

## 2011 Wood Basics Course September 12 – 15 / Corvallis, OR • Recap



The NAWLA Wood Basics Course returned to the Pacific Northwest in 2011 for the fifth consecutive year. The recent Course took place in Corvallis, Oregon from September 12<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> and once again had solid attendance with 20 students. According to attendee comments and written evaluations, the Course was “excellent.” Hear what our students are saying:

*I really enjoyed this course! I was able to make great contacts and friends! I think our group was varied in age and in the industry that we covered all ends of the spectrum. I loved being able to be in the mills first hand. I also really enjoyed the presentation the last day about Sales. I think there was so much valuable information to take out of that not only in the industry but in everyday life! Thanks for all you did!*

*Impressive and necessary for anyone trying to improve themselves in the industry.*

*Being new to the Wood Products industry, I wasn't sure what to expect but upon even the first communication with the NAWLA staff ... it was apparent that the Wood Products Industry takes its training and networking very seriously. The Basics Course provided me with more than just a base knowledge to walk away and start my career with, it jump started my expectations and desire to dig into the industry and make a difference for the common good of all our companies. I can't say how happy I am to be in this industry and have organizations like NAWLA ... to help make it better every day.*

The four-day program included a mix of classroom modules and off-site field trips. Modules on forest ecology and silviculture, lumber manufacturing, structural panels, engineered wood products, grading, Crow's / RISI, marketing, sales and transportation were taught by more than 12 industry experts, NAWLA Members, and local academics from Oregon State University (OSU).

The signature, off-site tours were expanded to include a fourth excursion in the Willamette River Valley. Students began the week with a tour of nearby Starker Forest Lands & Education Center in Philomath. The tour included a peek at a logged site, a ¼-mile hike (on-trail) and species identification. For further information on Starker Forest Lands, please visit [www.starkerforests.com](http://www.starkerforests.com)

On Tuesday, students journeyed to Eugene to see Zip-o-Log Mills – a “specialty timbers” sawmill that produces 100 percent Douglas Fir products, including 52-footers. For further information on Zip-o-Log Mills, please visit [www.zipolog.com](http://www.zipolog.com)

As a NAWLA-first, student visited Seneca Lumber Company in Eugene to observe a technologically advanced sawmill will numerous patents. For further information on Seneca, please visit [www.senecasawmill.com](http://www.senecasawmill.com)

A final tour of Rosboro in Springfield afforded students a first-hand look at an engineered wood plant. For further information on Rosboro, please visit [www.rosboro.com](http://www.rosboro.com)

Congratulations go to the Graduates of the Corvallis Class of 2011!

Brown, Michael	Hoover Treated Wood Products	Sales Representative
Brunner, Robbie	Hoover Treated Wood Products	Sales Representative
Cervantes, Gerardo	American Gem	Director
Christenson, Yvonne	Low Grade Lumber	Trader
Cordesman, Kevin	Koch Pulp & Paper Trading	Director
Correa, Ximena	BoiseCascade LLC	International Marketing and Sales
DeCoito, Vince	Universal Forest Products	Account Manager
Duncan, Marissa	Low Grade Lumber	Trader Trainee
Flerchinger, Dan	Vanport International	
Gauvin, Crystal	RISI	Senior Economist
Hayes, Gary	Roseburg Forest Products	Midwest Territory Sales Manager
Keitzman, Blake	Roseburg Forest Products	Inside Sales Representative
Kennedy, Brett	Intermountain-Orient, Inc.	Industrial Sales
Ketchum, Kevin	NAWLA	Director of Marketing & Communications
Kim, Steve	Koch Pulp & Paper Trading, LLC	Vice President
Poole, Amber	NILCO	Branch Manager
Saito, Akiyoshi	Vanport International	Trainee
Sibiya, Kholo	Koch Pulp & Paper Trading, LLC	Administrative Assistant
Starks, Kara	Union Pacific Railroad	Sr. Business Manager
Volk, Jana	Stimson Lumber Company	Marketing Assistant