

WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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IAM Wood, Pulp and Paper Council Poised to Grow Presence in Sector

IAM Wood, Pulp and Paper Council Conference held June 10-14, 2019 in Biloxi, Mississippi doubled down on efforts to organize their industry and grow bargaining power, supporting the theme ‘Organizing for Sustainable Growth.’

In his keynote address, International President Robert Martinez, Jr., announced that two more organizers will be added to the Woodworkers Department. “I want each and every one of you to know how important this sector is to our union,” said Martinez. “Myself and this Executive Council are committed to giving you all of the resources you need to succeed.”

The Council also created a voluntary organizing committee that will bring together IAM wood, pulp and paper workers from across the country to identify and launch organizing campaigns.

The Southern Territory previously committed two members of its staff, Grand

PAGE 3—CONFERENCE



DISTRIBUTION CENTER WORKERS VOTE YES

A group of 186 working people at IKEA distribution centers in Joliet and Minooka, Illinois voted Wednesday, June 19 and Thursday, June 20 to join the IAMAW. IKEA is in the process of transitioning work from Minooka to its new facility in Joliet. This organizing win gives a boost to the IAM’s internationally backed campaign to unionize thousands more IKEA distribution and fulfillment center workers. The IAM has partnered with a global union federation, [Building and Wood Workers’ International \(BWI\)](#), to grow leverage in organizing and bargaining with Europe-based IKEA, the world’s largest furniture manufacturer.

“It is clear that workers at the IKEA distribution center in Minooka had concerns which they believed could be only addressed by joining a union. Now that the workers have voted for a union, the next step is to negotiate a collective bargaining agreement with the IKEA management,” stated Mike Rose, Chief of Staff to International President Bob Martinez, Jr., and the Vice-President of BWI North America Region.

“We congratulate the Machinists in a successful organizing campaign in Minooka. Workers have taken the courageous step in voting for the union recognizing that only through a collective stand they can further improve their working conditions and have a voice in the work place,” stated Ambet Yuson General Secretary of BWI.

PAGE 2—ORGANIZE

ORGANIZING CONTINUED

Following the win, appointed to IKEA's new bargaining unit in Local Lodge 701 are Directing Business Representative Sam Cicinelli and Business Representative Rich Handler. The new Reps, along with GLR Bob Walls continue to meet with our IKEA Bargaining Committee and crews, as well as, IKEA's Company Reps and Bargaining Spokesperson. In preparation for negotiating their first contract, surveys were taken and negotiation prep meetings include the survey summaries and addressing the crews concerns. Bargaining dates have not yet been scheduled.

Organizing Director Vinny Addeo had this to add regarding this organizing achievement: "What I am most proud of is that this was a total "TEAM" effort between the Organizing Department, the Midwest Territory, organizers from Local 701 and District 8, and also COS Mike Rose and GLR Bob Walls from the Woodworkers Department and their influence with the international Union, BWI. This is the way it is supposed to be done, with all hands on deck. It also proves that our new strategy works. Don't be afraid to take risks, be creative, think outside the box, and never be afraid to go back a second time!"

Pictured below: IKEA Distribution Center in Minooka



BWI HOLDS THEIR ANNUAL CONGRESS



May 26-30, 2019

Brighton & London, United Kingdom

Over 120 trade union leaders from 39 trade unions in 31 countries convened in London for the Second Global Conference on Multinational Companies and Global Agreements.

The conference chair, General Secretary of CCOO Construcción y Servicios, Vicente Sanchez welcomed the opportunity for BWI affiliates to discuss and debate with management (INCLUDING Inter-IKEA) from twelve multinational companies in the BWI sectors about changes in the industry, industrial relations. Sanchez spoke of the important commitment of BWI to negotiate international agreements with multinationals as reflected at our Congress in Durban in 2017.

Per Olof Sjöö, BWI President thanked the company representatives and BWI affiliates for their participation, "Global dialogue between trade unions and Multinational Companies strengthen commitment to decent work. We will consider the outcomes of this dialogue in the International Framework Agreements, Social audits, and International Certification Schemes. BWI affiliates are doing an incredible job to sustain these global commitments at the workplace, to improve working conditions and wages."

The meetings continued in in Brighton, England and were followed by the 26th BWI World Board and 17th World Council Meetings.

BWI World Board Member and Vice President of the North American Region Mike Rose addressed the delegation with updates on the U.S. and Canadian political and economic trends. Since the last World Board Meeting the North American (NA) Region held Bi-annual regional meetings—in October 2018, hosted by the Ironworkers, and in April 2019, hosted by the IAM. NA Regional By-laws have been adopted and new committees have been established: the BWI NA Regional Women and Youth Committee, Organizing Committee and Affiliation and Membership Committee.

CONFERENCE—CONTINUED



Our international alliances make the IAM's wood, pulp and paper workers stronger. Great hearing from @BWGlobal's Coen van der Veer today at the IAM Wood, Pulp and Paper Council Conference.

Lodge Representative Bobby Barnwell and Special Representative Craig Martin, to assist wood, pulp and paper workers in negotiating and organizing.

“The wood, pulp and paper industry is growing in the South and the IAM plans to grow with it,” said IAM Southern Territory General Vice President Rickey Wallace. “Our team in the Southern Territory is working hand in hand with Wood-worker Chief of Staff Mike Rose to give our members in this sector everything they need to negotiate good contracts and stand up to these companies.”

Members from dozens of employers in the wood, pulp and paper sector signed a support letter to 115 newly organized District 65 members who are entering first contract negotiations at Cascades Mill, a containerboard packaging process mill in Niagara Falls, NY. IAM members at IKEA facilities across the country also signed a support letter to IKEA workers at a Minooka/Joliet, IL distribution center who will vote on whether to join the IAM on June 19.

IAM delegates also learned about the IAM's ongoing efforts to organize independent loggers in Maine and the IAM's global partnership with Building and Wood Workers' International.

Council delegates formed a Guide Dogs of America committee to raise funds for the IAM's favorite charity, which provides guide dogs free of charge to visually impaired individuals in the U.S. and Canada.

District 131 President and Directing Business Representative Billy Barnwell was elected president of the council, Local 2740 President Wes Perry was elected vice president and Local W130 President John Irvine was elected secretary-treasurer.

The IAM hosted its weekly Activate L!VE show from the conference. You can watch the video here: <https://www.facebook.com/MachinistsUnion/videos/606794083139542/?t=0>

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR ALL PCA LOCAL LODGE W33 MEMBERS

- 46 percent of the population has less than \$1,000 in savings for unexpected healthcare expenses
- Illness and medical bills were the cause of 62 percent of the personal bankruptcies in the U.S. last year – 78 percent of those families had health insurance
- The families with health insurance incurred an average of just under \$18,000 in out of pocket cost for their treatment

Given these statistics, the Machinists Custom Choices Worksite Benefits program is offering open enrollment to Local Lodge W33 PCA members in October. This is a suite of supplemental insurance products offered to you through Employee Benefits Systems (EBS) and managed at the worksite through a payroll deduction. This additional financial security is designed to fill the gaps of the plans provided through the Collective Bargaining Agreement and you select the product(s) and benefit amounts that meet your family's needs.

EBS Representatives will be in touch with Local Lodge W33 leadership and Shop Stewards with more information about the programs offered and schedule in October for open enrollment sign up.

BIO-CORNER



*Pictured 'on-the-job':
Delbert Boyd, LL W536*

In 1968 Delbert Boyd went to work for Weyerhaeuser at the Snoqualmie falls sawmill fresh out of high school. He started out pulling lumber on the night shift. Delbert moved up to trimming lumber and working in the planer.

He was trained on the Machine Stress Rating equipment that bends lumber "ever so slightly" to measure the strength and grade. He ran the MSR during the week and maintained it on the week-ends "leaving little time for hobbies."

The Snoqualmie mill closed down in 2003, Delbert applied and was hired at the Longview mill that weekend and became a Machinists Union member. He had always told his wife he wanted to see Mount St. Helens, Delbert says "but I didn't expect to see it this long! I guess she didn't either. But it has worked out quite well."

The MSR was sent to the Longview planer where Delbert ran it till around 2009 at which time he started working on day shift clean up crew Thursday thru Sunday.

In over 50 years Delbert's safety record "outside of slivers" is spotless, he also has never been written up. He spends his spare time with family and has no plans to retire at this time.

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WOODWORKERS

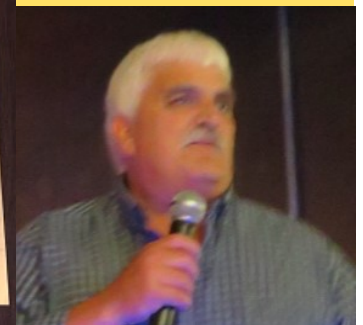
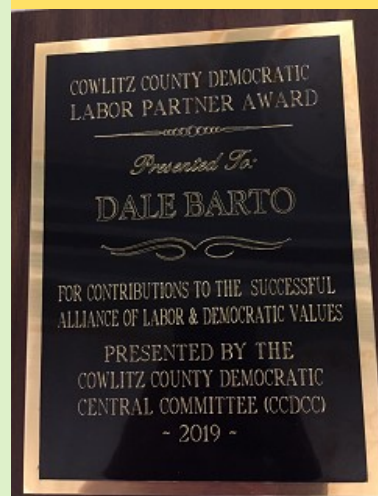
Dale Barto, Local Lodge W536, works for Weyerhaeuser in Longview, Washington and deservingly received an award for his Union Activism and Community Service.

Congratulations Brother Barto as our 2019 Cowlitz County Labor Partner of the Year!

ON-THE-JOB

Pictured below:

Dale Barto, Local Lodge W536



*Pictured above: Summer 2019 Arkansas flood
Dierks, Arkansas, Weyerhaeuser lumberyard*