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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALC Holds Annual Meeting

Over 200 attend Annual Membership Meeting in Escanaba, Michigan



Hemphill, Texas (September 30, 2014) –The American Loggers Council (ALC) recently held its 20th Annual Meeting in Harris, Michigan., on Sept. 25 – 27 and had well over 200 attendees including loggers, and sponsors that have helped support the work of the Council over the past twelve months and twenty years.

“I am proud that we were able to return to Michigan on our 20th anniversary and celebrate not only the past twenty years of the organization, but the direction that we will head well into the future” said ALC President Brian Nelson. “We’re excited about the progress that has been made and look forward to extending those efforts as we head into 2015. We are confident that we are headed in the right direction with our goal of being the national hub for logger information exchange, linking local, state and regional organizations around the country.”



The three day conference included a logging tour, technical sessions, business meetings and awards presentations where Associated Oregon Loggers Executive Director Jim Geisinger and Montana Logging Association Director Keith Olson received the President’s award for their efforts and accomplishments over the past several years and

Ohio logger and businessman Corbett Caudill with Caudill Chipping, Inc. received the prestigious Timber Harvesting “Logging Business of the Year Award.”

A new award presented by the ALC this year as the National Logger Activist Award that recognizes a logger who has demonstrated unselfish time and efforts to promote the timber harvesting profession. The first-ever recipient of this award went to Mike Albrecht with Sierra Resource Management located in Jamestown, California.

The Board of Directors and Membership meetings were held on September 27th and included committee reports from the legislative, transportation, biomass, communications, membership, Master Logger and nomination committees.



ALC Legislative Committee Chair, Jim Geisinger commented during his report that “over the past twenty years, the progress that the organization has made is amazing in the fact that where once there was once no unified voice loggers in Washington, DC, and now, 20 years later, they are calling us. Just this year, members of the American Loggers Council have been called several times to testify, either written or orally, on the issues and legislation that have the potential to impact their operations, as well as have two of our issues, the Endangered Species Act and Truck Weights introduced as bills in both the House and Senate.” Geisinger went on the state that “having this many state Representatives and Senators, as well as U.S. Congressman Dan Benishek attend the meeting is a testament to the progress that we are making.”

Technical sessions on Friday included presentations on running a successful business and identifying both issues and opportunities effecting timber harvesting businesses, Tier 4 and natural gas applications in trucking, TEAM efforts in reducing equipment fire incidents through the use of on-board fire detection and suppression

systems, and logging equipment telematics applications now being made available through OEM's to increase efficiencies and help reduce down-time.

Ladies events included a cruise on Lake Superior along the Picture Rocks National Lakeshore as well as a visit to historical downtown Escanaba.

During the closing President's dinner on Saturday night, several Past Presidents of the American Loggers Council were on-hand on Saturday evening to be presented with special awards and recognition for the work that they had done to keep the organization moving ahead. Earl St. John, the first President of the American Loggers Council from Spaulding, Michigan gave the keynote address following dinner.

Myles Anderson from Fort Bragg, California was introduced as the new President of the American Loggers Council, with Florida logger Richard Schwab, Mississippi logger Ken Martin, and Oregon Logger Mark Turner filling the Vice Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer positions on the Executive Committee. Mr. Anderson stated in his remarks that "I plan on keeping the momentum that we have built up over the past twenty years moving forward," and "that there is still much work needed at the federal level on the issues that will help those that we represent participate in the economic recovery being seen around the country."

ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor wrapped it up in a brief statement by thanking Brian Nelson for his past twelve months of leadership and looks forward to working with Myles Anderson to ensure that the American Loggers Council will continue to be "the national voice for professional timber harvesters."

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.americanloggers.org.