



HOLY SMOKES!

I have a good friend that frequently calls me after hearing the latest craziness coming out of Washington DC and when I pick up the phone his first words are always, "HOLY SMOKES, did you hear the latest?" My daily discussions with our membership are difficult because they reflect the pressure, concern, frustration, and sadness, among many other feelings and emotions, that many of you are experiencing. This is the first time in my 30-year forest products career that I have witnessed such an overwhelming negative sentiment during a time of robust market conditions, in almost all industry sectors. So, as your Executive Director and leader of your industry association, I will fight like hell on your behalf, you can count on that! Will it do any good? I hope so, but I just want being a member of MFPA to be a glimmer of positivity for you and your company. We are in this together, we should be in this together, and we need to rely on each other to make a difference.

So here is a short summary of noteworthy news items from the past couple weeks:

- 1) If you voice an opposing opinion at a school board meeting, you might be a domestic terrorist.
- 2) Inflation hit 5.4% at the end of September, the largest hike in over 30 years.
- 3) Diesel fuel prices average \$3.58/gallon today as compared to \$2.37/gallon a year ago.
- 4) New wave of toilet paper shortages expected due to supply chain disruptions.
- 5) Being told to begin Christmas shopping today so that orders will be delivered by 2022 spring Turkey Season.
- 6) Workforce shortage in every employment sector is predicted to be an issue for the foreseeable future.
- 7) The list goes on

The forest products industry still has staunch advocates politically, both at the state and federal level. MFPA, along with our sister organizations in other states and in Washington DC work hard to inform policy makers on the impact of federal government decisions, or lack thereof, on our industry. In the past 2 weeks MFPA has signed on to multiple letters sent to congress regarding vaccine mandates, carbon sequestration, workforce, and OSHA to make members of congress aware of our concerns and how policy decisions impact our industry. We are tracking issues and will stay engaged in "fighting the good fight".

October 18-24, 2021 is National Forest Products week, a time that our industry is recognized for all the great work that you do for our country and our timber resource. Please take a moment to recognize that you are doing great things for your family, for your community, and for your country, even though you may feel that your country is not fully appreciating your contribution.

I have the greatest admiration for the people I work for in this industry and I know we are facing serious challenges. Please take some time to do something that makes you happy, we all deserve it once in a while!

-Brian Brookshire, Executive Director

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Company: Research Silviculturist, Retired

Contact: Jim Guldin, PhD

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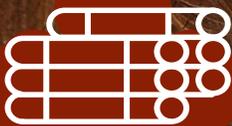
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CERTIFICATION & EDUCATION



Mark McCarthy



It's been a heck of a month for Tony Bell. The Huntsville logger joined MFPA. Before the ink was dry on the application, Tony donated a load of logs for Log A Load

For Kids. Shortly after that, he and his T Bell Logging crew were sitting in Cutting 1 for PTH training. It's a great way to start.

Thanks for being active, Tony.



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Area Meeting- Piedmont

The Missouri Logging Council invites you to join us with our friends around Piedmont for an area meeting. Supper will be provided by Missouri Forest Products Association. MLC events, updates will be covered...along with a representative from the Mark Twain National Forest.

ALL LOGGERS are invited to attend this meeting. Not an MLC member? This would be a great place to sign up and participate! Bring a friend!! AND...you can earn your Continuing Education credit for PTH certification.

When: Thursday, October 21, 2021 5:30 pm
Where: Clearwater Family Youth Center
Highway 34 E, Piedmont Park, Piedmont, MO 63957

DIRECTIONS: SOUTH OF MISSOURI 34. TURN AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, AND FOLLOW THE ROAD WEST TO THE BASEBALL FIELD.

Please RSVP to mark@moforest.org or call 573-634-3252

The Missouri Logging Council (MLC) was created by loggers for loggers. The purpose of this council is to provide a "strength in numbers" voice to loggers in Missouri. The timber industry plays a major role in Missouri's economy, and Missouri's loggers are a critical component in the forest to finished product process. The MLC is intended to create a forum for logger issues and provide an opportunity for its members to use this network of combined knowledge to better themselves and the industry.

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FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK OCTOBER 18-24, 2021

It's time to recognize the many products that come from our forests, the people who work in and manage our forests, the businesses that make the products, and how each of these components contribute to our lives.

On September 13, 1960, the United Congress issued a joint proclamation designating the week beginning on the third Sunday in October as National Forest Products Week. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the proclamation on September 15, 1960. Since then, each sitting president has proclaimed the week. America's forests are a source of pride, and they provide crucial products and materials for our citizens and communities. As we celebrate Forest Products Week, we recognize the importance of our forests to our economy and way of life, and we reaffirm our commitment to protecting them through wise stewardship and sensible land management.

We believe active forest management, utilizing sound forestry principles, is the key to addressing forest health now and ensuring a healthy and sustainable forest for the future. That is why we take the time each year to celebrate and recognize the contribution of Missouri forests and forest products.



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AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL, AS WE ARE SEEN: OCT 2021 NEWS

By: Scott Dane – Executive Director, American Loggers Council

The American Loggers Council recently held its 2021 Annual Membership Meeting and Conference in Coeur d'Alene Idaho. Even with the ongoing uncertainty of the Pandemic, 180 timber industry representatives gathered for 3 days of business, seminars, logging operation tours and other events.

Why did logging industry representatives from all four corners, and in between (28 states) attend? Because these industry leaders know that it is the American Loggers Council that represents them and their issues.

Opening the Conference was Idaho Governor Brad Little, who personally attended, formally addressed and welcomed the group, and visited with the attendees.

Why, in his busy schedule, did Governor Little attend the Conference? Because he recognizes the value of Idaho's timber industry (not to mention his personal and professional relationship with the Associated Contract Loggers - Idaho, their staff and members) and the role that the American Loggers Council plays in collectively representing the 30 state association members.

Participating in the Conference was Julie Tucker, a representative of the US Forest Service - DC Headquarters Office.

Why did the USFS official attend and participate in the conference? Because the US Forest Service appreciates the collaborative professional relationship between themselves and the American Loggers Council. Additionally, as the PATHH program application deadline approached they knew that directly reaching the 28 states that were represented at the Conference was the most effective way to reach out to loggers and truckers across the country.

While at the Conference, the American Loggers Council received a direct official correspondence from the White House specifically addressing the American Loggers Council, the Conference, and the economic and environmental benefits that the timber industry provides in sustainable forestry.

Why did President Biden reach out to the American Loggers Council during the Conference? Because healthy forests, wildfire mitigation, rural jobs, and carbon sequestration are not partisan issues. They are shared objectives, and the timber industry, represented by the American Loggers Council, is recognized as being a key element to accomplishing those objectives.

A couple of weeks ago the House Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Underserved, Agricultural and Rural Business Development held a Hearing on "Sustainable Forestry's Role in Climate Solutions. Of the four witnesses testifying two were American Loggers Council affiliated. Scott Dane, American Loggers Council Executive Director testified on behalf of the minority party (Republicans) and Dana Doran, Professional Logging Contractors of Maine (American Loggers Council member) Executive Director testified on behalf of the Subcommittee Chairman Jered Golden and the majority party (Democrats).

Why was the American Loggers Council invited to provide Congressional Testimony? Because both parties recognize and respect the fact that the American Loggers Council and its members are necessary to healthy forests, created by science based silvicultural practices performed by the timber industry. The American Loggers Council, Legislative Committee Chairman, Henry Schienebeck (GLTPA Executive Director) testified at a previous Congressional Hearing this past summer as well.

So, "How are WE, the American Loggers Council, Seen?"

We are seen as a leading professional organization that represents the American Logging Industry, speaking on their behalf, and as the National Voice for Professional Loggers.

To be part of the American Logging Council join your state associations, join the American Loggers Association directly as an Individual Logging Member if your state does not have a logging association, or if you are an ancillary company (supplier, consumer, vendor, OEM, or other Association) you may join as an Associate Member.

Be Seen, Be Heard

For more information on these membership options and to join visit www.amloggers.com

MPFA/MLC attend ALC Annual Membership Meeting in Idaho



John Evans (John Evans Logging), Laura Brookshire (MFPA), Brian Brookshire (MFPA), Kurt Rehagen (Rustic Wood Products), Mark McCarthy (MFPA), Shannon Jarvis (Jarvis Timber Company) look on as crews conduct mechanized logging in the mountains of Idaho.



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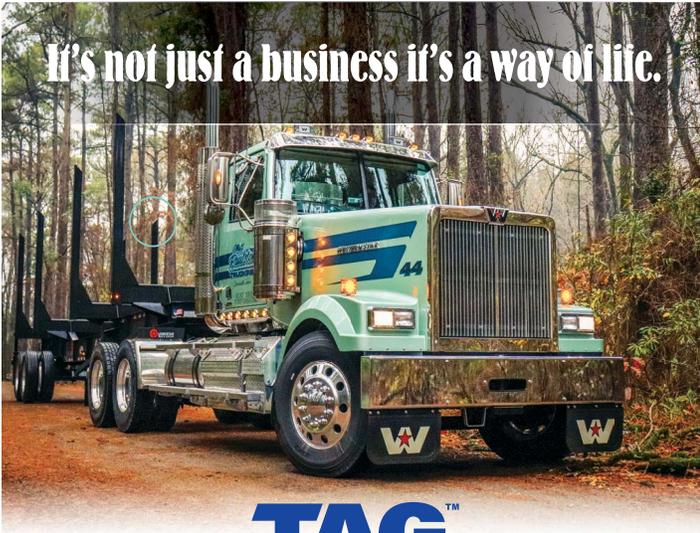
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