

Who's Who In Softwoods



Warren Albrecht

As an encore to his 32-year history in the purchasing, processing and management of wood products, **Warren Albrecht** launched his own company this year, **A-Sharp Wood Products**, located in Holbrook, New York. As the name suggests, A-Sharp Wood Products remanufactures high-

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David Bigford

David Bigford is vice president of **Bigford Enterprises**, located in North Locust, N.C. Specializing in commercial framing, roof and floor trusses, Bigford Enterprises processes 2,760,000 board feet of Southern Yellow Pine annually. Most of the company's projects utilize 1-1/2 inch thickness

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Kevin Blalock

Kevin Blalock is the manager of **Real Building Supply** in Leakey, Texas. Real Building Supply manufactures trusses, engineered wood products, lumber for framing and moulding, flooring, windows and custom doors in SPF, graded White Pine, pattern stocks and 122 for interior

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Patrick J. Murphy

Patrick J. Murphy is the sales manager for **Pacific Western Lumber (Pac West)** in Lake Oswego, Ore. Pac West markets and sells dry and green dimension lumber and timbers, treated materials, posts and poles, round stock, fencing, oriented strand board, used railroad ties, plywood,

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Ken Street

Ken Street is sales manager for **Shelter Products Inc.** located in Daphne, Ala. A full services supplier of building materials to the multi-family building industry, this division of Shelter Products, Inc., purchases 60 million board feet annually of Southern Yellow Pine, SPF, Doug-Fir and Hem-Fir.

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John C. Sweet

John C. Sweet is the owner of **Sweet Timber Frames** in Mount Desert, Maine. Sweet Timber Frames manufactures timber frames for homes, barns, garages and structures, as well as doors and kitchens. Specializing in natural form timber work, full scribe log work and architectural millwork, the

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WPC-Sponsored Market Research Projects Completed

For more APA News and Information, go to www.apawood.org

The results of four market research projects sponsored by the Wood Products Council (WPC) and managed by APA were published recently and are now available free of charge at <http://www.apawood.org/WoodProductsCouncil>.

The reports include:

- Wood Used in Residential Repair and Remodeling, U.S. and Canada, 2006.
- Wood Used in New Residential Construction, U.S. and Canada, 2006.
- U.S. Home Builder Perceptions of Wood and Non-Wood Products, 2008.
- U.S. Home Owner Perceptions of Wood and Non-Wood Products, 2008.

The first two reports are updates of past reports published in 2003 and earlier. The research was funded by the Binational Softwood Lumber Council with additional support from the Engineered Wood Technology Association and the U.S. Forest Service.



Work About to Begin on New ANSI Rim Board Standard

APA has initiated the process of developing a new American National Standards Institute (ANSI) consensus standard for rim board under APA's recognition as an (ANSI) accredited standards developer. The standard, to be based on APA's Performance Standard for APA EWS Rim Boards, PRR-401, will be developed by a committee of stakeholders, including manufacturers, distributors, designers, end users and building code regulators. APA utilized its ANSI accreditation to spearhead development of a new engineered wood siding standard (PRP-210), recently published, and is also working on development of a national consensus standard for structural insulated panels in cooperation with the Structural Insulated Panel Association (SIPA). More information can be found on APA's Standards Development page at www.apawood.org/standards.

APA Offers Subscriptions to Its Monthly Housing, Quarterly Production Reports

Subscriptions to monthly housing market and quarterly engineered wood production reports are now being offered by APA—The Engineered Wood Association, the Association has announced.

The housing market report is in the form of a PowerPoint presentation and includes housing starts and permit data, new and existing home sales, home inventories and months of supply, mortgage rate trends, and a housing starts forecast. Also included are data on nonresidential construction spending, industrial production and remodeling, consumer prices and spending, and U.S. and Canadian gross domestic product. The report is based on information compiled through a comprehensive review of industry and

government reports and is e-mailed to subscribers. The annual subscription is \$600.

The quarterly industry production reports, published about two weeks after the end of each quarter and encompassing both the U.S. and Canada, cover Softwood plywood, oriented strand board, glued laminated (glulam) timber, wood I-joists, and laminated veneer lumber (LVL). The reports provide data on U.S. panel production by region as well as panel import and export data and mill closures and openings for all engineered wood product categories. Annual subscriptions to the quarterly production report are \$250. The report is delivered by e-mail as a pdf file.

To order either or both reports, go to the Publications section of the APA website at www.apawood.org. Based in Tacoma, Wash., APA is a non-profit trade association representing North American manufacturers of plywood, oriented strandboard, glued laminated timber, wood I-joists, laminated veneer lumber, and other structural engineered wood products. Its primary

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House GOP Leader's Housing Recovery Proposal

Members of the House Republican Economic Working Group recently released their proposed "Responsible Homeowners Act." The National Lumber And Building Material Dealers Association (NLBMDA) applauded this proposal.

The plan includes providing a \$15,000 home buyer tax credit for all purchases of primary residences provided that the buyer has a five percent down payment. Equalizing the treatment of a home purchased as a primary residence with a home purchased for rental purposes by providing the same exclusion from taxes for any future appreciation in the home value and providing an additional \$5,000 refinancing tax credit to help families cover the costs of a mortgage, refinancing, buy down points or reduce their principal balance is also covered in the proposal. Each part of the House proposal covers only purchases through

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Important provisions were included to encourage lenders to work with homeowners in danger of foreclosure. A lender can invest in keeping the homeowner in their home by refinancing their mortgage and lowering the owner's monthly payments and providing the homeowner agrees to share a portion of future home appreciation with the lender, the lender will not be taxed on future profit and the borrower will not incur tax liability as a result of refinancing.

"NLBMDA commends the House Republican Economic Working Group for their leadership in providing a substantive proposal to revive the housing market by addressing the key issues of the housing recession," NLBMDA president, Michael O'Brien said. "As we have said on several occasions, in order for the housing market to fully recover, we must spur housing demand while effectively dealing with the foreclosure crisis. This legislation addresses both those key points."

"If adopted, this legislation could go a long way toward reviving the housing economy by encouraging more home purchases, creating new jobs and restoring consumer confidence in the housing market," O'Brien added.

Omnibus Spending Bill

The Senate recently approved a \$410 billion FY09 omnibus-spending bill that will fund government operations covered by the nine appropriation bills that Congress did not pass prior to the start of FY09.

Identical to the version passed by the House of Representatives in February, this package will allocate \$1.51 billion to the National Forest System representing a \$40.2 million increase over FY08 levels and \$160.3 million over President Bush's FY09 request.

Approximately \$322.5 million will be allotted to the Forest Service for timber management, a \$10 million increase over levels in 2008. Funding for the Northwest Forest Plan was also included in the plan targeting a \$10 million increase to forests located outside of the Northwest Forest Plan area with unfunded capability.

Several provisions of interest to mills on the West Coast are included. Hazardous fuels funding levels for the Quincy Library Group (QLG) activities will be no less than \$26.2 million. Consequently, following the recently announced closure of Sierra Pacific Industries Quincy log mill, it remains unclear how the Forest Service will implement the forest management activities authorized by QLG. The bill does include significant grant funding to maintain the remaining forest products infrastructure in the southern Sierra's. Senate Interior Appropriations Chairman Dianne Feinstein promoted these initiatives.

Federal Land Assistance Management Enhancement Act

A bi-partisan group of the Senate and

House of Representatives recently re-introduced the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act (FLAME). Addressing funding shortages for fighting wildfires and the decline in land management funding, the Act provides a separate budget for fighting larger wildfires. The funding will be appropriated annually.

Federal land management agencies will continue to fund initial attack and other predicted and anticipated wild land fire suppression activities from their annual budgets.

Reduced Minimum Bid Rate From Forest Service

Recognizing the state of the economy and current lumber prices, the Forest Service has cut its minimum bid rate by 50 percent, which are the lowest rates for which the Forest Service may sell timber. Minimum rates, are now set at no less than \$5 per hundred cubic feet for the higher grade species, \$3 per cubic foot for the mid-grade species and \$1 per cubic foot for the industrial grade species. For non-convertible products the minimum rate is \$0.01 per unit of measure.

Recent Washington Legislation

Several issues of importance to the forest products industry have recently gone before Washington State Legislature. Review procedures on DNR proprietary actions including timber sales would have doubled up in Senate Bill 5983. A lawsuit by environmentalists was the origin of the bill, which was held until the last moment to file the suit and then filed under the wrong statute. Part of the suit never made it past the trial court but

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WHO'S WHO - Albrecht

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exceed grading standards set by the West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau. "These species combine fine grain with superior physical properties to those of East Coast species," said Albrecht. "Sitka Spruce, for example, has the highest strength-to-weight ratio of any wood." A-Sharp currently sells between 200,000 and 250,000 board feet of these species annually.

Albrecht began his lumber-industry career in 1975 as a lumber buyer and lumber yard operations manager for Steinway & Sons. During his time with Steinway & Sons, Albrecht fulfilled a wide range of positions, including those of wood products engineer, purchasing manager and 15 years as director of materials.

Albrecht is a 1971 graduate of Oyster Bay High School in Oyster Bay, N.Y., and the University of Massachusetts. He is a director on the board of the Hardwood Forestry Fund and also a member of the New England Kiln Drying Association and the National Hardwood Lumber Association. When he is not busy promoting the virtues of specialty western Softwood on the East Coast, Albrecht enjoys golfing and spending time with his wife, Geraldine, his two children, two stepchildren and five grandchildren.

experience on the green chain, stacker, resaw and rip saw.

A graduate of Fairhope High School, he received a degree in Business Management at the University of Mobile in Mobile, Ala.

In his spare time, Street enjoys hunting waterfowl, inshore fishing and anything on the water in general. Street and his wife Lauren have a son and a daughter and have been married for 13 years.

Shelter Products Inc. is a member of the North American Wholesale Lumber Assoc. (NAWLA) and the Home Builders of America Assoc.

WHO'S WHO - Sweet

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company purchases over 300,000 board feet annually of Hemlock, Pine, Cypress, Fir, red oak, maple, mahogany, cherry and yellow birch (4/4 through 12/4).

Sweet has held his present position for 30 years. He began his career in construction and building in 1972 working for a concrete, sand gravel materials supplier as a welder, rigger and burner. Shortly after, he moved into ironworking and completed a three-year apprenticeship becoming a journeyman ironworker.

Throughout his career among other projects, Sweet helped erect steel for the new draw-span bridge crossing the James River and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in Virginia and he helped build International Paper in Jay, Maine.

Sweet Timber Frames is a member of the Timber Frame Business Council, Natural Resources Council of Maine, Builder Central, Maine Wood Products Assoc. and the Timber Framers Guild.

NELMA -

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activities.

The Convention kicked off with an opening business session with Chairman Tom Jenkins of Old Town Lumber welcoming members and guests to the venue. Officers of the Association were elected at the session as follows: Jeff Desjardins of Moose River Lumber (incoming Chairman), Peter Buckley of Mill River Lumber (1st Vice-Chairman), Jason Brochu of Pleasant River Lumber (2nd Vice-Chairman), and Randy Caron of Caron Consulting (Treasurer). Elected to the Board of Directors: Nicholas Fontaine of Fontaine Inc., Kevin Hynes of Hancock Lumber, and Chuck Gaede of Durgin and Crowell. Re-nominated for a second

term on the Board of Directors was Dan Harrison of Cersosimo Lumber. Elected as the Wholesaler representative to the Board of Directors was Jamie Place of Eastern Forest Products.

A full compliment of NELMA Committees met during the Convention that included Marketing, Pine, Dimension, and Grading Committees, all leading up to the Board of Directors meeting as the final business event of the Convention. Actions approved by the Board included a study on the location and quantity of Norway Spruce for potential design value assessment, conducting both the Dimension and Pine grader's competitions in August or September of this year, a survey of NELMA's 5/4 lumber producers regarding finished sizes, the reduction of dues payments to the Association beginning in April for the next 6 months by current lumber manufacturing members, with possible extension to 9 months. In addition, the task group created by the Board last fall on Dues/Proprietary grades began deliberations this Spring.

Three guest speakers were incorporated within the overall program to engage the membership on a number of important topics. Jill Neubauer of Neubauer Architects in Falmouth, Mass., provided an architect's view of building with locally available construction materials such as Eastern White Pine and Spruce/Fir wood products and interior trends of

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WHO'S WHO - Blalock

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siding in White Pine and Western Red Cedar. The company purchases approximately 500,000 board feet of lumber annually.

Blalock began his career in the family owned business in 1999. He graduated from Klein Forest High School in Houston, Texas, and studied marketing at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

Blalock enjoys hunting, fishing, golf and spending time with his son.

WHO'S WHO - Murphy

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agricultural products, animal bedding, and specializes in timber framing packages and log cabin siding.

Pacific Western Lumber is a member of the Portland Wholesale Lumber Assoc., the North American Wholesale Lumber Assoc. and the Umpqua Valley Lumber Assoc. The firm purchases approximately 30 million board feet of lumber annually.

Murphy began his career in the forest products industry working at a lumberyard while attending college in 1970. He has held his current position for two years. Murphy's other responsibilities have included managing a lumberyard, lumber buyer and owner of a wholesale lumber company.

Murphy is a graduate of SS Peter and Paul School in Saginaw, Mich. He received a bachelor's degree in marketing, and a master's degree in management from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich.

He enjoys hunting, playing golf and exercising.

WHO'S WHO - Street

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Street, who oversees the southeast division, has held his current position for one year and has been with the company for five years. Street along with three others were the first brought on board when this division was started in May of 2004.

He has been involved with the forest products industry for 17 years and began his first job in the industry in 1991 stacking lumber for Klumb Lumber Co. located in Mobile, Ala., where he gained

No Order is Too Tall or Too Small

Western Red Cedar Kiln Dried Products			Thickness	Widths				
				4"	6"	8"	10"	12"
Siding	Pro Select Knotty	Plain Bevel	11/16"		*	*		
			3/4"		*	*	*	
		Rabbeted Bevel	3/4"		*	*		
			5/4"		*	*	*	
Pattern Stock	Pro Select Knotty	WP - 4	11/16"	*	*	*		
		WP - 11	11/16"			*		
		WP - 105	11/16"		*	*	*	
		WC - 200	2"		*	*		
		Channel	11/16"		*	*		
Western Red Cedar Kiln Dried Products			Thickness	Widths				
				4"	6"	8"	10"	12"
Fascia	Pro Select Knotty	No Hole S1S2E	5/4"	*	*	*	*	*
							*	
Western Red Cedar Kiln Dried Products			Thickness	Widths				
				4"	6"	8"	10"	12"
Boards	D & Btr	S1S2E	7/8"	*	*	*	*	*
Boards	3 & Btr	S1S2E	7/8"	*	*	*	*	*
Boards	#4	S1S2E	7/8"	*	*	*	*	*

We manufacture everything from 1" x 2" x 6' up to 24" x 24" x 32' in either unseasoned or kiln-dried, rough, surfaced, or about any pattern imaginable

Species:
White Fir (Grand Fir) Spruce and Cedar
Doug Fir

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