



Pacific Coast
Wholesale Hardwood
Distributors Association

Las Vegas 2017, 94th Annual AGM & Convention Recap

For those of you that were unable to attend the PCWHDA 94th AGM and convention this year, here is a brief recap of the events held at the magnificent **Encore Resort at Wynn Las Vegas** in vibrant Las Vegas, Nevada.



As this is the year we met in Las Vegas, the itinerary is a little lighter than other years and the events sometime happen in a different order. We try to accommodate meetings that other groups may be having and want our members to have ample time to spend at AWFS. Most of the members arrived Sunday July 16th to get settled in before the Monday morning meeting.

The first scheduled event of this year's convention was the Monday morning **Business Meeting** held in the **Mozart Room at the Encore/Wynn**. A nice catered lunch was served at noon and the meeting was called to order by President Doug Wirkkala at 12:30 PM. What follows is a brief overview of the meeting; for official information, please consult the minutes.

The members adopted last year's minutes, reviewed financial statements, and heard regional reports covering the territories our members serve.





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After hearing these reports, the group took a break to enjoy the official cocktail of the PCWHDA, **Ramos Gin Fizz**. The official recipe was provided to the hotel staff by the PCWHDA Directors and, I am told by those who actually like this drink, the resulting beverage was good in spite of the revelation that health rules now prevent the use of fresh raw egg so egg substitute had to be used, oh the humanity!!

After the break, the meeting resumed with discussions on the Chinese tariff issue, the block tally app, a new PCWHDA logo and the committee reports. The following slate of officers was confirmed for the 2017 – 2018 term.

President – Doug Wirkkala

Vice President – Jamie Price

Secretary – Colin Reimer

Treasurer – Jim Price

After the meeting adjourned, members had free time until the evening when we met for the **President's Welcome Reception at La Cave/The Cellar bar at the Wynn**. This event is always a highlight of the convention, the members are able to converse in a relaxed atmosphere and get caught up on the goings on of the past year. It was a great evening!





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After dinner, as the meeting was in Las Vegas this year, Doug W arranged for anyone that was interested to take in "Le Reve", a full Las Vegas "Cirque du Soleil" style show at the Wynn. This spectacular show featured acrobats; water, diving and all of the death defying action one would expect, it was amazing, thank you Doug!





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The formal dinner was held in a private room at the **SW Steakhouse and private patio at the Wynn.** 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. Jim Price regaled us with his always entertaining



Resolutions committee

report, and on his 75th birthday no less,

congratulations Jim! **President Doug Wirkkala** 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 95th annual convention will be held in spring of 2018 somewhere in Hawaii, details to follow, we hope to see you there!





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Golf this year took place at the **Bali Hai Course** near the Mandalay Bay teeing off at 6:30 AM to beat the heat but it was already close to 100 degrees at tee time. It was an all Hardwood Industries event again and Jeff Wirkkala beat the next generation on the score card (with the help of a caddie named "Caddie". I guess wisdom and experience beats youth and athleticism again!



After dinner, the Annual **Poker Tournament** took place in the PCWHDA hospitality suite. As always, the play was spirited yet friendly. It must have been quite a night because, although Doug W, David W and Jaime P were the last 3 in the game, no one remembers or will admit how it ended. Suspicious!

The 95th PCWHDA AGM and Convention will be held at the Four Seasons Resort O'ahu at Ko Olina (Oahu). Please continue to support the PCWHDA by attending the 2018 festivities.

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





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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 94th AGM Las Vegas Nevada 2017



See you at the Four Seasons Resort, Oahu, Hawaii April 21-24, 2018

This document prepared by Colin Reimer