

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Al Meier, Chief Executive Officer and Barney Wagner, President of "Arrow Lumber & Hardware", proudly announce the acquisition of "Bethel Builders Home Center" in Port Orchard, Washington. The first day of operation as "Arrow Lumber" will be August 30, 1999.

Arrow Lumber & Hardware was formed in March of 1997 by Al Meier and Barney Wagner. With stores located in Eatonville, Washington, and a new store located in Buckley, Washington, this acquisition is ideal for our aggressive expansion plan.

Al Meier formerly owned and operated "Al Meier's Building Centers", a 6 store chain and distribution center located in the Puget Sound basin from 1956 until he sold to Lumbermen's Building Centers February of 1991. Meier states, "This expansion will allow us a great presence in the growing peninsula area. Multiple stores provides many benefits in the marketplace which we can pass on to our customers".

Barney Wagner, President of "Arrow Lumber & Hardware", was formerly Executive Vice President and General Manager of Al Meier's Building Centers for 18 years. In March of 1991, Wagner continued in the building material business with Lumbermen's Building Centers as Area Director of Operations until February of 1997. Wagner states, "Al and I have been together for 28 years and it is great to be working side by side again".

Shawn Roehr, formerly manager of the Arrow Lumber, Eatonville, has been transferred to the new store in Buckley as manager. Shawn has been instrumental in setting up the new facility and is excited to enter this market with a new store. Roehr states, "The new store is beautiful and the surrounding communities are very supportive". Arrow Lumber in Buckley celebrated its grand opening August 6th, 7th & 8th.

Lloyd Gentry, an industry veteran, was promoted to store manager of the Arrow Lumber in Eatonville. Lloyd has spent many years in various management capacities including yard manager of several facilities. Lloyd states, "I am excited about the challenges of store manager and have a great compliment of personnel to work with".

John Stafford will be promoted to store manager of the newly acquired Port Orchard yard. John has many years in the building materials business, from wholesale to retail. Stafford states, "This is a great facility with a huge potential. I will focus on developing additional retail and contractor trade".

Bonnie Pierre joined Arrow Lumber this June as "Administrative Manager". Bonnie previously worked with Barney in multiple store operations. Bonnie states, "It is wonderful being back in this industry. I enjoy the challenges of developing the administrative functions necessary for several stores".

Norm Irons, long time industry leader, joined Arrow Lumber as "Commodity Purchasing Manager". Norm has been in the lumber business for 40 years and brings with him a wealth of knowledge. Norm states, "It is great being associated with a progressive company which is expanding in this area".

Arrow Lumber & Hardware services the retail consumers and the building professionals with a complete line of lumber, hardware, and building materials.