



# TIMBER TALK

*Your Voice for South Carolina Timber Harvesting*

September/October 2012

## ALC HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

Over 200 attend Annual Membership Meeting  
in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho



**Hemphill, Texas (October 11, 2012)** –The American Loggers Council (ALC) recently held its 18th Annual Meeting in Coeur d'Alene, ID., held Oct. 4 – 6 and had over 200 attendees including loggers, and sponsors that have helped support the work of the Council over the past twelve months .



*ALC Logging Tour  
Steve Sherich Logging*

"I am proud of the supportive efforts that all of our members, committees and sponsors have put forth over the past twelve months," said ALC President Steve Sherich. "We're excited about the progress that has been made and look forward to extending those efforts as we head into 2013. 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 logging tours, technical sessions, business meetings and awards presentations where California logger Myles Anderson and John Deere representative Nate Clark received the President's award for their efforts and accomplishments over the past twelve months and North Carolina businessman Frankie Arrants with Arrants Logging, Inc. received the prestigious Timber Harvesting "Logging Business of the Year Award."

The Board of Directors and Membership meetings were held on October 6th and included committee reports from the legislative, transportation, biomass, communications, membership, Master Logger and nomination committees.

The legislative committee gave updates on efforts by the Council to support legislation favorable to the timber harvesting community while the transportation and biomass committee reported on those issues that were impacting those two sectors of the industry. The biomass committee introduced a model definition for renewable biomass that was unanimously supported by the Board of Directors and adopted as an ALC position for use in both federal and state efforts in creating renewable biomass markets for the industry.

During the closing President's dinner on Saturday night, newly elected logger and businessman Travis Taylor from Goldonna, Louisiana was introduced as



*DK Knight(l) presents to  
Frankie Arrants(r)*

## Inside ...

ALC Annual Meeting	Cover
ALC Quarterly Report	2
SCTPA 2013 Annual Meeting	4
2013 Board Nominations Needed	5
Annual Meeting Schedule At-A-Glance	6
Annual Meeting Registration	7
As We See It	9-11
2012 Logger Activist Award Nomination	12
Important Message from SCTPA Chairman Danny McKittrick	13
Forest Resources Association President's Election Perspective	14
Springmaid Beach Resort Reservation Form	16
Safety Notice - Hand Injuries and Amputations	17
Fall District Meetings	18
Pre-Employment Screening Program Frequently Asked Questions	23-29
Class Tours Goodwill Plantation	30
ALC Annual Meeting Photo Gallery	32
Welcome New Members	33
Mark Your Calendar	35

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)



*ALC Board of Directors Meeting*

the new President of the American Loggers Council, with Michigan logger Brian Nelson, California logger Myles Anderson, and Florida logger Richard Schwab filling the Vice Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer positions on the Executive Committee. Mr. Taylor stated in his remarks that "I plan on keeping the momentum that we have built up during Steve's administration moving forward," and "that is no limit as to what we can accomplish for this industry when we are all working together."

The Board of Directors and Membership meetings were held on October 6th and included committee reports from the legislative, transportation, biomass, communications, membership, Master Logger and nomination committees.

#### ALC Board of Directors Meeting

ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor wrapped it up in a brief report by commenting, "The American Loggers Council has reached a turning point under Steve's leadership. We are encouraged with the work that the committees are doing and the efforts of all of those who are supporting, both members and sponsors alike, and there will be opportunities for all of us in the future. 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](http://www.americanloggers.org).

*See more ALC Annual Meeting photos on page 32.*



## American Loggers Council Quarterly Report to the States

**July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012**

The ALC Board of Directors has requested that a quarterly report be generated from the ALC office, highlighting the events and activities of the American Loggers Council. Our hopes are that you will use these reports to inform your members on how the American Loggers Council is working on their behalf to benefit the timber harvesting industry.

#### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met on one conference call in early September to discuss the proposed 2013 budget for the Council as well as recommendations to present to the Board of Directors during the October 6, 2012 annual meeting.

#### Legislation

The legislative committee did not formally meet during the quarter, but both Jim Geisinger and Danny Dructor continue to monitor pending legislation in Congress that is still working its way through Congress. The ALC joined up with the Federal Forest Resource Coalition to address federal timber sale issues, and continues to

work with the National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) to address the Clean Water Act/Forest Roads issue. With a limited number of days remaining in this session until the November elections and the August recess that took place over the summer, there has been little opportunity to move anything new on the Hill.

#### Transportation

The ALC transportation committee did not formally meet from July through September, but ALC transportation committee chair Doug Duncan and others continue to monitor the development of Transportation Bill issues, CSA issues and receive comments on centralized trucking projects.

#### Communications

There have been monthly "As We See It" columns produced in July, August and September that have been authored by both Danny Dructor and Jim Geisinger pertaining to the state of the industry and the political climate in Washington. All three articles have been well received by others and reprinted in many state and regional industry publications.

The committee has been working with IMRE and John Deere to produce an article that gives a loggers perspective of the public perception of the timber harvesting industry. That project is ongoing and loggers across all regions have been contacted and asked to volunteer to be interviewed by IMRE.

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Jim Mooney and Danny Dructor put together a simple ad that shows the ALC logo with the web site below the logo and the words, "Log On!" above the logo and have requested that publications such as Timber Harvesting Magazine, Loggers World, and TimberWest Magazine consider running the ad whenever possible to help strengthen the awareness of the ALC and to encourage loggers to visit the ALC web site.

The ALC web site and both the ALC Facebook and Twitter pages continue to be updated on a regular basis.

More sponsors have requested copies of the ALC logo to use in their advertising, with Caterpillar, Morbark and Hawkins and Rawlinson being the latest to begin developing ads that show their support for the work that the Council is doing. The latest advertisement from John Deere appearing in Southern Logging Times depicts the teamwork involved between the ALC and John Deere on legislative activities.

### **Membership**

The membership committee held a conference call in August to discuss the membership to formulate a recommendation for the "hardship dues" criteria to become a part of the recommendation to the Board of Directors in October. The recommendation will be presented to the full Board at the Fall Board of Directors meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

The sponsorship drive has reached 108% of its target for 2012 with commitments totaling \$134,500 out of a \$125,000 target. The budget required a minimum of \$80,000 in sponsorships for 2012.

Work continues as an ongoing process to recruit new sponsors for the ALC and the ALC will recognize all 2012 sponsors at the Annual Meeting in October.

### **Biomass Committee**

The Biomass Committee met on a conference call to discuss a definition for renewable biomass that could be used as a model for any state or federal policies where renewable biomass was a part of the policy. The proposed model definition will be presented to the Board of Directors at the October Board of Directors meeting in October.

### **Master Logger Certification Committee**

The ALC Master Logger Certification Committee approved the redesigned logo for the Wisconsin Master Logger program in July. They have been asked by Sustainable Forestry Board Chair Bob Luoto, to weigh in on logger training issues during the next revision process of the SFI standards.

### **Travel**

Travel in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012 was limited to the summer Board of Directors meeting in Winn, Michigan which Morbark hosted, a meeting with staff from the Paragon Casino and Resort in Marksville, Louisiana to discuss holding the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting at their facility, and a trip to Missoula, Montana to meet with the National Association of Conservation Districts and the National Association of State Foresters to work on policies which they and the American Loggers Council were all working on. A draft position for renewable biomass was presented at the NACD meeting which the NACD seemed willing to support as well as NAFO representative who were also at the meeting.

### **Washington Resource**

Frank Stewart (Washington Resource) has assisted the ALC in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter by producing monthly updates on pending legislation, attending conference calls with NAFO pertaining to the Clean Water Act and Forest Roads issue. It is expected that Frank's services will certainly be needed during the lame duck session following the general elections in November to help track the much anticipated increase in activity on the Hill.

### **Annual Meeting**

A large amount of time has been spent in late August and September preparing for the Fall Board of Directors meeting and Annual Membership meeting to be held October 4-6, 2012 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Shawn Keough, Executive Director for the Associated Logging Contractors, Inc. in Idaho has raised over \$10,000 to help defray some of the expenses associated with the meeting, and Mike Duncan with Caterpillar Forest Products has secured a guest speaker to attend the meeting to discuss the opportunities for working directly with overseas markets. Registration is strong for the meeting and we are expecting a good turn out by loggers from throughout the country as well as increased participation from ALC sponsors.



# SCTPA 2013 ANNUAL MEETING

## MOVING FORWARD



Our 2013 Annual Meeting will be held February 1 - 3 at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, 3200 South Ocean Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, SC.

*Moving Forward* is our focus. Our industry must continue to move forward with improvements in business relationships and culture, move forward with wood supply chain improvements and processes to improve economics and move forward after the national elections that may impact our industry.

We are excited to be meeting at the impressive Springmaid Beach Resort and Conference Center, Myrtle Beach. The complex completed a \$6.5 million renovation of guest rooms and facilities this past May. Our standard rooms are connected to the conference center. Other rooms with a king size bed or one and two bedroom suites are located across the property with easy access to the conference center.

SCTPA will utilize the second and third floors of the conference center. The second floor will be for registration, exhibitors and speaker presentations. There is plenty of room for exhibitors. We'll also utilize the parking lot for outside exhibitors with equipment, trucks and trailers.

The third floor will be used for the Friday night reception, Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday's prayer breakfast. The third floor has a panoramic view of the beach and Atlantic Ocean.

Marlin's is the on-site restaurant and Barnacles restaurant is located on Springmaid Pier adjacent to the resort.

Our featured speakers will be Deb Hawkinson, new President of Forest Resources Association and G. Kent Mangelson of the American Society for Asset Protection.

Deb will be our Saturday luncheon speaker and present "*Pulpwood and Politics*," why it is important to be involved in the legislative process, what the climate is like in Washington, DC after the elections and update activities of Forest Resources Association.

Nationally known G. Kent Mangelson, Author & Senior Advisor, will present a ninety minute presentation in Saturday morning's second General Session entitled "*How Loggers Can Save Thou-*

*sands in Taxes and Become Invincible to Lawsuits*. He is an expert with over 30 years helping professionals properly secure themselves for lawsuit protection.

Travis Taylor, Travis Taylor Logging & Chipping, Goldonna, Louisiana, and new American Loggers Council President will speak about ALC activities, national legislative issues affecting loggers and ALC's initiatives for 2013. ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor will be on hand as well.

We are excited to have Cam Crawford, President of SC Forestry Association during our first Saturday General Session. Cam has been on the job for several months now, but may still be relatively new to some in the timber harvesting segment.

Cam has done a terrific job of developing a stronger partnership with SCTPA and SCFA and the SC Forestry Commission and recognizing the importance all three organizations play in "Moving SC Forestry Forward." Cam will speak about the SC Forestry agenda for the 2013 SC legislative session and forestry successes legislatively from 2012.

Friday's schedule will be a board of directors meeting, afternoon registration and evening welcome reception with food and entertainment.

Saturday features general session speakers, luncheon with speaker, association business session, board member elections and awards and Saturday evening free. We'll also have our prize drawings for the Honda ATV and Honda Generator and free stay at Springmaid Beach Resort.

Our Silent Auction will be available with a variety of nice items for bidding. Please donate an item. The prize drawings and silent auction help the association financially.

Exhibitors will be on hand with their products and services. And of course there will be plenty of door prizes.

We'll draw a winner for another gun or nice item on Saturday during the business session.

**Discounted Carolina Opry** tickets for the Saturday evening show February 2nd are available for \$25 each and can be ordered with your meeting registration. That's a \$15 per ticket savings.

Saturday afternoon will feature a TOP session to view the required SFI Training DVD to obtain the SFI Trained status for the annual period of July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Sunday morning's prayer breakfast will feature Sonrise returning for an uplifting and faithful southern gospel service.

Room rates are; Live Oaks - \$ 54 for single, double, triple & quad rate: 2 Bedroom Suite - \$ 84 for single, double, triple & quad rate: 1 Bedroom Suite - \$ 74 for single, double, triple & quad rate. Room block cut off is January 7, 2013.

**Contact the Springmaid Beach Resort directly to make your room reservations.** SCTPA's room reservation code is 11963. Call Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations at 1-877-283-3284.

Registration, sponsor and exhibitor packages will be forwarded. Check out Springmaid Beach Resort at [SpringmaidBeach.com](http://SpringmaidBeach.com)

Our meeting is a casual family atmosphere. We encourage everyone to bring your family and employees.

Dress is business casual. We ask that attire suited for a business meeting is worn.

Go ahead now and block the dates to join us February 1 – 3 for our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting.

Brenda and I look forward to seeing you in Myrtle Beach.

Yours truly,  
*Crad Jaynes*  
President & CEO

Annual Meeting Sponsorship & Exhibitor Information & Registration Packages Will Be Mailed to all regular Members as well as Allied Supplier & Allied Supporting Members & Non-Members.



... Springmaid Beach Resort Reservations ...  
Call Reservations Direct @ 1-877-283-3284  
Specify SCTPA Code Number 11963  
Room Block Rates Expire January 7, 2013.

## 2013 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Three Board of Directors Seats will be elected at our February 2, 2013 Annual Membership Meeting at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

The board terms for Seat 1 served by Chapman Timber, Inc., Newberry, Seat 3 served by Robby Crowder, Land & Timber, LLC, Greenwood, and Seat 8 served by Frampton Ferguson, Ferguson Forest Products, Inc., Luray, will expire December 31, 2012.

Rickey and Robby were appointed to the board in August to fulfill the seat terms. Both have indicated their desire to run for re-election. Frampton has served since being re-elected in 2008. Nominations are welcomed for these three seats.

Board member elections will be conducted during the Member Business Session of the Membership Meeting convening at noon on Saturday, February 2, 2013.

Board members serve four-year terms. Board responsibilities are to establish policies, direct legislative advocacy, guide programs and efforts to improve and benefit the timber harvesting industry, oversee fiscal responsibilities and charge association staff to fulfill the association's duties and daily functions.

Board members are responsible to attend board meetings. One board meeting is conducted at the annual meeting with bimonthly meetings held in Columbia beginning in February each year.

Any member directly engaged in the logging business and in good standing with paid dues as of December 31, 2012, may be nominated for an upcoming seat. Any member regardless of location is eligible for nomination. Members are encouraged to enter your name or the name of another logger member as an eligible candidate.

To enter your name or to nominate someone else, please contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office no later than January 15, 2013.

### Nominations Committee

Chairman, Billy McKinney  
Highland Timber Co., LLC, Union  
Office 864-427-6173 ■ Fax 864-427-6173  
Cell 864-429-6939 ■ [Highlandtimber@charter.net](mailto:Highlandtimber@charter.net)

Tommy Barnes  
Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor  
Office 803-789-5467 ■ Fax 803-789-3565  
Cell 803-385-7994 ■ [ideallogging@truvista.net](mailto:ideallogging@truvista.net)

Donnie Lambert  
Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Georgetown  
Office 843-264-8839 ■ Fax 843-264-2277  
Cell 843-340-8408 ■ [leolambertlogging@yahoo.com](mailto:leolambertlogging@yahoo.com)

## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Membership Meeting Moving Forward**

### **MEETING AT A GLANCE**

#### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

- 1:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting... Members & Guests Welcome  
3:00 p.m. Registration Desk... Open Until 8:00 p.m.  
7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception... Food, Music & Dancing with a DJ!

Conference Center

#### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

- 6:30 a.m. Member & Guests Breakfast  
6:45 a.m. Registration Desk Opens  
8:00 a.m. General Session: Welcome, Invocation, Antitrust Statement & Announcements  
Speaker: Travis Taylor, Travis Taylor Logging & Chipping & American Loggers Council  
Speaker: Cam Crawford, SC Forestry Association President  
Morning Break  
Speaker: G. Kent Mangelson, American Society for Asset Protection,  
How Loggers Can Save Thousands in Taxes and Become Invincible to Lawsuits  
8:30 a.m. Ladies Breakfast  
11:45 a.m. Break for Luncheon  
12:00 p.m. Membership Luncheon & Business Meeting  
12:45 p.m. Chairman's Welcome, Board of Directors Introductions & Announcements  
Speaker: Deb Hawkinson, President, Forest Resources Association, Pulpwood & Politics  
Business Session: Chairman's Report, Financial Report, Bylaws Report, Board Elections,  
Awards & Special Presentations, Door Prizes & Prize Drawings  
2:45 p.m. Afternoon Break  
3:15 p.m. **Workshop: SFI Trained TOP DVD Module for SFI Training For  
July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 SFI Trained Status**  
5:30 p.m. Adjourn  
Saturday Evening On Your Own. Enjoy Your Evening!  
DISCOUNTED CAROLINA OPRY TICKETS available through SCTPA.

#### **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

- 8:00 a.m. Prayer Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Special Guest: *Sonrise*  
10:05 a.m. Silent Auction Announcements & Final Comments  
10:30 a.m. Adjourn Meeting

Conference Center

#### **SILENT AUCTION BIDDING HOURS - CONFERENCE CENTER**

Friday, 5:00 – 9:30 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

#### **EXHIBITOR HOURS - CONFERENCE CENTER**

Friday, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

**Come Join Us For This Exciting 2013 Annual Meeting!**

Meeting Speakers & Schedule Subject To Change

**2013 ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION**  
**February 1 - 3, 2013**

**PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE. COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION BELOW.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact #: Work \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any additional names & badge names on the back. Thanks!

	<b>Early Registration</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>After January 15, 2013</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Member *</b>	_____ @ \$ 185 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 210 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Member Spouse *</b>	_____ @ \$ 85 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 95 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Active Member Employee **</b>	_____ @ \$ 90 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 100 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Active Member Employee Spouse</b>	_____ @ \$ 65 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 75 =	_____.	_____.
<b>SATURDAY, FEB. 2 ONLY</b>	_____ @ \$ 165 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 185 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Non-Member</b>	_____ @ \$ 220 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 245 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Non-Member Spouse</b>	_____ @ \$ 85 =	_____.	_____.	_____ @ \$ 95 =	_____.	_____.
<b>Children – Per Child - Age 6-18</b> Children Under 6 - No Charge	_____ @ \$ 35 =	_____.	_____.			
<b>Discounted Carolina Opry Tickets</b> <i>Saturday Evening Show, FEB. 2nd, 7 p.m.</i>	_____ @ \$ 25 Per Person =	\$	_____.			
<i>Tickets Are Non-Refundable</i>						
<i>Save \$ 15.00 Per Ticket</i>				<b>TOTAL \$ DUE &amp; PAID \$</b>	_____.	

\*Please Refer to Member & Active Member Employee Descriptions\*

**Return Completed Registration & Check Payable To: SC Timber Producers Association (SCTPA)**

*Members \* = Active Members, Allied Supplier Members & Allied Supporting Members with Paid Dues.*

*Active Member Employee \*\* = Active Logger, Wood Dealer or Trucker Member Sponsored Employees Only* not an owner, partner or corporate officer of active member's business. Supervisors & employees are encouraged to attend.

*All other Non logger, dealer or trucker active members use member registration rates per person attending.*

*Call SCTPA if questions.*

**RESERVE YOUR ROOMS DIRECTLY WITH SPRINGMAID BEACH RESORT.**

**CALL RESERVATIONS 1-877-283-3284 ... REFER TO GROUP # 11963.**

**... OR ... Use the Springmaid Beach Reservation Form. ROOM BLOCK CUT-OFF Is JANUARY 7, 2013.**  
**Direct Room Inquiries to Springmaid Beach Resort. Springmaid Beach Resort Room Cancellation Policy Applies.**

**SCTPA Cancellation Policy:** Full refund if written cancellation received by January 1, 2013.  
50% refund if written cancellation request received by January 10, 2013. NO REFUND after January 10, 2013.



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515, 525, 525B, 525C, 535B,  
545, 320BLL & 322

**BARKO**  
160B, 160B, 275B & 775B

**FRANKLIN**  
3000, 3600, 105, 170, 405,  
560, C5000, Q70 & Q80

**HYDROAX**  
411B2, 611B2, 411E, 511E, 611E,  
411EX, 511EX, 611EX, 711EX & 570

**JOHN DEERE**  
440B, 540B, 548B, 648B, 648G, 648GII,  
648GIII, 748GII, 748GIII, 643, 643D,  
643G, 843G, 843H, 653E, 753 & 848

**PEERLESS**  
2770

**PRENTICE**  
210C, 210D, 210E, 310E, 325, 384,  
410C, 410D, 410E & 410EX

**TIGERCAT**  
230, 240, 718, 720, 720B, 720C, 720D,  
726, 726B, 620, 630B, 845 & 845B

**TIMBERJACK**  
240, 380A, 380B, 450B, 450B, 450C, 460,  
460D, 608, 608S, 618, 735, & 850

**TREEFARMER**  
C6D & C7F

# AS WE SEE IT ...

AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL



## BY-PASSING THE GATEKEEPERS

### REACHING YOUR OWN CONCLUSIONS



By Mike Beardsley

**N**ext month, you will be asked to consider candidates for office, where you stand on referendum questions, and make decisions on various local, state and federal policy issues; all in the context of running your business at a profit.

One of the challenges in deciding upon a course of action when it comes to things like voting, pending legislation, public works projects, educational programs, and the like is combing through what is often a massive amount of data to arrive at a sensible decision.

More importantly, the data you're looking at is delivered through a gatekeeper who determines what information you get and what information gets suppressed. It's not enough to simply gather information from "multiple sources" (say online news media) because that approach can leave you with a lot of data coming from the same gatekeeper, simply giving the appearance of diversification when in fact you've oversampled data from a particular gatekeeper. Your "right" decision may be different from the next person, but in order to arrive at your "right" decision you must have a way to by-pass the gatekeepers to view the data objectively.

A few things to make clear from the start:

1. A gatekeeper is simply the filter – it is not necessarily good or bad (although often it can be).
2. Nearly all information comes through a gatekeeper, so bypassing the gatekeepers is really about you processing the information you receive.
3. It is impossible to get unbiased information. Despite the best intentions of the presenter, all data has a bias. Anyone who tells you differently, is either lying to you or they don't understand bias.
4. In today's politically correct culture, bias has gotten a bad name. At its core, bias is a set of preferences and in many cases principles. Can bias be negative? Sure can. Can bias be positive? Of course. Bottom line is don't let the word bias intimidate you; understand bias for what it is.
5. The rest of this article will serve up a healthy dose of bias. You should be able to pick it up, but if you can't, just refer back to number 3 above.

OK, on to bypassing the gatekeepers. For policy issues, here are some things to think about:

1. Is what's being advocated, something that falls under the jurisdiction of government? Does it need to? **The money to fund government programs comes from taxes and fees so in other words, is this something you would like to pay for? If so, is this something others should be coerced to pay for too?**
2. Is this solely a government sector proposal, solely a private sector proposal, or a hybrid (government/private sector partnership)? Hybrids are like oil and water, they don't naturally mix. **Why is a partnership proposed? Is it required? Why? Who benefits, Who suffers? Is there another way to accomplish the same goal without mixing the two?**
3. What are the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats? In the world of finance this is called a SWOT Analysis. You probably already use some sort of a SWOT analysis without even thinking about it when you make day to day decisions. **For complex policy questions this often requires a little quiet time, a pen and some paper. Make a list with a section for S(strength), W(weakness), O(portunity), and T(hreat). In the beginning take a few minutes and just write thoughts down as they come to you for each category. Don't worry about filtering them in the beginning; just get them down on paper. You may be surprised with the list you end up with. Then you can go back and filter the list to include your biases.**
4. Who's strongly in opposition and why? **If there is a lot of opposition from a particular group – even if**

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

***you think you are with them, try looking at the issue from the contrarian viewpoint then focus in on finding the underlying (sometimes hidden) reasons for their opposition.***

5. Who's strongly supporting this and why? ***If there is a lot of support from a particular group – even if you think you are with them, try looking at the issue from the contrarian viewpoint then focus in on finding the underlying (sometimes hidden) reasons for their support.***
6. Finally, does what is being proposed violate any of your bedrock ethical moral absolutes or principles. **Engage your bias here** - there are just some lines you should never cross, no matter how good a deal seems, or how many rationalizations you can come up with.

These steps can also be utilized in other areas of life outside the policy and elections sphere such as buy/sell, hire/fire, expand/contract, and personal life decisions.

Finally, and most importantly, **do not take my word for it**. Remember what I said about bias? You will just have to try this way of thinking for yourself and draw your own conclusions. Then again, that's actually the whole point of this article.

*Mike Beardsley is the Executive Director for the Professional Logging Contractors of Maine whose office is located in New Gloucester, ME.*

*The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) corporation representing professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the US. For more information, visit their web site at [www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org) or contact their office at 409-625-0206.*

## *AS WE SEE IT ...*

*AMERICAN LOGGERS COUNCIL*

### **Making It Work**

**By Travis Taylor**

I waited to post my first editorial until the day after the elections, deciding that our course of action in 2013 would depend on the results that have now been tallied.

Looking at the results, my best summary would be this; unless members of Congress decide that it is time to do what is best for our country, many of our economic issues are not going to go away any time soon.

For the past two years, with Democrats controlling the Senate and Republicans controlling the House, there has been absolute gridlock in Washington, D.C., amounting to a sense of unconcern about the real issues facing the majority of Americans, including jobs and the economy. With the status unchanged following yesterday's elections, unless both sides of the aisle make the decision to work with each other in earnest, we can anticipate at least another two years of more of the same.

If this administration is sincerely interested in



getting this nation's economy back on a roll, then it will have to be willing to compromise on many fronts, including first and foremost the many regulations that are currently being imposed on all industries in this country.

The American Loggers Council intends on keeping the pressure on Congress to do what is best for the industry, including passing legislation that would permanently exempt storm water run-off from forest roads from National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, streamlining the NEPA process to allow the U.S. Forest Service and other federal land managers the opportunity to offer and award more timber sales, and to take a long hard look at the National Forest Management Act to see what amendments might be needed to bring the agency into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We will continue to work on issues impacting logging and transportation as well as those keeping us from bringing the next generation of loggers into the workforce.

Markets will continue to be a major concern, and as a Council, we will do what we can to encourage the development of new markets for the products and services that our members provide. With natural gas being abundant and cheap, it may



(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

be many years before we see the development of woody biomass as a larger component of a renewable fuels industry, but we can look to many off-shore markets in countries where renewable fuels standards are in place and demand is high for our products.

I encourage all of you to continue to look for diversification in your operations, and to become more proactive in seeking alternative markets for the goods and services that you provide. There is going to be a turning point for the professional timber harvesters here in the U.S., and based on some of the reports that I have been receiving, we might very well be knocking on that door of opportunity right now.

The American Loggers Council will serve as that conduit to help to disseminate the flow of information, but unless you are actively involved with your State or Regional Logging Association, you might not hear the message. Together, we can make it work, and I look forward to serving all of you over the next twelve months.

*Travis Taylor is the President of the American Loggers Council and owner of Travis Taylor Logging and Chipping, Inc., located in Goldonna, Louisiana.*

*The American Loggers Council is a non-profit 501(c)(6) corporation representing professional timber harvesters in 30 states across the US. For more information, visit their web site at [www.americanloggers.org](http://www.americanloggers.org) or contact their office at 409-625-0206.*

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## **2012 Logger Activist Award Nomination**

Nominations for SCTPA's **2012 Gene Collins Logger Activist of the Year Award** are being sought. Award will be presented at the 2013 Annual Membership Business Luncheon and Meeting convening at noon, Saturday, February 2, 2013 at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC.

This award recognizes a Professional Logger who has demonstrated an exceptional desire to positively promote and represent the timber harvesting profession by actively participating in association activities, educational efforts, community action, industry advocacy, and engendering the public's trust with commitment to the American Loggers Council Professional Logger Code of Practices and by displaying a commitment to sustainable forestry principles and practices.

You may nominate a SCTPA Logger Member or yourself. Contact the Nominations Committee or SCTPA office by January 15, 2013. Thank you for your nomination.

Billy McKinney, Chairman, Highland Timber Co., LLC, Union  
Office / Home 864-427-6173 • Fax 864-427-6173 • Cell 864-429-6939  
[highlandtimber@charter.net](mailto:highlandtimber@charter.net)

Tommy Barnes, Ideal Logging, Inc., Edgemoor  
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### **2012 Logger Activist Award Nomination**

Nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ SC Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: Office \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Describe nominee's activities:

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Use Additional Pages If Needed



## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM SCTPA CHAIRMAN DANNY McKITTRICK

Many members and supporters may have received this message via email sent November 5<sup>th</sup>. But I wanted those who may not have received the email know about our association's status.

Thank you to those who have sent support messages and who have stepped up to assist. Our efforts will continue to move SCTPA forward into our future for the best interests of our members, supporters, industry and association.

Danny McKittrick  
SCTPA Chairman

\*\*\*\*\*

Hello from SCTPA,

As Chairman of SC Timber Producers Association, I want to update our members and supporters regarding the association's current financial status.

On October 11th, the board of directors held an emergency board meeting to discuss the association's financial status and develop a strategy to continue our association to move forward this year and into 2013. As of the board meeting, the association was down to about a month's amount of operating capital.

The board reviews the association financials at every board meeting. At the August 16th board meeting, our president indicated the number of past due renewals, number of member terminations due to non-paid renewals, decreased number of new members and reduction in association program revenues from the tire program and others. The board continued to monitor this situation.

Please note the association's expenditures have not exceeded budget. It is just a matter of reduced revenue due to past dues, terminations due to non-pay, and lack of new members. Thus as stated, it was necessary to have the emergency board meeting.

I understand everyone is under economic stress just as I am as an owner of a logging business. But one thing I know, SCTPA has represented and serviced our industry for 13 years and has made great strides to assist the loggers, wood suppliers and timber truckers here in SC. We cannot let this association fall to the side. WE need SCTPA and

SCTPA needs us.

I commend the board of directors as they took on the challenge to raise the necessary capital to keep SCTPA moving forward. Each board member committed to raise \$4,000 each as it takes about \$12,000 per month for SCTPA to operate. So basically, we need to raise a minimum of \$36,000 to operate for the rest of this year. Board members are contacting members, past due members and prospect new members to gain revenue to keep us moving forward.

Again, it is not the association expenditures. It's reduced revenues creating this shortfall. And it is similar to all our businesses. But SCTPA is important to all of us. I as well as the board of directors will make every effort to make this work for everyone's best interests.

I commend and appreciate those who have stepped up and already paid additional dues as well as those who have joined as new members and those that have paid their past due renewals via board member contacts. If you are receiving this and have not paid your renewal, I urge you to please pay your renewal dues even if it is just the minimum dues.

If you know of a fellow logger, wood dealer, timber trucker or product/service provider, talk with them about SCTPA and urge them to join. We need everyone to support SCTPA and get on board to move our association forward. If you need information about SCTPA, just let Crad know at the SCTPA office and he will send the information for your assistance.

I hope you as members and supporters will help us. SCTPA has done much to represent and service us in the timber harvesting, wood producing and timber trucking segments. **PLEASE PAY YOUR RENEWAL DUES as soon as you can. Your support is crucial to helping SCTPA move forward.** If you can, pay some additional dues or make a contribution to help SCTPA.

I appreciate everyone's support and confidence in SCTPA. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any board member or the SCTPA office.

Thanks for your support and let's help SCTPA get through this shortfall to continue its work for us.

Sincerely & best regards,  
Danny McKittrick  
SCTPA Chairman  
McKittrick Timber, LLC  
Heath Springs, SC  
803-320-1739



## FOREST RESOURCES ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S ELECTION PERSPECTIVE

The impact of the election will really start to unfold next week when the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress returns for the Lame Duck session, which will last through the end of the year. What we do know today, after this week's historic election, is our industry has much at stake in legislative and regulatory policy that will be considered by the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. Below is a brief analysis of the outcome and likelihood of what to expect -- FRA will continue to keep you up-to-date as these issues emerge.

### The Election

The November 6 national election—among the most hotly disputed and, with an estimated \$6 billion spent on all campaigns, certainly the most expensive in U.S. history—rendered in large part the same governance established in 2010: the re-election of the incumbent President, a Republican-controlled House, and a Democrat-controlled Senate, although with Republican influence slightly diminished in both chambers. There had been expectations from business interests that the President's record in economic stewardship—particularly the high unemployment rate—would provoke a change in Administration and weaken Democratic incumbencies, but the November 6 outcome did not support that view.

Although partisan control of House and Senate moved only slightly, there are nonetheless 80 new faces in the House alone: the 113th Congress will be different from the 112th. New office-holders mean new opportunities for constituents to form relationships and to introduce legislators to the issues that concern them. We urge all of our members to communicate with their legislators—particularly with new ones—to ensure they know what they can do to obtain and retain your support. FRA's “**Policy Priorities**” document lays out top issues touching the wood supply chain interest.

More immediately, concern rests on what the current Congress—and the Administration—may achieve during the “lame duck” session, between now and Congress's final adjournment. At the highest level, concern about the “fiscal cliff” and possible budget sequestration runs high, with

wide acknowledgment that failure to act decisively will invite another recession, perhaps deeper and longer than the one from which we are emerging. There is also a possibility that Congress may act on a Farm Bill, which—if political will exists—might revise the Department of Agriculture's “Biobased” materials labeling program and federal procurement guidelines, to eliminate their bias against conventional forest products; and possibly include action to rein in the threat of point-source regulation of forest road runoff, prior to the Supreme Court's ruling, anticipated next year.

There is also a strong possibility that the Administration will act on a list of controversial regulatory initiatives on which it delayed action during the months leading up to the election, such as Boiler MACT. Of special concern to FRA members is the possibility of the Department of Labor's releasing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for its “Plan – Prevent – Protect” regulation, which would introduce new exposures for independent contractor status classification under federal DOL Wage & Hour rules. If DOL does initiate this process, FRA will contact its members and urge them to participate in the public comment process.

Thank you and we look forward to working with you in the coming year on these and other important industry issues.

Deb Hawkinson  
President  
Forest Resources Association

**SCTPA Comments:** Deb Hawkinson is a featured speaker at the SCTPA 2013 Annual Meeting, February 1 – 3, at the Springmaid Beach Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach. Deb will present, “Pulpwood & Politics – Why It Is Important to be Engaged in the Legislative Process.”

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MONTH	DAY	YEAR

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## HAND INJURIES AND AMPUTATIONS

JJ Lemire

Employers must properly train employees on proper machine operation, shutdown, and lock-out procedures. You must include training to properly shut off equipment and then allow all moving parts to completely stop before removing guards or placing a hand and other body parts into a hazardous area.

We continue to investigate claims resulting from improper lockout procedures. In recent months in 2012, Policyholders reported employees suffering severe hand injuries ranging from a single finger to whole hands being cut off. Individuals involved were from both logging and manufacturing operations.

The follow are some examples of employees not following proper procedures.

- One employee opened a door on a gang saw because the blades stopped turning. He stuck his hand in to clear debris. He reached across to free the board and the blades started turning. His right hand was mangled and severed above the wrist.
- Another employee was operating a moulder. While the machine was running, a piece of wood jammed at the cutting head. He shut off the cutting head and cleared the jam. However, he tried to clear debris on another cutting head but it was still running. He went to remove it and middle and index fingers were severely damaged.
- A logging employee suffered a severe crush to his right hand when the loader grapple came down on his hand as he lifted the trailers landing gear. He failed to have the grapple secured or restrained to prevent movement before working around it. Remember gravity is an energy source.
- While working on a truck, an owner had his right index finger amputated. He dropped a bolt and went to catch it. His finger was pulled into the pulley of the running motor.
- A resaw operator in a band sawmill asked the gang saw operator for help to put a chain back

on the sprocket for in-feed roller. The gang operator told him they were not authorized to do that. However, the resaw operator climbed into the band saw while it was still running.

After attempting to

put the chain on a running sprocket, his fingers were pinched and he jerked his hand back into the running bandsaw blade. He suffered a severe laceration to the whole back area of his hand. He will face several skin grafts to repair the damage. Common sense was not used as he climbed into a restricted area while the saw was running.



- The most recent hand injury occurred at a hard-wood mill. The chipper was jammed and shut down the mill. The edger operator, being motivated went to help out. He jumped over a restraining barrier and went into an area where the blower motor was still running. He slipped and his arm went into the belt and pulley. He suffered two broken bones in his fore arm and several broken fingers. He is lucky to still have his arm.

The sad part is that each mishap was absolutely preventable. These employees violated the lockout/tag out procedures and failed to shut down the power prior to placing their hands in a danger zone. Some employees violated basic safety procedures by placing their hands around moving machinery. Remind employees to NEVER stick their hands in or around running machinery. Use push sticks or tools to clear jams and most importantly, shut down and lockout the machine before making adjustments. Most importantly, **TURN OFF THE EQUIPMENT** and allow all moving parts to completely stop. Make sure all parts are at a "Zero Energy" state. Block or chain all parts to prevent movement during maintenance. The bottom line: these severe injuries resulted in hospitalization, lost workdays, permanent deformities, and lost wages. Do not become a statistic!

For assistance in lockout/tag out training, call Forestry Mutual Insurance Company at 1-800-849-7788.

## FALL DISTRICT MEETINGS

Our Fall district meetings thus far have been well attended. District meetings provide the opportunity to fellowship and get updated on current issues affecting the industry as well as provide a program to improve business.

SC State Transport Police has attended five district meetings so far and discussed intrastate and interstate trucking regulations, the CSA – Compliance Safety Accountability - Program and addressed questions. Our thanks to Corp. Mike Still, Edgefield and Clinton meetings, Officer David Cobb and First Sgt. Roy Cloud, Georgetown meeting, and Sgt. Tommy Morris, Walterboro meeting, for participating in the program.

One Newberry meeting featured Stephanie Gardner with Chemsearch

RLS who provided a program on the company's patented oil and lubricant products. At the other Newberry meeting, SC Senator Ronnie Cromer discussed last year's legislative successes for SC forestry and what might be expected in the 2013 legislative session.

John Clark with Mack Truck Sales of Charlotte provided updated information regarding the new engines and truck issues at the Richburg meeting.

At the Georgetown meeting Bill Jones with Southern Loggers Cooperative discussed their services, fuel rates and the coop along with the new fuel depot located at the IP Georgetown mill.

SCTPA provided updates on: the on-going efforts to pass the Silviculture Regulatory Consistency Act in the U.S. Congress to statutorily exempt forest and logging roads from NPDES permits and the U.S. Supreme Court's progress on hearing the case to overturn the Ninth Circuit's ruling requiring permits;

2012 SC legislative successes for SC forestry; the upcoming SC legislative forestry agenda including the strengthening of the Right to Practice Forestry Law and the SC Attorney General's strong opinion supporting the law to prohibit local and county governments from enacting ordinances adversely impacting sustainable forestry and timber harvesting contrary to the law's qualifying

criteria for forest lands; continued efforts to protect the sales tax exemptions for off-road fuel and agricultural equipment replacement parts in tax reform efforts; American Loggers Council annual meeting; provided a comparison of the new NC increased GVW law versus SC's present GVW and overweight fine system; 2013 SCTPA annual meeting; meeting with SC State Transport Police's Col. Leroy Taylor; and meeting with SC DOT's David Cook to develop a blanket encroachment permit for temporary logging roads on a county wide basis; and updating the association's status.



SC Senator Ronnie Cromer at Newberry Meeting



Chemsearch's Stephanie Gardner at the Newberry Meeting

SCTPA sincerely thanks our Fall District Meeting Sponsors for their great support.

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Sgt. Tommy Morris  
Walterboro Meeting



Corp. Mike Still  
Edgefield Meeting



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U.S. Department of Transportation  
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**Pre-Employment Screening Program**



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Pre-Employment Screening Program?

The Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP) is a screening tool that allows motor carriers and individual drivers to purchase driving records from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). Records are available for 24 hours a day via the PSP web site.

### I requested a PSP report and it contains no data. The top of the report indicates that no crash or inspection results were found. How should I interpret this?

Each PSP report request finds crash and inspection data based on the information provided for a driver. Blank reports typically mean that the driver has not been involved in a crash in the last 5 years or an inspection in the last 3 years.

### What information does the Pre-Employment Screening Program (PSP) record contain?

A record purchased through PSP contains the most recent 5 years of crash data and the most recent 3 years of roadside inspection data, including serious safety violations, from the FMCSA MCMIS system for an individual driver. The record displays a snapshot in time, based on the most recent MCMIS data load to the PSP system.

### My PSP record shows that I was involved in a crash. That crash was not my fault. Why is the crash listed?

PSP records list all reportable crashes. The list of crashes represents a driver's crash involvement only, without any determination as to responsibility.

(Continued on page 24)



## ***Timber Talk***

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(Continued from page 23)

## Why did FMCSA develop PSP?

Developing a system to make safety performance information electronically available for preemployment screening purposes was mandated by Congress in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, Title 49 U.S. Code, section 31150 Public Law 109-59 Section 4117. FMCSA believes that making this driver data available to potential employers and operator-applicants will improve the quality of safety data and help employers make more informed decisions when hiring commercial drivers. PSP provides more rapid access to commercial driver safety performance information than is available via Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or Privacy Act requests.

## What is the fee structure?

Fee Structure Information:

Subscriber Size	Subscription Fee	Payment Method	Billing	Transaction Payment Amount
Small (less than 100 power units)	\$25 annually limited to 10 users	ACH debit or check	Monthly e-invoice	\$10/record
Large (100+ power units)	\$100 annually limited to 10 users	ACH debit or check	Monthly e-invoice	\$10/record
All motor carriers coming through a <b>third party provider</b>	No fee	Pay third party	Up to third party to determine	As billed by third party
Individual driver (operator-applicant)	No fee, no subscription required	Credit card or debit card	Immediate (driver pays at the time a record is requested).	\$10/record

## Who can request a PSP record?

Motor carriers may request PSP records solely for the purpose of conducting pre-employment screening and only with the operator-applicant's written consent. Individual drivers or operator-applicants may purchase their own PSP record at any time.

## Does a motor carrier have to use the PSP for hiring drivers?

No, the PSP is a voluntary program for carriers. It is also voluntary for drivers.

## How do motor carriers obtain PSP data?

FMCSA is working with a contractor, NIC Technologies, LLC (NIC Technologies or 'NICT'), to provide PSP data to motor carriers with the operator-applicant's written consent. A motor carrier must enroll to participate in the PSP online program. Then, the motor carrier will be provided credentials to access the PSP online service. A carrier needs an Internet connection and a Web browser to access PSP. Motor carriers may also continue to obtain driver safety performance information free of charge by submitting a Freedom of Information Act request to FMCSA <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/foia/foia.htm>.

(Continued on page 25)

*(Continued from page 24)*

**Is the operator-applicant informed when this data is released to a motor carrier?**

No, the operator-applicant will not receive notice from NIC Technologies that the information was released. However, the motor carrier must obtain the operator-applicant's written consent before requesting the operator-applicant's PSP record. Motor carrier audits are conducted to ensure compliance.

**Can operator-applicants obtain their MCMIS information?**

Yes. Operator-applicants can obtain a copy of their inspection and crash data in MCMIS through the PSP online service for the prescribed fee. Operator-applicants may also obtain their own information free of charge from FMCSA by submitting a Privacy Act request.

**How does information get into PSP? Is it only from MCMIS or will city police departments, county safety offices, and other enforcement agencies be able to add crash and inspection information?**

PSP only contains MCMIS inspection and crash information that is uploaded to MCMIS by FMCSA federal staff and state partners.

**What processes are in place to ensure that operator-applicant data is properly released?**

NIC Technologies is required to adhere to the Privacy Act, the applicable sections of the Fair Credit Reporting Act and all other applicable federal laws to protect driver information. NIC Technologies is also required to develop processes and systems to protect the FMCSA-supplied data from unauthorized disclosures, thefts, manipulation, or dissemination. This includes processes to ensure that operator-applicant's written consent is obtained in accordance with federal security requirements, including the Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994.

**Can non-motor carrier entities such as insurance companies access this information?**

No. Currently, PSP is only accessible to motor carrier account holders and individual operator-applicants.

**How does the driver's record from a State Department of Motor Vehicles fit into the process?**

The state Motor Vehicle Record information is not available through PSP. PSP only contains MCMIS inspection and crash information. Motor carriers and drivers must continue to request state motor vehicle records from the state's motor vehicle department.

**How do motor carriers enroll in the Pre-Employment Screening Program?**

Motor carriers can enroll in PSP at [www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov). You will find the enrollment documents available for download on the site. Once the documents have been filled out in their entirety, simply follow the instructions to return them to NIC Technologies.

**How do motor carriers return the enrollment forms?**

Enrollment materials may be emailed to [PSPenrollment@egov.com](mailto:PSPenrollment@egov.com)

Or mailed to:

Pre-Employment Screening Program  
4601 N. Fairfax Dr, Suite 1160  
Fairfax, VA 22203

Or faxed to:

(703) 841-6370

*(Continued on page 26)*

*(Continued from page 25)*

### **How long does the enrollment process typically take?**

Though enrollment is usually completed within a few business days, please allow up to 2 weeks for your enrollment to be processed. Once your enrollment is processed, the main contact listed on your account will receive an email with instructions for accessing user credentials.

### **Is the PSP service available 24/7?**

Yes. Aside from periodic maintenance, the site is available 24/7.

### **How are PSP records provided?**

Reports are transmitted almost immediately in most circumstances. Drivers and motor carriers can view the records using a PDF viewer. A PDF viewer allows you to save and print the record. Drivers can also view the record in HTML, with no PDF viewer required. A PDF viewer can be downloaded, for free, at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>.

### **Does my third-party screening provider participate in the PSP program? If so, can I obtain this information through them?**

Please consult your provider to determine if they participate in the Pre-employment Screening Program.

### **How does a motor carrier pay for the records?**

Motor carriers pay via automated clearing house (ACH) debit or by check. ACH debit is also known as 'e-check'. Motor carriers will receive email notification each month that their invoice is ready to view, and have an opportunity to view their monthly statement prior to the ACH debit initiation. The monthly invoice amount is automatically deducted from the checking or savings account provided by the motor carrier.

### **I represent a motor carrier who accesses records through a third-party screening provider. How can I pay for the records?**

The third-party screening provider invoices the motor carrier directly.

### **What does the subscription fee cover?**

The subscription fee covers the cost of monthly billing and customer service, which is available by phone and email, Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET. A motor carrier can have PSP credentials for up to ten individual users with one subscription.

### **How many user accounts can I have?**

Each subscription includes up to 10 user accounts, including the administrator. If you need more user credentials, you may purchase a second subscription for an additional ten user credentials. The cost of the second subscription is the same price as your initial subscription (\$100 or \$25).

### **Can a motor carrier request more than one driver's record at a time?**

Yes. A motor carrier user may request multiple drivers at one time. Each driver record costs \$10.

### **What if a driver has held a CDL in more than one state?**

The PSP system allows motor carriers to search a driver's complete history. This means the motor carrier should, and is encouraged, to search any CDL currently held by the driver, as well as licenses held in the most recent five years. The fee remains \$10 regardless of the number of states queried for a driver.

*(Continued on page 27)*

*(Continued from page 26)*

**Can a motor carrier purchase PSP records for current employees?**

No. Records may be requested exclusively for the purpose of pre-employment screening.

**When is my motor carrier company charged the subscription fee?**

The company will be charged the subscription fee when the account is activated. First, submit the company's enrollment documents. Then, a PSP customer service representative will contact you with instructions for account activation. You may withdraw from the program at any time after enrollment. If you have never purchased PSP records with your account, your subscription fee can be refunded in full upon request.

**Will the motor carrier be able to change the list of users later on?**

Yes. Administrative account users can add, edit or delete users. The PSP customer service team is available to assist with these requests.

**How can I contact the PSP customer service team?**

Please send questions about the Pre-employment Screening Program via email to [PSPHelp@egov.com](mailto:PSPHelp@egov.com).

**Will my company information be used for any other purpose?**

No. Company information is only used for enrollment in the PSP system and account management purposes.

**I represent a third-party screening provider. I would like more information about how to participate.**

Please email [PSPHelp@egov.com](mailto:PSPHelp@egov.com).

**I am an individual driver. How do I enroll?**

No enrollment is required for individual operator-applicants. You may purchase your personal record at any time. Please visit [www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov).

**Will a motor carrier company's drivers be able to access their records?**

Yes. Operator-applicants can access their own records at any time. Drivers must visit [www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.psp.fmcsa.dot.gov) or submit a Privacy Act request to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**What legal obligations do motor carrier account holders have using this service?**

In the enrollment package, you will find documentation of all legal obligations incurred by using the PSP service. Account holders are required to consent, in writing, that the company will only use the records for pre-employment screening purposes, that the company has obtained the written consent of all applicants whose records were purchased, and that the company will abide by regulations provided under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, among others.

**What if I want to contest the information in my PSP record?**

Reviews of violations that are adjudicated in the State court systems do not automatically result in a change to any Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)-released data, which includes PSP data. In order to have a violation removed from the PSP record, a motor carrier or driver must file a request for data review (RDR) in the DataQs system. When an RDR is made through the DataQs system and the request is granted, the organization responsible for the data makes the appropri-

*(Continued on page 28)*

(Continued from page 27)

ate changes. The record is then updated in MCMIS and within 30 more days it will be reflected in PSP . Users may only use the DataQs system to request a data review on data used by FMCSA. The web site for data correction is <https://dataqs.FMCSA.dot.gov>.

### **What type of information can be contested in my PSP record?**

If a PSP record contains inaccurate information, then that should be brought to the attention of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation by submitting a DataQs request for data review. The web site for data correction is <https://dataqs.FMCSA.dot.gov>. Violations that appear on an inspection report can be reviewed for accuracy on the DataQs website. Citations issued to a driver as a result of an inspection or traffic enforcement cannot be submitted to the DataQs website for review. Crashes that involve a commercial motor vehicle are reportable to FMCSA, even if the driver is not at fault. Drivers cannot request a review of a crash event due to no fault of the driver.

### **Is the “Important Notice Regarding Background Reports from the PSP Online Service” form mandatory in order to participate in the PSP?**

No. The template provided in the enrollment packet is a “sample” disclosure form that NIC made available to motor carriers. The account holder is not required to use this sample. FMCSA/NIC only requires that the release used by motor carriers contain certain information relating to the applicable sections of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA; 15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) and covers the Pre-Employment Screening Program. These requirements are addressed in the Monthly Account Holder FCRA Employer Certification and the Monthly Account Holder Agreement on pages 7, 13-14. FMCSA and NIC encourage motor carriers to seek their own legal counsel with respect to the format and content of the notice.

### **I had a roadside inspection very recently. Will this be available in the report?**

Data from MCMIS is uploaded to the PSP system approximately once a month. This is considered a MCMIS data snapshot. The date of the most recent MCMIS data snapshot is available on the bottom of your PSP report. Reporting times vary by state. If you do not see a crash or inspection that you expect, you may consider accessing your PSP record again approximately a month after the snapshot date printed on your PSP report.

### **I was the co-driver for an inspection. Does the PSP report show my inspection or violation?**

Yes. Each inspection record shows all violations associated with that inspection. If the requested driver is listed as a co-driver for the inspection, then the violation will show “Listed as Co-driver”. The Violation Summary section will display and count violations attributed to a co-driver only if the co-driver was the individual requesting the PSP report. When the primary driver requests their record, any violations charged to a different co-driver will be shown with a single red asterisk (\*) in the inspection detail portion of the report.

### **How are violations resulting from an inspection following a crash shown in the PSP report?**

Typically after a crash an inspection will occur. Violations that result during an inspection following the crash are shown with two red asterisks (\*\*) in the inspection detail portion of the report. These post-crash violations are neither displayed nor counted in the Violation Summary section.

### **I drive a large vehicle, over 10,001 pounds, but do not have a CDL. Could I have crash or inspection history in a PSP report?**

Yes. The MCMIS database contains incidents recorded when driving a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) and trailing units that weigh 10,001 pounds or more. This includes drivers of CMV's that may or may not have a CDL. A driver is not required to obtain a CDL unless they drive a vehicle that meets at least one of the following distinctions:

(Continued on page 29)

- the vehicle weighs at least 26,001 pounds, or
- the vehicle contains hazmat materials, or
- the vehicle is designed to transport 16 or more persons (including the driver), or
- the vehicle is a tanker truck, or
- the vehicle has air brakes.

### **I am an account holder and was notified that I am being audited. Why?**

According to federal law, PSP users must obtain the driver's written consent prior to accessing their PSP record. The audit process, as explained in the PSP enrollment agreement, is in place to ensure that the written consent is being captured.

### **I am a driver; can I be the subject of a PSP audit?**

No. Drivers may request their PSP report at any time and provide electronic consent for the PSP record request. Therefore, drivers do not need to be audited.

### **What information must be on a driver's written consent form to meet the obligations of an audit?**

In addition to being legible, every driver's written consent form must contain:

- Driver's Name
- Driver's Signature (electronic or handwritten)
- Date (signed on or before the PSP record request date)
- Reference to "PSP" or "Pre-Employment Screening Program"

### **How do I submit a driver's written consent form in the audit process?**

Driver's written consent forms can be faxed to 1-703-841-6370 or emailed to [PSPhelp@egov.com](mailto:PSPhelp@egov.com). Call the customer service team at 1-877-642-9499 if you need an alternative submission method.

### **How will I know if I pass the audit?**

You will receive an email after your audit has been finalized with the results of your audit.

### **How many driver's written consent forms will I need to submit for an audit?**

One or multiple driver consent forms may be requested during an audit.

### **What happens if I am not able to provide a driver's written consent document?**

FMCSA penalties vary and include warnings, PSP account suspensions or terminations.

### **Does the audit include an on-site visit to my company?**

No, at this time FMCSA does not plan on making on-site audit visits related to the PSP driver's written consent.

### **I wasn't able to meet the obligation of an audit and have been subject to a penalty, now what?**

The PSP customer service team can assist you so you are prepared for your next audit. Account holders are returned to good standing after 12 months of acceptable audit activities.

### **How do I know if my account is being audited?**

Your account's primary contact will be notified via email if/when your account is selected for audit. You will also have to acknowledge the audit when you log into PSP. If you have not received notification, then you have not yet been selected for audit.

## CLASS TOURS GOODWILL PLANTATION

**O**n November 8<sup>th</sup> Ag & Forestry teacher Ashley Young's Andrew Jackson High School class toured historic Goodwill Plantation outside Eastover.

Danny McKittrick, McKittrick Timber, LLC and SCTPA chairman, SCTPA president Crad Jaynes and Adam Dougherty of Flint Equipment Company were on hand to assist with the class lunch and the tour. Adam provided the students with goodie bags including a John Deere cap.

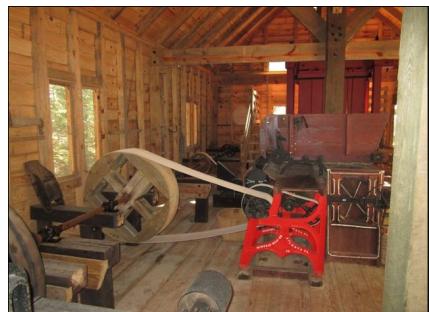
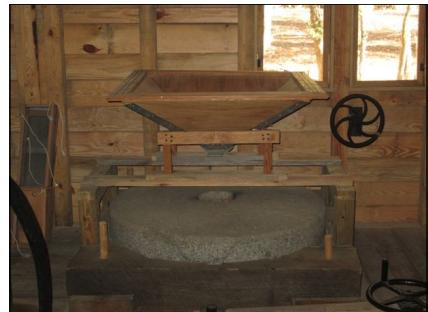
Goodwill Plantation is owned and operated by Larry Faulkenberry. This 3,280 acre plantation has an amazing history dating back to 1718. Larry manages the plantation for wildlife, recreation, aesthetics, history and timber.

Larry provided the class a full tour of how the plantation practices forest management along with its incredible history as the class toured the refurnished slave quarters, gristmill and other structures on site. But the awesomeness of Goodwill Plantation is its rich history, the historical collection of artifacts and restored structures dating back to the 1800's.

SCTPA thanks Danny and Adam for helping out with the class tour. And of course, Larry did a great job with his part. Don't think the class would ever have gotten a better lesson than the day at Goodwill Plantation.



*Larry Faulkenberry  
explains Goodwill Plantation's history.*



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# ALC Annual Meeting 2012 PHOTO GALLERY



Brenda Jaynes, Kendra McKittrick & Jane Knight



SCTPA's Danny McKittrick (l) at logging site

"Swamp Logger" Bobby Goodson

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SCTPA welcomes our New Members & Restart Members  
Your support is appreciated.

Dan Cox, *Lake City*  
Comer Logging, LLC, *Sharon*  
Cloninger Forestry, *Lancaster*  
A. S. Harris & Son, Inc., *Pomaria*  
Gaston Logging Company, *Lockhart*  
Nickles Land Clearing, Inc., *Hodges*  
Davenport & Willingham, Inc., *Newberry*  
Mike Ware, Williams Forest Products, Inc.,  
*Rock Hill*  
Robert Blair, Williams Forest Products, Inc.,  
*Sharon*

Greg Hutson, Swamp Fox Agency, Inc.,  
*Moncks Corner*  
Darby Oil, Inc., *Chester*  
Kunkle Oil Co., Inc., *Newberry*  
Sun Machinery Company, *Lexington*  
Monroe Oil Co., Inc., *Monroe, NC*  
Edwards Timber Co., Inc., *Marshville, NC*  
Sun Machinery Company, *Lexington*  
Jeremy Ray Construction, LLC, *Lugoff*

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**Kenly, NC**  
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See dealer, refer to SP-Agent 50000011 for pricing to complete this transaction. Contact GTR if you need assistance at 800-221-4545.  
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# Mark Your Calendar

## November 2012

- 12      Lugoff / Midlands District 10 Meeting, Hall's Restaurant, Lugoff, 7 p.m.  
 15      Easley / Upstate District 4 Meeting, Fatz Restaurant, Easley, 7 pm  
 20      Union Area District 3 Meeting, Midway BBQ, Buffalo, 7 p.m.  
 22      Happy Thanksgiving!  
 27      Newberry District 2 Meeting, Goodies By Design Restaurant, Newberry, 7 p.m.

## December 2012

- 13      SCTPA Board of Directors Meeting, SCFC Headquarters, Columbia 10 a.m.  
 24      Christmas Eve & Santa Claus Is Coming  
 25      Merry Christmas To All!  
 31      Ring Out 2012 on New Year's Eve

- *Saluda/Edgefield/Aiken District 1 Members and Non-Members invited to attend the Newberry District 2 Meetings.*
- *Meeting notices mailed. Dates subject to change. Check the meeting flyer when received.*

### ***PLEASE NOTE:***

Event & meeting dates may change. Notices are mailed prior to SCTPA events.

### **Need SFI Trained DVD Class or other training?**

SCTPA can provide the New DVD Training Module for SFI Trained status. SCTPA is an approved DVD training class facilitator and will be scheduling classes during the year. Other training programs are available for safety, driver training, equipment lock-out & tagout, hazardous materials spill control on logging sites and forestry aesthetics.

Truck Driver Training Workshops will be scheduled. Watch the Mark Your Calendar section of this newsletter for dates.

Notices for SCTPA workshops & events will be forwarded.

## **SCTPA Board of Directors**

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**Vice Chairman:** *Billy McKinney*  
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