



## **AS WE SEE IT: JANUARY 2022**

### ***It Is Not About Us, It's About You.***

*By: Scott Dane – Executive Director, American Loggers Council*

The American Loggers Council is not about the American Loggers Council, it is about you – the members of the American Loggers Council. We just have the privilege of representing and working for you. Sometimes people and organizations lose sight of who works for whom, and the tail begins to wag the dog. The American Loggers Council will never wag the dog.

***It reminds me of the old story about the donkey carrying Jesus through Jerusalem and from the donkey's perspective, seeing all of the people lining the streets and laying down palm fronds, thought to himself – wow, I must be important, look at all of the people that came out to see me.***

The American Loggers Council is just a donkey, carrying the issues of our members, working on their behalf. The success of the American Loggers Council is only because of the collective representation that each of our members – State Association Members, Associate Members and Individual Logger Members provides. None of our success would be possible without the membership.

### ***The Power of One is None, But As One, Things Get Done.***

You open doors for the American Loggers Council. Recently, while in DC the American Loggers Council wanted to meet with Congressman McCarthy (CA). The American Loggers Council contacted the Associated California Loggers who provided contact and introduction information that secured a meeting to discuss and share the American Loggers Council legislative agenda. It was a similar situation with Congressional meetings with Mississippi, Wisconsin, Maine, and others to discuss the need for additional PATHH funding.

Similarly, each state association represents the timber industry in their respective state. As such, they too are “donkey’s” working for their members. Their efforts are directly impacted by their membership. One of my greatest frustrations while representing Minnesota for seventeen years was the monetary, political, and resource investment made by the members of the Associated Contract Loggers and Truckers of Minnesota that resulted in millions of dollars in legislative, policy and program benefits, that nonmembers fully embraced, but neglected to support. The cost of membership in your state associations is minimal compared to the proven benefits. If every stakeholder invested in their state association, even more could be accomplished.

If you are one of the more than 5,000 Loggers and Truckers that received PATHH assistance, if you are not a member of your state association, you should be. PATHH would not have happened without the collective effort of the state timber associations. Additionally, as a member of your state association, which is a member of the American Loggers Council, you are automatically a member of the American Loggers Council and eligible for all of the benefits afforded American Loggers Council members.

Join the American Loggers Council by joining your state association. To contact your state association, visit [www.amloggers.com](http://www.amloggers.com) and click on the state membership link, scroll down and click on the respective state.

### ***Stronger Together.***