

# WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



April 2023

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**Register Now!**

for the

## **2023 Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Conference in Eugene, Oregon from October 25-29**

Registration is now open for the 2023 Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council (MWPPC) Conference from October 25-29 at the Graduate Hotel in Eugene, OR.

A registration form and more information about the conference are enclosed in the [conference call letter](#). Please complete the form and return it to the IAM Woodworkers Department, c/o Terri Kenealy at 9000 Machinists Place, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772, or email to [tkenealy@iamaw.org](mailto:tkenealy@iamaw.org).

The conference registration fee will be \$125 per delegate and \$75 for each guest and can be paid upon arrival at the conference. This fee will help defray the cost of the Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council Conference.

Newly appointed MWPPC President Chuck Bennett will chair this meeting and direct the busy agenda. Council business will include Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council Officer elections for President and Secretary-Treasurer, a host of great speakers, and a strong focus on organizing. Some of the highlights at the Conference will be a Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines Fundraising Event on Thursday evening, October 26, and we will tour the Weyerhaeuser Cottage Grove Sawmill on Friday afternoon, October 27.

If you have any questions about this conference, please contact Woodworkers Department Director Bob Walls at 301-967-4555.

## **Strong Woodworker Presence at Machinists State Council Meetings**

### **Held in the Southern Territory**

State Council of Machinists is a political branch of the IAMAW. Delegates are nominated and elected by their local lodge membership to participate and vote on what legislation, political candidates and state measures the IAM will support.

Woodworkers Director Bob Walls and PR/DBR of District Lodge W2021 Chuck Bennett participated in the Mississippi/Louisiana State Council of Machinists (SCM) Meeting in mid-March. Please see how the District is helping to build power in the south here: [District W2021 and Mississippi, Louisiana State Councils Building Power in South - IAMAW \(goiam.org\)](#).

*Continued page 3, SCM*

## IAM Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council

presents

### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Virtual BBQ Competition

Chillin' & Grillin' for Guide Dogs of America

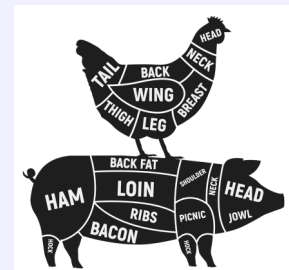
August 12, 2023

Sponsored by

IAM International President Robert "Bob" Martinez Jr.



Back by popular demand



The Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council (MWPPC) is happy to announce our **4th Annual Virtual BBQ Competition—Chillin' & Grillin' for Guide Dogs of America & Tender Loving Canines** being held Saturday, August 12th!

The fundraiser's goal is to raise money for GDA/TLC, so they can help transform 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. The MWPPC's goal this year is to raise \$30,000, or more, for Guide Dogs of America.

Registration is open NOW! Get ahead of your competition and Register to cook—everything you need to know about competing in our virtual BBQ can be found here: <https://give.guidedogsofamerica.org/BBO2023>. Or, simply make a donation at the here [MWPPC BBO for GDA](#).

All proceeds from the Chillin' & Grillin' Virtual BBQ will go directly to Guide Dogs of America and your organization's donation will be announced on our website, with "shout outs" on our Facebook page [Machinists-Wood-Pulp-and-Paper-Council](https://www.facebook.com/Machinists-Wood-Pulp-and-Paper-Council-222129672460206/community/?ref=page_internal) ([https://www.facebook.com/Machinists-Wood-Pulp-and-Paper-Council-222129672460206/community/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/Machinists-Wood-Pulp-and-Paper-Council-222129672460206/community/?ref=page_internal)) and, advertisement in our bi-weekly news blasts.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact Terri Kenealy at 301-967-4555.

We look forward to your participation in our virtual event and thank you in advance for supporting our effort for Guide Dogs of America.

Register now on our Chillin' & Grillin' Virtual BBQ for GDA/TLC [Https://Give.GuideDogsofAmerica.org/BBO2023](https://Give.GuideDogsofAmerica.org/BBO2023).

## MEMBERSHIP SOLIDARITY PROVES ITSELF IN GROUNDBREAKING UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED TENTATIVE AGREEMENT



*Pictured left to right: Chad Gosset, VP-Local Lodge 414; Keith McFarland, BR-District Lodge 1888; Matt Murdaugh, DBR-District Lodge 112; Doug Kinsey, PR—Local Lodge 414; Cullin Mitchell VP—Local Lodge 1002; Bob Walls, DIR—Woodworkers Department; Billy Barnwell, SR—Woodworkers Department*

The solidarity of the membership and leadership of local union leaders across all 16 International Paper (IP) Mills was seen through a groundbreaking unanimously recommended Tentative Agreement

This is a 4 year agreement with highlights that include dismantling the 2nd Tier and replacing it with a competitive New Wage System with unprecedented wage increases effective June 1, 2023. The membership will realize general wage increases that total 12.5% over the life of the local agreement. In terms of Healthcare there were no concessions—only gains and much more. The Master Agreement will be printed in CBA Booklet form for every member.

### *SCM, from page 1*

The Arkansas SCM was held mid-April with a strong presence from the Woodworkers and DL W2021. Brother Shawn Morehead, Secretary-Treasurer of Woodworkers Local Lodge W484 and President of the Arkansas State Council of Machinists, welcomed the delegates to the Conference.

Speakers included Woodworkers Department Director Bob Walls and Grand Lodge Special Representative to the Woodworkers Department Billy Barnwell.

Brother Barnwell gave a presentation on the resources available through the department. Some of the assistance the department offers are contract, organizing, educational assistance and even global political assistance through IAM's affiliation with Building and Woodworkers International—a global union with 12 million members in 135 countries.



*Above: New director of The Woodworkers Department, Bob Walls gave a presentation and shared his vision of the future for wood, pulp and paper workers in the IAMAW.*



# BIO-CORNER



*Pictured right: Cullin Mitchell, Vice President—Local Lodge 1002 with his little sister, London, pictured left.*

Meet Brother Cullin Mitchell, Vice President of Local Lodge 1002 in Georgetown, SC. Cullin recently participated in negotiations and a groundbreaking unanimously recommended Tentative Agreement at International Paper and is a good example of the next generation of leadership for the Machinists Union taking action.

Brother Mitchell first found his way to the IAM and became a member in 2019 when he accepted a maintenance job at International Paper (IP.) But, this wasn't until after he graduated high school, attended welding school, and then began to

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travel taking jobs with different contractors. While learning his craft, his ultimate goal was to find steady work and stay closer to home which led him to apply and accept IP's Maintenance Apprenticeship Program offer and learn more about the Millwright trade. It wasn't long until the membership recognized Cullin as a leader and voted him in as their Vice President, a job he has held for the last year.

Cullin is currently engaged and planning a wedding. I am not sure how much spare time there is when planning a wedding but, he remains interested in training martial arts and cage fighting is a hobby. At his core, he is a family man and enjoys his time with his siblings.

We have a true 'Fighting Machinist' in the ranks! ♦

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[Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council on Facebook](#)

**Submit your wood, pulp & paper stories and photos to: [tkenealy@iamaw.org](mailto:tkenealy@iamaw.org) for publication in our *Wrench & Wood* Newsletter .**