



# HardHat Herald

The Voice of WACO

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 07

JULY, 2005



# From the Boardroom...

Grenada, MS  
30JUN05

It's good to be home. So many times, when I get a moment to write this newsletter column, I find myself at some far-flung destination somewhere in the United States or on some airplane enroute. Mrs. Patsy Hankins says she is going to invent a new board game entitled "Where in the world is WACO."

Even though, as I sit here this morning, my legs are a bit sore from some recent, rather strenuous exercise mandated by Mrs. Trisha, it's really good to be able to sit at my own desk and be able to write this column.

Of course, it's good to sit anywhere after the way Mrs. Trisha has worked me this week. You see, Mrs. Trisha and I have been working pretty hard this week, trying to get into better physical shape. It seems that I've recently gained a bit of weight. Well, actually...more than a bit. I didn't intend to. It just sort of followed me home, kind of like a lost puppy follows a willing child. Well, the puppy had big feet and has grown to meet them. Mrs. Trisha says I can't keep it.

Last week several of us traveled to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the Southern Forest Products Association Exposition. This event is held every two years and affords companies who provide goods and services to the Forest Products industry an opportunity to display their wares.

While reportedly a "trade show," this biennial gathering is really more like a family reunion as it provides an opportunity to once again visit with friends from all across the country who have come together with a common interest. Such was the case this year.

As has been our custom for the past several years, WACO had a booth at the show. Karl Grubb, Suzanne Thomas, Mitch Costilow, Ronnie Smith, and Greg Parker, along with Mrs. Trisha and myself, staffed our booth. We found ourselves extremely busy during the entire show with hardly a time that each of us weren't actively engaged with a visitor, telling them about WACO and the services we provide.

Now that we are home, we are trying our best to wade through the mountain of information, contact data, and job leads that we picked up while there. It was a good experience and I trust it will prove to have been a profitable experience as well. We are booked for the next several weeks with appointments to visit mills all across the country, with quite a few other invitations yet to formally accept and schedule. Looks to be a busy summer.

While we were in Atlanta, Mrs. Trisha and I had an opportunity to host Mr. Harold Wayne Hankins and his wife Patsy, along with Hankins Incorporated's Plant Manager Mr. Keith Foster and his wife Roxanne, for supper one night. You know that I'm always on the lookout for another good place to eat. Eating is one of those things I do quite well, and I have the physique to prove it. Well, we found a good one.

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We had heard from another friend, Mr. David Miles of Miles Lumber Company, of a unique, Brazilian steakhouse in Atlanta, and had been looking for an opportunity to try it out. This restaurant is called "FOGO de CHAO." Now, I don't speak Portuguese like they do in Brazil, but I am told it translates roughly to "Fire on the Ground."

Reportedly, the reference is to the manner in which the South American cowboys, called "Gauchos", prepared their regular meals of roasted meat. If you are a meat lover, and I am, this is the place to be. I suppose that Gauchos, like most everybody else in the world, predominately eat what they have in abundance. Since the Gaucho's job is herding cattle and sheep, that is apparently what they eat.

When we drove up in front of the restaurant, we were met at the front door by a group of young men intent upon helping us from our vehicle and ushering us into the restaurant. Parking the vehicle was not to be a problem, for these young men took the keys and said not to worry.

(You know, I think if I wanted to steal a car, that's the way I would try to do it. Just stand outside some restaurant and offer to park cars for folks. Of course, I would never actually do that, but it did

cross my mind that it would prove a relatively easy way to get a car.)

Once inside the restaurant, we were immediately seated at a table near the center of the dining room and very nearby one of the most completely stocked salad bars I've ever seen. A real danger exists that a person will over indulge in the salad and be unable to fully enjoy the main course. This may be by design.

Our waiter brought our tea and water, delivered the first installment of fried bananas, polenta (fried cornbread), mashed potatoes, etc., placed small round paper discs at our right hands, and quickly explained the manner in which the meal was to be served.

No menus were presented. You see, while they serve fifteen different cuts of meat, there is no actual menu at this restaurant. The dining room is staffed by numerous waiters, all dressed in authentic Gaucho garb, and all carrying skewers of hot, broiled beef, lamb, chicken, and pork, fresh off the fire. Patrons are free to choose any selection. Patrons are also free to choose all of the available selections.

The waiter then explained the purpose of the small, round paper disc. This disc is colored, one side red, and the other green. Each diner is presented a disc, laid upon the table near their right hand, and with the red side up. The orientation of the disc is a signal to the waiters to begin, or to stop, serving meat.

At the moment we finished our salads, our salad plates disappeared. Keith Foster and I reached for our colored discs at the same time and turned them over, exposing the green side. Immediately, and I do mean immediately, about six different waiters descended upon us and started carving meat from their skewers.

I found it a bit overwhelming. Like trying to drink from a firehose. Especially since, at this time, I didn't even have a plate. Not to worry. As the waiter at my left hand was carving a slice of meat, another at my right hand was sliding a plate in front of me. The plate arrived a mere instant before the meat fell into it.

I was impressed. I also rather quickly reached for the green sided paper disc and turned it back over to red. I had to. In self defense. I have no doubt that, had I not, these waiters would have loaded my new plate so high with meat I would never have made it through.

I was even more impressed with the meal. Apart from being a unique and fun experience, the meal was delicious. We found that you could have exactly the cut of meat you wanted, prepared exactly to the degree of doneness you wanted, and served exactly when you wanted. On demand. Right now. I think I'll go there again when given the opportunity.

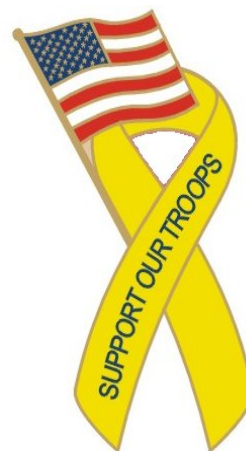
After supper we all sort of just waddled out of the restaurant. As we left, I turned and stopped by the table of another friend who was also eating there that night. Mr. Robert Taylor, of Taylor Machinery in Louisville, MS, had brought a rather large entourage to the same restaurant that evening.

I greeted Mr. Taylor and told him that we were "yielding the field of battle" to an obviously superior force. You see, all during our meal we could hear the Taylor group chanting, "more meat, more meat, and more meat." And I thought, that's a dangerous thing to do in a place where "more meat" is what they routinely do. A person could easily get more than they had bargained for.

Thank goodness for the red paper disc that served as a stop sign. Without that meager bit of protection, I fear I would have returned home weighing much more than I actually did. And I fear Mrs. Trisha's enforced activity on my part would be much more strenuous and take much longer.

That sure was a good restaurant. Man! My legs hurt.

C. Wayne Roberts



PLEASE  
CONTINUE TO  
PRAY FOR OUR  
MILITARY, THEIR  
FAMILIES, AND  
OUR LEADERS!



# 2005 EXPO



## 28<sup>th</sup> Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Exposition



**WACO Construction Company employees and family attended the 2005 Expo at Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center.**

# FAMILY APPEAL



Michael Sapp's baseball team The Grenada Thunder will be in the State Championship. They have won seven of their first eight postseason!!

**GREAT JOB BOYS!!**

## **OSHA Proposes \$140,000 in Fines Following Sawmill Chipper Fatality**

OSHA has proposed \$139,800 in fines against V&B International and its Port Gibson, MS sawmill operation for poor safety measures. The proposed fine arose from a November 16, 2004 fatal accident.

OSHA reports that two of the mill's employees were assigned to change knives in a chipper machine at the start of each workday. The agency said on the day of the accident a third worker noticed a heater hadn't come on and turned on what he thought was a power switch. According to OSHA, the unlabeled switch started the chipper, and one of the workers assigned to change the blades was killed instantly.

An OSHA Jackson area director said the accident could have been avoided if the mill had a lockout-tagout program, in which machinery is inoperable during maintenance or repair, and all power sources must be labeled and employees must be trained to follow written procedures.

*Article from Southern Lumberman Magazine • July 2005*

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## Hire Date Anniversaries

Mack Costilow                      1 Year

## NEW HIRES

### New Hires

Wayne Greer



## WACO Birthdays

David Blair	July 02
Randy Carlile	July 06
H.V. Shaw	July 07
Antonio Brown	July 09
Manuel Rebolledo	August 09

### EXTENSION CORD SAFETY

The color for the month of  
July is  
**BLACK & YELLOW**

#### Safety Scorecard

All extension cords are to be inspected each month. Each month has a different color tape. Be sure your extension cords are inspected.

Your **Safety** is very important to us. Keep up the good work!!!



WACO Employees Worked

**2,637 Days**

**864,933 Hours**

Without a Lost Time Accident

Since our last lost time accident on  
October 5, 2004

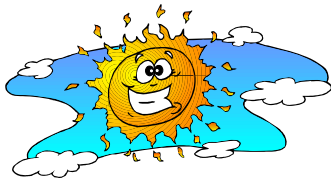
WACO Employees have safely worked

263 Days

69,671 Hours

2005 Recordables = 2

Remember.....Safety First!!



## STAY COOL WHEN IT'S HOT

It sure is getting hot out here. With the onset of hot weather, we must make sure that exposure to heat doesn't compromise our health and safety. Anyone can become vulnerable to the stresses of severe summer heat, but because so much construction work takes place outside, we're more vulnerable than most. We need to keep a cool head about hot weather safety.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported that from 1979 to 1999, excessive heat exposure caused 8,015 deaths in the United States. That means that during this 20-year period, more people died from extreme heat than from hurricanes, lightning, tornadoes, floods, and earthquakes combined. Weather conditions are out of our control, but we can take precautions to prevent heat-related illnesses and deaths during these hot summer months. All we need to do is learn to protect ourselves and learn to recognize the signs of heat illness.

Reduce your risk of suffering heat-related illnesses by protecting your body on the inside and the outside:

- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.
- Prevent sunburn by applying sunscreen with a high sun protection factor (SPF).
- Eat regular, well-balanced meals and avoid heavy foods in the heat of the day.
- Drink plenty of fluids to keep your body hydrated; water and electrolyte replacement drinks are best.
- Avoid caffeinated drinks and alcohol.

The most severe heat-induced illnesses are heat exhaustion and heat stroke. If you or your co-workers don't take action to treat heat exhaustion, the illness could progress to heat stroke and possibly death. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, and pale, clammy skin. If your co-worker shows these symptoms move the victim to a cool, shaded area. Loosen and remove clothing. Try to cool the person by fanning, spraying the skin with a mist of water, or wiping the skin with a wet cloth. If the person doesn't feel better, call 911. Symptoms of heat stroke include hot, dry skin, changes in skin color, seizures or fits, and loss of consciousness. Call 911 immediately if a co-worker has any of these symptoms. While help is on the way, move the person to a cool shaded area, and then cool the victim's body by placing ice packs under the armpits and in the groin.

**SAFETY REMINDER.....Try to do the heaviest work during the coolest part of the day, and remember to take frequent breaks.**

**SAFE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW!**



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P.O. Box 640  
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Phone: (662) 226-5302  
Fax: (662) 226-3002