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Originally Published in June of 1977

of two men who had been hurt in the woods. In two weeks they will mail them another check for the

same amount, if they are not back to work by then.

"FOR BUSTED UP Loggers"

During the last 15 years this bunch of loggers have given to 'Busted Up Loggers' in Whatcom County

maybe as much as \$7500.00 per year. If this is true, and I think it a reasonable guess, this would mean this bunch of loggers have produced over a \$100,000.00 to

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FINLEY HAYS

give to loggers who get hurt in the woods. Admirable.

But wait, in addition to this they do many other things. They bought their own land, they have cleared that land, they have built a logging show arena, large parking lot, big area for displaying log-

ging machinery and log trucks,

(Continued on Page 4) See "Rigging Shack"

THE DEMING LOGGING SHOW

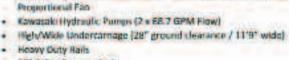
In this issue of Loggers World we spent a lot of time in Whatcom County in the State of Washington. Bellingham is the county seat of Whatcom County. A lot of our writing and photography took place in Whatcom County and the center theme in that part of the country at this time of the year is the Deming Logging Show.

This will be the fifteenth year for the Deming Logging Show. I get a lot of flack from other shows because we talk so much about the Deming Logging Show and not nearly enough about other Logging Shows. This may be true - - it probably is true.

BY LOGGERS - FOR LOGGERS

One big reason for this is that the Deming Logging Show is put on by loggers and it is put on for loggers. Every dime taken in through the gates admission to the show itself, is set aside for helping out 'Busted Up Loggers'. I attended a meeting of the Deming Logging Show recently and they wrote two checks for \$125.00 per each to immediately send to the families





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HYUNDAI



COVER PAGE PICTURE: Drago Brothers' Noah Hamb in the Link-Belt 7240 clearing the road getting ready for some trucks near Lorane, Ore. See "Branching Out" starting on Page 6.

- 2 RIGGING SHACK "CLASSIC" by Finley Hays
- 6 "IT TAKES TWO"

Drago Brothers Logging • Blachly, Oregon

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buildings for cooking and barbecuing, rest rooms, grandstands and many many other things including baseball diamonds for the young people of the area. They have parking places for the many campers and trailers. It is a fine looking place.

RAISING FUNDS LOGGER STYLE!

In order to raise money for the buying, the clearing and the building, they do other things. One thing is buying a small timber sale and then they all donate their time and machinery and log it, sell the logs and put the money into their building fund.

Every year they grow, do more and get bigger and better with more and more people involved in the whole fine program.

BIGGER & BETTER EVERY YEAR!

The logging show itself gets bigger and better. Sherm Ousdale is the master of ceremonies from the stand. Lonnie Schroeder is the arena announcer. These two fellows are the best you can find at this business and they are loggers --- Whatcom County Loggers who devote a lot of their time to making the Deming Logging Show go and grow.

Every logger that contests in

this show, and there are dozens of them, does so with no hope of a cash reward. The best they can get is trophies. Money is something they don't get because all the money goes to help 'Busted Up Loggers'.

EVERYBODY PITCHES IN

I've talked about the loggers who do this. They are the mainspring alright but they aren't the only ones who work and plan and put out lots of effort to make this go. The wives of the loggers are people that do more than their share and are always ready and willing to help. Other people and other organizations help the Deming Logging Show. In and around

the show grounds, as a for instance, are dozens of gas barrels which have the end knocked out of them, handles bolted to them and are painted green and white. These were fixed up, painted and donated to the Deming Logging Show by the Moose Lodge. And that is only one of the many things that have been done for the Deming Logging Show.

STARTED IN 1963

The very first Deming Logging Show took place in 1963. It was for the benefit of one logger who had been injured. As the show was being prepared, another logger received serious injuries. At the end of that first show the money was split up and given to these two men and their families.

The idea was good and the show kept being put on each year and each year there was more work to be done and more need for money for Busted Up Loggers.

"Busted Up Loggers"

'Busted Up Loggers' is the phrase that says it all. It fits and is in keeping with the project and the purpose of everything these people do. The phrase was coined, I believe, by Gordon Scott who was one of the originators of the Deming Logging Show.

Howard Hammer, Fred Gorum, Archie Pullar and Gordon Scott were four of the men who were very active in that first Deming Logging Show, and for many others after that. The reason I mention them especially is because all four of these men were contestants in other Logging Shows. Howard Hammer was a log chopper and did some hand bucking. Fred Gorum was principally a hand bucker but also an excellent Log Chopper. Gordon Scott entered speed climbing and tree topping contests at many logging shows. Archie Pullar was an excellent tree topper and speed climber. These four knew how a show was supposed to be put together and how the contests were supposed to be run.

Many of the other people involved in this project had never been a part of any other logging show and some of them had never seen any other logging show.

That then is some of the reasons for giving this group lots of publicity. They are loggers and the purpose of all their work is to help injured loggers.

Good people with a fine purpose!



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I met up with owners/partners/ brothers, Dave and Tony Drago around 7 p.m. or so at Jim and Pat Edwards Country Store in bustling down town Lorane, Oregon finding a

By Michael J. Barker place to park the battered old Subaru was no problem at all and the guys showed up ten minutes early.

I had spoken with Dave

(Continued on Page 7) See "Drago Brothers"



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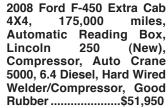
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Boom

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2001 International, CAT 550, 18 Sp.+ Brownie, QC to 3 Axle Short Logger, Fifth Wheel, Long Logger\$89,000

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Skylead, SC 40, 071 Madill, 071 Madill W/Trans., ACME 28, Boman Mark IV, V

2007 Dodge 3500, 1 Ton,

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2013 Doosan DX300LL Log Loader. 3.500 hrs.. Forestry Cab. 52' Jewell Grapple \$249,000





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(Continued from Page 6)

Drago the night before and it is was agreed that we would cov- ₹ er all three of their sides and \(\begin{aligned} \begin{aligned} \text{\$z\$} \\ \text{\$z\$} \end{aligned} \] a right of way operation as 5 they were all relatively in the same area, which is about as rare as a day without any tight logs or hang ups in the brush.

The brothers Dave and Tony Drago - 40 and 35 years old respectively - are a couple of ambitious, enterprising young family men engaged in the very challenging occupation of owning and operating a successful and productive logging business.

They've been on their own for about six years now but had a solid background in the woods before taking the big leap into proprietorship.

They have, as mentioned earlier, 3 sides, 2 conventional yarders and a Kobelco 'yoder'.

At the time of this writing they had 17 men in their employ and think very highly of every one of them. They are putting 'daylight in the swamp' every morning when the sun comes up and only complain about tight logs. The owners and crews are looking

> (Continued on Page 12) See "Drago Logging"

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2007 CAT 328D LCR, smooth-edge clean up bucket, hydraulic QC, auxiliary hydraulics, 10'6" stick, very good condition, 6,148 hours...........\$140,000



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2012 JD 300D Series II, very good 23.5Rx25 tires, 4,654 hours, good ma-chine!!!!.....\$235,000

(Continued from Page 7)

forward to a good season, save the impending dour of the sure to be forthcoming hoot owl season that

will curtail operations during the annual 'dog days of Summer' that are just down the road.

Our first stop wasn't all that far from our meeting place in Lorane, it was up above the Hamm Road area. This neck of the woods is for the most part second growth timber, predominantly Doug fir with the usual spattering hemlock and cedars one will find in the coast range, more than a few are of some respectable size. Charles Dodge is the cutting contractor that keeps them in timber and the owners have been known to put a few on the ground as well.

At stop number one was the Link-Belt 7240 with Noah Hamb on the sticks and Chris Portugal tending to the ground work and Joe Lowrey, a cutter was there as well.

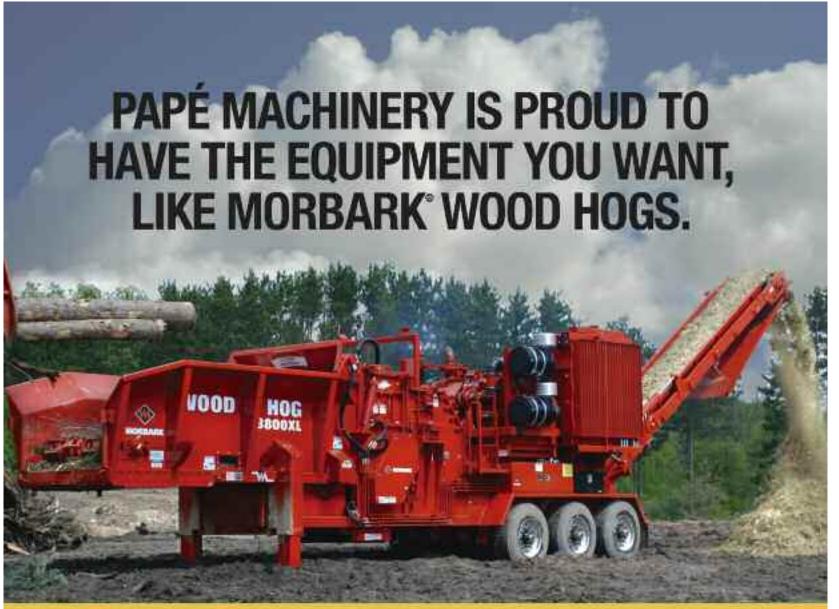
The Link-Belt was there alone doing right of way and getting things ready for the Yoder to set up in the near future. They had a dog there - but his name esger, didn't even try to bite me.

Our second stop was in the general area and there to greet me was sweet little Diamond 210 swing yarder, 3 guy

capes me - friendly little bug- lines and what I guess as and an easy one piece moving about a forty-foot A frame. I'd never been around one before and I thought it did fine job of it. It was fast and quiet, had nice tear downs and re-rigs

Hanging on the skyline was the Van Damme boys'

> (Continued on Page 16) See "Drago Logging"



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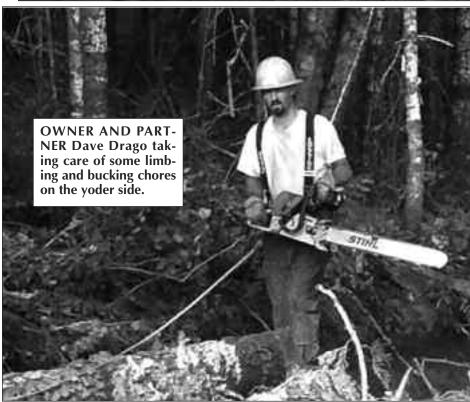
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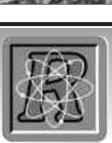
LOGGERS WORLD JUNE 2015



TOWERING OVER THE LANDING, the Diamond swing yarder is operated by Shane Rayburn while the John Deere 2154 shovel is run by Larry Coon around Vaughn mill near Crow, OR.

The owners and crews of Drago Borthers are looking forward to a good season, save the impending dour of the sure to be forthcoming hoot owl season that will curtail operations during the annual 'dog days of Summer' that are just down the road.





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(Continued from Page 12)

contribution to mechanized logging, the venerable and dependable 'Acme' carriage just tearing up and down the hill like a yo yo. Well maybe not that fast, but I was impressed. Keeping the landing clear and the truck drivers from getting too comfy was a two-year-old John Deere 2154 and poor little beat up blue thing that Dave said was a Danzco delimber, in spite of its haggard appearance it did a yoeman's job of what was asked of it. It's got one cylinder and Dave said it gets beat around pretty good and I believe him, never seen one before, I'd wager chasers love

Up in the roost of that Diamond yarder was Shane Rayburn and Larry Coon was in the John Deere shovel. Doing a fair amount of running around was the chaser, Dave Jaques, who would be doing a lot more moving around if he didn't have that little blue thing Dave called the Danzco delimber over there chuggin' away.

For the rigging crew there was Gaston Arnold tending hook and two riggers, Phil Bennet and Kainan Brown, I didn't even see them. I 'spose I could have hiked down there but then they would have to pack me out and they'd get tired of that in a hurry. If they had a dog it was out on the riggin down in the hole with the crew.

The next stop was out of Crow up above the old mill at Vaughn, I thought they had drove around in a circle as when we arrived there were the same two pieces of equipment, a sweet little Diamond swinger and a nice John Deere shovel with an Acme carriage to boot and it dawns on me...they have a plan as the Drago Brothers are a very mobile operation which in today's timber business climate can be a very helpful edge - going from can't to can every day.

Up in the cab of the Diamond yarder was Adam Phillips, aka 'Scooter' filling the chute for shovel operator Ted Hites in the John Deere 2154 to sort, load out and chaser Bill Hunter to limb, buck and brand without the aid of one of those Danzco delimbin' rigs.

The boys in the brush are Gabe Piechowicz tending hook and two riggers Ross

(Continued on Page 18)
See "Drago Brothers"



HOOK TENDER Gaston Arnold watches the Acme carriage head up to the landing to turn in another tow.



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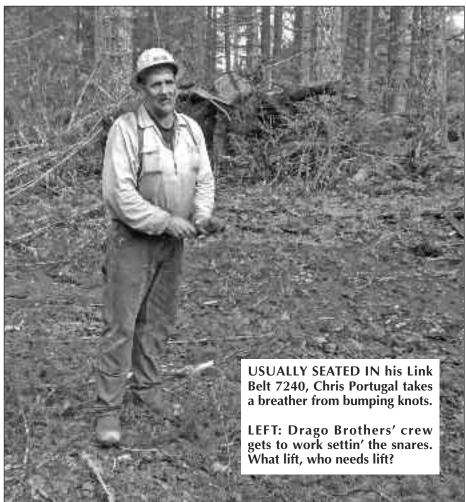
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Drago Brothers

(Continued from Page 16)

Gast and Thomas Moore. On this particular setting they had employed the intermediate suspension system with the J- bar to facilitate the 'benching' terrain, on a few of their roads they had to use two of them and were still at a want for lift at times in the vicinity of the lift tree where the bar was hung.

I was impressed at how quickly they meet and adapt to the many challenges they confront and do it on the fly. If a guy is looking for a job with a lot of slack time between turns and road changes I wouldn't recommend Drago Brothers. Hot and cold chokers, you run in for a job and out for your hide, come bleed or blister those Drago boys'll git 'er.

Not long before we were about to depart, Dave Drago's son, Cole, a senior at Triangle Lake High School came up and was doing a little journalism of his own for a project for school and out of professional courtesy I got a few shots of him doing his thing....Garth Brooks nailed it when he said; 'the competition's getting younger'! Cole will be starting out his logging career in the brush on



the rigging after his graduation from high school this year.

Our last stop of the day was in the Blachly-Horton area on a small private job, around forty acres or so employing the Kobelco 300 Yoder with Stan Freeman at the voke.

Down over the bank on the rigging was Travis Householder and Cody Ware-Drago, Dave's son, in a patch of really nice second growth, mostly tree length. I'd never seen a

Yoder at work before and was amazed at the wood that rig could pull without being guyed down.

Dave and Tony explained to me that it is walked up on a berm or log to get a little backward deflection and is engineered for the boom to bleed off should it have a load put on it that might put it in danger of going over.

I must apologize to the readers for my lack of landing and up close pictures but I was to have a surgery on my arm in 2 days and was physically unable to be out tripping around in the brush where I normally spend most of my time trying to get up off the ground.

Twenty-some years in the woods has beat me up pretty good. I got all the shots I could from our location at the bottom of the hill. The guys had to get back to another site for a pow wow with the Forest Service and a super size chili dog at the D Q in Veneta.

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ABOVE: Pulling the Acme carriage up high to get a good run back down the hill to the waiting rigging crew. **LEFT:** Dave Jaques undoes the snares on another turn.

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2015 Deming Logging Show Bull of the Woods - Gordy Iverson



Gordon Iverson's with connection this industry began 42 years before his birth, in 1902, in the Shingle Mill near Bellingham on the corner of Smith and Hannegan. His future Grandmother (Ida) was working in the Cookhouse, and his future Grandfather (Ole) running it, along with Ole's Brothers Tom and Iver.

In 1912 the Family Moved to Custer, WA where Grandpa Ole ran the Modern Mill at Sunrise Corner. In 1918 they moved to Gordon's childhood home on the Birch-Bay Lynden Road, where Ole built the Iverson Lumber Company, which included the Iverson Saw Mill and the Iverson Shingle Mill. The Mill was run by Ole until his death in 1948, and was then run by his Son's Gilbert (Gordon's Father) and Leo Iverson.

Thus Gordon was born in December 1944, with a steam operated Saw mill in his backyard, and grew up with his Brother Gary, 2 Sisters Helen-Ann and Ilene, and 15 first cousins living within a quarter of mile of one another. He was too young to work in the Mill, but he remembered truck drivers like Dick Zender letting him run the trailer loader. After closing the Saw Mill in 1960, Gilbert and Leo purchased the Iverson Supply stores in Bellingham on Railroad Avenue and later on State Street. By then Gordon was old enough to help in the stores by cleaning, stocking, and other various chores where he would meet many of the Founding Members of the Deming Log Show. He was a spectator at the first ever Deming Log Show in 1963, and since then, has only missed the shows during his time in the US Army.

Following graduating from Ferndale High School in 1963, Gordon attended the University of Washington where he received his degree in Logging Engineering from the School of Forestry. During summers and vacations from the U, he would work in the Timber

Department at Georgia Pacific in Bellingham, where his boss on the first day was future Bull of the Woods Winton Wefer. Upon graduation he volunteered for service in the US Army, attended Army Engineer School, served 1 year as Post-Forester in Fort Knox, KY, and 1 year in Vietnam as Engineer Officer.

Returning from Vietnam in 1970, he was hired by Georgia Pacific as an Assistant Logging Engineer, and spent the next 18 years at G.P.. He was given many opportunities which resulted in being named the Logging Manager for the Bellingham Division. During this time he continued to work many D.L.S. Bull of the Woods, Presidents, and Members, including Father-In-Law Bill Corning who he went to work for in 1988 at W.C. & Son, which led to an opportunity to form Amber Enterprises with Reg Dickhaus, and build a Timber Department at Trillium Corporation for his cousin David Syre.

Gordon married his wife Carol in 1987, and has two children Billy and Amber. The Family has enjoyed many adventures and travels, including visiting Gordon all over the globe. The Logging Industry has afforded Gordon the opportunity to work from Kodiak Island, Alaska to Punta Arenas, Chile, from the East Coast of the United States to Hawaii and Japan. In recent years, Gordon has been managing Timber and Timberland for his own Company C&G Timber Inc., and helping Chris Secrist with the management TimberTec Inc. a Commercial Thinning Operation out of Bellingham.

"50 years ago this month, I first went to work for Georgia Pacific. I have enjoyed all 50 years working in this industry, especially working with members of this Deming Logging Show. I am greatly honored to be the 2015 Bull of the Woods."

- Gordon Iverson, The Bull





Summary Judgment....

Will a Four-Decade Old Law Limit Obama's **Land Powers??**

by William Perry Pendley

A "Sagebrush Rebellion" like the one that propelled Ronald Reagan ("Count me in as a [sagebrush] rebel.") into the Oval Office is making national news because President Obama governs like President

Carter. Obama's Interior Secretary, for example, threatens more unilateral land lockup decrees if westerners do not embrace legislation putting vast areas off-limits to "multiple [economic and recreational] use." In fact, Congress long ago tired of this abuse by the Executive of a power the Constitution gives Congress alone and enacted legislation to end it. That law is headed to the Supreme Court.

Because the "Property Clause" vests solely in Congress the power to manage federal lands ("Congress shall have Power to dispose of and

make all needful Rules and Regula- 21 tions respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States."), for the Executive to exercise power over federal lands Congress must delegate it that power. For almost 200 years, no single act defined the Executive's power 5 over public lands; on occasion however, Congress passed legislation delegating power to withdraw federal lands to the Executive al lands to the Executive.

Not surprisingly, therefore—given by that nature and the law abhor a vacuum—in the absence of statutory authority, the president often temporarily withdrew public lands from operation of federal lands laws, as to mining for example, in aid of legislation regarding those lands. Perhaps unexpectedly, in 1915, the Supreme Court held that acquiescence by Congress to these withdrawals provided the president with implied authority to make them, but the Court acknowledged Congress could legislatively revoke that authority.

Meanwhile, in 1910, Congress passed legislation delegating to the Executive limited authority to make temporary withdrawals "for waterpower sites, irrigation, classification of lands, or other public purposes..., but the Supreme Court declined to rule on whether that act repealed the Executive's implied authority. In 1941, FDR's Attorney General opined that the Executive had implied authority to make any withdrawal, even beyond that authorized by the 1910 Act. In 1958, Congress limited the Executive's individual defense withdrawals to less than 5,000 acres each. In 1964, Congress created the Public Land Law Review Commission, which reported in 1970 that Executive withdrawals were "uncontrolled and haphazard," and proposed "Congress assert its constitutional authority by enacting legislation reserving unto itself exclusive authority to withdraw or otherwise set aside public land for specified limited-purpose uses."

In 1976, with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Congress did just that. It repealed 29 withdrawal statutes, overruled the Supreme Court's 1915 ruling, and revoked any and all implied power the Executive may have had to withdraw public lands. It delegated the Executive authority to make specific and limited withdrawals of less than 5,000 acres, but all larger withdrawals required that Congress be notified—with documentation as to the necessity for and impact of the withdrawal—and that the withdrawal survive a "one-House veto"-either a Senate or House concurrent resolution could kill it. In 1983, however, the Supreme Court struck down a different "one-House veto" provision thus invalidating the check on Executive authority Congress sought to impose with its 1976 Act.

In 2012, then Secretary of the Inte-



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22 Summary Judgement

(Continued from Page 21)

டி rior Salazar withdrew over a million acres of uranium-rich federal lands in northwestern Arizona—Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service operated lands north of Grand Canyon National Park, the so-called Arizona Strip. Its mineral value has been long known, which is why it was excluded from the Arizona Wilderness Act. A 120-year old mining organization sued arguing the authority relied upon by the Obama administration would not have existed but for the "one-House

veto" and that, with the veto's unconstitutionality, the delegation of withdrawal authority is likewise null and void. An Arizona federal district court held Congress would have delegated its power anyway and dismissed the case. Now at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the lawsuit could yield one of most decisive constraints on unlimited Executive power in the Republic's history.

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

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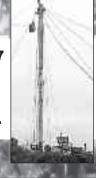


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As We See It

Help Wanted

On March 3, 2015 Congressman Raul Labrador from Idaho reintroduced the Future Logging Careers Ac, H.R. 1215, which would allow the 16 and seventeen year-old sons and daughters of mechanized logging business owners the ability to legally work on their parent's logging operations without worrying about penalties and fines from the Department of Labor or OSHA.

A few days later, Senator Jim Risch from Idaho reintroduced a companion bill in the Senate, S-694. Members of the American Loggers Council were in Washington, DC attending their Spring Board meeting and conducted several visits to Capitol Hill on your behalf, requesting support for both of these measures.

As is routine in Washington, once the bills were introduced in the House and Senate, they were referred to committees, where the majority of Bills that are introduced die. Last year during the 113th Congress, we saw these bills die in committee due to a mid-term election year that detracted both the House and Senate from getting much of anything done. This year, with the newly elected 114th Congress, the opportunity again presents itself to get these bills passed in both the House and the Senate.

There are statistics out there that claim that the bill only has a 1% chance of making out of the committee, and that is why we have now

posted our help wanted sign. Certainly the 60 + representatives from the American Loggers Council did a great job representing you in Washington this past March, but that was only 60 out of an army of thousands! While we believe that there are strength in numbers, those numbers don't mean much if they are not heard from. With close to 10,000 professional timber harvesting businesses being represented by the American Loggers Council, when we voice our concerns and carry our issues to the Hill, then we should be making progress; however, without you being a part of that voice. progress can be exceedingly slow in

We have heard your concerns about labor, and have taken a step to help alleviate some of those concerns. Now we are asking for your help. Please contact your members of Congress, whether it be your Senator, Congressman or Congresswoman, and ask that they support the

Future Logging Careers Act and ask them to sign on as a co-sponsor to the Bill. With more co-sponsors, we can raise the level of awareness and importance of the legislation and help bring it out of committee. It is not going to happen unless you act.

When you have done that, give us a call or send us an e-mail and let us know how they responded, and let's all find out how well we are being represented. Let's see just how serious this Congress is about creating jobs and taking down a few of those help wanted signs.

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

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LOGGERS WORLD JUNE 2015

77th Annual Intermountain Logging Conference

"Embracing Change"

By: Leslie Danielson

As the sun rose on April 8th, no time was wasted as attendees made their way through the booths and the carefully lined equipment for the start of the 77th Intermountain Logging Conference, held at the Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center in Spokane Washington. For 76 years, the conference agenda has stayed true to its past, but this year's theme, "Embracing change", inspired a restyle to the long-standing conference. In a more condensed three-day conference, subject matter was just as compelling as it's ever been. Features included live equipment demos, accompanied by the long established

and the newly developed companies also flaunting their latest and greatest at their exhibitor booths. Attendees as always came away with lots of new information.

The conference began at 9 am sharp, with presentations from just a few of this year's ILC exhibitors / sponsors. Rowand Machinery, John Deere Credit, Western States, and Peters & Keatts Equipment started off the early morning technical session with presentations on some exciting advances in equipment. Beginning with the 848 John Deere L Series Skidder, complete with the new and long awaited swivel seat. This new feature provides better visibility and

convenience for the operator. Caterpillar is also advancing Skidders, with the new Tier 4 engine, providing more power for higher production. Peters & Keatts, showed off their well built Alpine Lowboy Trailers designed for moving all types of equipment.

Opening ceremonies began just after lunch, as incoming ILC president Mike Newton, owner of Mike Newton Logging in Kalispell MT, welcomed and introduced the afternoon session speakers. Katherine Morgan of the Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce gave a warm welcome to all attendees at the conference, as well.

Current President of the Pacific Logging Congress Todd Gordon enlightened the listeners on a brief history of the PLC and its close ties to the ILC, as well as a look at what is to come at the next PLC conference, being held later this year in Hawaii.

Rounding out the opening ceremonies was current ILC President Jerry Kelly, of Kelly Logging, from Missoula Montana. "I can't think of anyone in this room that hasn't made changes. Change is inevitable but embracing it takes courage," the ILC President said. The conference theme not only inspired a restyle to the conference but also carried an important message to the hard working people of the forest industry: continue to have the grit that keeps the industrial wheel turning whether it's in business, family or personal. A great message and theme, which was carried throughout the next two days.

The afternoon panel focused on a variety of industry professionals with the topic, "Educate Yourself, Your Family, and Your Community." Betty

(Continued on Page 25)



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"I can't think of anyone in this room that hasn't made changes. Change is inevitable but embracing it takes courage."

ILC President Jerry Kelly

(Continued from Page 25)

Munis, the director of the Idaho Forest Products Commission (IFPC), stressed the importance of bringing younger generations into the timber industry.

On a similar point, Brad Moehlmann who is a Forester and Resource Supervisor at Plum Creek, talked with attendees about the Flathead Family Forestry Expo and the ways its engaging young student's and their families in many different aspects of the forest industry. Nick Smith Director and founder of Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities (HFHC), presented on the HFHC and its formula to reinstate the well being of our communities and federal forestlands here in the Pacific Northwest. And rounding out with Peter Kolb, an Associate Professor of Forest Ecology & Management at the University of Montana, providing his extensive background and knowledge to the topic.

Thursday was definitely not short on performance as the crowds gathered once again, beginning with earlier morning meetings. Past presidents of the ILC gathered for a separate breakfast meeting. Promptly at 9 am, "You Are Worth What You Negotiate" was in full swing, with speaker Dr. Jerry Evans. Dr. Evans is the Professor for Department of Management Information Systems at the University of

Montana. He engaged the audience in his informative presentation on the art of negotiation, an essential in today's logging world.

During the lunch hour the Keynote speaker introduction began. Bill Imbergamo, who is Executive Director of the Federal Forest Resources Coalition (FFRC), gave a spirited speech on the issues that stand before us in the forest industry. A major component of the FFRC is to refine the Federal Forest Service's fire budget, and implement a more efficient plan to shift the spending to the actual management of the Federal Forest's that we have standing today. Mr. Imbergamo stated, "The current system is unsustainable, socially, economically, and ecologically. Piecemeal reforms hold little promise. The opportunity to change the management paradigm is here", as he wrapped up the session, leaving everyone with the notion that we still have a ways to go, however change is possible.

The late afternoon sessions began with "Change... How It Has Made Our Business Stronger". Presenters from various businesses in the industry gave their insight to the changes that fortified the companies that they represent, beginning with Dennis Krueger a sales manager at SmartLAM, LLC; Ron Gray a fuel manager from Avista Utilities; Scott Atkison of Idaho Forest Group; and wrapping up the session James



Stephens, President and Chief scientific officer of Blue Marble Biomaterials

Friday morning kicked off with official ILC board members business meeting, followed immediately by the ILC general membership meeting, which is open to all who wish to participate. The Round table exercises followed: Recruiting & Retaining Quality Employees - Exploring Solutions. Here John Hansen, of Montana Loggers Association, Betty Munis of the Idaho Forest Products Commission. and Mark Boardman of F.H Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., all provided information on the subject, while attendees broke into three groups. This exercise was to bring to light a formula that will essentially keep and continue reaching quality employees that will proceed to sustain this industry into

As the last lunch was served for the conference the final presenter took to the stage. Kina Repp an advocate and speaker on safety in the work place, gave her gripping and inspiring presentation "Surviving and Thriving", on herself and her work place accident. Her story hits home to many, as she was only twenty years old, and working to pay for college, when she lost her arm the first day on the job. Kina's message is very clear, "You are your own last line of defense in safety. It boils down to you and the decisions you make." A very serious message, carried by a very compassionate person who selflessly shares her experience, so that others can have a chance to make decisions that could essentially save lives. And with liability insurance costs always factored into business costs, work place safety remains critical to the timber industry.

The grand finale was a tribute to an industry veteran, as the Don McKenzie Award was presented to Warren Gardener, an enduring attendee of all except two of the 77 annual conferences. Mr. Gardner has been long established in all areas in and out of the industry. Warren grew up around Caterpillar as a boy, and his fondness only grew. Eventually using his favorite, D8H 46A to build many roads for the Gardner Logging and Road Construction Company. Mr. Gardener's lifelong work and contribution to the industry makes him truly worthy of this year's award.

ILC president Jerry Kelly gave his closing remarks, and inducted Mike Newton as the new ILC president, putting another ILC in the history books.

The deep roots of this conference have grown year after year, due in part by the sponsors that donate time and money, and all who attend every year. It is the people of the industry and the staff of the ILC that uphold the components to keep this conference moving forward. Proving each year that it indeed does "Embrace Change".



Kina Repp an advocate and speaker on safety in the work place, gave her gripping and inspiring presentation "Surviving and Thriving", on herself and her work place accident.



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