



LOGGER'S VOICE QUARTERLY

STANDING STRONG FOR LOGGERS



Regional Meetings “A Path of Success”

Starting with this month’s Regional Meetings, PLC members can benefit from our upcoming workshop series. The Regional meetings will kick-off the series entitled, “A Path of Success,” with overviews and interactive sessions covering “SafetyFirst” discussing trends and measures to reduce risk and “Business Enhancement” through total business assessment.

You should have received your registration form in the mail with meeting dates, times and locations. Plus detailed information on presenters and workshop content. If you haven’t received your Registration Form please give us a call.

Make sure to join us. This will be an interactive afternoon followed by networking and dinner. We won’t be talking at you, but talking with you about safety and solutions, business enhancement possibilities and the importance of political action. It is so important to examine opportunities and challenges from every angle — whether it is risk, marketing, public policy, financial plans, technology or human capital — and that is how we can help! These regional events are just a start, to help you the leaders in professional logging. Bring your staff, safety coordinator, or how about... *Invite a Guest, another professional logger!*

Topics include: Maine Department of Labor—SafetyWorks Program, Acadia Insurance—Safety Trends and Safety Dividend Program, Safety Round Table—Take your Meetings to the Next Level, and Business Enhancement—financial planning, transition planning, employee incentives and more.

Director Update	2
What’s Up on the Web/Intel	2
Safety First	3
PLC Spotlight	4
Freedom vs. Feds	4



See you at the Regional Meetings!

As fall approaches we look forward to seeing you at one of our Regional Meetings later this month. Please be sure to complete and send back your registration by September 10th. If you haven't received a registration form, call the office 688-8195 and we can get one out to you.

Monday, Sept. 20th

St. Agatha at the Lake View Restaurant

Tuesday, Sept. 21st

Lincoln at Gillmor's Restaurant

Tuesday, Sept. 28th

Waterville at Governor's Restaurant

Wednesday, Sept. 29th

Windham at Charlie Beigg's Restaurant

Thanks to our partners in the Safety Dividend Program for your continued commitment to a safe workplace. If you are not in the program and are insured through Acadia, give us a call to find out more.

We recently completed an upgrade to the PLC website: www.maine-loggers.com additions include current member

information, the SafetyFirst! page where we'll post updated safety information you can share with your teams as well as links to helpful safety content. The Logging Zone page is ready to roll – PLC's own classifieds section. If you've got equipment to sell, are looking for equipment to buy or just have something general to sell, buy, or trade, the Logging Zone is a free service to PLC members. "Log on" and take a look at the new site.

The 2010 elections are fast approaching. PLC of Maine will be sending a General Election Preview with background information on the candidates for Governor, Congress and the Bond Questions. This November we will also be voting for the entire Maine Senate and Maine House of Representatives and many local candidates. Take the time to find out about all the races in your area by attending candidate forums, attend county meetings and ask questions of those who seek to represent you. This election season provides a great opportunity for real change, which starts with individuals at the grass roots level standing for candidates that support business and our industry.

I look forward to seeing you all in September at one of our regional meetings.

Sincerely,

Mike



"Elections should be held on April 16th- the day after we pay our income taxes. That is one of the few things that might discourage politicians from being big spenders."

— Thomas Sowell

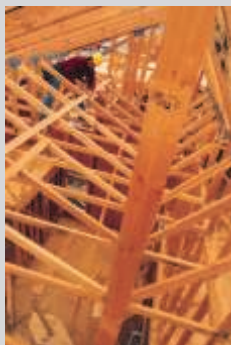


What's Up on the Web & Industry INTEL

PAPER! A New York Times editorial sets the record straight: "Paper or Plastic?" dated 05-28-2010 – "The record needs to be set straight on paper

bags. When it comes to choosing a grocery bag for the environmentally conscious...Paper is the renewable and sustainable choice". Read more of the editorial by Cathy Foley www.nytimes.com/2010/06/01/opinion/lweb01bag.html

SALES PLUNGE—U.S. Existing Home Sales in Record Plunge—August sales of existing houses plunged by a record 27% in July as the effects of the tax credit waned, showing a lack of jobs threatens to undermine a recovery. Purchases also plummeted to a 3.83 million annual pace, the lowest in a decade and worse than the most pessimistic forecasts. Bloomberg, bloomberg.com



GOOD NEWS—We are sure this is due to our members focusing on safety every day. Worker deaths fell in 2009, with a significant drop in forestry-related deaths leading the way, according to a preliminary federal report on workplace safety. And while forestry and logging regularly make the [Bureau of Labor Statistics'](http://www.bls.gov) list for most-dangerous jobs, the industry saw fatal injuries fall by 50 percent last year according to a Bangor Daily News article. See the full article bangordailynews.com.

Great Web Safety Links!

There are lots of links to find Safety Plan and Safety Meeting ideas. SafetyWorks representative, Dave Wacker will be at our regional meeting to review what they have to offer free of charge. You can borrow Safety videos and other materials to keep your tailgate meetings on the cutting edge.

ME DOL www.safetyworksmaine.com/

Logging Safety Research, NIOSH www.cdc.gov/niosh/injury/traumalog.html

OSHA logging etool www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/logging/mainpage.html



Kennebec Woodland Partnership - 56 days until the KWP conference! Oct 21-23, 2010. As we reminded you last issue if you are in the Kennebec

area save the date. KWP's website is growing, check it out at: www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/kwp/. For more info call 207-449-3070.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEMINAR—September 21. Maine Small Business Development Center will host a Financial Workshop: "Managing By the Numbers". It will be held at CEI, Skowhegan Savings Bank for more details call 778-6529.

PLC REGIONAL MEETINGS—Don't forget to send in those Registration Forms by September 10th!

Safety First!... where safety starts with you!



SAVETY | Would you like to reduce injury costs by 20 to 40%? OSHA stats show companies that establish *effective* safety plans reduce their injury costs by just that. The impact goes much deeper. Most of you think of your employees as friends or family. Statistics show workplaces *with active leadership* have not only fewer injuries, but are often rated as better places to work, and have more satisfied, more productive employees who are less likely to change jobs. Employees will also return to work more quickly after an injury and produce higher-quality products and services!

So where do you start? *Lead the way and move beyond safety basics.* We know as professional loggers you have these plans in place but are you exceeding and leading? Take the time to think about how you can take it to that next level.

Are employees *benefiting* (\$\$) from their safety practices when they succeed and lead? Are you taking technology to the next level for safety meetings to capture interest? Are you taking the steps to make certain equipment is up to high standards? Are you documenting and updating your plans throughout the year?

A great way to start? Attend a Regional Meeting to get tips!

Safety Cents or Sense | New Yarders vs. Old Yarders | Yarders and giving them a look, old versus new, for safety sake, is important whatever your situation. Safety checks should be a daily operation. Have you seen the new yarders, a fifty foot tower? They are mounted on a tracked undercarriage, making it possible to avoid the hazardous job of unhooking logs. According to, Dr. John J. Garland, P.E., Affiliate Professor, PNASH in his recent article, [New Yards...Old Yarders](#), he explains many operators are using machines that are 30 to 40 years old and the importance of



Okay...think it's time for a new one yet?

maintaining them daily. With 30 years of use, it is well beyond design life, without maintenance, they can't be expected to function safely. The article outlines when yarder inspection, maintenance, and repairs are needed 1) on a daily basis, 2) when towers are moved, 3) at year end or shutdown, 4) every 5 years or less, and 5) especially, whenever something isn't working or just doesn't seem right. Another suggestion is the need for using products like Magnaflux™ or other techniques to find unseen stress cracks. He states, "Airplanes are taken out of service before they fail and so should yarders." Reference | see the full article http://depts.washington.edu/pnash/files/forest_news/2010_NWFWSR.pdf.

Ticks No Joke | The U. S. Department of Labor released a bulletin for the potential of occupational exposure to Lyme disease. Our industry is a prime target for the disease. Effecting those who work outdoors in heavily wooded or grassy areas. *Good news first, if recognized early, Lyme disease can be easily treated with antibiotic medication.* There are ways you can decrease the risk of Lyme disease in individuals who may be potentially exposed on the job. Concerns have developed because of increased numbers of reported cases of Lyme disease and awareness of possible long-term effects resulting from untreated infection.

The key is early diagnosis, if the disease goes unrecognized and untreated, chronic conditions may ensue, including varying degrees of permanent damage to the joints or the nervous system. Of course the first suggestion really isn't realistic for loggers, avoiding tick-infested habitat. But using measures, such as protective clothing and repellent; performing tick checks; and removing ticks early is something you can do. One suggestion is wearing light-colored clothing so that ticks can be easily seen and removed before attachment occurs. Other tips include:

- Spraying insect repellents on exposed skin, excluding the face, in accordance with EPA guidelines. Using permethrin on clothes to kill ticks on contact
- Showering, and washing and drying clothes at a high temperature, after outdoor exposure

- Checking the body carefully for ticks; once found, promptly removing them with tweezers. (Grasp the tick firmly and as close to the skin as possible. With a steady motion, pull the tick's body away from the skin. Cleanse the area with antiseptic. **DO NOT** use petroleum jelly, a hot match, nail polish, or other products to remove the tick.)
- Studies show some of these measures and indicate that some are effective. The strategies for preventing tick bites are described by the CDC as a first line of defense.

The tick is usually no larger than the head of a pin and can easily go unnoticed. These ticks are slow feeders. Transmission from an infected tick is unlikely to occur before 36 hours of attachment, and ticks are most likely to transmit infection after approximately 2



or more days. Find them early and get them off!

Awareness of Lyme disease and its symptoms is essential for diagnosis. In some cases, the diagnosis is not made because many of the signs associated are similar to those of the flu. Lyme disease often presents with a characteristic "bull's-eye" rash. This rash is seen in 60-80% of people who develop the infection. Other symptoms may be present, including fever, lymph node swelling, neck stiffness, generalized fatigue, headaches, migrating joint aches, or muscle aches. Medical evaluation following a tick bite in a high-endemic area for Lyme disease or other tick-borne illness may help to alleviate concerns and establish a baseline for follow-up of the bitten individual should signs and symptoms develop.

References | 1. Lyme Disease. CDC, National Centers For Infectious Diseases (www.cdc.gov)



Working to Make Your Job Easier

Choosing business insurance for your company can be a daunting task. Especially for loggers. At PLC of Maine, we are fortunate to work with the finest insurance agents in the business. Particularly, the folks at United Insurance, they provide a level of service, that their customers truly appreciate. PLC ED, Mike Beardsley, acknowledged, "United and Jim Brown, have been strong supporters and we are happy to have them on our team."

James Brown (Jim), Managing Partner, explained, "United Insurance was actually founded in 1976 when Agencies in Aroostook County joined forces with an Agency in Portland and set up a new corporation. Since that time, we have grown from 3 offices to 16 in Maine and New Hampshire." United serves customers from Fort Kent, Maine to Jefferson, New Hampshire and although many of the 16 offices have logging business, the majority is

written in the Fort Kent and Rumford offices. From there they easily cover Northern and Western Maine. Many of their individual offices have long histories in their respective communities. Rumford was started in 1892, Fort Kent in 1902. United's oldest office is Fort Fairfield. It was started shortly after the Civil War, in 1868.

United has the knowledge and service level that set them apart. "When customers call, they do not need to explain what a forwarder or a grapple skidder are. We know the difference between "hand crew" rates and "mechanical" rates on Workers Comp, and what impact "Certification" can have on rates". Jim continued, "The only time we meet with people in "our" office is when it is convenient for them. Generally we meet at their office, garage, or a landing on the top of a hill in the woods. We pride ourselves in quick response times when a

client calls for a certificate or a change request."

"Jim and the office staff are truly great, they are always very accommodating, like meeting with us late," stated Andy Irish, PLC Treasurer and owner of Irish Logging. United understands the ins and outs of logging, that people who make a living in the woods have a difficult time predicting income flow and whether equipment is working or not, they still have to pay their loans and insurance. "We try to give them as many payment plan options as possible, including some that skip payments in "mud" season. It is great to work with and develop friendships with people who are such an important part of the economy of Maine and our communities." Jim declared, "People who make their living in the woods are generally great people!"

Freedom vs. the Feds by Mike Beardsley

Property rights, the ability to hold and dispose of property in any manner one sees fit, are at the heart of liberty, the principle on which this nation was founded. America's founders understood that property rights are not just the foundation of prosperity but of freedom. It has been enshrined in both common and state law. The framers of our Constitution understood this, and included specific language concerning the taking of property in the Fifth Amendment: "No Person shall...be deprived of life, liberty, or property without just compensation." Today however, many in America are being indoctrinated that property should be preserved for the benefit of the public and public use. Simultaneously governments, at the local, state, and federal levels, have endeavored to obtain lands for "the public good".

Governments seek to acquire lands through many programs: comprehensive planning, eminent domain, preservation or conservation. Statewide and national programs like Land for Maine's Future, Keeping Maine's Forests, America's Great Outdoors Initiative, and Treasured Landscapes, get land for the public using either a direct approach, (condemning property or fee acquisition) where the end result is government holding title, or indirectly (regulatory takings or conservation easements) which restricts use of the property, but leaves owners in possession of the title. The latter being presented as benign compromises to achieve commonly desired ends: beautiful landscapes, clean water or clean air.

However, a land grab by any other means or name is still a land grab.

In the past it was done by force. Those opposed to land ownership by the state controlled ruling class met with malnutrition, starvation or death either through forced relocation, or by facing the gallows, the guillotine or the muzzle of a gun. State controlled land ownership today takes the gentler approach of dialogue. Statists, employ a dialectic process to facilitate conversations with those they seek to control to reach a "common ground". In reality those opposed to government land intervention and ownership end up ceding their position to find common ground. Those deemed opposed to compromise are either excluded or invited to the table late enough in the process, that the dye has already been cast.

Loggers need to be careful about developments surrounding the Keeping Maine's Forest Initiative here in Maine, particularly due to its linkage with President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative and the Bureau of Land Management's Treasured Landscapes Initiative. The government's systematic confiscation of private land for "the greater good" or public use and its populist overtones, provides a socially acceptable rationale for government land control and ownership. Current proposals advocate in one form or another transfer property from private hands into the hands of the government and their willing accomplices by targeting willing sellers using money from

unknowing or unwilling buyers (we the taxpayers). Perhaps more disturbing than the giving to all by the taking from some, is the mechanics recently uncovered in leaked internal government memos: 1) advocating the use of "strong arm tactics", thru use of the Antiquities Act to circumvent legislative oversight and public resistance to achieve land acquisition goals, 2) efforts at the national level to hide funding of land acquisition programs, attaching funding requests as addendums to unrelated non-appropriation legislation, 3) using "perpetuity" provisions in easement language that exclude any amendments to use in the future should the need or desire arise.

Private property is an indispensable component of our freedom, livelihood and prosperity. James Madison wrote "as a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights." These sentiments are codified in the 5th Amendment. The knowledge that the federal government must be tightly constrained is embodied in the 9th the 10th Amendments. At their heart, despite the stated good intentions, Keeping Maine's Forests Initiative, America's Great Outdoors Initiative and the Treasured Landscapes Initiative represent an overstep by the government into the rights of private landownership. The consequences of which will be far-reaching and unintended; a prospect that for posterity's sake, we cannot take lightly.