

**SOUTH CAROLINA TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION**  
**2013 Annual Report**  
**American Loggers Council Annual Meeting**  
**Marksville, Louisiana**

Crad Jaynes, President & CEO

SCTPA entered its 14th year at our “Moving Ahead” Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC, February 2013. Despite the still recovering industry and economy the attendance was outstanding.

SCTPA proudly welcomed several outstanding speakers. Dr. Dale Greene, University of Georgia’s Center for Forest Business presented his Wood Supply Research Institute project entitled Logging Costs and the results of his Logger Survey for Georgia and South Carolina. South Carolina Forestry Association President Cam Crawford related the issues to be encountered in the SC General Assembly affecting the Palmetto State’s forest industry. Deb Hawkinson, President of Forest Resources Association provided her “Pulpwood & Politics” presentation at the Saturday luncheon to highlight the importance of our industry being involved in the political process for legislation at the national level affecting sustainable forestry, timber harvesting, wood supply and the forest products industry. G. Kent Mangelson of the American Society for Asset Protection provided a ninety minute presentation entitled “How loggers Can Save Thousands in Taxes and Become Invincible to Lawsuits” focusing on business structure for lawsuit protection and prevention, reducing liability insurance costs, minimizing taxes and creating successful estate and business succession plans.

At our 2013 annual meeting, our 2012 Logger Activist of the Year Award was presented to Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, LLC, Heath Springs, SC for their outstanding timber harvesting business, their sincere commitment to community involvement, sustainable forestry education and support of SCTPA and their profession. Rickey Chapman, Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry, Robby Crowder, Land & Timber, LLC, Greenwood and Joseph “BoBo” Seckinger, Seckinger Forest Products, Inc., Hampton were elected to the board of directors. SCTPA President’s Award was presented to Joe Dunn and S. C. Dunn & Sons, Inc., Pickens for their outstanding support of SCTPA and the timber harvesting and forest products industry in South Carolina.

The winter was relatively wet, but this summer has been a tremendous challenge due to the excessive summertime rainfalls. One member said, “It’s really only rained twice this summer. The first time was for 27 days straight and the second time was for 33 days straight.” A very true statement. At times there was probably more equipment moving on lowboys than wood moving on trailers. Loggers and mills have felt the pressure as wood inventories dropped due to the reduced deliveries. But it’s looking better now for the industry.

Steady pulpwood production to pulp/paper mills and other smaller wood products markets have remained steady while solid wood products markets have increased production due to the economic recovery and demand for solid wood products. Despite the economic recovery and continued economic challenges such as fuel costs, logger attrition has continued. It may have slowed somewhat as the number of logging businesses is down. But it appears there is an increase in start-up operations whether it involves a new business or a business expansion. Based on information available, while

the logger population has decreased, the capacity to produce wood still appears to be adequate for now.

South Carolina's legislative session was fairly active for forestry issues. Several key issues were; Stopping the Discrimination Against SC Certified Wood, Infrastructure Funding for Bridges and Roads, Truck Weight Increase on State Roads, SC Forestry Commission Budget, and Enhanced Liability Protection for Forest Landowners. SCTPA testified to legislative committees on behalf of the SC Forestry Commission's budget requests. The truck weight issue pertains to allowing the purchase of a permit for unmanufactured forest products (UFP) trucks to haul 90,000 pound GVW on state roads, not interstates. A somewhat controversial issue, the bill was patterned after the new NC law that allows 90,000 pounds. SCTPA has participated with SCFA in meetings with the House subcommittee, railroads, SCDOT and law enforcement. SCTPA supported the entry of the bill into the General Assembly. The bill has been revised for concerns issued by the railroad interests, but at this point nothing will happen until the legislature reconvenes in January 2014. There are concerns SCDOT will post more bridges thus further impacting UFP trucking haul distances, delivery rates being subject to revisions and the additional impact on our already needy road system. One of the best legislative actions was the funding increase for SCDOT. Great support and work from the business community helped move this through the legislature and was a shot in the arm for SCDOT to receive additional funding of \$141.4 million dollars committed to bridges, rural roads and highway funding and \$500 million in bonding for infrastructure projects. The SC Forestry Commission received a favorable budget increase. SCTPA thanks the SC Forestry Commission and SC Forestry Association for our "partnership" to make good things happen for South Carolina forestry.

SCTPA continued its activities with the SC Biomass Council, Statewide Trucking Task Force, SFI State Implementation Committee, Timber Operations Professional Training Program, Timber Equipment Applications Management Committee and organizations such as the SC Forestry and SC Trucking Associations and State Transport Police. SCTPA continued representing timber harvesting in coalitions to promote forestry, agricultural, wildlife, natural resources and Agri Business to promote these segment's importance to the SC General Assembly and state agencies for economic development.

SCTPA continued its participation in the SC Teachers Tour, a weeklong sustainable forestry education program. This year's June tour was tremendous with thirty-six participants. SCTPA arranged the timber harvesting stop at the jobsite of John Doolittle of Charles K. Doolittle, Inc., Newberry. SCTPA and CKD, Inc. sponsored the stop. Other tour stops included the Congaree National Park, Fort Jackson for public forests, Canfor Southern Pine's Camden sawmill, IP's Eastover paper mill, Norbord South Carolina, Inc's Kinards oriented strand board mill, Billy Cate's Tree Farm, Harbison State Forest, Sumter National Forest and a consultant forester's management tract to present sustainable forestry practices and forest products. The association continued presenting its sustainable forestry management and professional timber harvesting education program in schools.

SCTPA representatives, Danny McKittrick, Billy McKinney, Tommy Barnes and Crad Jaynes, visited our South Carolina U.S. House and Senate delegation during the ALC April board meeting in Washington, DC to promote woody biomass utilization, the

revised renewable biomass definition, ALC positions, supporting further actions to prevent forest and logging roads from having to have runoff permits and increasing gross vehicle weights on interstates to the state allowed GVW on in-state roads to be used on the interstate system within the state.

SCTPA continued supporting the Wood Supply Research Institute for wood supply chain research projects. SCTPA president serves as Technical Team chairman and remains a WSRI board member as well as SCTPA chairman Danny McKittrick. SCTPA's president attended the WSRI annual meeting in Jacksonville, FL.

Statewide district meetings were conducted in the Fall and Spring to keep attendees updated with national and state legislation, ALC activities, regulations and local issues.

Emphasis for producing energy from woody biomass has continued with an increased interest in developing wood pellet facilities in state. The feeling is there will be increased activity in these alternative markets in the near future. Loggers, wood suppliers and landowners will welcome these alternative markets.

South Carolina implemented the new training format for SFI Training in our Timber Operations Professional (TOP) program. The SFI Training uses a DVD format for the annual training period of July 1 – June 30. This new format was well received with many wood companies, SCTPA, SCFA and others providing workshops. The new 2-Day program is offered for the initial SFI Trained status in SC and has received positive comments.

SCTPA's President Crad Jaynes continues serving as the ALC National Master Logger Certification Committee Chairman.

As South Carolina's professional timber harvesters, wood suppliers and timber truckers continue to face economic, market and operational challenges, timber harvesting and wood supply business professionals will meet and exceed the challenges for improved economic, production and market opportunities.

SCTPA is proud to be THE association representing, servicing and advancing the professionals harvesting, producing and trucking South Carolina's sustainable forest resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Crad Jaynes  
President & CEO