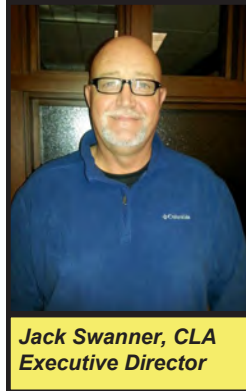


## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

How time flies! It does not seem like two years has passed, but it is time for a new Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. This year's Expo has moved from the Smithfield area to Laurel Hill, NC. The site is located on Highway 74 between Laurinburg and Rockingham, NC. Shoeheel Land Management will be the host of this year's Expo. The site that has been provided is a mature 40-year old stand of loblolly pine that will be clear cut. This stand provides excellent wet weather access and an opportunity to showcase the latest logging, chipping and grinding equipment manufactured. There has been a high level of interest and registration for the show is going well. I anticipate selling all spaces available for vendors. Hotel accommodations can be found in several surrounding towns. Please plan to attend and support this growing Expo.



Jack Swanner, CLA Executive Director

The American Loggers Council Annual Fly-In to Washington, D.C. was held March 29 – April 1, 2017. Representing the Carolina Loggers Association were Keith Biggs and Jimmy Locklear from Forestry Mutual Insurance and myself. Approximately 80 ALC members from across the country were in attendance. More than 155 Hill visits were conducted over the course of the Fly-In. This was a record setting effort by all those that were in attendance. ALC President Ken Martin remarked that "this is the largest gathering of members in Washington, DC in our 23-year history."

Jimmy, Keith and I made visits with Jason Harvey, Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Virginia Foxx of the 5th District, North Carolina; Dennis Sills, Senior Legislative Assistant to Congressman G.K. Butterfield of the 1st District, North Carolina; Paul A. Fitzpatrick, Chief of Staff to Congressman Mark Meadows of the 11th District, North Carolina; Maggie Ayrea, Legislative Assistant to Congressman Walter B. Jones of the 3rd District, North Carolina; Nick Bell Legislative Assistant to North Carolina Senator Thom Tillis. Also, we

had the pleasure of meeting with 7th district, North Carolina Congressman David Rouzer.

Several issues were discussed while we were in Washington. The two topics that lead our discussions



Jack Swanner, Jimmy Locklear, David Rouzer, Keith Biggs.

were the Right to Haul Act, which would allow you as a member to haul the same weight tolerances on US Interstates that you can now haul on State Highways. Also discussed was The Future Logging Careers Act which would allow sons and daughters of logging business owners to be trained under their parents' supervision on mechanized operations starting at age 16 years as opposed to the

current law that requires them to be 18. I can report that there has been significant movement on The Future Logging Careers Act and hopefully this will soon become law. Next year please plan to attend this event. It is very helpful when we show up in numbers with members from each district.

*Jack Swanner*

### August 2017 Volume 10, No. 1

The Carolina Logging Association is a non-profit corporation organized to promote logging professionalism and business opportunities for the entire forest products network that logging supports by:

- being a specific and unified voice for timber harvesters in NC,
- increasing the professionalism of the timber harvesting industry by networking information and using business contacts,
- educating others about how the logging industry harvests and transports products safely and with sound environmental practices,
- maintaining professionalism by promoting and aiding in state certified logger education programs and continuing education components, and by continuously promoting worker safety and professionalism in the logging industry by creating and maintaining relationships with other industry associations, government agencies, and allied industry partners.

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#### Inside This Issue

<b>Executive Director's Corner</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Drug Making Garbage Found on Logging Sites</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Message from the Chairman of the Board</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Emerald Ash Borer Found in More Areas of the State</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>As We See It... Making Biomass Viable for the Future</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CLA Holds Annual Meeting in Wilmington</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>What's Happening With the Carolina Logger Association?</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>The Crucial Trucking Sector is Losing Traction. You Can Help.</b>	<b>15</b>



## Drug Making Garbage Found on Logging Sites

There is an alarming increase in the abuse of legal/illegal drugs by so many individuals today. Methamphetamine (meth) use continues to rise in many parts of the U.S. and rural areas are no exception. It seems that it was only a matter of time before this new danger was found around our logging sites. We have heard that several loggers have found a pile of "household" garbage! This used to be the result of a common "litterbug" and was little more than a nuisance.



However, recently, we have found this to be the leftover garbage from a one-pot or "shake-and-bake" meth lab. These can be deadly.

Telltale warning signs that the trash may be from a meth operation include plastic 2 liter bottles, batteries, antifreeze containers, lantern fuel cans, coolers and ice packs. These are just a sample of the trash left behind from someone cooking meth.

While your first thought may be to pick up this trash, or move it out of your way, **DON'T**. Meth lab waste residue is highly toxic and can cause severe injuries. Exposure to the chemical byproducts used to produce meth can affect the central nervous system, cardiovascular system, heart, liver, kidneys, eyes and skin. These chemicals are also extremely flammable and explosive. This can cause acid burns to the body or even death. In case of accidental exposure to these chemicals, water is the most important element in first aid. Wash your skin and/or eyes and seek immediate medical attention. Make sure your employees are made aware of the hazards they may encounter.

If you suspect your jobsite is contaminated with "trash" from making methamphetamine, take all the proper precautions for fire and chemical explosions, move quickly away from the container and contact your local law enforcement or dial 911.

Also, as more frequent illegal drug use is encountered, be aware of the symptoms of meth use by employees. The following are symptoms that you may encounter:

- Dilated pupils, dark circles or bags under their eyes.
- Increased sensitivity to noise and light
- Increased level of self confidence and euphoria
- "Wired" - Restless, excitable and anxious

- Noticeable change in sleeping patterns
- Weight loss (rapid, extreme)
- Irritability or aggressiveness
- Drastic mood swings
- Dizziness or confusion, disconnected chatter
- Complaints of chest pain, rapid breathing
- Excessive sweating and body odor
- Bad breath, poor dental hygiene and tooth grinding
- Dry, itchy skin
- Hanging out with a different group of friends
- Subtle changes in conversations and behavior with friends (use coded language, more secretive about possessions or activities)
- Negative change in appearance, greasy hair, skin sores
- Change in attire, clothes that highlight drug use
- Noticeable change in values, lying, stealing, etc.
- Increase in borrowing money or trading of possessions

If you suspect drug use by your employee and have a drug-free workplace program, you can require them to be drug tested for reasonable suspicion. Employees under the influence of illegal or illicit drugs can be a hazard to you, your employees or your equipment.



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## Message from The Chairman of the Board

I hope all is well. As I was called and reminded to get this article ready I was in the middle of the woods sitting in my office (otherwise known as my pickup truck). As I'm looking down the road seven beautiful turkeys are struttin' across. How many of y'all get to see that sitting in your office?

Then I travel down to the backside of the block we're cutting in, I see fellerbunchers cutting timber and tractors moving wood to the landing. There I see two deer walking around just grazing alone and turn to look up the road and see a big bear with three little ones all feeding. As I stop and look, one beer stood up on their back legs, looked at me then got back down and started feeding again. Then they just moseyed off.

Once I made it back to the site I ran into a few truck drivers who were waiting to be loaded. We chatted and caught up on gossip all the while with a smile on their faces. As I pulled on down the road I realized I must have one of the best jobs in the world as a logger. I know we have our ups and downs like any other business but we work with mother nature and have been since the beginning of time. We have always worked with the environment to have better forests, cleaner water and cleaner air. We haven't done a bad job either, but we can and must do better.

We need to let others know what we're doing and how we do it. We must toot our own horn. I know it's hard to get out of the woods so we must figure out other ways to get the story out. The CLA can help you to get your story out. **We have bottled water for purchase you get to special events different groups for different activities the list goes on and on help us share our story.** When I got to the landing I'm thinking "man I don't have a thing to talk about this month for the newsletter". Sorry about that but as I get to the road, the phone rings. The mills call and says you're not on quota bring all you can. I sure hope all this is not a dream.

### Part 2

We will be reflecting back on lots of things and we need everyone's participation. Everyone can remember back so everybody should be able to contribute to this column. I'd like to start off by reflecting back on cool water. When I started working we had a well (which is a big hole in the ground) and we threw a bucket into it and then pulled up a bucket of water on return. We had one dipper hanging on a nail and everyone used the same dipper. Man was that good water! It wasn't



**Billy Corey — CLA Chairman of the Board**

long before we would put water in a quart jar with a little ice and wrap it up in newspaper and carry it to work with us. When you had a drink - it was the best thing in the world! It wasn't long before we had a 5-gallon bucket with ice and water - Lord I thought I had gone to heaven! We still had just the one dipper for everyone. Then we graduated to an Igloo plastic jug and we thought we were downtown! Life was good but we still had just that one dipper or empty Pepsi bottle. It wasn't long before everyone said that we didn't need to drink after one another. So, then we each had our own individual Pepsi bottle. A little later we went on to using paper cups that looked like a little funnel. Those cups would blow all over the woods. But right about that time along came the plastic water bottle. I asked myself, "who in the world would pay for a drink of water?" I had been drinking water all my life for free and was not about to start paying for it now. But look at us now! I never saw this coming. I must have been working too much and not paying attention. Had I not been so bullheaded and stopped thinking of the cool water and thought more about convenience - I might not be logging today, but instead selling convenience - you decide.

There are many topics of reflection that we like to share (telephones, automobiles - anything else you can think of). Please take the time and jot down your thoughts and send to the Association.

*Best Regards,*  
*Billy Corey*  
Chairman of the Board

## EMERALD ASH BORER FOUND IN MORE AREAS OF THE STATE



June 29, 2017

RALEIGH – Add Cabarrus and Mitchell to the list of North Carolina counties where the emerald ash borer has been discovered. The invasive pest, which was discovered in the Asheville city limits in early June, has now been confirmed in 27 counties.

EAB is a metallic green beetle that bores into ash trees and feeds on tissues

beneath the bark, ultimately killing the tree. The signs and symptoms of EAB aren't always immediately noticeable because EAB damages the inside of the tree. Adult borers lay eggs on the bark of ash trees. When the eggs hatch, the larvae bore into the bark and feed on the transportation tissues of the tree. This disrupts the movement of nutrients and water within the tree, causing the tree's slow death,





(Continued from page 4)

typically in three to five years.

The signs and symptoms of EAB infestation include thinning and dying crowns; increased woodpecker

activity that causes the tree to look like it is losing patches of bark; small, 1/8-inch D-shaped exit holes where adult beetles emerged from the trees; galleries on the inside of the bark; cream-colored larvae; and epicormic sprouting, or sprouting from the main stem of the tree.

Host plants include all native ash trees and native white fringetree. The Chinese white fringetree, often planted for ornamental purposes, is believed to be resistant.

EAB, a non-native invasive insect from Asia, has been found in the following counties: Buncombe, Cabarrus, Catawba, Davidson, Durham, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Graham, Granville, Guilford, Iredell, Johnston, Lincoln, Madison, Mitchell, Mecklenburg, Orange, Person, Randolph, Swain, Vance, Wake, Warren, Wayne, Wilson and Yancey.

The entire state of North Carolina is under a quarantine for EAB. This prohibits the movement of ash plant parts, the insect itself, ash nursery stock and all hardwood firewood into non-quarantined areas such as South Carolina or central Tennessee.

Adult EAB beetles are about a half-inch long and 1/8-inch wide. If their wing covers are pried up, their bodies are a metallic purplish-red color. In North Carolina, the adult EAB is expected to be active in late spring and early summer, likely April through June. EAB larvae may be found under the bark of the tree most of the year.

For more information about EAB, visit [www.ncforestservice.gov](http://www.ncforestservice.gov). Once there, follow the links under the "Forest Health" section. To view current Federal EAB quarantine visit [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov) and search for Emerald Ash Borer.

The spread of invasive insects in the state is often due to human activity through the transportation of infested wood products such as firewood. It is strongly recommended that people burn local or treated firewood to reduce the spread of invasive pests.

The North Carolina Forest Health Branch monitors the spread of invasive pests. People who suspect there is an infested tree in an area near them should contact their county ranger. The contact information can be found online following the links under the "contacts" heading.



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## Making Biomass Viable for the Future

*By: Danny Dructor*



As professional timber harvesters we understand the importance of biomass energy to the future of our industry. Not only does it help open and expand markets for our businesses, it helps makes operations and logging jobs more economical.

Yet the future of the biomass industry is uncertain given the current

regulatory environment and the fluctuating costs of natural gas and other energies. As companies consider making large investments in new or existing biomass facilities, they need stability and certainty to ensure those investments pencil out.

Earlier this year the U.S. Congress took the first step toward providing that needed stability and certainty. The 2017 Omnibus Appropriations bill included language clarifying federal regulatory policy to reflect the carbon-neutrality of forest-based biomass, a policy that ensures biomass plays a part in government energy standards.

But that is probably not enough. The Biomass Power Association wants to go further to make this renewable energy more viable, as well as promote and protect the development of facilities throughout the country.

At the ALC Spring Fly-In BPA's Bob Cleaves asked us to support the reintroduction of legislation to extend the Renewable Electricity Production Credit ("PTC") for existing "open loop" biomass facilities for the 10 year period that was originally granted for new facilities. The legislation is expected to be brought forward by U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez of New Jersey with bipartisan co-sponsors.

The PTC works as an income tax credit allowing for the production of electricity from qualified energy resources at qualified facilities, which can be used by the facility or the power purchaser. Those that commenced construction prior to December 31, 2016 were eligible to claim the PTC for 10 years after the qualifying facility is placed in service, but that provision has now expired with no extension.

The PTC also offered different benefits for certain open- and closed loop facilities, which only served to favor some industries over others. A multi-year deal would help correct the tilted policies that have awarded some renewable technologies billions of dollars – helping

them become independently successful – and others a small fraction of the PTC.

Many biomass facilities began production decades before the PTC began – meaning that they haven't had the opportunity to qualify for the full 10-year credit received by newer technologies. Additionally, low natural gas prices are making it difficult for utilities to sign new contracts with biomass facilities. The extension of the PTC to biomass facilities would help offset the cost of fuel, keeping the supply chain operating. It would also help keep loggers employed by preserving an important revenue stream.

Stay tuned for more updates on this proposed legislation. Here at ALC, we are looking forward to seeing the language of the bill, and we will keep you informed of the bill's status and other opportunities to support the biomass sector.

Danny Dructor is the Executive Vice President for the American Loggers Council with offices near Hemphill, Texas. The American Loggers Council is a 501 (c)(6) not for profit trade organization representing professional timber harvesters in 32 states across the United States. If you would like to learn more about the ALC, please visit their web site at [www.amloggers.com](http://www.amloggers.com), or contact their office at 409-625-0206.

*The American Loggers Council is a 501 (c)(6) not for profit trade organization representing professional timber harvesters in 32 states across the United States. If you would like to learn more about the ALC, please visit their web site at [www.amloggers.com](http://www.amloggers.com), or contact their office at 409-625-0206.*



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## CLA HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING IN WILMINGTON

By Chris Brown, North Carolina Forestry Association

The Carolina Loggers Association (CLA) held its Annual Meeting February 24-25 at the Hilton Riverside in Wilmington, North Carolina. Over 160 forestry professionals participated in the two-day event that focused on truck safety.



Robert and Lindsay Fricke, Joanne Reese, Jack Swanner



Joe Ross and Aaron Piper



Perry Hunt

The meeting got underway on Friday night with a reception followed by a dinner. On Saturday morning, the CLA conducted a quick business meeting where Perry Hunt, the CLA's Treasurer, reported the association was on solid financial footing heading 2017.

The speaking program included talks from Nick Carter of Forestry Mutual, Randy Thompkins of Mayberry Safety Solutions, and Rick Cowan of Ag

Carolina Farm Credit. Chad Porter shared a motivational address to round out the morning speaking program. Joanne Reese encouraged members to be more involved in the Log A Load for Kids Charity that supports the Children's Miracle Network.



Paula and Landis Bullock



Joanne Reese



Billy Corey



Mac and Catherine McLaurin, Bryan and Lois Wagner



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## ***Future Logging Careers Act Clears House Committee in Larger Resilient Federal Forests Act***

**June 27, 2017, Hemphill, TX**—In Washington today, the House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on the Resilient Federal Forests Act, H.R. 2396 which included language that would allow the sixteen and seventeen year-old sons and daughters of logging business owners to legally work on their parents job sites under parental supervision. The legislation is a part of the much larger forestry bill which includes streamlining and adding efficiencies to the management of federal forest lands while improving forest health and bolstering the economies of struggling forest dependent communities.



Like farming and ranching, the timber harvesting profession is often a family run business where the practice and techniques of harvesting and transporting forest products from the forest to receiving mills is passed down from one generation to the next. Timber harvesting operations are very similar to family farms with sophisticated and expensive harvesting equipment that requires young men and women to learn how to run the business, including equipment operation and maintenance, prior to obtaining the age of eighteen. Currently, there are no on-the-ground programs in place to facilitate that training and ensure the sustainability of the timber harvesting industry's next generation of family members who choose to enter the profession. The American Loggers Council (ALC) supports extending the agricultural exemption now enjoyed by family farmers and ranchers to train their sixteen and seventeen year old sons and daughters to carry on the family business to mechanical timber harvesters.

"Voters sent a clear message that it's time to put Americans back to work, and strengthening the forest products industry is one way to accomplish that goal in communities across the country," said Daniel Dructor, ALC Executive Vice President. "Professional timber harvesters provide the raw materials that supports manufacturing jobs in many sectors, from lumber to renewable energy. Many logging companies are small, family-owned businesses. To keep American loggers working in the woods, President Trump and Congress should pursue reforms in federal regulations and land management, as well as labor, transportation and energy policies."

American Loggers Council members first brought the language to the attention of Congress in 2014, and have received support from all sectors of the forest products industry. The language has already received bipartisan support in the Senate.

The American Loggers Council is the only national organization solely dedicated to representing the independent contract logger on the national level. We have the combined forces of independent contractors and state and regional logging associations around the

country to impact our industry positively and pro-actively by sharing the benefits of education and training opportunities, networking, research, promotion and legislative coordination. The Council is committed to enhancing the logging profession, establishing a more level playing field for professional loggers and providing accurate information about the logging profession to the forest products companies, landowners and the public. It serves as a national network and communication center, linking local, state and regional organizations around the country.

CONTACT: Daniel Dructor, 409-625-0206, [americanlogger@aol.com](mailto:americanlogger@aol.com)

### **ACTION ALERT! Urge Your Senators to Support the Regulatory Accountability Act!**

Passing the Regulatory Accountability Act is a top priority of the American Loggers Council for the 115th United States Congress. With this legislation we have a historic opportunity to dramatically improve the regulatory process and to increase the competitiveness of the American wood products industry.

To read our position statement on federal regulatory reform, please visit [http://www.amloggers.com/pdf/regulatory\\_accountability\\_act.pdf](http://www.amloggers.com/pdf/regulatory_accountability_act.pdf)

Please join ALC and the American Forest & Paper Association in urging the Senate to act on legislation providing system-wide regulatory reform! To support this effort, visit [www.healthyforests.org](http://www.healthyforests.org) ACTION CENTER to send a message to your federal representatives.

Professional timber harvesters in the United States are subject to the most rigorous environmental laws in the world. Though well-intentioned, many laws affecting our industry have become misapplied and misinterpreted through administrative rule-making and litigation. Today's federal regulatory structure has become counterproductive and costly to our small, predominately family-owned businesses. It no longer serves the needs of our forests, natural resources, communities and national economy.

We support the Regulatory Accountability Act of 2017 (RAA) to improve the process for writing federal regulations. The RAA would ensure that regulations pass a cost-benefit test and do more good than harm. It was introduced as S. 951 in the Senate by Senators Rob Portman (R-OH) and Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), passed out of committee in May, and is ready for the full Senate to consider. A similar bill passed in the House of Representatives earlier this year.

Help us pass a key ALC priority for loggers across the nation, visit [healthyforests.org/](http://healthyforests.org/) to support the Regulatory Accountability Act!





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## What's Happening With the Carolina Logger Association?



The CLA has teamed up with the North Carolina Forestry Association in a collaborative effort by utilizing Jack within both organizations

through work on projects that are mutually beneficial to both associations. These projects include, but are not limited, to the transportation bill to be able to haul higher weights on the interstate, the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Biomass EXPO, and growing the membership for both the CLA and the NCFA.

Log A Load for Kids Scotch Meadows Golf Tournament was a huge success raising over \$7,000 for Duke Children's Hospital.

The Association is helping with the recovery and rebuilding efforts after Hurricane Matthew by donating funds to a local church in Lumberton and working on refurbishing a home that was damaged by the storm. We would like to thank Kenny Cain of Lumber River Timber Company for reaching out to the CLA and allowing us the opportunity to help with the relief effort.

We raised over \$4,500 for Log a Load for Kids at our Annual Meeting. If anyone is interested in hosting an event to benefit Log a Load for Kids please contact Joanne Reese at [joannereese@embarqmail.com](mailto:joannereese@embarqmail.com).

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## THE CRUCIAL TRUCKING SECTOR IS LOSING TRACTION. YOU CAN HELP.



### **WHO WE ARE TEAM** - Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

Team Safe Trucking (TST) is a broad-based, non-profit 501(c)3 volunteer group committed to elevating the safety level and performance of the American forest industry's troubled transportation sector. Working together, TST has addressed many serious issues confronting log/chip trucking and has developed a program designed to help alleviate some of its most crucial problems.

**OUR MISSION** Provide a forum for integral aspects of the forest products industry - production, consumption, insurance, associations and other advocates - to work together. Their efforts will drive the log/chip trucking sector to a more accountable and professional level.

Develop a comprehensive safety education (training) curriculum for log/chip truck drivers.

Develop a website with tools to advance the strength of log/chip trucking. Items to include: tips for recruiting and retaining drivers; tips to move owners from reactive to proactive fleet managers; ideas to improve trucking efficiency; and ways to improve the sector's public image.

### **WHY SHOULD I CARE** Doing it by the Book

Trucks supply the great majority of the logs and wood fiber consumed by the nation's forest products plants. It's imperative that they keep rolling—but in a safer, more businesslike, more accountable manner.

### **We do more than 2x4's**

Besides paper and two by fours wood products make up packing material, shipping materials and the pulp from wood is found in everything from the medicine you take to the cell phone screen in your pocket. If there is a crisis facing the forestry industry it will impact every aspect of daily life.

**JOIN THE TEAM** We are always looking for people who feel as passionate as we do about the Forestry Industry. Come help us out.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP? Spread the Word** Visit our website and help us spread the word through social media and word of mouth.

**Make a Donation** As a 501(c)3 we rely on every dollar we can raise to help support this incredibly important endeavor.

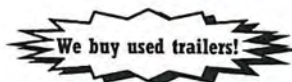
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