WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News

2026 Volume 13, Number 5

IAM/PPPWU General Board Meets to Address Membership Priorities and Plan for the Future

The IAM/Printing, Packaging & Production Workers Union (IAM/PPPWU) General Board met early this October to discuss important issues affecting our membership and establish a path forward for the future of our union.

The meetings were productive and informative, with valuable updates and insights shared by Sister Fears, Brother Solomon, and Assistant GST Kendall, along with several other distinguished guests. The agenda was packed with discussions focused on the needs of our members, the challenges facing our industries, and the continued strength and growth of our union.

These gatherings provide an important opportunity for union leadership to come together, exchange ideas, address key priorities, and ensure that the voices and concerns of our membership remain at the forefront of our work. Through collaboration and open discussion, the General Board continues to build on the foundation of solidarity, representation, and advocacy that defines our union.

As our industries evolve, staying informed, engaged, and united is more important than ever. The IAM/PPPWU remains committed to protecting the interests of our members, strengthening our collective voice, and preparing for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Be on the lookout for more updates and exciting news coming soon!





Election Day Is Tomorrow: Make Your Voice Heard!

Tuesday, November 3, 2026

"Our Union. Our Voice. Our Future."

Make a plan to vote. Encourage your fellow members. Make your voice heard.

With Election Day just around the corner, IAM members and working people across the country are mobilizing to make their voices heard. Tomorrow, November 3, is our opportunity to stand together, support candidates who will fight for working families, and help share the future of our communities and our nation.

The IAM is encouraging members, supporters, and allies to get involved and help get out the vote. Every conversation matters, every volunteer makes a difference, and every vote counts.

There Is Still Time to Get Involved

Members and supporters can make a difference by:

-**Making calls from home:** Participate in national phone banks to connect with voters and encourage turnout. Training and support are available for volunteers.

-Volunteering in your community: Join fellow union members and allies at local events, canvassing efforts, and other get-out-the-vote activities.

-Sharing trusted voting information: Help friends, family members, and coworkers understand their voting rights, registration requirements, and available resources.

What's at Stake?

This election carries significant implications for working people, including affordable healthcare, good union jobs, workplace protections, pro-worker legislation, and the freedom to organize and join a union.

Our strength has always come from our solidarity. When working people stand together, we have the power to make a meaningful difference. The voices of our members and the communities we represent deserve to be heard at every level of government.

As Election Day approaches, the IAM remains committed to protecting workers' rights, promoting strong communities, and ensuring that working families have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives.

It's all hands on deck. Together, we can make a difference!

Forestry Workers Unite to Protect Jobs and the Future of the Industry

On October 16, forestry workers, union members, families, and supporters gathered in 36 communities across Canada for National Day of Action organized by Unifor. The demonstrations called on federal, provincial and local governments to work with workers and employers to protect forestry jobs and build a stronger, more sustainable industry.

Workers highlighted concerns surrounding mill closures, job losses, and the future of communities that depend on forestry. Union leaders emphasized the need for investment in modernizing mills, protecting existing jobs, and providing support for workers affected by industry changes.

The campaign reinforces an important message for workers throughout the wood and paper industries: protecting good jobs and keeping mills operating requires strong unions, collaboration, and a commitment to the future of the industry.



Paper Workers Demand a Seat at the Table in Mill Redevelopment

The Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers is calling for meaningful involvement in discussions surrounding the potential redevelopment of the former McKinley Mill in Port Angeles, Washington.

A prospective buyer has discussed plans that could include a computing facility and restarting the site's biomass energy plant. The union wants to ensure that existing workers are considered in future employment opportunities and that quality union jobs are protected.

Union representatives emphasized that experienced workers possess valuable knowledge of the facility and should have a meaningful voice in decisions about its future.

The union's position reinforces the importance of protecting workers' rights and ensuring that redevelopment plans consider the people and communities that helped build these industries.



BIO-CORNER

Andrew Peltier
IAM Automotive Special Representative
From the Shop Floor to Union Leadership

Andrew Peltier began his IAM journey in July 2013 with Local 737 in St.Paul, Minnesota, working in the automotive industry. Through dedication and hard work, he advanced from the classification of a Quick Service Lube Technician to a Light Duty Technician and Parts Counterperson. His accomplishments included earning **Top 3 Parts Consultant** in 2017, in the U.S./Canada and he continued to represent his dealership on a national level in 2018 and 2019 as a **Top Ten Parts Consultant**.

Brother Andrew became a Shop Steward in 2018 and joined the St.Paul Auto Dealers Committee in 2019. In February 2020, he became an IAM District 77 Organizer before advancing to Business Representative in April 2020.

Brother Andrew helped lead the successful DeZURIK Sartell strike in June 2023, was appointed Assistant Directing Business Representative in June 2024. Effective September 1, 2026, IAM International President Brian Bryant, appointed Andrew to serve as Special Representative in the Automotive Department, continuing his commitment to representing and advocating for IAM members.

Outside of work, Andrew enjoys all things automotive, working on his cars, cooking, attending car shows, and traveling. Most importantly, he enjoys spending time with his family.



WOODWORKERS ON-THE-JOB

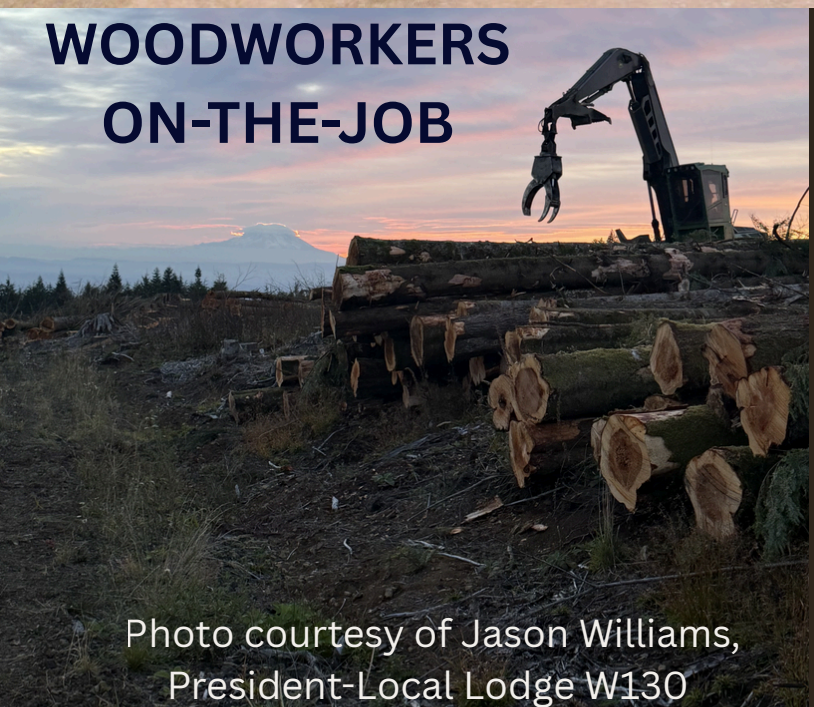


Photo courtesy of Jason Williams, President-Local Lodge W130

Published by:
Woodworkers Department
9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, MD
301-967-4555
bsimonds@iamaw.org