



# Appalachian Hardwood *Sustainable & Legal*

Monthly newsletter of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.

## Greenbrier Set To Welcome AHMI Conference

The crowd is building for the 2016 AHMI Summer Conference and plans are complete at the member favorite location - The Greenbrier.

AHMI Chairman Mike Hoover and wife, Anne, recently completed the final site inspection and had the opportunity to visit with Greenbrier owner Jim Justice. He thanked Hoover for AHMI's long-standing tradition of meeting at the Greenbrier and looked forward to welcoming members and their families.

The conference is planned for July 23-26 in White Sulphur Springs, WV, with exceptional business programs and networking opportunities. An added program for this year is a meeting with the top forestry universities in the Appalachian region to discuss current and future research projects.

Professors and administrators will meet with the AHMI board  
(See Meeting on page 3)



**AHMI Chairman Mike Hoover and wife, Anne, meet with Greenbrier owner Jim Justice at Summer Conference setup session**

## Emmet Vaughn Jr. 'Retires' Lumber Company

Emmet "Buck" Vaughn Jr. plans to retire his lumber company at the end of this summer after more than 60 years in business.

The former AHMI chairman, board member and long-time association supporter who is often called "Mr. Appalachian," jokes that the company is closing while business is strong. Most of his staff is at or near retirement age so the decision was made to close rather than sell.

"Our business right now is great and I know it sounds kind of crazy," Vaughn said. "I did talk with people about selling it but we have a wonderful reputation here and I did not want to lose control of that."

Emmet Vaughn Lumber was initiated at the



**Buck and Linda Vaughn in Knoxville, TN office**

*(photo by Knoxville News Sentinel)*

Christmas dinner table in 1956 and opened months later in Knoxville, TN, by Emmet Vaughn Sr. Buck joined the company in 1967 and has  
(See Vaughn on page 2)

June 2016

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.  
P.O. Box 427, High Point, NC 27261  
T. 336-885-8315 | F. 336-886-8865  
info@appalachianwood.org | www.appalachianhardwood.org



## *The way I see it...*

By Tom Inman, AHMI President

...one of the strongest voices for the hardwood industry will become a little quieter later this year. Emmet Vaughn, Jr., known to his friends as Buck, announced this week that he is retiring and his company is closing.

Known through much of his business career as "Mr. Appalachian," Buck has been an integral part of the success of Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers for the past four decades and a leader in promotion. His father joined AHMI on July 1, 1958 and the company has been an active member ever since.

Buck was one of the first people I met when I joined AHMI in 1994. He was on the Board of Trustees and soon became incoming president and then president. He and Linda welcomed me and my wife, Rosemary, to the association the first time we met and have been great friends ever since.

Buck's desire to promote is contagious. He led a National Hardwood Lumber Association program in the 1970s, initiated the AHMI President's Council with furniture leaders in the 1970s, pushed the AHMI Poplar Promotion in the 1980s, encouraged the New Oak Campaign in the 1990s and was a positive force in Verified Sustainable.

I have seen Buck go up to first-time guests at AHMI meetings to introduce himself and learn their names and about their business. I have seen his typewritten letters in my mail and on the desks of others with just a few sentences of thanks for meeting with him or words of encouragement for a job well done.

Buck is a relationship guy. He lives out what it means to be a friend and his personal life and business life reflected his true compassion for others.

While the doors at 3932 Martin Mill Pike may close in a few months, the impact that Emmet Vaughn Lumber and specifically Emmet Sr., Emmet Jr., and Linda Vaughn, Dan Biggerstaff, Jerry Vaughn, Matt Bennett, Brad Froning and others who have served on that team over the years will live on.

Congratulations for a job well done. You will be missed!

## Vaughn from page 1

served as president for decades.

In a 1997 article, Buck said the company worked very closely with small and medium sawmills. The owners would report what species and volumes of hardwood lumber were scheduled to be cut and Emmet Vaughn Lumber staff would recommend the dimension for the lumber so that the sawmill owner would get the maximum profit.

That "wholesale" model has served the company well but has changed in recent years. The furniture industry was once a primary customer but has moved offshore and the buyers seek to work directly with mill operations.

Vaughn said his team has adapted and found new markets for the lumber from its mills. The employees agreed in recent weeks that many were ready to move into retirement.

Buck stated in a 2013 article "This is a fantastic industry where business people become your family. It's the only industry that I know of that can close on sales of a very large scope on just a handshake."

The company and its sales team will continue that philosophy until it closes later this year.

Buck Vaughn and his father are one of four families who have had two generations serve as President of AHMI with Buck in 1998-99 and his father in 1950 and 1960. The Vaughns have both served on the board of the National Hardwood Lumber Association and led industry initiatives.



Emmet Vaughn Sr. and Emmet Vaughn Jr. in 1997

## Meeting from page 1

to plan for future projects on hardwood topics. The session is open to all AHMI members on Tuesday, July 26 at 9:30 a.m.

The business session is planned for Monday, July 25 at 8:30 a.m. and includes four presentations on industry topics. These include:

**Gat Creek Success With Solid Appalachian** - Gat Creek Furniture is known for its sustainable hardwood furnishings from the heart of the Appalachian region. Owner Gat Caperton will share their business strategy and the results of a survey that confirms consumers want sustainable, solid wood.

**PLT Curriculum Meets Education Standards** - School systems are restricting outside programs that do not meet curriculum requirements. Project Learning Tree has adapted and become "science" for many schoolchildren. West Virginia PLT Director Linda Carnell will explain the overwhelming success in WV and ways to duplicate in your state.

**Planning For Succession, Acquisitions or Sales** - AHMI Supplier members Southmark Consulting and TJT Consulting will discuss "Your Estate: Common Problems, Uncommon Solutions" and "Exit Planning Strategies for the Closely Held Business."

Please visit [www.appalachianwood.org](http://www.appalachianwood.org) and click on "Meetings" for information and to register online. A form is on page 6 of this newsletter.

Please make your room reservations today by calling 1-877-493-2941. Please remember the group room rate is available for three days before and after the meeting.

The conference begins with an informal reception for early arrivals on July 23 at 6 p.m. Meeting registration is Sunday from 5-6 p.m. and the Welcoming Reception is at 6 p.m.

The business session is Monday at 8:30 a.m. followed by golf and sporting clays tournaments. Tuesday begins with an AHMI Board breakfast meeting followed by the University Program at 9:30 a.m. that is open to all AHMI members.

## 2016 AHMI Summer Meeting Agenda

### Saturday, July 23

6 pm - Early Arrival Reception on Prime 44 Terrace

*Dinner on your own*

### Sunday, July 24

4-6 pm - Registration opens in Check-in Lobby

6-7 pm - Reception on Chesapeake Terrace

*Dinner on your own*

### Monday, July 25

8:30 am - General Session in Taft Room

1) Furniture Success with Solid Hardwoods

2) PLT Curriculum Provides Science In Schools

3) Planning for Succession, Acquisitions & Sales

9 a.m. - Ladies Breakfast in the Main Dining Room

12:30 p.m. - Golf Tourney at Meadows Course

1 p.m. Sporting Clays Tourney at Gun Club

6-7:30 pm - Reception in Crystal Ballroom

*Dinner on your own*

### Tuesday, July 26

8 a.m. AHMI Board of Trustees breakfast in Taft

9:30 a.m. Meeting with University Leaders in Taft Room

Have a safe trip home

Please complete your AHMI Meeting Registration at [www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm](http://www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm)

The Room Block ends on June 23.

Meeting Registration Online at [www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm](http://www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm)





## WORKSHOP

### Kiln Drying Short Course Set In PA

Penn State University and the Keystone Kiln Drying Association will sponsor the Kiln Drying of Hardwood Lumber Short Course on July 19-21 at the Livestock Evaluation Center, 1494 West Pine Grove Road, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865

The course will include lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on experience. Wood moisture relations, kiln operation, lumber handling and storage, and drying schedule preparation will be emphasized in relation to drying of hardwood lumber.

This is a basic course designed for Kiln Operator Trainees, Plant Managers and Supervisors. No previous drying experience is needed.

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, July 12. For more information, contact Penn State University Extension at [ExtensionRegistration@ag.psu.edu](mailto:ExtensionRegistration@ag.psu.edu).



### Talking Poplar

American Hardwood Export Council European Director David Venables (center) interviews Allegheny Wood Products Forester Bob Bridwell about a stand of poplar that was harvested in West Virginia. The film will be used with a promotion of poplar (tulipwood) in Europe this fall.

### AHMI Promotion & Trade Show Activities

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. will attend / display at the following meetings and other events to promote member companies:

- July 24-28: **AHMI Summer Conference**, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV
  - Aug. 24-28: **International Woodworking Fair**, Atlanta, GA
  - Sept. 13: **Appalachian Lumbermen's Club**, TBD
  - Sept. 20-22: **Hardwood Federation Fall Fly-In**, Washington, DC
  - Sept. 26: **Penn York Lumbermen's Club**, State College, PA
  - Oct. 5-7: **NHLA Convention**, Washington, DC
  - Oct. 10-11: **KCMA Conference and Tours**, Greensboro, NC
  - Oct. 19-21: **AHEC European Convention**, Copenhagen, Denmark
  - Oct. 22-26: **High Point Furniture Market**, High Point, NC
  - Nov. 2-3: **Hardwood Lumber Outlook**, Princeton, WV
  - Nov. 10: **Appalachian Lumbermen's Club**, Johnson City, TN
- For more information about these events, please contact Tom Inman.

AHMI has materials available for members to use at your industry events. These include Verified Sustainable and Verified Legal certificates, signs, labels, publications and more that can be deigned to incorporate your company information. Please contact [info@appalachianwood.org](mailto:info@appalachianwood.org) to learn more.



June 2016 - Appalachian Sustainable - 5

## Hardwood Federation Seeks Input

The Hardwood Federation is seeking your help in an effort to create a more robust stance for the industry on burdensome Federal regulations. The Federation asks that you fill out this one question survey letting us know specifically which regulations most effect your businesses.

Please enter the link below in your browser to participate in the survey:

[www.voterveice.net/BroadcastLinks/zF6D0Uo-w2Vo8d-sthjVJQ](http://www.voterveice.net/BroadcastLinks/zF6D0Uo-w2Vo8d-sthjVJQ)

---



Forest Supervisor James Melonas Speaks

## Pisgah Forest Plan Set For Release In Fall

LAKE LOGAN, NC - The U.S. Forest Service Deputy Supervisor for the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests said the management plans for each should be ready for public comment this fall.

James Melonas spoke at the 2016 Western North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Conference recently. He said staff was trying to develop a "highly implementable" plan that understands the needs of multiple stakeholders in the forest.

Drafts of the plan are expected to be posted on the USFS website later this summer and final approval could be as early as the fall.

Other speakers discussed:

- the decline in public use of management plans from the NC Forest Service following fee increases. A moratorium is in place on cost share for reforestation

- beech bark disease has been discovered in western North Carolina.

## AHMI Mourns Passing Of Paul Barringer

AHMI is sad to report the recent passing of Paul B. Barringer II, 85, legendary hardwood industry pioneer and business leader. He died at his home on Hilton Head Island, SC on May 30.

Barringer graduated from the University of Virginia in 1952 and enlisted in the USAF as an aviation cadet. In 1955, he joined his father's business, Coastal Lumber Company in Weldon, NC and purchased the company in 1959.

He is survived by his wife, Merrill Underwood Barringer; three children, Merrill Barringer Light and husband, Randy of Hilton Head Island, S.C., Victor Clay Barringer II and wife, Turner of Charlottesville, Va.; Hampton Barringer Luzak and husband, Kevin of New York; and his five grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, if friends choose, they may make contributions to Memory Matters, Hilton Head Island, S.C., [www.memory-matters](http://www.memory-matters) or Hospice Compassus, [www.compassus.com](http://www.compassus.com).

---

## Join AHMI On Facebook, Twitter Accounts

Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc. invites you to follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with the latest news and information about AHMI members and the association.

Our Facebook page is **Appalachian Hardwood** at <https://www.facebook.com/Appalachian-Hardwood-115082515210245/>

Our Twitter account is **Appalachian Hardwood** at <https://twitter.com/AppalachianHdwd>

Please follow us today and share our accounts with others in the hardwood industry to get our Solid Appalachian Hardwood message out.

# 2016 AHMI Summer Conference Registration

## The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, WV July 23-26, 2016

To accurately plan the functions and make sure all participants are included on the Registration List, please complete this form and return it with your check or complete the credit card information below by July 15, 2016 and mail to AHMI, P.O. Box 427, High Point, NC 27261.

### MEETING REGISTRATION FEES:

AHMI MEMBER - \$295 per person	GUEST - \$395 per person
MEMBER SPOUSE - \$225	GUEST SPOUSE - \$325
CHILDREN 10 & older - \$95	CHILDREN UNDER 10 FREE!

Full registration will be refunded on cancellations by July 8, 2016. Cancellations received after that time will be subject to 50% forfeiture.

### **PLEASE REGISTER THE FOLLOWING FOR AHMI'S SUMMER CONFERENCE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### **AHMI GOLF TOURNAMENT** (Monday at 12:30 p.m. Meadows Course)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$220

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$220

### **SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT** (Monday at 1 p.m. The Greenbrier Gun Club)

**One round of 100 - Includes gun, targets and ammunition**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$190

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$190

### **SPOUSE BREAKFAST** (Monday at 9 a.m. Main Dining Room)

Speaker on Greenbrier History - buffet breakfast charged to your room

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: room charge

### **UNIVERSITY RESEARCH LUNCHEON** (Tuesday at 12 p.m.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ FEE: \$35

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Sec. Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

You may also register online at [www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm](http://www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm). Please make your room reservations at [www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm](http://www.appalachianwood.org/meetings.htm) and follow link to The Greenbrier