



# *The Millworker*

*Federal Millwork Corporate Newsletter*  
Volume IV, 2004 Edition

## *Elegance Reaches New Heights in Aventura*



**FMC ... *The home of "Wonders in Wood" for over 65 years!***

## The President's Column

The founder and president of a Florida metal fabricating company said in a Capitol Hill news conference that recent tax cuts for small businesses enabled him to purchase costly, high-tech equipment that, in turn, has spurred a growth in orders, expansion into a newly purchased building, and the hiring of 23 new employees...[tax cuts work]. (*We have full use of the Annex and its Courtyard, partial occupancy of the warehouse, a new CNC machining center, Laser capabilities and waste reduction with the use of the Hogger*).

U.S. manufacturers are cheering the fall of the greenback [decline in the exchange rate], which will help them compete overseas and save U.S. jobs.

An article in the Orlando Sentinel cites the NAM (National Association of Manufacturers) data that forty percent (40%) of lost manufacturing jobs are the result of foreign competition. (*This is a major concern of the AWI as nearly all of the furniture manufacturing plants across the country have closed under the weight of uncontrolled imports from China*).

In a market economy, employee pay and productivity are closely related: when employees become more productive, they earn higher compensation. American productivity experienced two periods of strong growth over the past forty years; from 1960 to 1967 and from 1996 to 2001. During those periods, non-farm productivity growth averaged 2.7% and real hourly pay of workers increased an average of 2.6%. Slower growth periods rose an anemic 1.3% with wages following at 1.1%. Clearly, the key to higher real income and higher standards of living for working Americans is faster productivity growth.

*Richard Ungerbuehler, President*

## DID YOU KNOW?



**Forestry offsets air pollution.** Foresters nurture forests, which are sometimes called “the gills of the planet.” One mature tree absorbs approximately 13 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. For every ton of wood a forest grows, it removes 1.47 tons of carbon dioxide and replaces it with 1.07 tons of oxygen.

**Forestry benefits urban environments.** Urban foresters manage forests and trees to benefit communities in many ways. Forests in urban areas reduce stormwater runoffs, improve air quality, and reduce energy consumption. For example, three well-placed mature trees around a house can cut air-conditioning costs by 10-50 percent.

*-Society of American Foresters*

## JUNE 1st - The Start of Hurricane Season

**"Preventing the loss of life and minimizing the damage to property from hurricanes are responsibilities that are shared by all."**

*- Joe M. Allbaugh, FEMA Direc*

Hurricane Season has arrived, and although South Florida has been spared over the past couple of years, there is no certain way to predict if this year will bring the same luck.

The best action we can take is to be prepared. The chart to the right outlines the basic preparation steps needed to be taken in the threat of a hurricane.



### Basic Hurricane Safety Actions

- Know if you live in an evacuation area. Know your home's vulnerability to **storm surge, flooding and wind**. Have a written plan based on this knowledge.
- At the beginning of hurricane season (June 1st), check your supplies, replace batteries and use food stocks on a rotating basis.
- During hurricane season, monitor the tropics.
- Monitor [NOAA Weather Radio](#).
- If a storm threatens, heed the advice from local authorities. **Evacuate if ordered**.
- Execute your family plan.

# *Coscan - Atlantic 1 Towers*



FMC—AWI Premium Certified Woodwork

## Appalachian Hardwoods, World's Best

Much has been said in recent years about the declining supply of lumber around the world due to greedy entrepreneurs and cash starved governments who have brutally abused much of the world's tropical rain forests. As a result, the world is one "green" mission, i.e., to produce products manufactured from lumber harvested only from properly controlled sites who adhere to a strict set of standards.

To show their support and make a statement to the construction industry and consumers at all levels, Home Depot announced their intent to sell only "green." Regardless of their motivation, they quickly discovered that the cost of "green" can be prohibitive and inadequate supply hampered their sales and began to erode their customer base.

In response to pressure from various lobbyists representing numerous organizations such as the Audubon Society and Greenpeace, The United States Federal Government has placed millions of acres off limits for harvesting. In an attempt to appease the various environmental groups and position this country on what was/is viewed to be the politically correct side of the issue, we have caused several major problems: reduced supply of lumber driving up prices; decaying forests wasting a precious natural resource; and, creating fuel for the numerous forest fires which have devastated millions of acres costing lives, displacement of citizens, and costing billions of dollars.

The environmentalists, who take their conservative approach to our abundant source of lumber to a religious fervor, bordering on pantheism, fail to realize that proper forestation has actually increased the amount of standing timber in this country. Until the Bush administration took office, the government, in their eagerness to appease every minority, yielded to the lobbyists to the detriment of the majority of people. Fortunately, President Bush has approved new roads to gain access to the forest lands and has freed up thousands of acres set aside by former President Clinton.

Appalachian Hardwood lumber is unmatched for strength, beauty, and durability; it is a fact recognized worldwide. Appalachian Hardwood lumber is unmatched for strength, beauty, and durability; it is a fact recognized worldwide.

It is so widely known that the finest portions of the tree are graded "Prime" and are sold only to customers beyond our borders. In this country, we purchase and use "FAS" or "Firsts and Seconds," good enough, but not the best. Furthermore, the prime part of the tree is often used to produce veneers, the best of which are often purchased by foreign manufacturers, transported to their "floating factories" off of our west coast shoreline, processed, and transported back to our mainland where they are sold at a handsome profit, part of the politically correct process we now refer to as "outsourcing," a fancy word used to describe the loss of domestic manufacturing jobs.

The Appalachian Mountains, with their various assortments of trees, blossom each fall into the most spectacular rainbow of natural color unmatched anywhere, attract visitors from across the globe, in awe of God's great creation. As the lush green leaves begin to die, they turn color in the process, almost as if we are being reminded not to be concerned, something better is about to happen. Thus, the world's finest source for quality lumber is indebted to nature and a commitment from major firms.

**Appalachian Hardwoods:** grown substantially in the forests of the east; offer consistent quality; provides the finest natural insulating product known to man; beautiful in color and pattern; and, made in U.S.A. Appalachian Hardwoods...*God's great gift to mankind.*

*Richard A. Ungerbuehler, Sr.*



No Anniversaries This Month



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