

Volume 39

Number 1



Chips
and
Sawdust

A quarterly newsletter from the

**Forest History
Association of Wisconsin, Inc.**

P.O. Box 424
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Forest History Association of Wisconsin members interested in serving as a member of the FHAW Board of Directors should submit their name, a brief biographical sketch, and contact information to:

FHAW Nominating Committee Chairman, David Peschau
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Chips and Sawdust

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membership chairperson
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Advantages:

- Faster delivery of *Chips and Sawdust* Newsletter
- Newsletter with full-color photographs
- Monthly electronic FHAW news brief, *Woodchips*



From The President's Chair

Dear Friends,

Will Winter Never End?? Snow showers predicted for May 15, 2014! Although the wood's floor is greening with Dutchmen's Britches, the roads for "Spring break-up" have made its extremely difficult for loggers.

At the board meeting held in Wausau on May 1st (this was the result of postponement because of a blizzard two weeks before!!), there was so much to do and news for everyone! Check-out the Forest History Association of Wisconsin Social Media – Facebook page!!! Thank you Don Schnitzler for coordinating these efforts and developing our presence on social media! You can "Comment," "Like," and give feedback!

Our Webpage is kept up so well by Dan Giese and more information about the Upcoming 39th Annual Conference at Goodman in September can be viewed online.

Don Schnitzler's "Woodchips" electronic newsletter is a great addition for all members and readers. This month's newsletter had a "fire" theme. Always a worry in the spring as high winds and potential for dry conditions could be a calamity! Thank you to our editor!

Soon you will be receiving a disk of the "FHAW Annual Proceedings" in Marshfield in 2011. We hope you enjoy the latest format! You will be receiving the FHAW "Digital Proceedings" after a positive transition.

David Peschau has rallied through illness all year, but has compiled the latest public relations contact list in Wisconsin for 2014. If your organization is complaining because you do not have enough PR in your local newspaper, radio, and TV, perhaps your group needs this list?? For \$250 – donated to FHAW, you can get the benefit and "leg up" on your competition! CONTACT: dpeschau@compuserve.com Thank you, David.

FHAW, with Mike Sohasky at the lead, will again be offering a \$500 Scholarship. This is the result of your donations, memorials, and caring about FHAW. Implemented for the 2014-2015 school year, we look forward to again complying with FHAW mission to

advance forest history scholarship.

FHAW is continually working with the Wisconsin Historical Society on the FHAW Archives Collection at UW-Stevens Point. They have reviewed, consulted, given advice, and furthered the future of the collection. We are grateful for their input and the assistance of the UW-Stevens Point Library Archives Director for guaranteeing the future of the FHAW collection.

The Great Lakes Timber Professional's spring meeting in Escanaba was a confluence of over 600 loggers and forest products professionals – FHAW was represented – despite the blizzard!

Lastly, we can report that the investment assets of FHAW have grown, revenues have been realized to at least 50% of organization income, and we work toward self-sustaining investment stewardship.

Have a great Summer!! The Four Seasons in Pembine! Motto: "It's a great day on Miskado Island!"

*Sincerely,
Sara W. Connor*

Wisconsin's Tenth Annual Invasive Species Awareness Month

Protect the Places Where You Play: Keep Invasives Out!

Why: Invasive plants and animals threaten Wisconsin's waters and wildlands by outcompeting and destroying native plants and animals and by disrupting the complex habitat systems. They also threaten the productivity and economic viability of Wisconsin's agricultural lands by creating overwhelming competition with crops. Millions of dollars, both public and private, are spent each year for the control of invasive plant and animal species in Wisconsin's waters, wildlands and agriculture lands.

What: Learn about the issues surrounding invasive species (both plant and animal, aquatic and terrestrial) in Wisconsin by attending workshops, field trips and lectures. Also participate in invasive species control work parties.

Who: Citizens of all ages across the State of Wisconsin.

Where: Nature centers, botanical gardens, natural areas, lakes, rivers, agricultural fields, parks, schools, institutions of higher learning, natural history museums...

When Throughout the month of June.

For more information--visit [Wisconsin Invasive Species Council](#).

May 18-24 is Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

MADISON – At least 20 Wisconsin counties now harbor emerald ash borer, the exotic insect that has decimated urban trees and forests in the eastern half of the nation.



Although we continue to detect EAB in new locations around the state, humans can help keep it from leapfrogging to whole new areas. They can slow down the spread, to give science time to find more and better controls, and give communities and landowners time to replace ash trees with species that are not susceptible to the pest.

To remind Wisconsinites that they have a role to play in the battle, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has declared May 18-24 Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week. This particular week was chosen nationwide because it includes Memorial Day weekend, the beginning of the summer tourism season, when the risk is high for people to move EAB and other pests to new areas inadvertently on firewood.

Brian Kuhn, director of the Plant Industry Bureau in the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, notes that Wisconsin's forests include more than 765 million ash trees, and that an average of 20 percent of urban street trees in the state are ash. Losing those trees to EAB may impact air and water quality, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and property values, he said.

"Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the government to join with schools, businesses, industries, environmental groups, community organizations, tourist and citizens to take action against the spread of the EAB," Kuhn said.

In the past year, EAB has been found in seven new Wisconsin counties. Most of those new finds can likely be attributed to human actions, because they are in areas far from previous known infestations in southeastern and western Wisconsin. Some of them were at campgrounds or boat landings.

This summer, state and federal agencies will set more than 1,500 traps around Wisconsin to monitor for the presence of the EAB.

People can help slow the spread of EAB by:

- Following all quarantine guidelines. For most people, that means not moving firewood out of the quarantine counties.
- Buying firewood near camp sites or buying it from a state-certified firewood vendor. The list of vendors is at <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Plants/pdf/CertifiedFirewoodDealers.pdf>.
- Learning about the signs of EAB infestation. Visit www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov.
- Reporting ash trees that show signs of infestation by calling the EAB hotline toll-free at 1-800-462-2803 or emailing DATCPemeraldashborer@wi.gov.

Since 2008, EAB infestations have been confirmed in Brown, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Douglas, Fond du Lac, Jefferson, Kenosha, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Rock, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha and Winnebago counties. Those counties are under quarantine. Sheboygan County is also quarantined, because there are infestations close by in neighboring counties. The quarantine means that hardwood cannot



be moved out of the counties without an agreement with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

EAB, native to Asia, attacks all species of North American ash trees. Since being discovered near Detroit in 2002, it has spread to 21 states and two Canadian provinces.

Wisconsin's EAB program is a cooperative effort of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA-Forest Service, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and UW-Extension.

For more information on the Emerald Ash Borer visit the University of Wisconsin — Madison webpage: <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/eab/>





2014 FHAW Annual Conference Goodman, Wisconsin September 11-13, 2014

Mark your calendars! The 39th annual meeting of the Forest History Association of Wisconsin will take place in Goodman, Wisconsin, September 11-13, 2014.

Final details are being arranged but it's shaping up to be a great meeting. Full details to be included in your next issue of Chips and Sawdust, and as they develop on the FHAW website and FHAW Facebook page.



The Goodman Lumber Company, formally organized with a capital of \$500,000, announced intentions to build a new hardwood mill, a logging railroad and start a new town in Marinette County on the Soo line between Dunbar and Armstrong Creek in November 1907. (Photo from: <http://www.usgwararchives.net/wi/marinette/postcards/mlum.jpg>)

Lectures

- Logging on Menominee River
- Logging Deadheads
- History of Goodman, Wisconsin
- Dunbar Civilian Conservation Corps
- Goodman Railroad

Tour

- Goodman Lumber Mill

Other

- Four Seasons Island Resort Dinner and Reception
- Friday Night Fish Fry
- Auction
- Awards Presentations

And, of course...

- Good Times with Good Friends



From the Newspaper Archives



Early Logging Operations O'Melia, Houg Recall Pioneering in Forests

(from the *Rhineland Daily News*, January 29, 1958)

By ISABEL J. EBERT

Early-day operations in Oneida County of C. C. Yawkey, one of the titans of the logging industry, were described by Atty. A. J. O'Melia and County Treasurer Al Houg at a recent meeting of the Northland Historical Society in Lake Tomahawk.

The Rhinelanders entertained the gathering for about an hour and a half with their recitals of boyhood experiences around the Yawkey camp and mill operations in the Hazelhurst area. A summary of their observations follows:

Here is a brief summary on what they told about the camps and the railroads near Lake Tomahawk.

Cyrus C. Yawkey of Wausau was the big logger in the district south of Tomahawk Lake between the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad and what is now the Northwestern. As O'Melia talked his audience got a mental picture of Yawkey as an unusually resourceful and adaptable business man who knew how to pick capable and loyal men to head the various branches of his undertakings.

He had acquired by 1888 a lot of heavily wooded land and the site of the village of Hazelhurst from the government and several private owners. By July 1889, when Mrs. James O'Melia came from Chase, Michigan, to join her husband at Hazelhurst, he had the sawmill going and several houses built for the families of his employees.

On July 4, 1889, Mrs. O'Melia handed down her four-year-old



Cyrus Carpenter Yawkey
1862—1943

son, James, to one of the train crew, and her three-months-old baby boy, Albert, to another, and then climbed down from the coach and on down the bank of the track of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad herself. Yawkey had been too busy getting the essentials going in his new town to spend any time developing the station grounds.

Partner Was Railroader

The firm was then known as Yawkey and Lee Lumber Co. George W. Lee, a relative of C. C. Yawkey, was a railroad builder. The logs from their holdings would have to be taken out by railroad as there were no rivers that could be used to float them out; so, the Yawkey-Lee Lumber Co. built a railroad line from Hazelhurst to McNaughton down past Wind Pudding and Numan Lakes (the latter now called Fawn lake) and camps were set up on the western shores of both and later on lakes, large and small, as far west as Harshaw and south to Oneida Farms.

In order to have a shipping outlet over the Northwestern going South and North through to Hurley, Ironwood and Ashland on Lake Superior, the tracks to what is now McNaughton were advisable. Lee and Yawkey organized a separate company for the railroad so they could run it as an accommodation line between the two main roads and charge regular freight rates and passenger fares. They called it the "Hazelhurst and Southeastern Railroad" and the station at McNaughton, "Hazelhurst Junction."

Instead of buying a new engine just then, Yawkey bought Engine Number 5, one of the wood burners that had recently been replaced by coal burners on the Milwaukee, Lakeshore and Western Railroad, as the line through Rhinelander was then called. He had it rebuilt into a coal burner, renamed it Engine 99, and put it to work on the Hazelhurst and Southeastern Road.

In the beginning, Yawkey and Lee did not plan to extend their road to the Tomahawk Lake Station. They planned to build a canal from Lake Katharine to Tomahawk Lake, and to connect several small lakes on the south with the big lake in the same way. They would be able to run most of the logs in the Tomahawk Lake area through to the sawmill by water, they thought.

Water Route Abandoned.

Their first project, of course, was to build the passage between Lake Katharine and Big Tomahawk Lake. They had cut the canal

through almost to Tomahawk Lake before they discovered that Tomahawk Lake was two or three feet lower than Lake Katharine. So the water route had to be given up, and later, the Yawkey Lumber Company, which corporation succeeded the Yawkey-Lee Lumber Company in 1893, laid rails to the Tomahawk Lake station along a logging tote road, built in the 1870s, known as the Rocky Run.

After the Company had cut its Southern area timber the road to McNaughton was discontinued and a new track was run to Tomahawk Lake, where the village was a better division point than Hazelhurst Junction, and the new line opened up a vast virgin timber area. The new line was made the main line between the two big railroads.

Engine 99 was put on this new road. At the end of the line of freight cars, it pulled a passenger coach carrying people who paid regular passenger fares. O'Melia remembers that Pat Skelton was the engineer, Bill Lightner was the fireman, and Martin Taggart, a brother of George Taggart who still lives in Rhineland, was the conductor.

Logging went on summer and winter at a furious puce south and north of Tomahawk Lake during these years. Yawkey bought other engines and there were many camps. O'Melia remembers that his father, the superintendent, supervised four or five at a time. The heaviest cutting was in Township 38, Range 7 East. There was an especially fine stand of white pine near the eastern bay of the lake where the trees were four and five feet in diameter.

Take White Pine First

They took out the white pine first. It made the finest grade of lumber. The Norways were taken next to be sold for piling. The trees were so tall, the logs might be as long as 80 feet, and it took two or three flat cars to carry them. The hardwoods were the last to be taken out.

Headquarters Camp during that time was Camp 21 on a little lake half way between Hazelhurst and Tomahawk Lake station (Camp 21 Lake still appears on maps of the area). James O'Melia made it his home during week days, living in the wanigan, as the office shack was called, with "Paddy" Dolan, the foreman and bookkeeper, and Jim Ferrell, a sealer, who also had charge of the wanigan supplies. When he wasn't in school, young Al was usually with his father there.

James O'Melia, his son remembers, made his rounds of the first camps on horseback. After the trails had been widened a bit

he rode in a one-horse sulky. He always got home to Hazelhurst on Saturday in time for supper and to spend Sunday with his family.

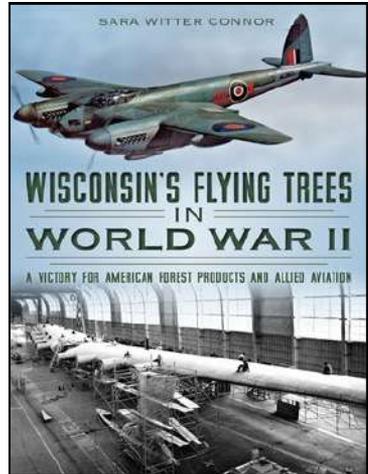
In 1904 young Albert was ready for high school. His brother, James O'Melia, Jr., was attending Lawrence College. Later that year, with two girls, Margaret and Gay, the family moved from Hazelhurst to Rhinelander permanently and young Al saw less of the logging camps from then on.

In 1906 Cyrus Yawkey, went in with Walter Bissell of Wausau and formed the Yawkey-Bissell Lumber Co., to log a large area of timberlands in Vilas County that the new company had bought from Weyerhaeuser. So for the next six years, until the mills on Hazelhurst and Arbor Vitae closed in 1912, the firm was known as the Yawkey-Bissell Lumber Company. (Photo from http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/5570069/photo/0j9BcXnHS6nNud5Ct5b1_g0VRBpUXPNItg6UxARwcGiQv4qv6RtTc!NpO9byRKl/500)

Wisconsin's Flying Trees In World War II

A Victory for American Forest Products and Allied Aviation

Wisconsin's trees heard "Timber!" during World War II, as the forest products industry of the Badger State played a key role in the Allied aerial campaign. It was Wisconsin that provided the material for the De Havilland Mosquito, known as the "Timber Terror," while the CG-4A battle-ready gliders, cloaked in stealthy silence, carried the 82nd and 101st Airborne into fierce fighting throughout Europe and the Pacific. Sara Witter Connor follows a forgotten thread of the American war effort, celebrating the factory workers, lumberjacks, pilots and innovative thinkers of the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory who helped win a world war with paper, wood and glue.



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News

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FHAW Monthly e-mail Publication *Woodchips*

Have you received the FHAW electronic monthly newsletter, *Woodchips*? The association has been delivering them monthly to FHAW members' email addresses since September.

If you haven't received your FHAW *Woodchips* and want to receive past issues of *Woodchips*, and ensure delivery of future issues, send your e-mail address to FHAW editor, Don Schnitzler, at schnitzler.donald@charter.net

Thanks everyone for your favorable comments. It is good to know that you enjoy the links to interesting news, or the audio and video recordings included in each Woodchips. —

Schnitz, editor

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Membership Application

Please enroll me as a member and participant in the Association's program of developing the educational and historical aspects of Wisconsin's forestry and logging industry. Attached is payment for:

- _____ Student Membership (\$10.00)
- _____ Individual Membership (\$20.00)
- _____ Family Membership (\$30.00)
- _____ Non Profit Organization Membership (\$30.00)
- _____ Corporate Membership (\$55.00)
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Other Contributions:

- \$ _____ Student Awards
- \$ _____ Capital Fund
- \$ _____ Operations



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Detach and mail this application with payment to:

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39th Annual Conference

2014

Goodman, Wisconsin

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Watch For Additional Details
As They Become Available

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