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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ALC Holds Annual Meeting**

*Over 180 attend Annual Membership Meeting in Panama City Beach, Florida*



**Hemphill, Texas (October 11, 2016)** –The American Loggers Council (ALC) recently held its 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting in Panama City Beach, Florida, on Sept. 29 – October 1, 2016 and had over 180 attendees including loggers, and sponsors that have helped support the work of the Council.

This is the first time that the loggers have returned to Florida since 2006 when Charles Johns served as President of the organization.

The three day conference included a logging tour on Neil Family Land and Timber, hosted by Tim Southerland with B & K Land & Timber and Beard Equipment. Technical sessions included discussions on attracting and retaining logging business employees led by Wendy Farrand and Succession Planning and Market development lead by Tom Trone with TNT Consultants.



**Wendy Farrand - Recruiting Employees**



**Congressman Bruce Westerman**

Congressman Bruce Westerman of Arkansas received a President’s award for his efforts in the U.S. House of Representatives to promote sustainable forest practices on both federal and private lands and Rocky Bunnell, a logger and ALC Board member from New Hampshire, also received a President’s award for his leadership and service to the American Loggers Council in promoting

more participation in the ALC’s Spring Washington, DC Fly-In.



**M.M. Wright, Inc.**

M.M. Wright’s Frank Myers and Stephen Wright received the prestigious Timber Harvesting “Logging Business of the Year Award” presented this year by Hatton-Brown’s own D.K. Knight.

The American Loggers Council's National Logger Activist Award that recognizes a logger who has demonstrated unselfish time and efforts to promote the timber harvesting profession was presented to Jack McFarland with McFarland Timber Company located in Winnfield, Louisiana.

The Board of Directors and Membership meetings were held on October 1<sup>st</sup> and included committee reports from the legislative, transportation, biomass, communications, membership, Master Logger and nomination committees and was highlighted by the adoption of a strategic action plan as a result of work done during the year by the ALC Executive Committee and Board of Directors that includes more policy work in Washington, DC as well as better communications between the organization and not only the loggers they represent but the general public as well.



l-Jack McFarland, r- Richard Schwab

Ladies were treated to shopping experience in nearby Destin, Florida followed by lunch and a scenic drive down Florida's famous Highway 30A.

Attendees opened their pocketbooks on Friday evening at the annual ALC auction where over \$18,000 was raised to further support the work of the Council and another \$3,000 for the Log-A-Load for Kids program.



ALC President - Ken Martin

During the closing President's dinner on Saturday night, President Richard Schwab from Perry, Florida introduced as the new President of the American Loggers Council, Mississippi logger Ken Martin. Oregon Logger Mark Turner, Alabama logger Chris Potts and Missouri Logger Shannon Jarvis filling the Vice Presidents and Committee.

Mr. Martin stated in his remarks that "I humbly accept this position as President of the American Loggers Council and fully intend in taking the steps necessary to accomplish our goals as set out in the newly adopted strategic action plan" before officially adjourning the meeting.

### **About American Loggers Council**

The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) organization representing timber harvesting professionals in 30 states. For more information contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or visit their website at [www.amloggers.com](http://www.amloggers.com).

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