

WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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IAM Woodworkers Look to Grow Global Power through Building & Wood Workers' International



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IAM Woodworkers Department Director and Vice President of Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI) North America Region Bob Walls chaired the union federation's recent North America Regional Meeting in Washington, DC.

"We have identified which multinational companies (MNCs) are operating in North America, unionized and non-union," said Walls. "These larger companies are known to lose their principles and violate international labor standards once operating in North America."

The meeting gathered union leaders from IAM, SMART, IUPAT, CMAW and the Iron Workers in a show of solidarity between BWI and its North American affiliates. The representatives discussed organizing, multinational companies coming to North America, youth and women's committees, and more.

"The IAM has the best Strategic Resources and Organizing Departments in labor and commits to coordinated research and efforts with our BWI affiliates to share information about tracking and organizing MNCs," said Walls.

Walls provided opening remarks for the BWI North America-European Forum on Multinational Companies and represented the wood, pulp, and paper industries on two panels: "European MNCs in the North America: Market Presence and Labor Relations" and "Towards Joint Actions and Coordination: Our Way Forward." Fifty trade union leaders and affiliates from eight countries across North America and Europe attended.

Panelists, including Walls, spoke on the extent of European MNCs in BWI industries in the North America region, labor relations with these corporations, strategies to galvanize union power and coordination with and among the North American trade unions. The forum included delegates from IAM, BWI, SMART, IUPAT, CMAW, the Iron Workers, and construction unions from Switzerland, Sweden, Germany, Panama, Denmark, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

Monica Lee Silbas, IAM Chief of Staff to the International President and Director of the Trade and Globalization Department, attended both the regional meeting and the forum. Walls and Silbas also participated in BWI's Sports Conference, which is an assessment of the Qatar 2022 FIFA World Cup campaign and its handover to North America's FIFA UNITED 2026 World Cup in relation to human and workers' rights.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL DAY FOR GDA!

IAM Machinists Wood, Pulp & Paper Council 4rd Annual Virtual BBQ Competition Chillin' & Grillin' for Guide Dogs of America & Tender Loving Canines



On August 12th the 4th Annual Virtual BBQ Competition—Chillin' & Grillin' for Guide Dogs of America & Tender Loving Canines took place across Territories.

It was a successful event, raising over \$22,000 for GDA! And, donations are still trickling in. You can still text WoodBBQ to 41444 to make a donation. At the same time, it reinforced our brotherly and sisterly solidarity while friends and family, coast to coast, enjoyed the fruits of our labor enjoying some of the best BBQ Chicken and Ribs!

This years winners are:

Grand Champion - 1st Place - Brandon Bryant, DL W24

Grand Champion - 2nd Place—Billy Barnwell, Woodworkers Department

Grand Champion - 3rd Place—Matt Murdaugh, DL 112

Ribs Champion - 1st Place—Shawn Vanderjack, DL W2021

Chicken Champion - 1st Place—Wade Istre, DL W2021

We are already planning our 2024 BBQ event with new ideas for fundraising and expanding our virtual BBQ participation. We hope to see you next year!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND REGISTER NOW for the MWPPC CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN EUGENE, OREGON OCTOBER 25-29, 2023

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.

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. 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.

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

News from the office of
Troy Jackson,
 President of the Maine Senate



Senate sends bill to promote fair and timely payment of logging contractors to governor's desk

AUGUSTA — On Thursday, the Maine Senate enacted legislation from Senate President Troy Jackson, D-Allagash, to support the fair and timely payment of logging contractors with strong bipartisan support. The vote was 25-9.

LD 1849, "An Act to Ensure Fair and Timely Payment in the Harvesting of Forest Products" would require contractors to be paid within 30 days of delivered wood being prepared for hauling or being prepared at the roadside.

"Working in the woods is a demanding and grueling job. The folks doing this work deserve to be compensated fairly. Unfortunately, logging contractors continue to find that their hauls have been sitting out for months, drying out and losing both weight and value," **said President Jackson**. "Not only is this against the law but workers don't have many options to seek recourse. This bill strengthens existing law to ensure the laws we pass in the Legislature actually mean something."

The proposal increases the number of days in which logging contractors are required to be paid and directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to conduct random inspections to ensure that entities are complying with this requirement.

Existing state laws designed to protect the fair and timely payout to logging contractors have proven to be inadequate without an enforcement mechanism. The random spot check are designed to improve compliance.

LD 1849 will now go to the desk of Gov. Janet Mills, who has 10 days to sign the bill into law, veto it, or allow it to become law without her signature.

**IAM LEADERSHIP VISIT WITH MEMBERS
 AT WOODLANDS AND SAPPI PAPER
 IN MAINE**



Headquarters GVP Brian Bryant, Woodworkers Director Bob Walls, and Woodworkers Special Rep Billy Barnwell traveled to Maine to meet with Maine Senate President Troy Jackson to discuss ongoing issues in the Maine logging industry. After meeting with Senator Jackson, visited with our members working for Woodland Paper in Baileyville, ME. The group was given a tour of the facility by Local Lodge 1490 President Josh Kinney (pictured far left) and District 4 Business Representative Danny Loudermilk (pictured far right.) This group is negotiating for a new agreement during the month of August and September.

The following day, GVP Bryant, Walls, and Barnwell visited members at Sappi Paper Products in Scowhegan, ME. The group was led on a tour by Local Lodge 2740 President Wes Perry.

BIO-CORNER



*Joshua Kinney, President
Local Lodge 1490*

Brother Joshua Kinney hails from Local Lodge 1490 in the Eastern Territory. He has been a Machinists Union member since 2015 when he began working for Woodland Pulp, LLC, in Baileyville, Maine. Joshua is currently assisting in negotiations at Woodlands now.

As a resident of Maine, Joshua began working at age 15 stocking shelves at the Baileyville IGA. He spent a year working at Baileyville Mardens, and then 13 years at Towns Auto Body, also in Bai-

leyville, before finding his way to Woodlands Pulp in 2015.

In 2017 Brother Kinney was elected to be Local Lodge 1490's vice president. Two years after holding that position, the membership voted him to be local lodge president, a position he holds today.

Joshua and his wife Courtney have 3 kids; Joshua Jr., age 16, Makena, 12 years old and son Hazen who is 11 years old. He loves spending time hunting and fishing. He dabbles as an auto mechanic as a hobby now and enjoys Blacksmithing as a knife maker.



Woodland Pulp, LLC, Baileyville, ME

WOODWORKERS

ON-THE-JOB



Longview Local Lodge W536

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Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council on Facebook

Submit your wood, pulp & paper stories and photos to: tkenealy@iamaw.org for publication in our *Wrench & Wood* newsletter .