

THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER BULLETIN

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

MAY/JUNE 2002

VOLUME 58

Annual Meeting
Land O Lakes
Wood Preserving



THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER BULLETIN

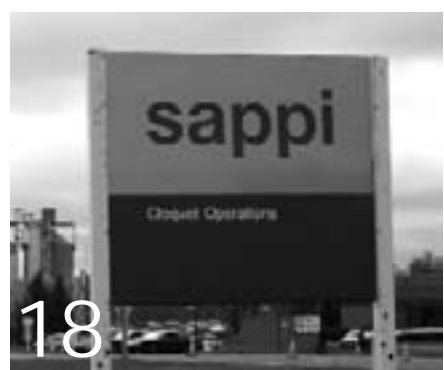
Volume 58
May/June 2002
Duluth, Minnesota

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**NORTH STAR
EXPO**
Schedule
of Events

9



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Timber Producers
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ON THE COVER

65th Annual Membership Meeting.

The Timber Bulletin is published six times annually, in February, April, June, August, October and December by the Minnesota Timber Producers Association, located at 903 Medical Arts Bldg., 324 W. Superior St., Duluth, Minn. Minnesota Timber Producers Association members receive the Timber Bulletin at an annual subscription rate of \$15 which is included in their membership dues. Periodicals postage paid in Duluth, Minnesota. Advertising rates and data on request. The views expressed in the Timber Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association.

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This spring there has been the usual county and state timber being offered for sale. Prices for timber stumpage seem to be running high again this spring. I was hoping this was an area in which we would see some lower cost but this is not the case. It was good to see DNR Commissioner Allen Garber at

President's Column



the Bigfork timber auction on June 6. Loggers had a chance to discuss some of their concerns about timber sale regulations with him at that time. Thank you for

taking the time out of your busy schedules to be there and for your interest in good forest management here in Minnesota.

With the load weight restrictions lifted and most of the loggers and truckers going back to work it is a good time to make sure our safety equipment is ready for another season. Let's make sure that all of the guards are in place on our equipment, our first aid kits are full and up to date and our fire extinguishers are ready to use.

The TPA committees will be busy in the months ahead planning the various activities of the organization. Thank you to all who give of your time to work on these committees.

Looking ahead, the North Star Expo will be held in Grand Rapids on Aug. 9 and 10 at the Itasca County Fairgrounds. I hope to see you there and remember to "log safely."

C. A. Johnson

Coming Events

- **North Star Expo**, Fri., Aug. 9, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Sat., Aug. 10, 9 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Itasca County Fairgrounds, Grand Rapids, Minn.

For additional information, contact: Minnesota Timber Producers Assn., 903 Medical Arts Bldg., Duluth, Minn. 55802; phone 218-722-5013.

- **The 25th Annual Kiln Drying Short Course** will be held August 12-15, 2002 at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. This course is designed to provide basic training for dry kiln operators and supervisors, but it is also open to anyone interested in kiln construction, kiln operation and wood-moisture relations.

For more information, contact Harlan Petersen at 612-624-3407, fax 612-625-6286, email harlan@umn.edu.

THATS Launches Safety Resource Website: loggingsafety.com

The National Timber Harvesting and Transportation Safety Foundation (THATS) has launched www.loggingsafety.com, a free site dedicated to making the best available timber harvesting and transportation safety guidelines and materials easily available to anyone with web access.

"The bottom line on any logging operation is always safety," stated THATS Chairman Craig Leach of Amerisafe. "This extensive on-line archive of free safety resources, with descriptions and ordering information for others, makes it easier than ever for loggers and logging trainers to stay informed and find what they need to develop

focused training sessions."

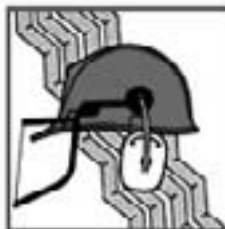
The site presents a continuously updated archive of *Safety Alerts* from the Forest Resources Association, as well as *Loss Control Overviews* and safety-oriented *Technical Releases* – all fully illustrated and printable for free. In addition, the site-visitor may review a comprehensive catalogue of handbooks, pamphlets, and videos available for sale from FRA and over 60 other sources, organized by safety themes, with ordering information.

A special section introduces and guides the visitor through the resources available on logging safety at the official OSHA web site. The complete text of FRA's popular handbook *Timber Harvesting Safety* will be posted at the site by July.

THATS invites any company or other organization with a commitment to logging and wood fiber transportation safety to hotlink directly to www.loggingsafety.com. Contact FRA's director of communications, Neil Ward, at nward@forestresources.org or at 301-838-9385 for a jpg file of the "Logging and Transportation Safety" icon to associate with your link.

The National Timber Harvesting and Transportation Safety Foundation is a charitable 501(c)3 organization which promotes, supports, and serves as a catalyst for safe and professional work attitudes, practices, and conditions in timber harvesting and transportation.

The Forest Resources Association Inc., which serves as the secretariat for THATS, is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers, as well as businesses providing products and services to the forest resource-based industries.



Logging and Transportation Safety

One hundred thirty six. That's the number of years of seniority that northern Minnesota will no longer have in the Minnesota Senate. The announced retirements of Doug Johnson (32 years), Roger Moe (32 years), Bob Lessard (26 years) and Tony Kinkel (15 years), and the death of Sam Solon (31 years) earlier this year, are a sea change in what we will face come 2003. Combine this with reapportionment which has shifted

Executive Vice President's Column



legislative seats away from rural Minnesota and into the suburbs and it amounts to a lot of work we will need to do to make connections with a radically altered legislative landscape.

We scored a big victory in the Minnesota Supreme Court in the case of the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy (MCEA) vs. the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Boise Cascade. TPA organized the Minnesota Forestry Association, the Wood Fiber Employees Joint Legislative Council and Minnesota Forest Industries together and were allowed to file an amicus brief supporting MPCA and Boise Cascade.

The issue being litigated was the environmental review that was done for Boise's pulp mill improvement project. The real issue was forest practices. What MCEA was trying to do was rewrite the findings of the GEIS on timber harvesting and to have the court create a system in which logging practices would be regulated through air and water permits issued by the MPCA.

If MCEA had won this case, 10 years of work with implementing the Forest Resources Council's voluntary guidelines, training through MLEP and countless investments by loggers would have been thrown out the window.

Thanks go to the MPCA and DNR for staying the course on this

issue; Assistant Attorney General Eldon Kaul and his boss Attorney General Mike Hatch for aggressively arguing the state's case; Boise attorney Eric Swanson for the finest presentation in front of a court that I have ever seen; and to our attorney David Oberstar for preparing an outstanding brief.

The biggest thanks go to the justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court who saw through the thin veneer of MCEA's argument and soundly interpreted the law.

There are always a few interesting things that come out of every TPA Annual Meeting. One that I would like to highlight is the TPA Board of Directors action on committees. We will be restarting the insurance and safety committees and creating a task force, which will be led by the executive committee, to take a look at the TPA bylaws.

We sent a mailing to all members asking for volunteers to serve on these committees. If you're interested, and I hope you are, please return the form you were sent or just call the TPA office at 218-722-5013. We don't have make work committees in this association. We only have committees that actually do something, so don't think that these will be a bunch of do nothing meetings.

You might remember a few years back when the enviros were bashing the industry about releases of the chemical dioxin. The EPA just released the most recent data on dioxin. Of the nationwide dioxin releases, 0.5 percent came from the pulp and paper industry, 1.1 percent came from lumber manufacturing and 89 percent came from the chemical industry. Funny that we didn't see any headlines about this in the newspaper.

What's the future of our industry? I read an interesting item the other day. According to the U.S. Forest Service's North Central Research Station, every person in the north central United States consumes 73 cubic feet of wood

and 740 pounds of paper products each year. The Forest Service also estimates that U.S. wood consumption will increase 40 percent by 2050 primarily due to increasing population. Now if the Forest Service would just read its own reports and get back in the business of managing their lands and selling some wood we'd all be happier.

In 2001 TPA was instrumental in passing the Sustainable Forestry Incentive Act for private landowners. This program will provide direct payments from the state to enrolled landowners. Look for the covenant forms, which will need to be filed before applying to be in this program, in your county recorder's office. The application form, fact sheet and instructions should be available by mid-July.

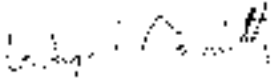
If you think Canadian lumber imports are not an issue around here, take a look at the dock on the Superior side of the Duluth harbor just up river from the grain elevators. You'll see a huge pile of lumber which has been imported from Canada. While most of it was shipped in before the U.S. imposed the final duty earlier this year, it's still coming.

Mark your calendars and get your reservations early. The North Star Expo will be back in Grand Rapids this year on Aug. 9 and 10. There have been some improvements made at the fairgrounds and we're looking forward to another outstanding show.

As I mentioned earlier, we're starting up the safety committee again. While accidents and losses have decreased in the past decade, we can always do better. One project the committee will work on is looking at where and how accidents are happening. This data will then be used to target information at preventing more accidents. With most of the "bull work" of logging gone as a result of mechanization, we're seeing different types of injuries and we

need to respond to them. Join this committee and help yourself and your fellow members.

In the meantime, think about your own operations and how you can prevent injuries and accidents.



Stora Enso to Sell Land

Stora Enso Oyj has announced its intent to sell timberlands in the United States. The Finnish-based forest products company, which operates a paper mill and recycled pulp mill in Duluth, will sell 310,000 acres in Wisconsin and an additional 10,000 acres altogether in Minnesota and Michigan. These lake states parcels have an estimated worth of \$91 million. Worldwide, the company is selling or restructuring the ownership of 1.8 million acres – worth over \$450 million – to free up capital and focus on its core manufacturing businesses.

Kiln Drying Short Course

The 25th Annual Kiln Drying Short Course will be held Aug. 12-15, 2002, at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus. The University of Minnesota's Department of Wood and Paper Science and the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Forest Ecology and Management sponsor the course in cooperation with the Lake States Lumber Association.

The course is designed to provide basic training for dry kiln operators and supervisors, but anyone desiring to learn more about kiln construction, kiln operation and wood-moisture relations is welcome and encouraged to attend. No previous drying experience or training is necessary.

Instruction will include lectures, demonstrations and "hands-on" kiln drying experience. Conventional kiln drying of hardwood lumber will be

emphasized; however, dehumidification drying, solar drying and air-drying will also be covered. Ample time will be available for group interaction as well as individual consultation.

For further information contact: Harlan Petersen, Dept. of Wood and Paper Science, University of Minnesota, 2004 Folwell Ave., St. Paul, Minn. 55108. Phone: 612-624-3407; fax: 612-625-6286; e-mail: harlan@umn.edu; website: www.cnr.umn.edu/WPS/exten/kdsc

NORTH STAR EXPO

Minnesota's Largest
Logging, Trucking &
Sawmill Equipment Show

*The only one of its kind
in Minnesota!*



- Logging, Trucking & Sawmill Displays
- Workshops
- Contests:
 - Best Load Contest
 - Loader Contest/Master Loader Contest
 - Media Loader Contest
- Chain Saw Wood Carving
- Old Time Logging Equipment
- Tree Farm Awards:
 - State Tree Farmer of the Year
 - Recognition of Inspecting Foresters

Itasca County Fairgrounds

GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

Friday & Saturday - August 9 & 10, 2002

For more information:

MINNESOTA TIMBER PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION 903 Medical Arts Bldg., 324 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802 Phone: 218-722-5013

NORTH STAR EXPO

Schedule of Events

Friday, August 9

9:00 a.m.	Equipment Displays Open
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Federal Tie-Down & Truck Weight Regulation Workshop <i>Sponsored by the MN State Patrol</i>
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Loader Contest (sign up at site)
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Celebrity/Media Loader Contest
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Loader Contest (sign up at site)
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Sustainable Forestry Incentive Act <i>Dr. Michael Kilgore, College of Forest Resources, U of MN</i>
5:00 p.m.	Equipment displays close
5:00 p.m.	Cash Bar Social Hour
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	BBQ/Door Prize Giveaways

Saturday, August 10

9:00 a.m.	Equipment displays open
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Federal Tie-Down & Truck Weight Regulation Workshop <i>Sponsored by the MN State Patrol</i>
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Loader Contest (sign up at site)
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Federal Tie-Down & Truck Weight Regulation Workshop <i>Sponsored by the MN State Patrol</i>
3:00 p.m.	Equipment displays close

CONTESTS

Guess the Weight – Guess the weight of a fully loaded truck

Wood Identification – See how many tree species you can identify

Loader – Test your skills against the clock

Masters Division Loader – NEW CONTEST for those 50 and over –
sign up at site to test your skills against the clock

Best Load – Come and see the Best Loads of Wood on Display

For additional information, contact:

Minnesota Timber Producers Association
903 Medical Arts Bldg, Duluth, Minn. 55802
Phone 218-722-5013

65th Annual Timber Producers Association Meeting

by Rachel Benishek



Past President Raymon Kilmer gives his report during the banquet.



President Clarence Johnson calls the meeting to order.



John Hill, LUA, emphasizes the benefits of safety efforts of member companies.



Annie Archambeau, of Duluth, practicing her smile and primping for her speech.

For some, this year's annual meeting was like going back in time or becoming reacquainted with an old friend. On Friday, April 25, the Timber Producers Association's Annual Meeting returned to Greysolon Plaza for the first time since 1990. If you listened you could hear great stories about previous meetings which had been held at Greysolon Plaza; usually the stories began with the words "Remember when..." Like the reminisces of meetings past, this year's meeting will be a source of new stories in the years to come. Most would agree that the meeting combined good information, good food and some good times for the members who attended.

President Clarence Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt reported on the association's activities for the past year, including a legislative update. He formally introduced new field representative Rachel Benishek to the membership and then briefly offered some insight into the changes and globalization of the industry, "...While relationships may change, keep in mind that mergers and acquisitions have meant that there are bigger companies which have the financial resources to compete in the global markets. They also have the resources to make capital improvements to the mills in Minnesota, which will help keep our economy viable."

The chairmen from the transportation, mechanization and insurance committees reported on committee activities during the past year and gave summaries of issues they would be dealing with in the future. John Hill, Lumbermen's Underwriting Alliance, introduced the new faces on LUA's staff and

gave a brief report on the workman's compensation insurance issues. The good news is that 2001 was the best of the last five years with a 30 percent reduction in the number of claims. He emphasized that the rates have remained steady and LUA has been able to offer the 20 percent dividends because of the safety efforts of member companies.

Mike Turner, executive director of Minnesota Logger Education Program, kicked off the morning show with a synopsis of the program's efforts. He said that the directory is working because landowners are asking for it and loggers are asking to join the program. He summarized the fall field programs, described a new Monitoring Program and next year's offering of a core forest certification systems curriculum.

The new director of the DNR Division of Forestry, Mike Carroll, presented an overview of his goals for the state program. Working within the budget cuts, he outlined the department's priorities saying they will include: keeping field people in the field; all stands will be managed holistically; working forests are a priority; and using comprehensive planning to address multiple forest use values to ensure that biodiversity, ecological aspects



Glenn Engstrom, MN/DOT, talks about the road testing done to establish restriction guidelines.

and fiber production are given equal importance. The state will be implementing different types of sales to find out what types work best – they are looking for feedback and communication from loggers, mills and other parties. He ended with a warning that the gypsy moth is in the state and they will be using multiple methods to slow the spread of the insect.

Dave Zumeta, the new executive director of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, gave a brief overview of his history and outlined the goals of the Forest Resources Council. The council has five main goals, the first of which is to obtain \$50,000 more funding to help with budget cut shortfalls. The second will be to fulfill the statutory requirements for the landscape planning and guidelines. The third goal is to complete an economic analysis of the current guidelines and the proposed landscape management proposals to ensure that they do not negatively affect logging or the forest products industry. The fourth is to make sure the guidelines remain *voluntary*. And finally, the council needs to help maintain logging and forest industry viability.

Dan Zobel of Otis-Magie Insurance gave a description and summary of the new health and dental insurance programs that will replace the self funded program of the past. David Oberstar with Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick law firm gave an overview of the legal cases the Timber Producers Association has been involved with in the past year with the Chippewa and Superior



Lt. Ron Silcox listens as CVI-2 Randy Zahn discusses HAZMAT regulations.

National Forests and a summary of the federal case of the Sierra Club vs. the USFS in Michigan on aspen harvesting.

During the lunch hour, Lorrie DuBois with the Log a Load for Kids Program gave a brief description of the program and the positive effects the efforts of the forest products industry have had in Minnesota. She introduced Sandy and Annie Archambeau of Superior, adding that they are an example of the donations that do help kids in local communities. Sandy briefly described Annie's history and how happy they were with the efforts of Log a Load and Gillette Hospital to make children's lives better. Annie, who will be eight years old on May 27, graced us all with a beautiful smile and an excellent speech about her stays in the hospital and the treatments they use for her therapy to treat cerebral palsy. She didn't seem nervous and was very articulate even when she requested questions from the floor. Many people were impressed with her speech and anyone who thought she'd had lots of practice will be surprised to learn that this was only the second time she has ever addressed a group!

Martha Markuson from Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith and Frederick started the afternoon session off by sharing her expertise in assessing business structures, or the form in which to do business. Members learned how to decide which business entity to choose and the differences between: Sole Proprietorship, S corporation, C corporation, General Partnership, Limited Partnership (LP), Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) and Limited Liability Company (LLC). She described the differences in taxation, shareholders or members, and liability requirements. She also answered questions dealing with the dissolution of a business and other concerns.

We were pleased to welcome Lt. Ron Silcox and commercial vehicle inspector 2 (CVI 2) Randy Zahn of the State Patrol to this year's meeting. Lt. Silcox addressed many of the factors the State Patrol is currently dealing with, including a mandate to reduce motor carrier accidents by 50 percent. He offered



Martha Markuson explains the various business structures.



Dan Zobel of Otis-Magie Insurance introduces the new health and dental plans.



Dave Zumeta, Minnesota Forest Resources Council.



Mike Carroll, director of the DNR Division of Forestry, emphasizes a point in his speech.



TPA members listen intently to one of the informative speakers.

suggestions for dealing with discrepancies in truck inspections and briefly addressed changes to state law and two of the proposed bills before the legislature. He turned the discussion over to CVI 2 Zahn for a description of both tie-down/load securement requirements and hazardous materials transport questions. Overall, they both provided excellent information and some good insight into the Patrol. TPA is proud of the positive relationship we have with the State Patrol and are glad that they could join us during our meeting to share their time and efforts with us.

The afternoon session wrapped up with a scientific look at road restrictions by Glenn Engstrom of MN DOT. He described the history of the winter weight and spring restrictions program and offered

some ideas on why it had been proven to be inaccurate. He went on to describe the testing they have done at the MN/Road Test Facility to determine what factors affect road condition and when those factors are most critical throughout the year. He also explained the scientific process they use to collect the data they use in determining when winter weights are started and when spring restrictions are implemented. All of these things revolve around water, temperature, frost levels, freezing days and amount of sunlight. MN DOT uses this information, gathered from stations around the state, to start winter weights and start spring restrictions. They currently have a three-day notice process based on the information they use. The information can be obtained from MN DOT through the 800 number

or off the website. Glenn answered questions and indicated that the problems they had last year should no longer be a problem.

We'd like to thank the following meeting hosts that kept us from starvation with coffee and rolls in the morning and kept us awake with a caffeine boost of soda in the afternoon: Fryberger, Buchanan, Smith & Frederick, P.A.; Hahn Machinery; Lindsay Machinery; Menominee Saw & Supply Co. Inc.; Nortrax; Otis Magie Insurance; Pensee USA Inc.; Road Machinery & Supplies Co.; Russell & Herder Advertising; Tilton Equipment; St. Joseph Equipment; and Two Harbors Machine (Serco Loaders).

The evening's festivities began with a social hour, which provided an opportunity to meet new members, talk with old friends and start the bidding on the silent auction items. Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt called the banquet to order with a general welcome. After dinner, President Clarence Johnson introduced the head table including his wife Carol, First Vice President Lowell Pittack and his wife, Judy; Second Vice President Dale Erickson and his wife, Deedra; Secretary/Treasurer Warren Johnson; and Past President Ramon Killmer. He also introduced Wayne Brandt and his wife, Jan. Clarence turned it over to Wayne Brandt who introduced his staff and then asked for a moment of silence in memory of Dick Hufnagle, Babe Fellows and Ray Kainz. Clarence then read the

(continued on page 14)



Thank you to our excellent sponsors.



Jay Eystad, Nortrax, and Ken Venhuizen.



Dick Walsh and Mike Schneider, Potlatch, enjoying some good spirits.



Left to right, Joan and Paul Lundberg and Glenn Larson waiting for the evening festivities to start.

(continued from page 12)

names of the recipients of the safety awards.

Everyone in attendance had the pleasure of listening to Sam Cook tell stories and show slides of his various outdoor recreational trips. Sam shared some of his philosophy regarding the little things we take for granted, like sunsets and spider webs. While his speech caused plenty of laughter, Sam also stressed the importance of safety in everything we do. Sam's presentation contained humor and incredible pictures of his outdoor exploits, and it left us with the thought that we should be thankful to live and work in beautiful, wondrous northern Minnesota. He also thinks that we should never take the little things for granted

and should definitely feel sorry for those who don't get to share our experiences. However, I hope that I am never hungry enough to experience eating an Oreo topped with peanut butter and tuna as shown as a snack in one of Sam's slides.

The banquet ended with Linda Dumonsau, David Oberstar and Wayne Brandt distributing door prizes. Even the door prize drawing was not without it's funny moments. Linda did try to give the treated fence posts donated by Land o' Lakes Inc. back to them when she drew Joan (Fellows) Pomp's name out of the box. There was also some good natured ribbing when Bruce Barker won the fishing pole and when Doug Magee

won the Chainsaw from Tilton Equipment. We would like to thank all of the companies who donated the excellent door prizes: Blandin UPM Kymmene; Boise; Hahn Machinery; Land O Lakes Wood Preserving; Lindsay Machinery; Nortrax; Otis Magie Insurance; Potlatch Corp.; Road Machinery & Supplies Co.; Serco Loaders; Tilton Equipment and Wells Fargo.

Safety Contest Winners

Logging Division

B.C. Niesen Logging, Wahkon
C & M Walsh Logging, Blackduck
(continued on page 16)



Bruce Barker and "Coop" Cooper, Bergstrom Wood Products, enjoy a good laugh together.



Sam Cook weaving his stories, telling magic, earns laughter and everyone's attention.



President Clarence Johnson presents the chainsaw from Tilton Equipment to lucky winner Doug Magie.

(continued from page 14)

C.O. Johnson Logging, Blackduck
 Dean & Bob Walsh Logging, Park Rapids
 Dick Walsh Forest Products, Park Rapids
 Doug Brenner Logging, Grand Marais
 Doug Foster Logging, Ely
 Dukek Logging, Bagley
 Harris Walsh Logging, Park Rapids
 House Logging, Ray
 Hufnagle Inc., Big Falls
 Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
 Kimball's Logging, Inc., Park

Rapids
 Knaeble Timber Inc., Northome
 M & R Chips, Grand Rapids
 McCabe Forest Products, Duluth
 Northwoods Chipping, International Falls
 Palmer Logging, Barnum
 Pittack Logging, Bovey
 RBC Ent/Manners Logging, Park Rapids
 Root River Hardwoods, Preston
 Shuster Logging, Gheen
 Skoe Lumber & Timber, Northome
 Tim Kelm Logging, Bemidji
 Todd Wass, Bigfork
 Twin Rivers Inc., Bigfork

Trucking Division

C & M Walsh Logging, Park Rapids
 Dick Walsh Forest Products, Park Rapids
 DeMenge Trucking & Forest Products, McGregor
 Doug Brenner Logging, Grand Marais
 Dukek Logging, Bagley
 Harris Walsh Logging, Park Rapids
 Hufnagle, Inc., Big Falls
 Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
 Kimball's Sawmill & Logging, Park Rapids
 Knaeble Timber Inc., Northome
 Lake Nebagamon Trucking, Lake Nebagamon WI
 Lundberg Forest Products, Solway

M & R Chips, Grand Rapids
 Mannco Trucking, International Falls
 McCabe Forest Products, Duluth
 Norman Johnson Trucking, Baudette
 Northwoods Chipping, International Falls
 Page & Hill Forest Products, Big Falls
 Palmer Logging, Barnum
 Pittack Logging, Bovey
 RBC Ent/Manners Logging, Park Rapids
 Root River Hardwoods, Preston
 Staggemeyer Stave Co., Inc., Caledonia
 Tim Kelm Logging, Inc., Bemidji
 Twin Rivers, Inc., Bigfork

Sawmill Division

Bass Lake Mill LLP, Sandstone
 Cass Forest Products, Cass Lake
 DeMenge Sawmill, McGregor
 House Logging, Ray
 Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
 Kahlstorf Lumber Co., Lake George
 Land O Lakes Wood Preserving, Tenstrike
 Larson Lumber Co., Bagley
 Page & Hill Forest Products, Big Falls
 Root River Hardwoods, Preston
 Staggemeyer Stave Co., Inc., Caledonia



Safety award winners, left to right, C. O. Johnson, Dick Walsh, Joan Pomp, Keith Larsen, Paul Lundberg and Scott Pittack.

sappi

On May 13, 2002, Sappi Limited completed its acquisition of the former Potlatch Corporation's Printing Papers business and Cloquet, Minn., pulp & paper mill. Sappi Limited, headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, has worldwide operations and is the world's leading producer of coated fine paper. Sappi Fine Paper North America, a division of Sappi Limited headquartered in Boston, Mass., consists of operations formerly known as the S. D. Warren Co. and includes papermaking operations in Muskegon, Mich., Westbrook and Skowhegan, Maine, and Cloquet, Minn. Wood Fiber Procurement is managed by the Wood Fiber and Fuel Procurement Department headquartered in Skowhegan, Maine. Local offices exist in Muskegon, Mich., Westbrook, Maine, and soon in Cloquet, Minn.

Sappi is a member of A.F.& P.A. and participates in local forest products associations in the various



states where it conducts business. Sappi participates in and supports the efforts of the Sustainable Forestry Initiativesm. Sappi is in the process of rewriting the S.F.I.sm Procurement Policy to reflect recent changes in the standards and the inclusion of the Cloquet operations. Sappi looks forward to establishing positive relationships with responsible area wood producers to supply quality wood products produced in a manner consistent with the concept of sustainable forestry.

Interim wood sourcing is being handled by the Potlatch Resource Management Division, which will transfer wood costs to the new owners until the Sappi Wood Procurement system can assume full responsibility for buying,

scaling and paying for needed wood fiber. Work has been underway to put in place the personnel, scaling and payment and data management systems needed to fully source one of the premier pulp and paper facilities in North America. Paul Fortin, director of wood fiber and fuel procurement, says, "We will be ready to assume full responsibility for the wood supply into Cloquet by July 1." The transition to new procurement systems at Cloquet has involved managers, administrators and technicians from all over North America. These team members, who will eventually resume their routine responsibilities far from Cloquet, have assumed the added responsibility of contributing to the success of the new venture. Key players in the transition have included Mike Fanjoy, wood procurement manager at Muskegon, Mich.; Les Swartz, Computer Operations network manager; and Ryan McAvo, recently named as procurement manager of Cloquet roundwood,

(continued on page 20)

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The State of Minnesota Department of Transportation will be accepting bids on State Project 3609-31 on August 23, 2002. This project consists of clearing trees and brush along the right of way of T.H. 65 from 2.25 miles north of Junction C.S.A.H. 74 to 9.99 miles south of Junction C.S.A.H. 8 (Nett Lake Indian Reservation). The major items of work are: clearing 50.4 acres.

Plans and specifications for this project will be available July 26, 2002. Detailed information on obtaining plans and specifications will be available in the July 26th issue of the Construction Bulletin Magazine or on the Mn/DOT website: www.dot.state.mn.us/bidlet/advfiles.html.

NOTE: Bidders are advised that a Pre-Letting Conference will be held at Mn/DOT Virginia District Headquarters, 101 North Hoover Road, in Virginia, Minnesota, at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 9, 2002, to discuss any questions regarding this contract. All interested parties are invited to attend.

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fuel wood and pulp chips.

The Sappi Wood Fiber & Fuel Procurement Department in Minnesota will be comprised of scalers, quality assurance personnel, and stumpage procurement foresters. Leadership of the Minnesota procurement effort will rest with Ryan McAvoy as Cloquet mill wood procurement manager and Dan Toivonen as stumpage procurement manager.

Ryan McAvoy

Ryan will be relocating with his wife, Meghan, to the Cloquet area. Ryan is a native of northern Maine, where his family is in the logging industry. Ryan has a B.S. in forestry from the University of Maine and was hired by Sappi in 2000 as the scaling manager at the Ossipee, N.H., log yard and chipping facility.

Dan Toivonen

Dan moves from Potlatch, where he had procurement responsibilities for gatewood and stumpage operations, to the Sappi team, providing valuable local knowledge. Dan resides in Carlton County with his wife, Patricia, daughter, Samantha, and son, Danny. Dan received a B.S. in forestry from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point and is working on a master's degree in management from the College of St. Scholastica.

The Sappi wood procurement team has recently scheduled meetings with many area wood suppliers regarding procurement plans and wood supply to Cloquet. If you wish to discuss a contract or wood supply issues, Sappi representatives may be reached as follows:

Local offices and contact

numbers have not yet been established at Cloquet, but the following numbers and addresses can be used to contact Sappi.

Ryan McAvoy – wood procurement manager, Cloquet
Cell: 1-207-431-0475

Dan Toivonen – stumpage procurement manager
Cell: 1-218-380-8082

Sappi Fine Paper Company
Wood Fiber and Fuel Procurement Office
98 North Avenue Suite 30
Skowhegan, Maine 04976
Tel: 207-858-4201 • Fax: 207-858-4220

NEWsworthy FACES:

We'd like to welcome one of our newest TPA members: Ron Carlson. We caught Ron out on a job, and he took the time to give us an interview. He was using his Barko 885 equipped with a Quadco sawhead. Ron said everything he fells gets cut into 100" lengths, up to the limbs, and then the tops are chipped to reduce waste. He has been in business for himself for the past eight years, but has 23 years of woods experience. Ron lives in Barnum with his wife, Jan, who does the bookkeeping. Ron and Jan have two grown sons, Chad and Dusty, who are carpenters. Ron said he'd, "...been thinking about TPA membership for a while, but the insurance with LUA..." convinced him to add his name to our membership list. Ron said he would be at the NorthStar Expo, so we've included a picture to help you recognize him! Welcome to TPA, Ron!



Members in the News

Start-Up Entrepreneur Award recognizes a business owner or owners who have had principal responsibility for the creation and operation of a business which has demonstrated growth in revenues, number of employees and profitability and has had an impact on the community or region. Time in business: 37 to 60 months.

Northern Lights Timber and Lumber Inc.

10450 Sullin Road, Orr, Minn.
Tim Olson

Tim Olson is an experienced logger who started Northern Lights Timber and Lumber, Inc. in 1996. Northern Lights negotiates the purchase of saw logs and sales of the lumber and manages two sawmills, including one owned by Northern Lights and a leased sawmill at Boise Forte which provides employment for 15 Native Americans.

Manufactured products include dimensional lumber for housing, timbers for landscaping and pole barns and timbers for log homes, cedar fencing, and cut stock for bird feeders and birdhouses. Their largest client is Home Depot. The business has grown from seven full-time and four part-time employees and gross revenues of \$1.1 million to 26 full-time and five part-time employees and gross revenues of \$3 million. Contact Northern Lights Timber and Lumber Inc. at 218- 757-3315.

Congratulations on your award Tim! Thank you for your efforts and positive affect you are creating for the forest products industry in Minnesota.

This article was found in the June publication of the Arrowhead Business Advisor.

LUA to Offer Casualty Coverages

The majority of MTPA members are covered by the LIG Insurance Agency through the Northland Insurance

Company for casualty insurance coverages.

Following a recent buyout by Travelers Insurance, Northland has announced it will no longer be servicing the logging and lumbering line of business as of August 1, 2002. Statutory law requires that all policyholders be notified according to state insurance law provisions.

As a long-standing partner of the MTPA, the Lumbermen's Underwriting Alliance has elected to underwrite the casualty insurance needs of the MTPA. LUA's casualty loss prevention and claims services offer the same quality of expertise and stability that the MTPA has come

to expect from all LUA products.

To ensure the best market price, the LIG Insurance Agency will still provide access to a variety of insurance markets. MTPA members insured through the LIG Agency's Northland program will be receiving a notice of non-renewal. Please be assured that your LUA representative will be addressing this and will provide a quote for casualty insurance coverage through the LUA.

Your business is important to us. The LUA values its relationship with the MTPA. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to call your account service team at 1-800-537-7631.

Land O Lakes Wood Preserving: Past, Present and Future



Mike and Joan discuss a sample load of NatureWood® treated lumber. In the foreground is a stack of CCA treated wood from their plant.



The doors to the kiln drop like the drawbridge over a moat. Babe thought driving over them was safer than having them open and catch in the wind.

by Rachel Benishek

When I was given the assignment to visit Land O Lakes and do a story on the changes they've encountered since Babe Fellows' death and the industry changes regarding CCA treated wood, I expected the visit to be interesting. It was very interesting, but in addition I learned a lot and gained an amazing respect for both Babe, and for his family who continue to carry out his legacy.

During my conversation with Babe's daughters, Joan Pomp and Marilyn Fellows, I learned that they represent the fourth generation of this timber industry family. This year marks their 45th year in business as Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co. Both Joan and Marilyn agreed, "That is a big milestone for us, but Dad had the vision and guided our business in every area, even after he turned over the day-to-day operation several years ago. He was always aware of the issues facing our industry, from wood supply to the chemical issues. He kept us on our toes, always trying to better the way we do business." In addition, Joan said, "One of Dad's greatest contributions was that he was a great teacher and over the years each of us learned how to run the

business in our respective areas from his council and wisdom. Going forward, this is what we will miss, but we are thankful for the years of guidance he provided."

However, this is not a story that begins with my visit on a warm June afternoon, or even one that starts with Babe Fellows. The Fellows Family heritage of forest products and tenacity starts with William Fellows (great grandfather) in 1894, when he began a journey

north from the Eagle Bend area to Beltrami County. He came north with the Steidl family and helped them build the first mill in Bemidji, the Steidl Mill.

In 1896, Bill moved to Tenstrike and built a sawmill on the east shore of Gull Lake. When the mill was finished, he went back to Eagle Bend to retrieve his family, but when they returned he found that "the man he left in charge of the

(continued on page 24)



Tenstrike's first fire engines. William Fellows bought them from the village and now they are housed in part of the museum.



Dave Pomp in his “control room.” The slips on the board represent orders, organized by truck.

(continued from page 22)

mill got drunk and burned it down.” Undaunted by the setback, Bill rebuilt the mill and later added a planing mill and dry kiln. The first lumber sawn built their home on Gull Lake and was used in many of the buildings built in Tenstrike.

Bill’s son, Roland (R. W.) Fellows, owned a general store in Tenstrike and was also active in the sawmill. When his father died in 1926, Roland continued the sawmill operation with the addition of selling cedar post. When Roland retired, his oldest son Tye took over the general store and his other two sons, Babe and Marion, gradually took over their father’s sawmill and post business. Joan showed me pictures of the early loads of cedar posts, saying that “Dad and Uncle Marion would load up the truck with posts and drive it out into the Dakotas looking for customers, until they had sold

every post.”

The cedar post came from local loggers, and by the mid-1950s, Babe was getting most of his cedar posts from Norman Gladen, who operated a sawmill south of Warroad. In 1956, Norman and Babe could see that cedar posts were being replaced by treated posts. This realization consequently led Norman, Babe and his wife Pauline to form the corporation which founded Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co.

In 1957, Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co. in Tenstrike began a wood treating operation which produced fence posts, railroad ties, mine timbers and building poles.

Although the mine timber business ended with the closing of the mines a couple years later, the wood treating business continued to expand and do well. Twenty years after start up, Babe and his wife Pauline bought out Norman Gladen, making Land O Lakes Wood Preserving a family-owned and operated business.

So, there it is, a brief history of the Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co. But is it just history? Joan said, “One of the things we miss most about Dad is his stories. He was a great storyteller.” Although his stories are missing, the history behind them lives on in a special museum not too far from the house where Babe was born. Grandma Fellows began the process by labeling all of her pictures and keepsakes. Babe – and now his family – have continued the

tradition. It is all organized into a building that lets one walk into history. Inside can be found early pictures of Tenstrike and local communities as they were during the booming timber age. There are examples of early fire and steam engines, hand-tools, other equipment, and so much more, including one room for Norman Gladen’s memorabilia. It isn’t limited to the Fellows family; they have open houses so that others can come and enjoy a look at history. During a recent all-school reunion, class photos were displayed and visitors were asked to fill in the blanks next to unidentified people. All of the items are carefully preserved and presented, adding to the continuity of the community.

Like the history of the family, the environmental stewardship efforts of Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co. run deep. Responsible use and stewardship may be recently coined terms, but the concepts are very evident in the design and daily activities of the Land O Lakes operation. Ron Fellows related many of the environmental safeguards that have been instituted over the years. It starts simply; all the bark, ends and edgings are burned in the boiler on site for heat in the kilns and steam heat. What is so interesting about that? It’s something that can be seen a hundred other places, however some of the water they use is rainwater collected to reduce their dependence on their wells.

The treatment plant itself is another area of active protection and efficiencies. To begin with, the chemicals are kept in holding containers above the treatment area where it is always warmer. This helps keep the chemicals warm and allows the use of a gravity feed system for the treatment process.

Mike and Ron Fellows (Babe’s nephews) and Joan took me on a tour. Through the tour process I learned about their multi-faceted operation. In keeping with Babe’s vision, the whole Land O Lakes operation has evolved far from just loading up a truck and driving until all the posts are sold. Today, Land O Lakes serves a five-state area, primarily local lumber yards. Most of the yards order small



Marilyn is taking an order from a customer. Joan is laughing at the photographer’s efforts to catch the sisters in one picture.



Left to right: Ron, Joan and Mike standing in front of the cylinders used during the treatment process.



These red, black and white stickers need to be stapled to the end of every piece of lumber that is treated using CCA.

amounts of product. Dealing with this type of smaller orders takes an amazing amount of coordination. Joan's husband, Dave Pomp, manages the center hub of the operation. "We rarely have an order that fills an entire truck," says Dave. So he must keep shipments organized with multiple orders filling the same truck. Truck manifests and delivery points are as varied as the products they produce, which makes organizing it a definite challenge. If they don't have an item in inventory Dave starts the process to produce what is required. With 21 trucks to be filled and shipped the week I visited, you can imagine how busy it was!

Long-time employee and sales manager, Bob Niehoff makes sure that they have what it takes to fill orders as he purchases the lumber and square timbers to maintain a well supplied inventory. Bob is also responsible for handling the sales end of the business. While they still get 100 percent of their post stock and rough lumber locally, they do buy S4S lumber and bigger timber from out West and some Southern yellow pine from the South. Joan said, "It takes a well coordinated effort by all 25 employees to make it all happen on a consistent basis. We are thankful for a group of dedicated employees in every area of the company."

Brothers Mike and Ron Fellows manage the plant operation of the business. Mike's area of responsibility involves the

operation of the boiler, kiln, and various mill operations, including the peeler, planer, scragg mill and finishing areas. Mike is also responsible for all the maintenance work. The other main function of the operation is the treatment plant which Ron manages. Listening to Ron Fellows is a fascinating experience. Ron explained the treating process, which originally started in 1957 with one cylinder. Today they have four cylinders, called retorts, to keep up with demand. As an overview, the two smaller tubes are used for posts and smaller bundles and the two larger ones are used for lumber. Once a cylinder is full, they seal the tube and use a vacuum to remove all the air from the space in the cylinder. They then inject a water borne preservative called chromated copper arsenate, or CCA, into the cylinder. Because of the intense vacuum and the dry nature of the wood, the CCA is forced into the cellular structure of the wood. When finished, another vacuum is used to remove any residual CCA. The residual CCA can be reused for the next process. Prior to shipment each stick of treated wood must be labeled with a special sticker (see picture) which is stapled to the end of the board or post.

The second objective of this article was to gain insight into the changes that are happening because of the transition to alternative wood preserving treatments, which leads to a

discussion of the changes regarding CCA treated wood. In February 2002, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a voluntary decision by the wood preserving manufacturing industry to make a transition from the traditional CCA pressure treated wood to a new generation of preservatives for non-industrial wood products over the next two years. Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co. will start the process of retooling their facility this fall to accommodate this change. "The biggest change, however, will be the increase in cost to Land O Lakes Wood Preserving and the consumer. Our new chemical for residential use is called NatureWood® and this preservative technology has been used throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States for about 10 years. It offers termite and fungal decay protection similar to that of CCA treated wood. As with CCA, you can use a water repellent or stain on it," Joan said. Land O Lakes would also like people to know that the EPA's announcement said, "... the EPA has not concluded that CCA-treated wood poses unreasonable risks to the public for current product used around or near their homes or product that remains available in stores." Going forward Joan said, "We will continue to sell CCA treated poles for industrial purposes, but NatureWood® will be the majority of our treated wood in the not too distant future."

Minnesota Timber Producers Association *Meet the Directors*

Conrad “Connie” Johnson was born in Red Wing, Minn., where he attended school through high school. He started logging in 1954 and is the owner of Johnson Logging, Inc.

After 22 years in the timber business, Connie became a member of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association on March 12, 1976. He has served on the TPA Board of Directors for many years.

Connie was actively involved in the start up of the Minnesota Logger Education Program and, with 48 years of logging experience, he currently serves as the Director of M.L.E.P. He is also involved with his church council stewardship committee and enjoys hunting and fishing in



his spare time.

Connie and his wife, Carol, currently reside in Cannon Falls, Minn. Their children, Rodney, Julie, Danny and Shari, have blessed them with 10 grandchildren.

Decisions removing much of the 58.5-million acre “roadless” area from timber harvesting have already been made in the forest planning process, which is done for every national forest every 10 to 15 years. More than 24 million acres have backcountry characteristics, and no road-building or timber-harvesting is permitted under the existing forest plans. Another 25 million acres are not planned for road building, or programmed for timber harvest. No development can proceed in these areas without an environmental impact statement, and public input.

Only nine million acres covered by the “roadless rule” are designated commercial forestland. But less than two percent of that area is planned for timber harvest in the next five years.

It is true as DeWitt stated that many endangered and threatened species find their most valuable habitat in the national forests. But this is primarily because their former habitats outside of the national forests have been altered to such a degree that they no longer can survive there, not because the management of the forests has caused their decline. This is hardly a strong argument for closing the forests to local forest managers’ decision-making.

So the issue really raised by DeWitt is whether to prohibit any of the multiple uses for which the national forests have been managed under law for nearly 100 years. The “protection” he advocates is really the exclusion of people, as a way to save the environment. It is an argument that humans always destroy nature, and separation is the only solution.

I believe the evidence requires that we manage these lands, to achieve the results we desire, including increasing the populations of endangered species. Separating humans from nature may feel good philosophically, but the result will be certain extinction for many species, rather than their salvation.

Chris Risbrudt is director of the Forest Products Lab and former Director of Ecosystem Management of the Forest Service. The article was reprinted from the May 4, 2002, Wisconsin State Journal.

National Forests Have Multiple Purpose

by *Chris Risbrudt*

Iwish to respond to some of the statements made by UW-Madison Professor Calvin DeWitt in his Guest Column concerning management of the national forests.

I agree with DeWitt that our nearly 191 million acres of national forests are a treasure that must be carefully managed and preserved for our children and grandchildren, as well as for our current benefit. The essential question is: For whom and for what shall they be managed?

The Forest Service is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, not the Department of Interior, which administers the National Park Service. I raise this point because our missions are very different. Congress established the Forest Service in 1905 to provide quality water and timber for the nation’s benefit. Over the years, the public has expanded the list of what they want from national forests and grasslands. Congress responded by directing the Forest Service to

manage national forests for multiple uses, including recreation for the sustained yield of renewable resources such as water, forage, wildlife and wood.

National forests encompass an area equivalent to Texas. Nearly a quarter of the national forests are already designated for uses that limit or prohibit timber harvesting.

DeWitt argues that we must “preserve” an additional 58.5 million acres under the current “roadless rule,” signed Jan. 12, 2001. I’d like to address this issue of “protection.”

First and foremost, every acre of our national forests is already protected. There are few activities that occur in the forests without a carefully considered decision by a federal officer. The issue of “protection” as advocated by DeWitt and others is actually the prohibition of decision-making by local federal officials with local public input.

Second, DeWitt employs a much overused phrase, “last remaining” wild areas of the national forests, but never addresses how much of this land is already designated for uses that prohibit harvesting trees.

Years Ago

20 YEARS AGO

- The Forest Resource Management Act was signed into law by Governor Quie on March 22, 1982. It establishes a multiple-use, sustained yield forest management policy, requires a sound forest management plan for state timber, provides for forest nursery and tree improvement plan and establishes a forest management fund.
- March 1, 1982, the Supreme Court refused to review a ruling that private landowners have the right of access to their forest lands across national forest areas. The justices declined to hear an appeal by environmental groups which urged them to rule that the government can prohibit construction of access roads, particularly in wilderness areas.
- 1981: American Forest Institute reached an agreement with actor Andy Griffith to act as an industry spokesman on behalf of the paper and wood products industry. Griffith, a practicing tree farmer in North Carolina, is dedicated to sound forest management and will help communicate the need to increase productivity of our nation's forests in order to help meet future demand for paper and wood products.

30 YEARS AGO

- 1973: TPA wins changes in winter hauling law. Improvements were made in the winter hauling law, making it possible for loggers to start hauling the heavier loads allowed under the law effective December 1. The changes also permit extra weight in accordance with various axle combinations.
- August 1973: Consolidated Papers, Inc. is opening a pulp and transfer yard in the Soo Line iron ore yard in the east end of Ashland, Wis. The pulpwood will be brought in on rail and stockpiled until needed.
- April/May 1972: Potlatch Corporation's Northwest Paper Division has announced delivery of the first shipment of 2x4 northern pine studs from its new sawmill at Cloquet.
- June/July 1972: Environmental activists have accused public timber management agencies of subsidizing loggers and forest industries through the sale of timber. The charge is made that these public agencies sell timber for less than the cost of sale administration and reforesting the area being cut. Careful examination of any specific timber sale will reveal the charges are not well founded.

50 Things You Can Do to Help Protect Your Home from Wildfire

The Firewise program has been initiated through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Division of Forestry, to increase fire awareness and prevent both fires and the losses of buildings and structures from fire. Here, courtesy of Firewatch, are some things you can do to make your home in the woods safer.

No Cost, Just A Little Time

- Move your firewood pile out of your home's defensible space.
- Perform a FIREWISE assessment of your home.
- Clean your roof and gutters of leaves and pine needles (best done in October).
- Clear the view of your house number so it can be easily seen from the street.
- Put a hose (at least 100' long) on a rack and attach it to an outside faucet.
- Trim all tree branches that overhang your house.
- Trim all tree branches from within 20' of chimneys.
- Remove trees along the driveway to make it 12' wide.
- Prune branches overhanging the driveway to have 14' overhead clearance.
- Maintain a green lawn for 30' around your home.
- If new homes are still being built in your area, talk to the developer and local zoning officials about building standards.
- Plan and discuss an escape plan with your family. Have a practice drill. Include your pets.
- Get involved with your community's disaster mitigation plans.
- Check your fire extinguishers. Are they still charged? Are they easy to get to in an emergency? Does everyone in the family know where they are and how to use them?
- Clear deadwood and dense flammable vegetation from your home's defensible space.
- Remove conifer shrubs from your home's defensible space especially if your home is in a high-risk area.

Review your homeowner's insurance policy for adequate coverage. Consult your insurance agent about costs of rebuilding

- and repairs in your area.
- Talk to your children about not starting fires or playing with matches.
- If you have a burn barrel that you use for burning trash, STOP!
- Compost leaves in the fall, don't burn them.
- If you burn your brush piles or grass in the spring, get a burning permit.
- Always have a shovel on hand and hook up the garden hose BEFORE you start the fire.
- Never burn if the smoke and flames are blowing towards your home (or your neighbor's home).

Minimal Cost Actions (\$10 - \$25 and a little time)

- Install highly visible house numbers (at least 4" tall) on your home.
- Install big, highly visible house numbers (at least 4" tall) at the entrance of the driveway onto the street. Use non-flammable materials and posts.
- Install metal screens on all attic, foundation and other openings on your home to prevent accumulation of leaves and needles.
- Hold a neighborhood meeting to talk about fire safety. Invite your local fire chief. Have coffee and donuts for neighbors.
- Install a fire extinguisher in the kitchen AND the garage.
- Install a metal shield between your home and an attached wood fence.
- Replace conifer and evergreen shrubs with low-flammable plants in your home's defensible space.
- Thin and prune conifer trees for 30' to 100' around your home.
- Purchase and use a NOAA weather alert radio. Many types of emergencies are announced through this service.
- Replace vinyl gutters and downspouts with non-flammable, metal gutters and downspouts.
- Install a spark arrestor or heavy wire screen with opening less than 1/2" on wood burning fireplaces and chimneys.

Moderate Cost Actions (\$50 - \$250 and a little more work)

- Build a gravel turn around area

- near your house big enough to allow a fire truck to turn around.
- Join your neighbors in having an additional access road into your neighborhood. Share the costs.
- Treat flammable materials like wood roofs, decks, and siding with fire retardant chemicals
- Modify driveway gates to accommodate fire trucks. They should be at least 10' wide and set back at least 30' from the road. If locked, use a key box approved by your local fire department or use a chain loop with a lock that can be cut in an emergency.
- Enclose decks to prevent accumulation of leaves, needles, and debris. Include a metal screen with a 1/8" mesh opening to prevent sparks from getting under the deck.

High Cost Actions (more than \$500)

- Replace your roof with fire-resistant materials such as Class A shingles.
- Install a roof irrigation system to protect your home's roof.
- Install an independent water supply for a sprinkler system with a non-electric (eg. propane) powered pump capable of running unattended for 24 hours.
- Replace single-pane glass windows and plastic skylights with tempered, double-pane glass.
- Box in eaves, facias, and soffits with aluminum or steel materials with metal screens to prevent entry of sparks.
- Improve driveway culverts and bridges to accommodate the weight of a fire truck.
- Relocate propane tanks inside the defensible space but at least 10' from the house.
- Have non-flammable ground cover such as gravel around them for 10'.
- Have electric service lines to your house placed underground.
- Improve your driveway by straightening sharp curves and filling in sharp dips that would hinder a fire truck.

For more information on the Firewise program, please contact the DNR at www.dnr.state.mn.us/firewise

Forestry Fares Well in Tough Legislative Session

The 2002 session of the Minnesota Legislature started out faster than the last load before spring load restrictions and ended as slow as an old truck on a 40 below morning. In the end, issues affecting members of TPA and the forest products industry fared well considering the state faced a budget deficit in excess of \$2 billion.

TPA was once again the voice advocating its members' views on all of these issues. Following are some of the primary issues that came before the legislature this year:

Sustainable Forest Resources Act – Funding for the SFRA was only cut \$200, 000 for FY '03 after the administration had proposed eliminating this vital program. Language was passed extending

the deadlines for guideline revision and the landscape program because of the reduced budget

DNR Funding – The DNR Division of Forestry was cut \$99,000 in FY '03 and each year of the following biennium. The white pine program was cut by \$300,000 per year.

Division of Forestry staff identified a new problem with the compromise budget bill. The bill directs reductions in state government's use of outside contracts along with hiring restrictions. Forestry uses outside contractors for tree planting, inventory and other work.

The division will also be forced to absorb a portion of the overall DNR budget reduction. This will have direct impact on division operations. Director Mike Carroll has pledged to protect field positions and the timber sale program to the greatest extent possible.

DNR Bonding – The final bonding bill contained \$1.5 million for tree planting, \$1.2 million for forest roads and \$500,000 for land acquisition. The governor vetoed the funding for tree planting and land acquisition.

Communications Industry Coalition – The sales tax was not extended to currently untaxed advertising or printed materials. While this is generally an issue that affects paper mills, it has always been clear that unfairly taxing end products that wood goes into will ripple its way back to every landing.

Biodiesel – Legislation was passed requiring a two percent by volume biodiesel mandate provided that there is capacity within Minnesota to produce eight million gallons of biodiesel and either a) programs to provide \$.03 per gallon in various "incentives" have been enacted; or b) the date of Feb. 28, 2005, has passed. We have estimated that each \$.01 per gallon increase in fuel costs will cost loggers approximately \$250,000. This information was provided to legislators.

Transportation – No transportation funding package was passed.

Legislation to clarify “first haul” provisions was passed along with truck inspection and five percent overweight fine exemption language. Language directing a study of the zones for winter weights was passed.

TPA was involved in legislation, that modifies civil weight penalties. The new law caps fines at \$10,000 when they are assessed using scale weight records, limits to 14 days (as opposed to the current 30) how far back weight slips can be “pulled” at scales, and provides that fines can be doubled if a court determines that a trucker has “knowingly and contemporaneously attempted to evade” being weighed at a fixed station. This legislation was initiated by the agricultural community but has obvious benefits for log truckers.

ATVs – Language banning cross country ATV travel on state forest lands was passed and signed into law. TPA fought successfully for language exempting forestry from this ban. Additionally, the

legislature directed that a task force be appointed to further study and make recommendations on this issue. TPA Field Representative Rachel Benishek has been appointed to this task force.

Sales Tax Dedication – Efforts were made to revive a proposed constitutional amendment to dedicate 3/16th of one percent of the sales tax to natural resources. While this did not pass, we were successful in adding forestry as a specific use for such funds.

Misc. – St. Louis County championed legislation that would allow them to not apply “bid ups” proportionately to all species on a sale. This bill passed and also included language making modifications to DNR timber sale procedures which TPA had previously reviewed and endorsed. Language to lift the cap on state seedling sales also passed.

If you have any questions about these issues please contact the TPA office at 218-722-5013.

LOGGERS OF THE PAST . . .

The Forgotten Cruiser

by J. C. Ryan

This story is reprinted from an earlier *Timber Bulletin*—one of the first of “Buzz” Ryan’s ever-popular contributions to these pages. The *Bulletin* will continue to reprint selected stories from the memories he recorded for us.—*Editor*



With modern transportation into the woods and the use of aerial photography today, it is difficult for foresters and others to realize the great hardships the old-time timber cruiser endured or the role he played in harvesting our vast virgin timber stands.

Before timber could be logged, men had to be sent into the woods to locate and appraise timber. In the very early days, this consisted of more or less exploring upstream or across lakes to locate the timber stands. All transportation away

from water was made on foot.

Most companies or outfits that bought and sold standing timber as well as those who logged had timber cruisers on their regular payrolls. Some timber cruisers also took on short jobs for many companies.

In the early days, Stillwater, Minn., was headquarters for many of the cruisers; but by the 1890s, Duluth became timber cruiser headquarters for all Minnesota and parts of Wisconsin and Michigan and Canada. The St. Louis Hotel—

current site of the Medical Arts Building—became the rendezvous for cruisers, and there were always 20 to 25 of them staying there between jobs or resting after a hard trip.

A few of the more successful cruisers had offices in the old Manhattan Building. The Manhattan was just east of the then Spalding Hotel, at 5th Avenue West and Superior Street.

In the early days, a cruiser would go on short jobs alone. But it soon became an unwritten law that no man should be sent



one alone, but a mass of men they cruised by themselves. Timber cruising crews generally included an appraiser, compass man and cook. Sometimes a crew had two appraisers, two compass men and one cook. Some received their jobs through the Estate Surveyor General of Logs and Lumber, but most were in demand through their reputations. And in the early days, there always were jobs for good cruisers.

These men were paid from the day they left town until they returned. During winter months, they often stayed in trapper cabins, homesteader cabins or any shelter they could find near the land to be looked.

When no cabins were available, tents were used. Cruisers could rent sixteen tents, and all their other needs—compass and lightweight cooking utensils, tents and other equipment packed into a No. 2 packboard—from Porter Tent & Awning Co., Duluth, which specialized in fitting crews. Properly set up, these double tents with the air space in between could keep men warm in the coldest weather.

In winter, crews would try to work a week or more without moving the tent, but in summer, tents were moved every day to cut the walking distance to the jobs. Cooks attempted to cheer up general comforts. They set up the tents, made beds of larch poles and balsam boughs, split wood and cooked food.

Timber cruisers were not only rugged individuals; they were honorable, honest men that took great pleasure in their ability to determine how much timber there was on a given tract. For a three-week job that would earn a cruiser's crew less than \$200, a company would not hesitate to invest up to \$50,000 on the cruiser's report. Millions of dollars worth of timber was purchased, traded and sold by firms on nothing more than the cruiser's report. Surely no one group owned the destiny of the lumber companies and the timber cruiser. Yet the history of the logging industry makes little mention of these rugged, noble men.

The tools that worked with the cruisers were also a special breed of men, and they could really prepare some fine meals cooked over an open fire. Some of the best who were always in demand were Jack Dewar and Gilbert Peterson of Duluth, Jerry Haskins of Ely, Fred Seibert and Rully Vibert of Cloquet, Carl Lawson of Bemidji and others.

By the end of World War I, the days of the job cruiser were numbered. More and more timber went into the hands of logging companies, and each had its own cruising department. More duties, such as running lines around company operations and checking trespass, were added to the cruiser's appraisal work each winter. Most of the job cruisers in the Duluth area ended their careers mapping the big Court-Moose Lake fire and

appraising for fire claims brought against the federal government—the fire was supposed to have been started by the wartime government-operated railroad. A few of the younger men worked by the night for the lumber companies.

When logging was at its peak, on a Monday morning every train leaving Duluth had several timber cruisers heading for the woods. Cruisers were recognized by the little, dark leather bags containing compass, maps, hooks, etc., they carried over their shoulders. In the winter, they also carried snowshoes.

Trains often stopped and dropped cruisers at creek posts nearest the timber they had to look. The men were picked up at other stopping spots along the railroad.

Many railroads had large blocks of timber they obtained through land grants and had cruisers check their holdings. Mining companies also had large blocks of timber and had cruisers on their pay rolls too. And there were the government and state cruisers. But by 1920, the job

timber cruiser had passed from the picture.

As a boy and young man, I held a warm spot in my heart for the timber cruiser, and my father, the late James Ryan, was engaged in this work much of his life. Among the old-time cruisers I considered great men were Mark Hesse of the E. W. Hesus International Lumber Co., Henry Graham of the National Lumber Co., Miles McQuire of the Bemidji Lumber Co., Andy Carlson of the Crookston Lumber Co., Fred Murphy of the St. Croix Lumber Co., John Foran of the J. Neals Lumber Co., Tom Kyrow of the Twoney Williams Co., Jean Dow of the Virginia River Lumber Co., "Die" Gault of the Alger Smith Lumber Co., Harry Johnson of the Wataki Paper Co., "Black Jack" Wilson of the M. & O. Paper Co., George Gowan and William Smith of the D.L.R.R. Co., Steve Krawiec of the Martin Timber Co., Mike Guggins of the St. Louis County Assessors Office and John Steinke of the Oliver Mining Co.

Most of the timber cruisers that covered what is today the Cloquet Valley State Forest worked for the combined Cluquet Companies of the Weyerhaeuser, whose cruising department was headed by the late Jim Underhill. Among others in the Cluquet Valley were Charles Hiller, Reggie Vibert, Ben Keller, Walt McDonald, Berry McKussey, Miles McAlpine, Dave Mallen, Andy Clewson, Ollie Proudlock and "Big Jack" McNally, who held the reputation of being the best pine appraiser in the state and looked after the interests of the Northern Lumber Co. There also was the veteran Weyerhaeuser timber cruiser, the great Dan Cameron with his white flowing beard, who cruised until he was well past 80 years old and put many a younger man to shame when it came to traveling through the woods on snowshoes.

There were many early state timber cruisers that were well known and respected by all for their ability to look after the State of Minnesota's interests. Most are dead today but their names should be part of the "timber cruiser history" of this state. Among them were Sam Helgebrand, Alex McNie, Sam Fales, Denny Mahar, Clyde Johnson, John McDonald, Ray Hart, William Getchell, Jim Angell and Jim Niles.

In the old days, time was not slow motion and helicopters to take men into the woods. The only way cruisers could find out the amount and kind of timber that grew on the land was to get there by foot. This meant many miles of "owning the compass" and pacing along old trails, section lines, etc., on snowshoes in the winter and across mosquito-infested bogs in the summer. These early cruisers were all rugged, honorable men of which there is little history, but whose role was important to logging our vast virgin timber stands.

Old Cameron, pioneer cruiser, arrived at the site of Duluth in 1864 to cruise timberland around the Ontario settlement. He was 89 in this 1921 photo.



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To serve our readers better, the Timber Bulletin offers free classified ads of up to 85 words to all members and associate members of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association. All ads must be submitted in writing to the Association office. The MTPA assumes no responsibility for ad contents and accepts free ads on a first-come, first-served basis within space limitations.

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