

2015 Annual Meeting Review

On The Rebound!

By SCTPA President, Crad Jaynes

A tremendous attendance highlighted our 16th Annual Membership Meeting at Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, February 6 – 8 for a successful meeting with over four hundred members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors and friends attending to hear informative speakers, attend the SFI TOP Trained Update DVD module session, visit with exhibitors, conduct association business and enjoy the fellowship of industry peers.

For so many to attend is a great tribute to everyone and a great indication of the interests in our association and annual meeting for hearing the speakers, learning about the industry and discussing issues among peers.

THANKS to everyone for making our 16th Annual Meeting successful, informative and pleasurable. Your support was absolutely tremendous.



On The Rebound! was our theme as timber harvesting, wood supplying and forestry products industries are beginning to rebound as

the economy continues to improve. As the economy has revived somewhat and economical improvements have been seen, professional loggers, wood suppliers and timber truckers are in greater demand in the wood supply chain.

Thanks to our members, speakers, sponsors, exhibitors, silent auction and door prize donors and guests for making this annual meeting a great experience and our largest ever.

The conference began with the Friday afternoon board meeting discussing annual meeting business, and hearing from Todd Martin, Executive Director and Bill Jones of the Southern Loggers Cooperative (SLC) for the pilot program partnership of SCTPA and Southern Loggers Cooperative to locate SLC fuel depots throughout SC. The Allendale depot has been operational since December. SCTPA will continue to help locate sites for future SLC depots. The 2014 association financials were reviewed and approved by the board. Myles Anderson President of Anderson Logging, Inc. and President of the American Loggers Council was in attendance and provided comments about how things were go-

ing in the West and with ALC. The board was presented the Bylaws amendment that would be presented on Saturday for member approval to create two new board seats to take the board to eleven members. This board expansion will help



increase the association's effectiveness. Board member candidates for the two new seats, Josh Key and John Rice, were present for the meeting.

Friday evening's Welcome Reception featured Mike Lockaby and the *No Holes Barred* band of Columbia playing a variety of music.

Saturday's General Session speakers were outstanding. Leading off was Wendy Farrand, WFarrand Consulting, of Limerick, Maine presenting her "How To Build A Kick#*\$ Logging Team workshop. Wendy has been in the logging business and forestry as a procurement manager for a logging company so she brought her on the ground experience and knowledge to this very informative and motivational ninety minute presentation.



Wendy Farrand talks teamwork

A long break was taken so everyone could visit with the twenty seven exhibitors inside the center and visit the trucks, trailers, knuckleboom loader, chippers, skidder and tire boom truck located in the parking lots.

Rob Moseley, attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood in Greenville followed the break. Rob is one of the foremost trucking attorneys in the U.S. He discussed the FMCSA Compliance Safety Accountability (CSA) program briefly, but concentrated on the issues of sub-contract trucker relationships. He noted the general contractor, the logger, must be very careful and aware of the inherent liabilities of using a sub-trucker and take the necessary steps

to protect the logger and the logger's business. He outlined steps that can be taken to reduce the liabilities of using a sub-trucker. Rob provided information each participant could take away and incorporate into their business.

The Saturday luncheon featured Myles Anderson of



Myles Anderson

A n d e r s o n Logging, Inc. located in Fort Bragg, California on the rugged north coast in the Redwood region. Myles is also current American Loggers Council President. Myles presented how his family and company began in the logging business, showed scenes of his business and jobs and the "big" timber they harvest. His company is a full service logging contractor which falls, skids, loads and hauls and employs about 100 people. He titled his presentation, Logging in the Peoples Republic of California ... You Just Don't Know which was perfect for describing all the rules, regulations and environmental issues his company faces in that state. He described the process to get a timber sale ready and all the regulations required to be met that can cause the actual logging to not be done for a year and cost the timberland owner much money. He described the air quality regulations banning trucks from use if the truck is over a certain age. He talked about the public pressures from environmental groups and the slow-down in markets for his area. Plus his logging season is only about seven months long. So if anyone in this state thinks we have it tough, try logging in California. We have it great here!

The Business Session opened with the 2014 financial report by CPA Larry Godwin of Sheheen, Hancock & Godwin, LLP. Members were provided the statement as he reviewed the association's financial status. He talked about the financial improvement of the association due to the revenues from the Forestry Mutual Insurance Company endorsement and the Swamp Fox Agency, LLC insurance program assisting over the year. He noted the member dues revenue was down by \$10,000 due to non-renewals and terminations for non-payment. But the association ended the year with a positive financial balance.

Larry asked the members to talk about the association's value and challenged everyone to seek new members and asked if you can, contribute a little more to keep the association moving forward for their best interests.

Secretary-Treasurer Robby Crowder presented the proposed Bylaws amendment to change the board of directors from nine to eleven members. The membership voted and

approved the change to eleven board of directors.

Nominations Committee Chairman Ricky Chapman conducted the Board of Directors elections for three seats. Board members Tommy Barnes, Danny McKittrick and Joe Young ran for re-election and were re-elected by acclamation. Then the election for board members to fill the newly created Seats 10 and 11 was held. Josh Key, Beech Island Timber & Construction, Inc., Jackson, and John Rice, Rice Land & Timber, LLC, Allendale, were elected for the seats. Congratulations to all five members.

The luncheon awards session began with Philip Sligh of Forestry Mutual Insurance Company presenting their company's SC Logger of the Year award to Rudy Ritter, R. A. Ritter Logging, Inc., Moncks Corner, for their safety, operational performance and business practices as a Forestry Mutual policy holder.



Rudy Ritter & Philip Sligh

Next, Greg Hutson, Swamp Fox Agency, Inc. presented their Timber Industry Leadership Award to BoBo Seckinger, Seckinger Forest Products, Inc., Hampton.



BoBo Seckinger & Greg Hutson

SCTPA President Crad Jaynes talked about issues presented to the industry now and how the association had worked the past year. He presented the President's Awards to Swamp Fox Agency, Inc. and Forestry Mutual Insurance Company for their loyal support and financial contributions to the association.

Crad proudly presented the 2014 Gene Collins Logger Activist Award to Frampton Ferguson and Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray, for outstanding work in professional timber harvesting operations, positive advocacy, community activity, professional business practices, association and industry leadership and positively representing the logging profession and sustainable forestry.

Annual meeting sponsors were recognized and thanked for their tremendous financial support as well as the exhibitors for displaying their services and products. Twenty-seven exhibitors were on hand with inside display tables and trucks and logging equipment in the parking lots.

Outside exhibitors were: Shealy's Truck Center, Triple T Truck Centers, Blanchard Machinery Company & Pioneer SC, Diamondback Trailers, Flint Equipment Company, CRTS, Inc., Bandit of the Southeast, Worldwide Equipment Ken-

worth of SC, Carolina International Trucks, Piedmont Truck Tires, Vermeer Mid-Atlantic, Tidewater Equipment Company and Pressure Washer Systems & Service.

Thanks to Delaine, Mary, Erin and Brenda for their sales work for the shotgun, Honda Pioneer 700 Utility Vehicle, Honda Generator and Springmaid Beach Resort stay drawings. Thanks to Nichols Store in Rock Hill for furnishing the Benelli Supernova Camo 12 Gauge Shotgun and a case of ammo won by Norman Arledge, Arledge Logging & Timber, Landrum. Thanks to everyone for buying those shotgun tickets.

Our Silent Auction was successful again raising funds to assist the association's operating budget. Thanks to all the wonderful members, allied suppliers and friends for your donations. We had over fifty outstanding silent auction items.

Thanks to everyone for purchasing the Big Drawing tickets for the Honda Pioneer 700 Utility Vehicle, the Honda EU2000i Quiet Portable Generator and the four days / three nights at Springmaid Beach Resort. Winners were drawn after the business session with Deanna Williams, Log Creek Timber Co. winning the Springmaid Beach Resort gift certificate, Lorraine Green of Foothills Forest Products winning the Honda Generator and Jim Curry of Piedmont Pulp, Laurens winning the Big Prize of the Honda Pioneer 700 Side by Side Seat Utility Vehicle. Thanks to everyone who participated for making this a successful fund raising event to support the association.

Saturday afternoon's workshop featured SC Forestry Commission's BMP Foresters Holly Welch, Tonya Smith, Clay Chaplin and BMP Chief Herb Nicholson leading the he SFI Trained TOP DVD Module. Loggers and foresters attended fulfilling their annual SFI Trained status continuing education requirement.



Prayer Breakfast

Sunday's prayer breakfast was outstanding featuring the spirit filled southern gospel group *Pine Ridge Boys* based out of Inman, SC. Even Todd Martin with Southern Loggers Co-operative joined in to sing gospel favorites.

Todd sings in a gospel group in Louisiana. This talented group provided an inspirational message through song and testimonies to make this a blessed event. As they said, "We love the Lord and want to share His love, mercy and grace in song and praise." Thanks guys, you were tremendous.

A big grateful hug and heartfelt thanks to my sister-in-law Delaine Peake, her cousin Mary Rawl, my daughter Erin and my wife Brenda for their tireless and tremendous efforts in making our annual meeting successful. Couldn't do it without yall. Thanks, you are the best.

Thanks again to our sponsors, exhibitors, silent auction and door prize donors for your contributions and willingness to attend.

And THANKS again to everyone for attending. It was a GREAT 16th Annual Meeting!

