



Pacific Coast
Wholesale Hardwood
Distributors Association

Las Vegas 2013 90th AGM & Convention Recap

For those of you that were unable to attend the PCWHDA 90th AGM and convention this year, here is a brief recap of the events held at the magnificent **Bellagio Hotel and Casino** in Las Vegas Nevada.



The first event was the **President's Cocktail Reception** held in the PCWHDA's executive suite in the Bellagio at 7:00 PM Wednesday July 24th. This event was catered with a full bar service and hot and cold appetizers and provided a great opportunity for members and their spouses to socialize in a relaxed, private atmosphere and get to know each other. This was the first event attended by two new member firms; we were pleased to welcome Gary McKillican of McKillican International and Warren & Maureen Spitz of Upper Canada/Sierra to our business family.



Warren & Maureen Spitz, Connie Smales,
Jaynie & Jeff Wirkkala



Jim & Kim Frost, Marty & Randy Porter.



Sharon & Colin Reimer, Gary McKillican,
Doug & Chris Madsen



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The morning of Thursday July 25th was left open for members to relax or attend the AWFS, no tennis tournament was held this year as Las Vegas was deemed too hot! The next official event was the **Business Meeting** held from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM at the boardroom table in our roomy suite. See the minutes for an official report, but here are a few highlights. We approved a few amendments to our bylaws because of the changes to our officers/directors titles, and officially welcomed Upper Canada/Sierra to our membership. We reviewed financial statements and approved our new officers for the coming year. As Colin Reimer had completed his term as President, the new slate is as follows: Chip Spellman of Spellman Hardwoods, President; Lance Blanco of Hardwoods Specialty Products, Vice President; Connie Smales of Plywood Hawaii; Secretary and Jim Price of Emerson Hardwoods; Treasurer. We welcome our new officers and thank them in advance for their service.



Due to a shocking lack of creativity from outgoing President Reimer, who couldn't seem to find anything to do in a boring town like Las Vegas (even with quality suggestions from Chris Mongrain and others), the **Annual Regatta** came close to being cancelled. Quick thinking by Past President Randy Porter and poker loving Jim Frost saved it by designating the Poker Tournament as the regatta event for this year, a bit of a stretch but, in tough times, you take what you can get.



The Formal Dinner was held Thursday evening at 6:30 PM in a private room at **Sensi Restaurant in the Bellagio**. A fine meal was served and full cocktail service was provided. This excellent evening of food and conversation was enjoyed by all. Hardwood Industries was out in full force with 8 members attending the

evening (9 if you count 6 week old Gwyneth attending her first PCWHDA convention). As Jim Price was unable to attend this year, the resolutions committee report was delivered by designate Randy Porter and his able assistant Jim Frost. Difficulties with reading handwriting aside, the report was presented with just the right balance of humor, reverence and sarcasm - a job well done.



This year saw the **passing of two longtime members of the PCWHDA**. President Colin Reimer proposed a toast to honor each of them for their service and attendance. Don Reel of Reel Lumber Service attended meetings for some 30 years and served as PCWHDA President in 1976, his daughter Shirley and her husband Jim were in attendance this year. Fred Smales of Plywood Hawaii attended his first meeting in 1937 and his last meeting in person in 2011, a record that will be difficult to beat. He attended in 2012 via conference call as his health was not good enough to travel. Fred also served as PCWHDA President in 1954. His wife Connie was in attendance this year. Both of these men will be missed.

Outgoing President Colin Reimer said a few final words and passed the gavel to **incoming President Chip Spellman** with the greatest confidence that Chip will shepherd this great and storied institution forward as we approach the one century mark of the PCWHDA.



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After dinner, the Annual Poker Tournament took place in the PCWHDA suite. After spirited play that went past midnight, The Wirkkala boys (David and Doug) emerged as the winners and took the coveted Regatta Trophy for the North yet again. This was the last event of a great convention, thank you to all who attended.

The announcement of the venue and date of the 91st AGM will be coming soon. Please continue to support the PCWHDA by attending next year's festivities.

PCWHDA Group Photo 90th AGM Las Vegas 2013



Back Row:

Jim Cadwell, Shirley Cadwell, Randy Porter, Lance Blanco, Doug Wirkkala, Hillary Wirkkala, David Wirkkala, Jaynie Wirkkala, Jeff Wirkkala, Jessi Landwehr, Kurt Landwehr, Kim Frost, Jim Frost, Connie Smales, Doug Madsen.

Front Row:

Colin Reimer, Terry Wirkkala with "Winnie", Chip Spellman, Marty Porter, Sharon Reimer, Teresa Blanco, Chris Madsen.

Missing: Warren & Maureen Spitz, Gary McKillican.