VOLUME 49 NUMBER 11

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November 201

HOQUIAM, WASHINGTON SEE PAGE 5





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- Finly's Rigging

Shack

(Originally ran in July of 1976)

The best time of the year is here now. I like this time of the year but will be looking forward to some fall activities and looking forward to other things - - - all in the future. At the same time must concentrate on getting the most out of each day as it comes along. Can ruin a lot of good things by always looking to and concentrating on the future.

We have had a good first half of the year. Excellent in fact. Lots of traveling and meeting new people, keeping in touch with old friends and finding out over and over again that this is a dynamic and forward moving industry loaded with excellent people to see that it keeps going and growing.

New problems, new ways of solving them and new methods used in all phases of logging. Keeps the interest high and the inventive juices flowing. Exciting!

DOWN

I sometimes get this way. As interesting as my work is there is still a lot of routine to it and the jobs that must be done even if they aren't the most challenging jobs in the world. I guess this happens to almost all people. There is a time, at least for me, when I don't seem to be getting anyplace, when the work don't come out right, when whatever I do should have been done better and quicker

There is an answer to this and I know what it is but being semi-stupid I don't always apply the answer. Believe that at times I enjoy being down in the dumps a bit. Must or I wouldn't

spend any time there. The answer is AC-TION. Logic can't control how I feel but action always will. When I have a job I dread doing, the very best thing for me to do is to get out and do the damned job and get it over with. Usually it isn't nearly as bad as I thought it was going to be. Once I start thinking I got 'er

made and do some coasting, things go downhill.

RETIREMENT

As we get older we are constantly urged to slow down and take it easier. That doesn't work for me - - - but it might for most people. Everything works Best for me when I work at it. I got to go out after it. If I set and wait it just don't work. I've always marveled at our ideas of the rewards of retirement. We work hard all our lives and then we think we can cut the switch and sit down in the rocking chair and retire to a life of enjoyment.

Sam Churchill is retired and he and his wife are happy - - - but they have more activities and are busier than when they were both working for a

Roy Mulford has retired but he is as busy as he can be. Retiring don't necessarily mean resting.

Woody Gifford worked for years for Weyerhaeuser and he retired. Before he did he went to some classes, sponsored by Weyerhaeuser, to learn how

to cope with living when you don't go to work every day. Think he worked it out nicely.

I'd like to do more fishing and hunting. At least that is what I tell myself. But I'm lyin to me and know it. I've got lots of fishing equipment including a fine boat. I've got rifles and shotguns and all the stuff for hunting. The only way my boat gets wet is to get rained on. Last fall only hunted one week end - - - and that was most enjoyable.

The fact is that I'd rather run around and bother loggers and see what they are doing and how they do it than almost anything else in this world. That is proven by the fact that I do it - - even when I don't have to.

Sometimes it is hard for me to know when I'm being realistic with myself or not. Hell of a note when I lie to myself. But I do sometimes.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE:

One of the most frequent questions I get is "Are you going to keep running Finley's Rigging Shack?" The answer is yes, and there are a couple of reasons.

First, Loggers World and Log Trucker is and always will be Finley's creation. He put his energy, his imagination and his character into the creating of these magazines and that still resonates deeply with most of our readers. Since I re-started the magazines 3 months ago, I've heard many untold and unpublished Finley stories. It seems Mr. Hays had a habit of doing good deeds without any recognition in addition to his telling of amusing stories and happenings. I have some very big logging boots to fill to keep Loggers World alive in the fashion of Mr. Hays.

I'll do my best.

Second reason to keep Finley's Rigging Shack is that many of the things he wrote about are still current issues. This was impressed upon me as I proofread this month's Rigging Shack column that Finley wrote almost 40 years ago. More often than not, the things that were on Finley's mind then are still things we find ourselves thinking about today. Since very few people can tell a story like Finley could, we will

keep his voice and his peculiar understanding of the issues facing the industry alive. While I don't think Finley would have anticipated how long his writing would stay current, I am happy to bring his understanding of the issues, and his ability to entertain us to the generations that follow. I think he would like that. KC



COVER PAGE PICTURE: BRIAN DHOOGHE runs his 2014 Hitachi 370 shovel on the Quinault Indians Reservation outside of Hoquiam, Wash. The shovel has a 43-foot boom and was purchased from Pape Machinery in Montesano, Wash.

See "Happy by the Harbor" starting on Page 5.

2 RIGGING SHACK "CLASSIC" - by Finley Hays

5 "HAPPY IN THE HARBOR"

RCD TIMBER • HOQUIAM, WASHINGTON

21 ALC 20TH MEETING

25 Scorn for Constitution

- by William Perry Pendley

26 IRONMART

28 As We See It...

28 SHOW AND SELL

29 Index/Coming Events



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<u>FEATURED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE</u>



HOQUIAM, WASHINGTON

A town of roughly 9,000 people, Hoquiam sits on the shores of Grays Harbor and borders with the city of Aberdeen, Wash. Both Hoquiam and Aberdeen share an economy based in lumber and exports. While the town was officially founded in 1890, the first logging operation in Hoquiam was established by **Ed Camp in 1872**. In 1882 George Emerson established a 300 acre mill in the town. The extension of the railroad from Aberdeen to Hoquiam in 1898 made it an important logging hub in the region.



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NOVEMBER 2014



Ed Stearns operates his Doosan 225, getting logs ready for loading as Joey Dhooghe runs his 1995 325 **CAT** and Waratah 622B processor on RCD's job site near Lake Quinault outside of

Hoquiam, Wash.





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RODTIMBER

HOQUIAM, WASH.

By Brandon Hansen

o say that RCD Timber is a close-knit company would be an understatement: the three-man crew consists of two brothers and their cousin.

To say that RCD Timber is a skilled operation would also be an understatement since brothers Brian and Joey Dhooghe along with cousin Ed Stearns bring nearly 70+ years of combined experience in the woods.

Brian Dhooghe knows a thing or two about a logging company after starting out in the woods at the age of 17 and traveling as far as Alaska. The shovel operator was with Homchick Logging for 10 years of his career, which spans 26 years, and half a decade with A-1 Timber.

From 2009-2012, Dhooghe went up north to Alaska for A-1 Timber, but the time away from his family in Hoquiam, Wash. made him think he could do things differently.

"It was definitely an experience and it wasn't a whole lot different from logging down here," Dhooge said. "The biggest thing was the distances between cities. You could have a three hour flight from Anchorage and then another hour from the town you landed in."

It was a good job for a single logger, Dhooge said, but not for a family guy.

So Dhooge returned to his home of Grays Harbor County, Washington and worked again for Homchick Timber for a year. It was then when he kicked around the idea with Grind Transport partner Andy Rogers about two small businesses working as one. Rogers background in

> (Continued on Page 13) See "RCD Timber"

RLD NOVEMBER 2014

6

LOGGERS WORLD



"We're a small company and we're not trying to tear the world apart. We just want to do a decent job with the people we have. Everybody here likes working together and I feel like we don't have the conflict of a bigger company."

- BRIAN DHOOGHE -

BROTHERS AT WORK, Joey and Brian Dhooghe started their logging operation this year and teamed up with Grind Transport out of nearby Central Park, Wash. to log for Quinault Land and Timber Enterprises on the Quinault Indian Reservation. Joey has been following his brother Brian around the job site since he was ten years old. Brian, who spent three years logging up in Alaska, moved back to be closer to family and has over 26 years of experience in woods.



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2012 Tigercat L870C Leveller, 2,900 hrs., 23" Tigercat Hot Saw, 360°, 3



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LOGGERS WORLD

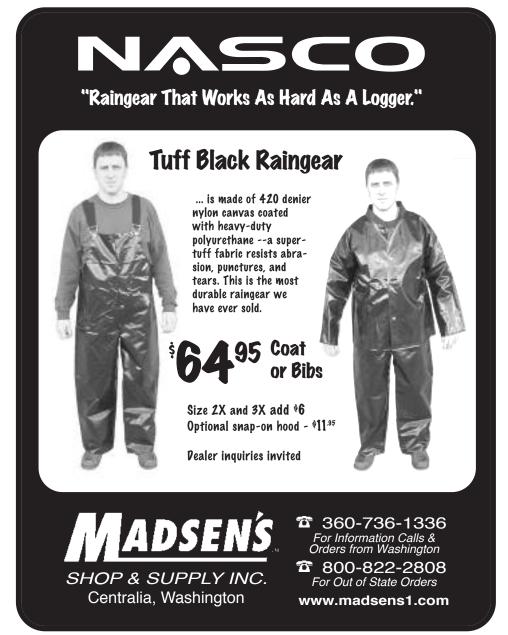
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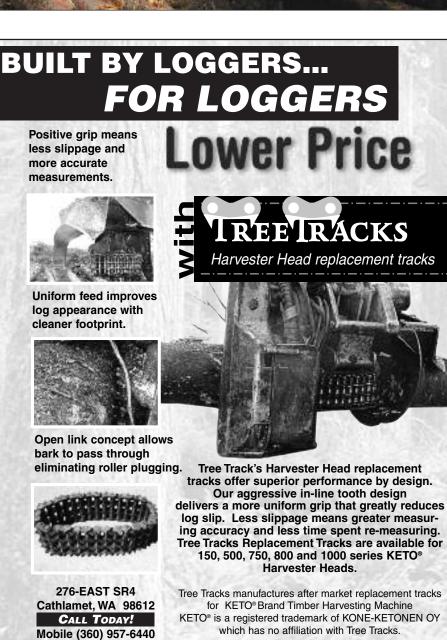
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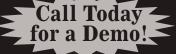


THE FIRST PURCHASE FOR RCD TIMBER was a 2014 Hitachi 370 with a 43-foot boom for Brian Dhooghe to operate. Purchased from Pape Machinery in Montesano, Wash. Dhooghe said they had the machine ready in a couple of weeks. RCD Timber started operation in March and have had steady work for Quinault Land and Timber Enterprises. The only shovel of the operation, Dhooghe said the machine feels very stable on uneven terrain. Brian has over 26 years of experience after starting out in the woods when he was 17 years old. From 2009-2012, Dhooghe was operating up in Alaska for A-1 Timber.



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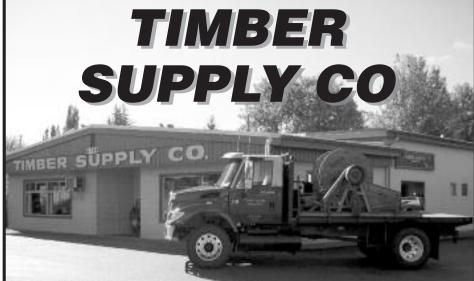
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S/N 00073

Koehring Waterhouse 762C processing head, chains all around, 12,000 hrs., good condition, ready to work

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2006 Cat 324D S/N 0JLS00161 Waratah 622 processing head,

Waratah 622 processing head, 9,419 hrs., all in good working order

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John Deere 2054D S/N 200510

Jewell 54" grapple, 16,135 hrs., good condition

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(Continued from Page 5)

the trucking business around Aberdeen along with the Dhooge's experience in the woods provided a unique opportunity to start both Grind Transport and RCD Timber.

"Andy and I had got to talking and we were thinking about doing this but weren't sure how we

were going to do it," Dhooge said. Grind Transport was featured in the September issue of Loggers World, and has three log trucks. Dhooge teamed up with his brother Joey for the logging side of things and a solid partnership was born.

"We just kind of followed Brian around and he's always looking out for us," Andy Rogers said. "He runs all the physical logging and my wife and I do all the fi"I've been around it so much, it was a lot of paper work to get everything lined up, but as far as doing everything else, I've done so much it feels like the same thing except now there's nobody to answer to."

- BRIAN DHOOGHE -

nancial bookwork."

Dhooghe started by buying a 2014 Hitachi 370 shovel with a 43foot boom purchased from Papé Machinery in Montesano, Wash.

That was our biggest purchase and they were great," Brian said. We just called them up and they had that rolling in a couple weeks.'

Then the Dhooge's purchased a 1995 CAT with a 622B processor head for Joey.

"I've been around it so much,it was a lot of paper work and to get everything lined up," Brian said. "But as far as doing everything else, I've done so much it feels like the same thing now, except that now there's nobody else to answer

Brian added an advantage to

(Continued on Page 16) See "RCD Timber"



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R	1996 JD 548G , dual fnctn bunching grapple w/winch, 11,000 hrs\$34,000
	1994 Cat D4H TSK, swing boomPOR
0	2001 Cat 517, w/swing boom, new u/c and paint, recent motor & trans 14,000 hrs.\$140,000
0	Cat D6C, angle blade, 50% u/c, winch, good cond\$25,900
0	Cat D6D, w/grapple\$30,000
0	1985 JD 850E, w/winch & log arch, needs oil cooler\$18,500

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Washington 188, Cat power, rblt trans, good lines, tank mount, good u/c\$190,000
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Link-Belt LS98, w/Eaglet, Allison trans, Detroit power\$39,500
T-Bird 6150, c/w 2 Eagle 4s, rigging, recent total rebuild of yarder, exlent condPOR
T-Bird TY 90, T100HD trl, 8 guyline, 1 3/8", Cummins KTA 1150, new paint, xlent cond \$450,000
T-Bird TY 90, T100HD, self prop., 7 guyline, 1 3/8", Cummins KTA1150, good cond\$399,500
T-Bird TY90, T100HD, trl, 7-guyline, 1 3/8", Cummins KTA1150, ready to logPOR
Skagit 737 , T100, trl, 7 guyline, 1 1/4", Cummins 855, Allison, water on all drums \$169,500
Koller 301, w/Koller 2.5 clamping car, radios & rigging, on Ford 9000, Cummins 5.9 .\$47,500
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14



RCD TIMBER operates on the Quinault Indian Reservation close to Hoquiam, the home of Brian and Joey Dhooghe and Ed Stearns. Brian logged in Alaska for A-1 Timber for three years but returned home for more time with his family. "It was definitely an experience and it wasn't a whole lot different from logging down here," Dhooghe said. "The biggest thing was the distance between cities. You had a three hour flight from Anchorage and then another hour from the town you landed in.

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2008 Tigercat LX870C, 24 in. single grousers, Quadco 2900 head, Portland, #018504\$289,500

2005 Link-Belt 210LX, w/LogMax 7000, 7200 hours, Spokane, WA, #018155.....**\$185,000**

2005 Link-Belt 240LXDHP, 7,704 hours, #020069......\$179,000

2003 Timbco T475E, w/20,400 hrs, runs, as-is, Tacoma, WA, #019056**\$85,000**

2002 Timbco 445D Feller Buncher, single bar grousers, plumbed for processor and hotsaw, has Keto 600TS processing head, Portland, OR, #019154...\$155,000

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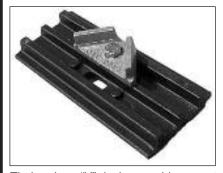
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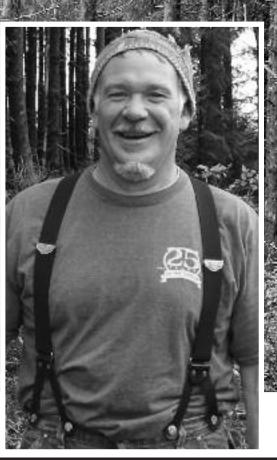
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15





Bob Tomavich makes quick work of trees on the Quinault Indian Reservation while running his John Deere 959K in front of RCD Timber's operation.

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(Continued from Page 13)

the operation was the owners are the operators and no one is sitting at home or in an office. They also want to stay condensed and effi-

While RCD Timber is young, having just started in March of this year, they've already found a solid company to work for in Quinault Land and Timber Enterprises which supplies them with steady work on the Quinault Indian Reservation.

"They've been really great to work for," Brian said. "They've been around the harbor for 25 years in this industry and if a guy works hard for them, they can make a good living. Nobody is getting rich but we're just trying to make a good steady job.'

A good steady job is something Joey Dhooghe is used to. Having worked with his brother Brian before for years, Joey started bugging Brian on the jobsite when he was ten years old.

"We've got a good team and it's just easy out here," Joey said. "Brian and I have been working together all our life so it's just like tying your shoes.'

Since all their jobs are on the Quinault Reservation, the commute is usually within an hour and everyone gets to sleep in their own beds at night.

"We're just a small crew that puts out big production," Joey said.

Joey and his strong work ethic does all the processing for the operation, while the Dhooghe's father Walt takes care of the chains and bars for the processor.

"We just take everything to him and he does it at home," Brian said. "He keeps all the bars straightened for us. My dad has always been in the timber industry and we always worked together at A-1. He's ran a lot of equipment."

The biggest change to the operation has been the hiring of cousin Ed Stearns and purchasing a new 2014 Doosan 225 with a 36-foot boom and 64-inch grapple for loading responsibilities from Cascade Trader in Chehalis, Wash. Tim Ward helped with their order on a

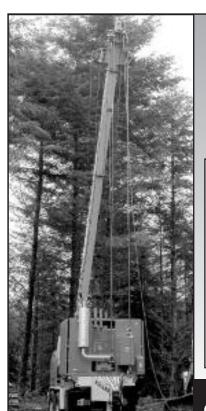
> (Continued on Page 18) See "RCD Timber"



THE OPERATION HAS BEEN STREAMLINED, with RCD's addition of a loader, letting Brian Dhooghe focus fully on shovel logging in his 2014 Hitachi 370 shovel with a 43-foot boom purchased from Pape Machinery in Montesano, Wash.

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RANDY HADLOCK has his 2005 388 Peterbilt log truck loaded by Ed Steans in a Doosan 225. Hadlock is a partner in Grind Transport and grew up in Vancouver, Wash. but moved to Grays Harbor County in 1976 and has had his CPL since 2001. The new Doosan loader, which was purchased from Cascade Trader in Chehalis, Wash. was ordered on a Wednesday and delivered to the worksite by that next Thursday. "It's a tremendous change," Brian Dhooghe said. "I don't have to run out on the road [in the shovel] and it's not much of a hassle to balance that out. We have three machines now and not very many people try to do this with two machines."



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(Continued from Page 16)

Wednesday and had the Doosan out on the jobsite by the next Thursday.

Before Stearns came on board, Brian would have to leave his shovel logging responsibilities to load Grind Transport's trucks. Now he can focus solely on shovel logging while Stearns loads the trucks.

"It's a tremendous change," Brian said. "I don't have to run out on the road and it's not as much of a hassle to balance that out. We have three machines now and not very many people try to do things with two machines."

Stearns began logging in 1987 running a power saw and become a shovel operator in 1991.

"I'm not an office person," Stearns said. "I enjoy being out here in the outdoors and I enjoy the people I work with. We've worked together in other operations and it's a perfect fit. Everybody knows what they're supposed to do and it's just comfortable."

Stearns was recently married on July 5 to his wife Karla.

New things aren't strange to RCD Timber, who are the new kids on the block in the Grays Harbor logging community, but they were welcomed by everyone.

"Quinault were happy to hear we were starting up," Brian said. "There's not too many new logging companies popping up. The ones already around are doing fine but just not a whole lot of new ones are being formed."

RCD Timber and Grind Transport have a lot of appreciation for the work that Mack Yowell from Maintenance Weld, Columbia Gear Case Rebuilders and KC Truck Parts do for their companies.

A majority of RCD's logs travels on Grind Transport's log trucks back to Hoquiam and Aberdeen which is where the Dhooghe's immediate family lives. Family is important to the operation. RCD stands for Brians 9-year old daughter Ronni Carolynn Dhooghe that passed away from leukemia.

"She always wanted me to buy my own shovel so we did," Brian

Brian also has a 19-year old daughter Tiffani playing volleyball at Grays Harbor College and is planning on transferring up to Eastern Washington University to enter into their dental hygienist program. His wife Melissa is also very supportive of the venture.
"We're a small company and

we're not trying to tear the world apart," Brian Dhooghe said. "We just want to do a decent job with the people we have. Everybody here likes working together and I feel like we don't have the conflict of a bigger company."

You can reach Brandon Hansen at brandonwaynehansen@gmail.com.



BRIAN DHOOGHE AND QUINAULT LAND AND TIMBER ENTERPRIS-ES' President Steve McCracken pose for this photo before talking about where RCD Timber's next move will be. Brian descibes his company's relationship with Quinault as "great to work with. They've been around the harbor for 25 years in this industry and if a guy works hard for them, they can make a good living.

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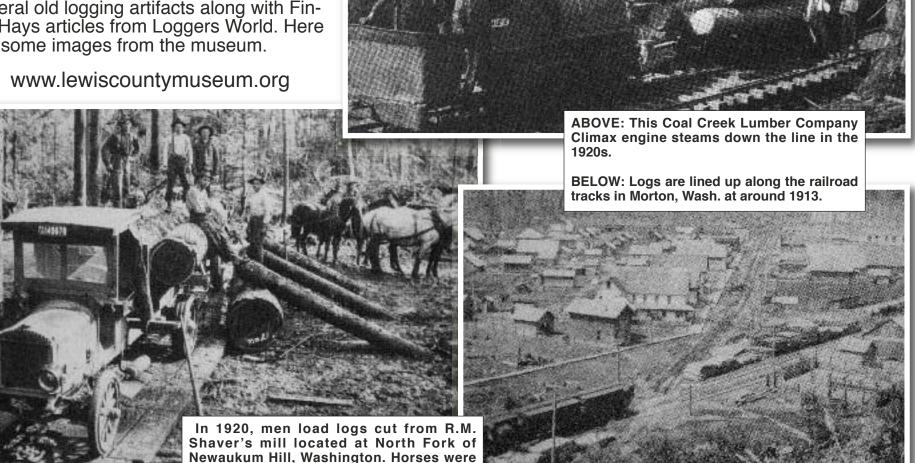
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BLAST

FROM THE PAST

The Lewis County Historical Museum in Chehalis, Washington recently had a logging exhibit highlighting the rich logging history in their area. The exhibit featured several old logging artifacts along with Finley Hays articles from Loggers World. Here are some images from the museum.



Don't miss the next issue of Loggers World Magazine,

used to pull the logs onto the truck.

The December 2014 issue!

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THE ISLAND RESORT HARRIS, MICHIGAN

by Mike Crouse

ver 200 loggers representing 26 states, and a host of manufacturers joined to celebrate the American Loggers Council's 20th Annual Meeting recently held in Harris, Michigan (just south of Escanaba) at the Island Resort and Casino in late September. "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 outgoing 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

Many of those attendees arriving a day early took advantage of the logging tour to see one of Nelson Logging's working sites that had been laid out to accommodate not just Nelson's harvesting operations but also as a live demonstration of new equipment from a host of manufacturer's including John Deere, Ponsse, Peterson, Morbark, Vermeer, Barko, and Waratah. A lot of iron on a single logging site well laid out, easy to access, and access both to the equipment and factory technical specialists. The weather was especially cooperative with dry weather and a moderate climate where only a few weeks prior the ground was



wet from constant downpours.

A complete hot lunch was provided on site, and those wishing to could return the woods machinery afterwards.

The meet and greet that evening closed the day.

Friday started early at 6:30 with the buffet breakfast, which led into technical sessions.

The first technical session was moderated by Tom Trone (John Deere), who led off delivering an economic perspective from the manufacturer's perspective. "We still see a robust economy," Trone said. "For the size of our economy, 2.9% is good," then he added that, "...interest rates remain remarkably low."

"We see some growth in 2015," Trone added, "...optimistically we see possibilities, pessimistically we're very cautious," part of which comes from the housing growth starts being, "...sort of anemic, which makes us very nervous... (and) NOT what we expected, (so the growth is) slow but improving," which is helping to "...drive the demand up (for wood products) with limited supply."

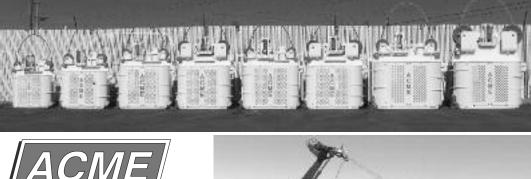
One issue of some concern in the logging business, said Trone, is "...how difficult it is to find employees," due to competition for workers by others seeing similar work force skills, and their being a competitive wage (which can vary widely in different regions). Another related issue is where to find, develop and attract tomorrow's work force to the industry.

He also noted that logging production is "...growing, but flattering

as well." Trone said, "...there are plenty of trees, and demand," yet there are a "...lot of constraints in the middle (of the business)," with regulations, and trucking is tight. He noted the time is right to ask how to reduce some of the burdens.

Trone emphasized that at Deere, "...we think there's another 4-5 very positive years," in the future. He suggested that as successful loggers, "....you need to be a marketer looking for other ways to take your products to different markets and marketers. That takes a very different set of skills. I see many progressive loggers going beyond loggers, back into the value chain and back into the market."

(Continued on Page 22) See "ALC's 20TH"



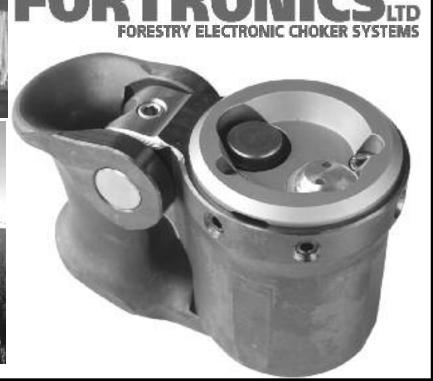
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LOGGERS WORLD NOVEMBER 2014

Tones's three-logger panel included Brian Nelson (MI), Mike Anderson (CA), and Charles Johns (FL), who even though being in different markets, with differing state/regional politics, spoke on common themes.

When asked the most important opportunity and trends in forestry, the common theme: know your actual costs as a logger, from the price of stumpage to the costs of operations (including depreciation). Anderson noted optimistically, "...with shortage of equipment and qualified crews, there's an opportunity for fair prices and longer seasons." Nelson also noted there is opportunity there, "...if you're willing to take the risk. The demand for wood is growing. The risk is do you really want it, (considering) the age of the work force, (and) do you wish to invest when you do not know it if (this upswing) will last...there's a lot of risk involved."

The largest threats to the logging industry brought out familiar themes: excessive regulation, competitive wages, and the cost of establishing/financing a new logging company. Regulatory extremes vary significantly by state, Anderson explained noting in particular one large landowner in California's experience on two timber harvesting plans on similar land within five miles of one another one in Califor-



company) to make your company grow? Key to growth is having a true business understanding of what it costs to be in business and make a profit. "Most loggers really don't know," said Trone. "They live by their check book and cash flow, but there are other factors. The reg-

ulation costs are higher for everyone. Compliance is incredibly expensive. As a country, we don't have the return for the costs of regulation compared to the rest of the world."

Anderson said, "...there's no reason why we can't achieve protection at a fraction of the cost we're paying now.

While the panel overall was kind in their phrasing, what emerged was the consuming mills needing to share their profits with loggers to attract the next generation into the business.

Nelson hit the nail on the head in talking about industry's cry at training the next generation, given the mills saying, "...there's the rate, take it or leave it." He noted, "We have to say no more." The work ethic and demonstration of profit has to be demonstrated. "Train the next generation to take over? The next generation is not interested. We

> (Continued on Page 23) See "ALC's 20TH "

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(Continued from Page 22)

need to do that before they are 18."

The second tech session was presented by Peterbilt on Natural Gas fueled trucks, "...an abundant fuel supply," said Jim Zito, elaborating that "...the opportunity (in natural gas fuel) is the cost difference between the two (liquid fuels (diesel) and natural gas (LNG-liquid natural gas) and Compressed natural gas).

There are considerations in doing this, difference in the motor and fuel storage options, but the point in the presentation is that option is available and at least worth knowing about.



MIKE ALBRECHT with Sierra Resources (jamestown, CA) was recognized with the ALC's first ever National Loggers Activist Award.



PAST ALC PRESIDENTS were recognized at the 20th Anniversary Meeting with a commenorative placard (forthcoming to those not in attendance). From the left are Brian Nelson, Ezell Castleberry, Steve Hannington, Ken Swanstrom, Earl St. John, Mike Wiedeman, Matt Jensen, Steve Sherich, and Charles Johns.

The third technical session was presented by T.E.A.M. (Timber Equipment Applications Management, group leader Jimmie Locklear (Forestry Mutual) and three members of the T.E.A.M. members. Locklear gave a history of the groups formation from 2001with the goal of reducing fire incidents on logging equipment, by bringing loggers, insurers, and manufacturers together and working toward solutions that would reduce the incidence and severities of fires on that equip-

ment. They listed a number of innovations since 2001 to achieve that end with significant success by working cooperatively. Along with regularly cleaning debris, checking electrical connections, installing onboard fire detection and suppression system and the emergence of telematics systems to monitor machinery and components, they've made a lot of progress in achieving the goals that brought them together in 2001, with more to come in the future.

Following lunch was a presentation of telematics and how those systems are a part of machinery manufactured over the past several years by most manufacturers. Telematics is the convergence of technologies, a combination of GPS, wireless telecommunications, global networks, microelectronics and computers on the machines, it was explained. Those data collectors all over the equipment bring that data together for our use as we need it, allowing the owner (or operator) to monitor and keep track of those components and how they are used, for better efficiencies and better use. It's been in place for more than a decade in farming where better management from that information has allowed equipment to be used and managed far more effectively. "By 2020," said Jason Koskinen (CAT), "telematics is likely to have a market penetration similar to the

cell phones over the past 10-15 years."

Friday evening everyone gathered for the meet and greet, followed immediately the the ALC silent and live auction

Saturday morning was the ALC's annual Board of Directors meeting, with a changed formats, moving ver-



MYLES ANDERSON (Anderson Logging, Ft. Bragg, CA) is the new President of the American Loggers Counsil.

(Continued on Page 24)
See "ALC's 20TH"

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(Continued from Page 23)

bal reports to the general meetings, rather than giving them at the BOD meeting and repeating in the general.

The board approved a new contract for Exec. Director Dructor, then adjourned, for the full membership meeting that began shortly after including the full list of reports.

In comments from the floor, Rich Palermo, (Charlottesville, VA) and National Chairman for Log A Load for Kids, explained "... we helped raise over \$40 million for Children's Miracle Network," and introduced Sheri Hanson (Hanson Logging, Chewelah, Washington) as the new National Chair for the coming year.

Larry Cumming (Peterson Pacific) noted that one bright spot in the biomass market has come from pellets.

It was noted that on this 20th Anniversary of the ALC's founding it enjoys the strongest funding and support since inception, including

significant sponsorship participation well in excess of this year's original goal. Pres. Nelson stated, "(First ALC President) Earl St. John noted one of his goals was to give loggers a national voice," from the group's inception, "... and that's been achieved now." Not only do we have a voice in Washington DC but many within DC will seek out the expertise and thinking of the ALC on issues that affect logging and natural resource management of federal forestlands.

Saturday's luncheon included recognition of ALC sponsors for the past year, including special recognition with the "President's Award" for two individuals: Keith Olson (Montana Loggers Assn.) and Jim Geisinger (Assoc. Oregon Loggers) for their efforts and accomplishments over the past several years.

Also at the luncheon, California Logger Mike Albrecht received the first "National Logger Activist Award," which recognizes "...a logger who has demonstrated unselfish time and efforts to promote the timber harvesting profession." Albrecht

is with Sierra Resource Management located in Jamestown, California

Saturday evening's President's Reception and Farewell Dinner war particularly special with its being the 20th anniversary of the organization's founding, made even more so by the keynote speech for the evening coming from the founder and first president of the ALC, Earl St. John. He was late joined by other past presidents in attendance (nine including Nelson), all of which received a special plaque commemorating this being the ALC's 20th year and their place in the line of past presidents.

The meeting concluded with the passing of the gavel from outgoing president Brian Nelson to incoming President Myles Anderson (Anderson Logging) from Ft. Bragg, California. Anderson stated, "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."

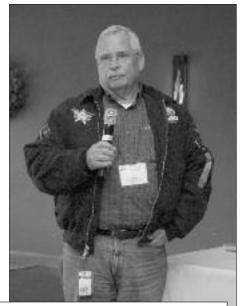
At the close, Exec. Director Dructor thanked Nelson for his 12 months of service and leadership in the ALC, and looks forward to the upcoming year with Anderson at the helm, "...to ensure that the American Loggers Council will continue to be the 'national voice' for professional timber harvesters."



EARL ST. JOHN, First President of the American Loggers Council addressing this years 20th Anniversary Meeting.

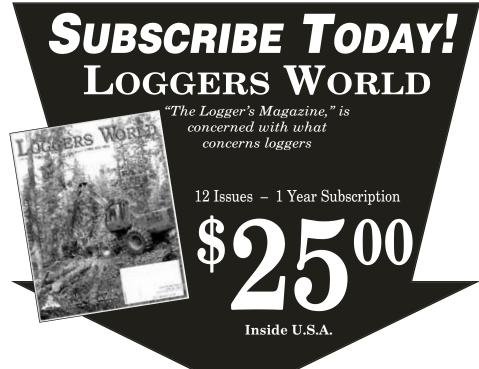






THIS YEARS recipients of the ALC's President's Award for outstanding service to the Council were (left) Keith Olson, Montana Loggers Assn. (being congradulated by ALC Pres. Brian Nelson, and Jim Geisinger, with the Associated Oregon Loggers.





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Summary Judgment....

White House's **Scorn for Constitution Evident in Court**

by William Perry Pendley

There has been much in the national news about the "lawlessness" of the Obama administration,

including this testimony of a selfproclaimed liberal law professor: "We are in the midst of a constitutional crisis with sweeping implications for our system of government[, which] threatens the stability and functionality of our tripartite system...." "We are now at the constitutional tipping point...." Unaddressed, however, is the manner in which the president's disdain for the other co-equal branches is evident far from Washington.

That President Obama's "anticonstitutional excesses"—as Representative Tom Cotton (R - 2th AR) characterized them—extend deep into the bureaucracy and into the most prosaic of cases became evident recently in a lawsuit filed by the holder of a Reagan-era federal oil and gas lease in Montana who seeks simply the right to explore for energy on his property.

In June of 1982, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) issued Sidney M. Longwell of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a 6,247 acre oil and gas lease in the Badger-Two Medicine Area of the Lewis and

Clark National Forest in Glacier County in northwestern Montana. The next year, Mr. Longwell assigned the lease to America Petrofina Company of Texas, which later became Fina Oil and Chemical Company. In October of 1983, Fina submitted an application for permit to drill (APD) to evaluate the natural gas potential of that part of the Overthrust Belt.

After extensive review pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), seventy-six (76) separate appeals, and a ruling by the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLM), the BLM, in consultation with the U.S. Forest Service, the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, approved the APD in 1985, then again in 1987, once again in 1991, and finally in January 1993.

In April of 1993, seven environmental groups filed a lawsuit challenging the approved APD. Then U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D - MT) introduced legislation to bar any and all surface disturbances on oil and gas leases in the area and to evaluate the area for wilderness designation; he also demanded that President Clinton's Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt impose a moratorium on oil and gas drilling there. In 1997, the lawsuit filed by the various environmental groups was terminated.

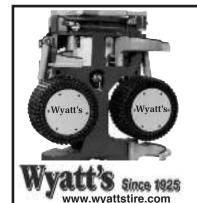
Meanwhile, in June of 1993, Secretary Babbitt suspended activity on the lease purportedly awaiting congressional action. In 1994 and 1995, he extended the suspension for the same reason. In 1996, he continued the suspension but asserted that it was necessary to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). In 1997, Secretary Babbitt extended the NHPA-related suspension and finally, in 1998, he continued it indefinitely!

In 1999, in the face of the interminable delay, FINA assigned its lease and APD rights back to Mr. Longwell. In July of 2004, he assigned his rights to his company Solenex, LLC, which, in May of 2013, asked that the suspension be lifted and he be allowed to drill; that request was denied. In June of 2013, Mr. Longwell sued Secretary Sally Jewell and others.

Days ago, Obama administration lawyers told a federal district court that the suit must be dismissed because an Interior Secretary may suspend oil and gas leases indefinitely and federal judges cannot do anything about it. Besides, argued the lawyers, the 20year delay is not "unreasonable" because the federal agencies have $\frac{5}{2}$ been working "hard" generating study after study, at taxpayer expense, of the proposed wildcat

Such contempt for the Constitulaw professors called to testify before Congress. The Obama administration's refusal to develop energy on the third of the country owned by the federal government and open to that activity has real life costs. Over the last five years, as oil and gas production on State and private lands has increased by 61 and 33 percent respectively, production on federal lands has fallen by 6 and 24 percent.

Mr. Pendley, a Wyoming attorney, is President and Chief Legal Officer of Mountain States Legal Foundation and a regular columnist in Loggers World.



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26 My 25 Year Internship Thanks, Mike!

As I was writing the comments about Finely's Rigging Shack, (See Publisher's Note - Page 2) it occurred to me that I have left out someone very important in the rebooting of Loggers World and Log Trucker Magazine.

That important person is the previous owner, Mike Crouse.

When he bought the business from Finley, Mike took a supposed ad salesman with less than a year's experience and brought him under his wing, sharing his wealth of experience (and bias, jokes, funny sayings and stories) to help train him for what neither of them knew the future held.

Along the way we have had good times, some bad times, lost loved ones and gained grandchildren, sharing in each others triumphs and sorrows as good friends do.

Now I find myself in the position occupied by the late, great Finley Hays and the previous keeper of Finley's dream, Mike Crouse. Having had the good fortune of learning from both of my predecessors, I feel as prepared as one can be to assume the blessing and responsibility of Loggers World.

One thing is very apparent, I couldn't do this without the help, cooperation, experience and knowledge imparted upon me (sometimes unwillingly) by my friend, Mike Crouse.

I am sure I will run the business differently than both Finley and Mike but I want to let you the pro-

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found influence that both men have had on my life. That goes both ways so if you don't like it, I can blame them for part of it.

While I'm not exactly like Finley or Mike, I've had the good fortune of a long observation period and I'm going to do my best to keep the magazine in the same format and focus you've come to love after 50 years of development.

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As We See It

TWENTY YEARS AND COUNTING

Twenty Years ago cell phones were sold as bags and could only make calls, the U.S. Forest Service harvested almost 5 Billion Board Feet and the American Loggers Council was formed by 40 upset Loggers in St. Louis, Missouri. While much has changed over the years, the willingness of many Loggers to represent the thousands across the Country has not waivered and continues to build the American Loggers

Council into a great organization.

The twentieth annual meeting of the American Loggers Council held in Escanaba Michigan has come and gone. A special presentation was made to all of the former Presidents and it allowed for each to say their piece about the formation and the path of the ALC. Mike Crouse from Loggers World spoke very descriptively of the first meeting, and the trials and tribulations that went into forming the ALC. There was much to reflect on with the 20 year history and clearly some of the issues that brought Loggers together then are still bringing them together today. The ALC has grown in its 20 years and I hope that we can continue that growth moving forward, building strength and increasing our umbrella as "the National Voice for Professional Loggers."

We must all continue working to make the Timber Harvesting portion of our industry a profession. There are many in our industry that are happy to sit by and let others do this work for them, but I believe through the growth and understanding of ALC that this will change. I hope that as more Timber Harvesting Professionals come to understand what the ALC is about their participation will increase. Our strength is in a common message supported by large numbers, and we must continue to build alliances with other National Organizations. The ability to be active at the National level is in each of our own hands as Professional Loggers in this Country. The American Loggers Council has, through great leadership, become a strong organization with many doors opening to it; however, it needs the support of all the fiber producing States to be as strong as possible.

There was a panel at this year's meeting that put 3 loggers at the table, one from Florida, one from Michigan and one from California. The questions revolved around what the loggers thought were opportunities and what were threats to their ability to successfully operate a logging business. The threats occupied much of the discussion and were focused on regulation, workforce and markets. While the geographic location of the loggers was much different, the threats were very similar. While we all have regional issues there

are many issues facing Loggers on a National level. This National stage is where the ALC can help so long as we are united.

Moving forward the ALC has many issues that are being worked on and many more that we hope to be working on soon. The ALC continues to be requested for testimony by various committees in Washington DC as issues arise that will impact fiber production in this country.

The ALC is knee deep in legislation, meetings, conference calls and every thing else as we fight off the constant barrage of issues coming out of Washington DC. This work is vitally important to our industry, but cannot be done without the financial assistance of the ALC's great Sponsors. Please got to our Web Site, www.americanloggers.org, to see a list of the Sponsors that contribute to the ALC which in turn allows us to represent Loggers in Washington, DC. If you do business with any of these Sponsors please thank them, as it is their support that allows for our activism.

If you are a Logger in a State with a Logging Association, I ask that you join it. If you are already a member of your State or Regional Logging Association, thank you. If your state does not have an association then join the American Loggers Council as an Individual Log-

ger Member and stand with us. I look forward to working with all the great leaders in this industry that are currently involved with the ALC and hopefully some new ones in the coming year as we continue to build our strength as Professional Timber Harvesters. Please stand with us and be heard, if our industry is to prosper we must increase our activism.



Myles Anderson is the current President of the American Loggers Council and he and his father Mike own and operate Anderson Logging, Inc. based out of Fort Bragg, CA.

The American Loggers Council is a nonprofit 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 or contact their office at 409-625-0206.

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