CATAWBA VALLEY NEWSLETTER

December 2016

Vol. 2016 Issue 12



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Professional
Construction Estimators
Association
Catawba Valley Chapter



PCEA-Catawba Valley Chapter PO Box 547 Hickory, NC 28603 www.pcea-catawbavalley.org

Email: info@pcea-catawbavalley@charter.org

December 9th

Annual Christmas Party



Market on Main 535 Main Ave SW Hickory, NC 28602

Join us for Cocktails at 6:30

Dinner will be served at 7:00 Followed by the Awards Ceremony & Gun Raffle Drawing

PCEA Members are FREE - Guests are \$15.00

PLEASE REGISTER/RSVP NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, December 6th!

Register online at: www.pcea-catawbavalley.org

UPCOMING PCEA EVENTS

December 9th – Annual Christmas Party at Market on Main

January 12th – Monthly Business Meeting

February 9th—
Monthly Business
Meeting



HEALTH & HAPPINESS

Welcome new Member,
Dean Goins,
with Troutman Plumbing



Gun Raffle Tickets are on Sale!!

Please see Randall Williams

or a Board Member

for tickets

Grand Prize 2 Guns

Smith & Wesson M&P15 Sport II Rifle

Mossberg 500 Persuader

Please send any Health & Happiness to Melissa Swanson,

Melissa.swanson@rmcc.com

Please share your opinion of an early afternoon Monthly Business Meeting when we begin the New Year. We continue to struggle with member attendance at our Monthly Business Meetings & are exploring ideas to get a larger turnout.

Send opinions/thoughts to info@pcea-catawbavalley.org



President Elect, Donald J. Trump has made the following Cabinet and staff announcements as of November 30th, beginning with the most recent:

Commerce Secretary: Wilbur Ross

An ally during Trump's election campaign, the 79-year-old Ross is the billionaire chairman of WL Ross & Co., an investment firm that specializes in corporate restructurings.

During the campaign, Ross often appeared on business news shows to explain Trump's positions, sometimes softening or downplaying the candidate's protectionist trade policies.

Ross built his estimated \$2.9 billion fortune by snapping up distressed industrial businesses, such as steelmaker LTV. Ross might be best known to voters as the owner of Sago Mine, a West Virginia coal mine where a dozen miners lost their lives in a 2006 explosion. He called that tragedy "the worst week of my life."

Treasury Secretary: Steven Mnuchin

Mr. Trump announced Wednesday morning that he'd selected Mnuchin, who served as the national finance chairman of Trump's presidential campaign, for the top Treasury Department job. This has been widely expected since Mr. Trump won the race for the White House. Earlier this month, Mr. Trump's transition recommended Mnuchin for the post.

Mnuchin is a veteran of the finance world, spending 17 years at Goldman Sachs. Others who were reportedly considered for the job include JP Morgan Chase & CO CEO Jamie Dimon and Rep. Jeb Hensarling (R-Texas).

Transportation Secretary: Elaine Chao

Elaine Chao, who served as labor secretary under President George W. Bush, is the first Asian-American woman to ever hold a Cabinet-level position. She served in the role from 2001 to 2009 — the only member of Bush's Cabinet to serve through his entire eight years in the White House.

Before serving as labor secretary, Chao ran the United Way of America, was director of the Peace Corps and served as deputy treasury secretary under President George H.W. Bush. She is married to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky).

Health and Human Services Secretary: Tom Price

Price, a five-term congressman hailing from the Atlanta suburbs, is the chairman of the House Budget Committee. He's an orthopedic surgeon by trade, and was an early supporter of Trump's presidential candidacy.

Price has also been a strong advocate, like his fellow Republicans, of repealing Obamacare. Price favors expanding health savings accounts and providing tax credits for purchasing health coverage.

Education Secretary: Betsy DeVos

Betsy DeVos, a prominent charter school advocate from Michigan, has also chaired the state's Republican Party. She currently serves as chairwoman of the American Federation for Children, a school choice advocacy group.

She and her husband also head up the Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation, which has supported projects like the West Michigan Aviation Academy, a public charter school in Grand Rapids and the Compass Film Academy, a Christian film school in Michigan. The billionaire DeVos family also owns the NBA team, the Orlando Magic. Dick DeVos' father founded Amway.

Attorney General: Jeff Sessions

Sessions has been one of Mr. Trump's closest and most consistent allies, and he was the first senator to announce his support for the president-elect. An architect of Mr. Trump's immigration, counterterrorism and trade policies, Sessions was also considered for secretary of defense.

Appointing him the nation's top prosecutor is sure to be controversial, though: he's been through the Senate confirmation process before, with mixed success. He did make it through a Republican-controlled Senate in 1981, when they approved him to be the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. But then, nominated for a federal judgeship in 1986, Sessions, R-Ala., was dogged by accusations that he had made racist comments while serving as U.S. attorney.

CIA Director: Mike Pompeo

Pompeo, a Kansas congressman first elected during the tea party wave of 2010, serves on the Energy and Commerce and House Intelligence committees, and he also served on the House Select Benghazi Committee.

According to his website, he's the former CEO of an oilfield company and also of an aerospace company he founded. And Pompeo is also a Harvard-trained lawyer who graduated first in his class at West Point.

National Security Adviser: Michael Flynn

Flynn, a lifelong Democrat, is a former head of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) -- he was one of the highest-ranking national security officials supporting Trump, whom he also informally advised him on foreign policy during the primary campaign. He is also known to be a proponent of stronger ties with Russia, as well as a critic of President Obama.

Info found on CBS 2016 Interactive website.



PCEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: OPEN OFFICES

The Catawba Valley Chapter of PCEA currently has openings on the Board of Directors for the offices of Secretary and the President-Elect. The Board of Directors meet monthly during lunch on the last Wednesday of each month at 12:00 pm at the Olde Tavern on Hwy 127 in Viewmont. For details of the officer positions and duties, please CLICK HERE for a downloadable PDF file. Please consider if you are able to serve in either of the open officer positions and EMAIL PCEA if you are interested.

REMINDERS:

Annual Christmas Party, December 9th at Market on Main, as always, Social Hour starts at 5:30, with dinner & the meeting starting at 6:30. All regular meetings, including the Christmas Party are included in your membership dues, so there is no extra cost to attend this meeting! Know someone who would benefit from PCEA? Bring them as your FREE guest! Please click the link to <u>REGISTER ONLINE</u> for this meeting, and remember to register any guests you are bringing.

Tickets are available for the **Annual Gun Raffle!** This year, the winning first prize ticket will win TWO GUNS - a Smith & Wesson M&P15 Sport II Rifle (AR-15) ~AND~ a Mossberg 500 Persuader 12 Gauge Shotgun!! Tickets are \$10/each or a book of 5 tickets for \$40 - **Only 500 Tickets Available--Get yours before they are gone! EMAIL US** to purchase tickets, or **BUY TICKETS ONLINE!** The drawing will be held at the annual Christmas Party.

The 2017 PCEA National Convention will be held in Myrtle Beach, SC, look for the Call to Convention in the next few months.

Joint Information Center Western NC Wildfires Submitted their Evening Report below on Wednesday, November 30, 2016

CURRENT SITUATION FOR WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Fires or Fire Complexes	8 Type (1) = 1 Type (2) = 2 Type (3) = 3	Federal Aviation Assets in North Carolina	
Incident Management Teams		Helicopters	Type (1) = 3 Type (2) = 2 Type (3) = 4
Total Acreage	66,367	Air Attack	4
Personnel	1,821	SEATS Single Engine Air Tanker	8

The above-listed statistics represent only active, staffed fires in North Carolina and totals are compiled from 209 information and fire PIOs. Complexes are counted as a single fire.

The wildfires that have spanned across the South were, and continue to be, fought by federal, state, local, tribal and volunteer agencies. The incident management teams and firefighters that have been working in North Carolina are beginning to ramp down fire operations and reduce their numbers, in part because of wet weather and reduced fire activity. While it can appear that teams and firefighters are leaving en masse at a time when concern over drought and fire conditions is not over, they only leave when there is another smaller group available to take over, or the local landowners feel able to take back and manage the fire themselves. On several large fires, containment has been reached, and the team has returned oversight to the land management agency.

Many fire personnel and resources are reassigned to more active fires that need the help while others are sent home. In the last day, many people and much equipment was moved very quickly to Gatlinburg, Tennessee to aid in that effort.

AIR QUALITY INFORMATION

Forecast Valid: Thursday 12/01/16

Today's Air Quality Conditions: Fine particulate concentrations in the Code Green range are being observed at all monitors across the state.



This information was found on a blog operated by the Public Information Officers and Agency representatives working in the Joint Information Center (JIC) in Asheville, North Carolina. They are dedicated to providing timely and accurate information about the wildfires in North Carolina. For more updated information Contact below Email: ncjicinformation@gmail.co Phone: 828-575-2840

Board of Directors Meeting Dates

(Please Save these Dates)

December 28th
January 25th
February 22nd
March 29th
April 26th



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