made for a natural transition when International President Martinez appointed him to the Grand Lodge as the Organizing Department’s newest Director. We believe that Vinny is ready to meet this challenge and will be a true Brother to all of our current and future Wood, Pulp & Paperworkers and Fighting Machinists!

Home Construction Showing Slow and Steady Gains

With lumber consumption in the repair and remodeling sector expected to outpace new-home construction in the U.S. for an 11th straight year, it may be tempting to question whether housing starts are the key indicator for lumber use that they have been for decades.

But, new-home construction as a percent of total lumber use has been on a slow and steady comeback since 2011 (chart), and the trend line for the sector is expected to overtake repair and remodeling in the next few years. Housing starts, still climbing back from the depths of the Great Recession, remain historically low, even at a projected 1.3 million units for 2018. Forest Economic Advisors forecasts that as starts get back to a 1.5-1.6-million unit range in 2021, new-home construction will again overtake repair and remodeling in lumber usage.



BIO-CORNER



District Lodge 5 Business Representative Joe Schwartz with his German Shepherds- Maxie on the left and Roxie on the right

Joe Schwartz remembers exactly when he became a Machinist Union member—it was November 4th, 1991 when he went to work for Boise Cascade Corp., now PCA Corp., located in International Falls, Minnesota. Brother Schwartz worked at Boise and became active in his union almost immediately when he was elected Shop Steward in 1992 and Secretary-Treasurer in 1999 until January 2018. He was Local Lodge W33 Trustee from then until June 2018 and had been District Lodge W33 Trustee since 2004. Joe was recently appointed as a Business Representative for District Lodge 5 this past June 1st.

Joe loves to ride his motorcycle and drive his Corvette, enjoys golf, hunting and fishing. He is a single Dad with 2 sons – Dustin and Nick, 2 granddaughters—Anyia and Skylee, and 2 German Shepherds—Roxie and Maxie!

NEGOTIATIONS PREP AT THE WINPISINGER CENTER



The Winpisinger Center offers two course that will help prepare for negotiations.

The *Negotiating Healthcare and Other Insurance Programs* will be held the week of 10/2/18. This course will teach you to understand common plan design features and options, to be able to locate key issues in an Summary Plan Description (SPD) and familiarize you with key features of health and pension plans.

The *Negotiating Retirement Security Program* is scheduled to be held the week of 12/9/18. This course will cover pension termination issues, basic terminology, pension/401k and IAM plans, navigating SPDs and bargaining exercises.

WOODWORKERS



ON-THE-JOB

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