

Lumber Industry News **EXPRESS**

Member Information, Events, and Industry News



Mid-America Lumbersmens Association

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MLA Hosts Successful Swing into Spring in MO!

MLA hosted the 2023 Swing into Spring event benefiting the Missouri Activities Committee & Scholarship Program on May 11-12, 2023 at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach, MO.

Throughout the event, over 90 dealers and suppliers from around the region joined the association for the annual fishing tournament, bean bags tournament & steak/chop fry and the "Show Me" Scramble golf event. For the 2nd year in a row, showers and thunderstorms threatened the event but the members toughed it out and all events were held.



The annual fishing tournament departed from Public Beach Access #2 with 17 boats competing. The team of Tony Belfiore of Mid-Am Building Products & Archie Atwell of Tri-County Lumber took home the prize for best boat, weighing in five (5) fish at just over 10 pounds. Greg Shafer, guest of Chic Lumber, and Nick Lafferty of Becker Millwork & Hardware in Freeburg shared the "Biggest Fish" award.

Shafer weighed in a largemouth bass at 3.73 pounds. Lafferty brought in a "bucket mouth" of his own only to have it fumbled back into the lake by one of the guides as it was being weighed. The "official" tournament committee – aka the MLA staff – made the executive decision to award both members with a prize!

16 teams entered the 2023 Cornhole Tournament and went head-to-head – or bag to bag – in the double-elimination tournament. The team of Dan Prendergast of Moscow Mills Lumber & Chris Hatcher of Quality Edge stormed their way back through the "loser's bracket" to faceoff with the team of Kevin Jester & Travis Rupe of TK Building Supply in the championship game! Rupe & Jester came out as Champions after almost surrendering a 19-2 lead – winning 21-17.



Finally, mother nature decided to bring rain to the area on Friday morning as the 2023 Show Me Scramble Golf Event was scheduled to begin. Turns out she was only messing with the golfers as the rain dissipated shortly after the tournament began and the sun shined for the remainder of the day. With a score of -9, the team of Jordan Dunham & Issac Anderson of Federated Insurance, together with Jim Hopfinger & Charlie Giraud of Rion Equipment took home 1st place honors.

Thanks to the contributions of the members as well as the donations by some of the winning "athletes", the MO scholarship fund added \$825 to the MO Activities Committee & Scholarship Fund. Additional funds from registrations will be added following the final accounting of the event revenue & expenses.

Thank you to everyone who sponsored the event... and participated!

Plans for the 2024 Swing into Spring are already in the works for late-April/early-May 2024!

Upcoming Events

June 20, 2023

Who Are Your Safest Drivers?
Complimentary Risk Management Webinar
1:30 pm CST

June 13, 2023

TechTalk Webinar Series
Online, 12:30 pm CST
Featuring: TOOLBX

September 24-29, 2023

2023 Mill Tour
The Adirondacks and Upstate New York

October 12, 2023

Sunflower Shootout 2023
Colbert Hills Golf Course
Manhattan, KS



Congratulations to our 2023 Scholarship Recipients

The MLA scholarship program continues to be one of the most valued among all the Association services. Annually, the Missouri and Kansas state committees make funds available for scholarships to assist employees' children and to support employees pursuing continuing education. Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients:



Drayton Cleaver



Aidan Graham



Ivan Andres Venegas



Michaela Baalman



Sydney Keller



Emma Scuggs

Not pictured: Mia Crossfield



NEW Tech Talks Webinars Start June 13th

Connecting you with the lumber and building materials industry top technology vendors.

Our NEW Tech Talks webinars offer a high-level overview of the software products utilized by today's top retail lumber dealers. This webinar series starts Tuesday, June 13th with [ToolBx](#) demonstrating their e-commerce software. Additional webinar dates and the featured companies will be listed on [our website](#). Click [HERE](#) to receive a join link for the June 13th webinar. These webinars are free of charge and will be recorded. A link will be shared with those who register.



Who Are Your Safest Drivers?

Complimentary Risk Management Webinar – June 20, 2023 at 1:30 pm CST

Company drivers today face distractions unlike any in history, and poor driving behaviors put your company at risk. During this webinar, we'll take a look into how you can recognize and promote safe driving through the use of our Federated DriveSAFE program. Click [HERE](#) to register.



2023 Mill Tour - September 24th to Friday, September 29th

The Adirondacks and Upstate New York

Join Northwestern Lumber Association and your LBM peers for a relaxing educational experience that allows you to immerse yourself in the beauty of our 2023 Mill Tour destination – **The Adirondacks and Upstate New York** – on Sunday, September 24th to Friday, September 29th.

Click [HERE](#) for full details.

MLA Endorsed Vendor



MIDWEST'S LEADING WORKPLACE SAFETY CONSULTANTS

Providing workplace health and safety consulting
services for small to mid-sized manufacturers
and construction companies



Featured Program: WorkSafeWorkSmart.com

"Building profits through Safety, Efficiency and Engagement"

Featured Products

- Boss Tie-Downs and Strapping
- Lumber Buddy™ Portable Workstation (www.lumberbuddy.com)
- LM Equipment Co.
- Patriot Strapping

Training

[WorkSafeWorkSmart.com's](http://WorkSafeWorkSmart.com) training approach is simple. They use a clearly defined process that focuses on the beginning and the end in mind. Training works to improve sales, productivity, organization, company culture and employee satisfaction. LEAN is a great way to maintain margins by decreasing costs through the elimination of waste. Doing more with less is what LEAN is all about.

For more information please contact Jeff Tweten at (469) 708-9797 or JeffT@WorkSafeWorkSmart.com.



2023 Kansas Sunflower Shootout is Booked!

Join us in Manhattan, Kansas at Colbert Hill Golf Course!

The 35th annual Kansas Sunflower Shootout Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2023, at Colbert Hills Golf Course in Manhattan, Kansas.

Rated as one of the top public courses in Kansas and home to the Kansas State University Men's & Women's golf team(s), Colbert Hills Golf Course is an 18-hole championship golf course carved out of the Flint Hills of Central Kansas. Designed by former PGA Professional and PGA Champions Tour player Jim Colbert, Colbert Hills features over 7,000 yards of challenging golf suitable for players of all skill levels!

Grab your customers, make your team (or come as a single or twosome) and join us for this amazing annual event benefiting the Kansas Lumber Dealers Scholarship Fund!

Full event information is available [HERE](#).

[Dealer & Supplier Registration Form](#)

[Online registration is also available and now open!](#)

**A room block has been established at the Bluemont Hotel in downtown Manhattan. For more information on booking your hotel room, please [click here](#).*



HR Question of the Month – Flirting in the Workplace?

From Federated Insurance

Question

We have an employee who likes to flirt with other employees. So far, there hasn't been anything too suggestive. We don't want to ruin our laid-back, casual atmosphere, but the flirting is making some employees feel uncomfortable. Is this considered sexual harassment? What should we do?

Read the answer at www.federatedinsurance.com.



2024 "BizCon" Save The Dates

We invite you to join NLA's largest annual events!

Save the dates for Northwestern Lumber Association's largest annual events – the 2024 BizCon North and BizCon South!

Formerly known as the *Expos*, the reimagined "BizCons" will still focus on bringing our members immense value and business connections via exhibits that feature the latest building products, expert-led educational seminars, and fun networking opportunities...all while featuring *fresh, new agendas and exciting elements*.

Click [HERE](#) for a Save the Date flyer. Watch for additional information coming this fall and visit www.nlassn.org for ongoing updates throughout the planning process.



BIZCON NORTH
February 6-7, 2024
(Tues/Wed)
DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton
Bloomington, Minnesota

BIZCON SOUTH
February 21-22, 2024
(Wed/Thurs)
Prairie Meadows Hotel & Casino
Altoona, Iowa



What News Do You Have?

What's happening in your area? Is there an industry event, company or employee milestone, or even a business tip you'd like to share with your fellow members? Send them our way! We are always looking for meaningful content to include in the newsletter. You can send your news to melanie@themla.com. Thank you.

Safety Training
at Your Fingertips

[LEARN MORE](#)



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It's Our Business to Protect Yours

www.themla.com

