

# WRENCH & WOOD

## Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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### THE MACHINISTS WOOD, PULP & PAPER COUNCIL HOLD A SUCCESSFUL IN-PERSON CONFERENCE IN SAINT PAUL, MN

Our long awaited MWPPC Conference, originally scheduled to be held in 2019, was finally attended May 9-13, 2022. More that 80 delegates, speakers and guests attended in Saint Paul, MN. Conference business included election for our new Council conductor sentinel, John Steigauf and vice president, Chuck Bennett.. A host of speakers and international guests from the Building and Wood Workers International gave expert presentations. The Council Guide Dog of America Committee held a Texas Holdem Fundraiser and the attendees received a tour of Bell Lumber & Pole Company.

Please look at MWPPC President Billy Barnwell's video summary of the entire Conference here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dx0HTD\\_i814](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dx0HTD_i814)



*IAM Delegates, Officers and Guests were given a tour of the Bell Lumber and Pole Company on May 12th, 2022 located in New Brighton, MN. The tour gave the attendees the chance to see the good work that our IAM Woodworkers do to help process this lumber.*

### CHILLIN' & GRILLIN' FOR GDA & TLC JOIN US TO HAVE SOME FUN AND SUPPORT GUIDE DOGS OF AMERICA & TENDER LOVING CANINES

The Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council is happy to announce that its 3rd Annual Virtual BBQ Competition—Chillin' and Grillin' for **Guide Dogs of America and Tender Loving Canines** is being held Saturday, August 20!

**[Click here for full details and sponsorship and donation opportunities.](#)**

**[Visit this website to register as a competition cook or simply make a donation.](#)**

The fundraiser's goal is to raise money for GDA & TLC, which transforms lives through partnerships with service dogs for countless veterans, people who are blind/visually impaired, families affected by autism, and facilities in need that depend on GDA's services every day.

All IAM Members from any territory, division or affiliate are welcome to participate in what will be a fun day competing for who is the best BBQ chef in the union.



## WHO SAID THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS “FREE LUNCH” —OR, FREE TUITION!

CONGRATULATE your fellow woodworkers when you see them— they have found free tuition and graduated using the IAM’s Free College Benefit from Eastern Gateway Community College (EGCC.) IAM members, their spouse, children, financial dependents, grandchildren, siblings, parents, step-children, step-grandchildren and in-laws can all take advantage of this exciting opportunity. For a complete listing of eligibility requirements and accredited and transferable programs please go to:

<https://easterngateway.edu/images/Union/IAMAW/IAMAW-General-Flyer.pdf>

Meanwhile, congratulations to:



Fall 2021	Arturo Briones Calvario	Local Lodge W12
Fall 2021	Terri Kempf	Local Lodge W536
Spring 2021	Alec Miller	Local Lodge W130
Fall 2020	Enrique Williams	Local Lodge W15



## SFI WINS A CONSIDERABLE GRANT FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

Washington, DC and Ottawa, ON—The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) was recently named as a recipient of a \$249,108 Wood Innovations Grant from the USDA Forest Service. The grant program aims to expand the use of climate-smart wood products, strengthen emerging wood markets, and support active management to improve forest health and resilience.

The grant will help SFI and its partners tell the story of how building with wood from responsibly managed forests provides numerous benefits in and beyond the forest. Project partner AIX Automation, a provider of auto-

mation engineering and machine development, has proposed the construction of an industrial building using mass timber products. The building will serve as the anchor project within the larger St. Paul (Minnesota) Port Authority’s The Heights neighborhood redevelopment site, which is aiming to be the first pre-certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Communities Platinum project in the nation.

SFI and project partner Ecotone Analytics will quantify the social and environmental benefits related to AIX’s sourcing of forest products and widely communicate and promote project results through numerous communication channels.

SFI and Ecotone will model the projected social benefits associated with constructing the AIX industrial building with mass timber products sourced from responsibly managed U.S. forests. The otherwise intangible social benefits of wood procured from responsibly managed forests have historically been unaccounted for, as there is no commonly accepted way to quantify their impact in financial forecasts. This project offers a solution by delivering a social impact valuation toolkit that provides tangible return-on-investment (ROI) information to investors.



## Machinists Union Urges President Biden to Halt All Russian Wood Imports



IAM is calling for a complete halt on all imports of Russian and Belarusian hardwoods and softwoods. In a letter to the Biden administration, the International President Martinez wrote:

“Our 600,000-member union stands in support of rejecting Russia’s violent military aggression towards Ukraine. That said, our union believes your administration’s ongoing series of sanctions against Russia and Belarus should also include banning all its wood products, which are often used for items such as furniture manufacturing. Halting imports of Russian

and Belarusian wood, because it is conflict timber and import is therefore illegal, would also cut off the financial gains used for furthering this unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.” [See the full letter here.](#)

The IAM, which says it represents 20,000 workers in the nation’s wood, pulp and paper industries, believes the move could help create new woodworking jobs in the U.S.

The U.S. suspended normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus on April 8, raising tariffs immediately on Russian birch plywood to 50% in many cases.

Russia supplies around 10% (or 567 million square feet) of the hardwood plywood America uses, with the far majority (97%) being birch plywood products, according to wood resource blog [TimberCheck](#).

### UNION-MADE 4TH OF JULY

#### BUNS:

SARA LEE, OROWEAT, ARNOLD,  
STROEHMANN

#### CHICKEN:

TYSON, PILGRIM'S PRIDE,  
KOCH FOODS

#### CONDIMENTS:

HEINZ KETCHUP, HEINZ  
VINEGAR, HEINZ MUSTARD,  
HIDDEN VALLEY RANCH

#### DRINKS:

COKE, PEPSI

#### HOT DOGS:

BALL PARK, BOAR'S HEAD,  
FOSTER FARMS, HEBREW  
NATIONAL, HOFMANN, OSCAR  
MAYER, HORMEL FOODS

#### SUPPLIES:

SOLO CUPS, WEBER Q GRILLS,  
IGLOO COOLERS



AFL-CIO

# BIO-CORNER

We are celebrating Ashley Burgamy and his almost 10 years as a Machinist Union Member!

The opportunity to join the union came to Ashley through his employment at Graphic Packaging International, a paper mill in Macon, GA. He joined as a member of Local Lodge 1034, District Lodge 131.

While he and his wife, now married for 6 years, were raising their family — 3 boys and 4 ‘fur babies’—Ashley also committed himself to leadership positions in the union.

He currently holds the position as LL Recording Secretary—a position the membership has continued to elect him to for the last 4 years. Brother Burgamy is also a Trustee on the Georgia State Council of Machinists and a Delegate to the Central Georgia Federation of Trades and Labor Council. He has served in both those positions for the last 3 years, with plans to continue to represent.

Brother Burgamy has a couple other hobbies, he enjoys working in his yard and doing home improvements and has also found time to be the Post Master at Rutland Lodge #4 F & AM.



*Ashley Burgamy, Recording Secretary  
IAM Local Lodge 1034*

## WOODWORKERS



*Deandre Thomas, Member "On-the-Job"*

*Roseburg Forest Products, Local Lodge W12 in Weed, CA*

## CONNECTICUT SAYS NO CAPTIVE AUDIENCE MEETINGS

Connecticut workers can walk out of anti-union meetings run by their employers without the threat of reprisal now that Gov. Ned Lamont has signed a bill into law banning so-called captive audience meetings, making his state the second to do so after Oregon. The bill, signed Tuesday, gives workers the right to skip or leave meetings about their employers' stances on religious or political matters, including labor organizing. The bill states that their employer cannot legally punish them for doing so, and if the company does, the worker can sue for damages. Substitute Senate Bill No. 163, now codified as Public Act No. 22-24, goes into effect July 1.

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