



Pacific Coast
Wholesale Hardwood
Distributors Association

Las Vegas 2015, 92nd Annual AGM & Convention Recap

For those of you that were unable to attend the PCWHDA 92nd AGM and convention this year, here is a brief recap of the events held at the magnificent **Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino** in Las Vegas, Nevada.



The first event was the **President's Cocktail Reception** held at Shanghai Lilly in Mandalay Bay at 6:30 PM Wednesday July 22nd. This welcoming event, hosted by PCWHDA President Chip Spellman, was catered with a full bar service and hot and cold appetizers and provided a great opportunity for members and their spouses/guests to socialize in a relaxed, private atmosphere and get caught up on the years events.





The formal dinner was held in a private room at the **Strip Steak Restaurant** immediately following the President's Reception. We were treated to an excellent meal and full cocktail service in a beautiful setting. The food was great and the service was friendly and prompt. The conversation flowed and a great time was had by all. We used this setting to take the group photo for the records as well. This process is a bit like herding cats, but we got it done without incident or injury. **President Chip Spellman** said



a few final words and reminded us all

how important it is to support this institution by maintaining membership and attending the annual conventions. The 93rd annual convention will be held in spring of 2016 somewhere in Hawaii, details to follow, we hope to see you there!





After dinner, the Annual **Poker Tournament** took place in the PCWHDA hospitality suite. As always, the play was spirited yet friendly. By all accounts, it was an epic battle in the true spirit of Las Vegas. In the end, beauty and experience prevailed as Kim Frost emerged the champion! Fun was had by all and no one lost their business.

The next official event was the **Business Meeting** held from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Thursday July 23rd at the Shanghai Lilly private dining room. See the minutes for an official report, but here are a few highlights. We

reviewed financial statements and elected new officers for the coming year. Our table officers have now completed the second year of their 2 year terms: 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 took this



opportunity to thank them for their service. As Lance Blanco was involved in a serious cycling accident, he decided not to let his name stand for the President's position next term, the board respects this decision and we wish Lance well in his recovery! The following slate was elected for the 2015 – 2016 term: Jeff Wirkkala of Hardwood Industries, President; Doug Wirkkala of Hardwood Industries, Vice President; Connie Smales of Plywood Hawaii; Secretary and Jim Price of Emerson Hardwoods; Treasurer.

The announcement of the venue and date of the 93rd AGM will be coming soon. It was decided that we will likely go to Hawaii in the spring of 2016. Please continue to support the PCWHDA by attending the 2016 festivities.



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As planned, the PCWHDA meeting was held in conjunction with the Association of Woodworking and Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS) annual trade show at the Las Vegas Convention Center. This bi-annual trade show features displays from many of the major suppliers of the lumber, panel and related products we sell as well as equipment and other supplies we need to run our businesses. It is an excellent opportunity to visit with a large number of suppliers all at one time. Also attending AWFS are many of the customers we sell to; this is a very cost effective event to connect with our business partners, so many of the PCWHDA attendees spent quite a bit of time at the convention center venue.



PCWHDA Group Photo 92nd AGM Las Vegas Nevada 2015

