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A quarterly newsletter from the

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

P.O. Box 1001  
Marinette, WI 54143

Summer - 2002

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# *Chips and Sawdust*

Volume 27, Number 1

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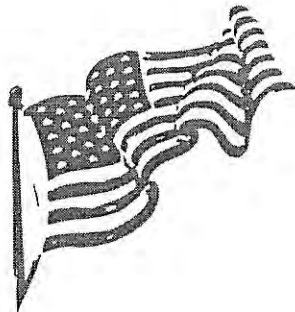
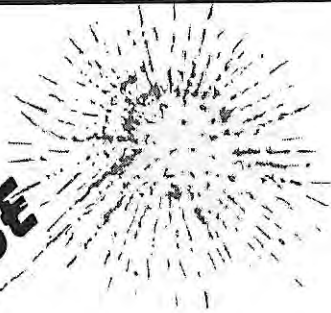
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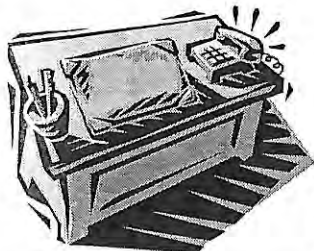
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**HAPPY**

**INDEPENDENCE**

**DAY**





## From the President's Desk

Occasionally FFAW presidents have chosen to have a column in *Chip & Sawdust*, sometimes to contribute to items of history and sometimes to get a message to the membership. It seems like a good time to do it again. Since passing our 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary we've had time to reflect back. We've also had time to look ahead to where we might go. That look is an exciting one! The programs at our annual meetings seem to better each year. We've have just published our first book, *Ghosts of the Forest* authored by our own Randal Rohe. If you haven't seen it be sure you do. You'll want to have one for yourself. Our financial situation is good for an organization of our size. We are heading in a good direction to do even more meaningful things in preserving the history of Wisconsin's forests, which are so important to the life of the citizens of the state.

To continue to grow and blossom, our membership must continue to grow and our members must continue to step in and do the bits and pieces that are required from time to time. For a volunteer organization like FFAW it is important that members contribute as the opportunities are identified. There is some very special talent in this organization and it is fun to work with them and to see how things come to the surface. Most importantly, when that talent comes forward, no matter how large or small the contribution, the pieces come together for good progress.

It's my main interest as President of FFAW to, with the Board of Directors, find ways to increase the capture of Wisconsin forest history. Apart from the traditional history events we try to cover, many changes have taken place over the last couple of decades and the time to capture the details is now.

Here are some of the ways our members can help:

- ◆ Inviting others to join us.
- ◆ Assuring historical forest documents and artifacts are placed in safe keeping.
- ◆ Photo histories are always important whether century-old history, recent or somewhere in-between.
- ◆ Building additional displays for telling our story.
- ◆ Presentations at annual meetings.
- ◆ Helping with annual meetings -- both the original organization and on site work
- ◆ Writing about your forest passion for *Chips & Sawdust* or a separate publication.

If you have some interest in any of these areas please contact me, a Board Member, or the Executive Secretary at the Marinette office. We will all be the richer for it.

-Miles Benson, President



# Board of Directors' Update



## Minutes of the May 9, 2002 Meeting

### Call to Order

President Miles Benson convened the meeting at 10:00 A.M. in the Shawano County Courthouse. Directors present included: Albrecht, Baumann, Benson, Brisson, Cline, Einspahr, Grosman, Harm and Lambrecht. Others present included Carl Krog and Kurt Kortenhof.

### Minutes of the September 26, 2001 meeting

President Benson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes as recorded by Dean Einspahr, published in *Chips & Sawdust*, and distributed. None forthcoming, the minutes were allowed to stand as published on motion by Einspahr and support by Lambrecht, all in favor.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Albrecht presented a report for the period July 1, 2001 to May 1, 2002. He explained details of the report showing a net worth of \$31,415 at the end of the period. A motion by Baumann, supported by Grosman, to accept the treasurers report was approved, all in favor.

Revenue from sales of the book, *Ghosts of the Forest* was \$4,330. Brisson informed the group that sales tax must be collected from purchasers who are not exempt, and FHAW must obtain a Wisconsin Department of Revenue Sellers Permit. Einspahr moved that we charge \$42.50 plus shipping costs with sales tax included. Supported by Lambrecht, the motion carried, all in favor. Randy Rohe reported that more than 200 books have been sold and suggested that a discount of no more than 30% be made to wholesale books to vendors.

### Archivist

Benson reported he had appointed Peter Shrake as FHAW archivist; Kurt Kortenhof gave a short introduction of Shrake who was not present.

### Standing Committee Reports

#### Auction

Cline reported that he would accept offers and coordinate accepting auction



materials for the 2002 sale. Randy Rohe volunteered to set up the silent auction and help set up the verbal auction.

### ***Chips & Sawdust***

Kurt Korten Hof distributed the new issue and reported the need for news and history items.

Kurt asked to be allowed to place an advertisement for his books in *C & S*. Moved by Baumann, supported by Brisson, a motion to allow an ad for *Long Live the Hodag!* and *Sugar Camp 1891-1941* with 30% of the proceeds to F HAW carried, all in favor.

### ***Proceedings***

Korten Hof distributed the 2001 Proceedings and asked for guidance on pricing. He reported this issue cost \$1,937 for 700 copies or \$2.77 each for printing by the Print Shop of Wisconsin Rapids. Albrecht moved with support from Einspahr to sell the current issue of Proceedings for \$4.00. Motion carried, all in favor. He reported this issue would be prepared for mailing by the Opportunity Development Center in Wisconsin Rapids.

### **Distinguished Service Awards**

Chair Randy Rohe requested nominations for the 2001-2002 DSA awards. He stated we need a new volunteer to work with these awards to get new ideas and nominees.

Randy suggested the following nominees: Rose Schultz, IXL Museum, Hermansville, Michigan; Oconto Historical Society, Walking Tour of Lumbermen's Homes; State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Recreation of the sawmill at Greenbush; and the Mason Historical Society.

### **Exhibits**

Albrecht reported the exhibits are stored at the WDNR in Shawano. Director Grosman volunteered to chair the Exhibits Committee and Albrecht and Einspahr volunteered to assist.

### **Forestry Hall of Fame**

Chair Don Lambrecht reported that the US Forest Service has nominated Joe Stoechler and US SCS has nominated Jack Densmore. A Motion by Lambrecht, supported by Baumann to support both nominees was carried, all

in favor.

### **Membership**

Brisson requested help in recruiting new members, especially businesses. Einspahr volunteered to chair a committee and Cline agreed to serve. Einspahr will revise the renewal card. Brisson suggested continuing the individual membership fee at two years for \$25. A motion by Lambrecht, supported by Einspahr to offer individual memberships at two years for \$25 for 2002-2004 was carried, all voting aye.

### **Scholarship**

Albrecht reported that FIAW should prepare and distribute letters to the winner and other entrants.

### **Other Business**

#### **Annual Meeting 2002**

Carl Krog reported that the 2002 meeting would be held at Oconto, October 4 & 5. A Friday tour will visit the Peshtigo Fire Museum, Peshtigo Harbor, the Beyer House, Oconto Lumbermen's homes and the Pensaukee Sawmill Historical Site now being excavated. The Saturday meet will be held at the Oconto Elks Lodge.

#### **Annual Meeting 2003**

Bob Walkner offered to host the meeting at Two Rivers, presented information on the opportunities and distributed brochures on the area.

#### **Annual Meeting 2004**

Options suggested were:

Wade House Historical Site, Greenbush  
Lake Superior Waterlogged Mill, Ashland  
Wisconsin Dells  
Navoo Museum, Eau Claire  
Goodman & Laona area

### **Next Meeting**

By consensus the next meeting was set for August 8th in Oconto [*Editor's note: this meeting has since been changed to August 1, 2002*].



## Annual Meeting Scheduled for October 4 - 5, 2002

The 2002 Forest History Association of Wisconsin's Annual Meeting will be held at the Elk's Club in Oconto, Wisconsin on October 4th and 5th. Arrangements for the Friday tour and Saturday business meeting and presentations are currently being finalized. Tentatively, the Friday tour will include stops at the following Oconto-area attractions:

- ◆ Peshtigo Fire Museum
- ◆ Peshtigo Harbor
- ◆ John Arndt Mill site in Pensaukee
- ◆ Beyer House Museum
- ◆ Oconto Historic District


Friday's activities conclude with drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and dinner at Governor Scofield's historic home.


Highlights of Saturday's meeting include the following presentations:

- ◆ "Indian Copper Culture in the Oconto Area," Dr. Thomas Pleger
- ◆ "The John Arndt Sawmill at Pansaukee," Richard Doeren
- ◆ "The Peshtigo Fire," Diane Nichols
- ◆ "The Holt Family: Remembrance of the Past," Laurie DeWitt Davison
- ◆ "History of Oconto"
- ◆ "Pictorial History of the Lumbering History of Oconto," Douglas DeWitt
- ◆ "The Hard Life of a Lumberjack," William Kamke

Saturday's agenda concludes with award presentations, business meeting, auction, and a banquet dinner.

**Look for your registration materials in the mail later this summer!**

 See the *News and Announcements* section of this newsletter for meeting and lodging information.





# The Evolution of Aldo Leopold

Amy K. Hammer  
University of Wisconsin—Platteville

Aldo Leopold was a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison who blazed a trail for modern-day conservation efforts. In his writings, Aldo Leopold expressed his evolving view of predators and deer, and his broadening beliefs of conservation that led to his ultimate theory of conservation "Land Ethic" that has impacted conservation methods to this day.

Leopold grew up hunting and exploring in the wilderness of Iowa. After graduating with a master's degree in forestry from Yale, Leopold went to work in a national forest in Arizona where he became aware of the diminishing game population. Because deer herds were not as healthy and plentiful as hunters preferred, efforts to totally eradicate predators became the focus of Leopold's work. In his essay "The Varmint Question" published in *The River of the Mother of God and Other Essays by Aldo Leopold*, he dealt with his attitude on predators: "If the wolves, lions, coyotes, bobcats, foxes, skunks, and other varmints were only decreasing at the same rate as our game is decreasing, it might at least be said that there was no serious occasions for worry, but that they are decreasing is an established fact in the mind of every man familiar with conditions" (48). This statement reflects Leopold's contempt toward the predators who preyed on the same animals he hunted.

Leopold became an authoritative figure of game management while working with the forestry service. His main goal was to provide as many hunting opportunities as possible. He did this by building refuges, eradicating predators, and restocking the land and waters with game. His passion for hunting and outdoor recreation was obviously his priority at this time in his life.

Gradually Leopold's views were broadening. Many of his ideas stemmed from his previous work with the forest service. Looking back at the results of his actions, Leopold realized how easily the environment could be manipulated.

As Leopold was sorting through these new ideas, he ran across the work of a philosopher whose conservation ideas encompassed the entire Earth. Leopold stated: "Possibly, in our intuitive perceptions, which may be truer than our science and less impeded by words than our philosophies, we realize the indivisibility of the earth... and respect it collectively not only as an useful servant but as a living being" (*Thinking Like a Mountain: Aldo Leopold and the Evolution of an Ecological Attitude Toward Deer, Wolves, and Forests*, 18). That idea was an essential concept of Leopold's final theory of conservation.

Leopold was given a position at the University of Wisconsin-Madison as an educator and researcher of wildlife management. Leopold believed that research was becoming too specific because conservationists were focused on specific parts of the effort. In his essay, "Land Pathology" from the *River of the Mother of God: And Other Essays by Aldo Leopold*, Leopold stated that, "there is only one soil, one flora, one fauna, one people, and hence only one conservation problem" (213). This exhibited Leopold's increased awareness of conservation problems.

Leopold was given an opportunity that solidified his ideas toward conservation. He was a member of a group of foresters chosen to study forestry methods in Germany. What Leopold saw in Germany was the result of careless overuse of natural resources, with attempts to mend the situations with schemes that caused further havoc.

After years of studying deer populations, Leopold reworked his position on predators, realizing that wolves preying on deer would allow the herd to reach a healthy state. He then began to fight for the reintroduction of deer's natural predators. In his essay "Thinking Like a Mountain" published in Flader's book, Leopold articulated the compassion he had felt for wolves since an earlier hunting experience:

We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and I have know ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes—something known only to

her and to the mountain. I was young then and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean a hunter's paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view (329-330).

Leopold's true love of wildlife was evident in this statement as was the development of his respect toward predators.

Leopold realized that the general public was far from concerned about the degenerating health of the land. Leopold stated in a forward published in J. Baird Callicott's *Companion to A Sand County Almanac*, "One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds... he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well, and does not want to be told otherwise" (286). Leopold understood just how needy the environment was of the public's help, but the public did not see the need to help the environment. Through this, Leopold became aware of the need for a communal code of the land. Leopold spent years working toward a complete plan of action, which he defines in the essay "Land Ethic," the paramount essay in his posthumously published *A Sand County Almanac*. Leopold stated as published in Calliot's *Companion to Sand County Almanac*: "In short, a land ethic changes the role of *Homo Sapiens* from conquerors of the land-community to plain member and citizen of it" (178). Leopold made it clear that he believed that humans feel that the earth is at their disposal when they should live without dramatically making an impact on it.

"Land Ethic" is a concept that is still used in conservation today. Leopold's ideas have not been lost in the years since his death of a heart attack in 1948. Through his teachings, conservation efforts have had many triumphs, one of which is the successful reintroduction of wolves and other large predators. Aldo Leopold's final beliefs are the foundation of the modern-day conservation movement.

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# William N. Allen: The Poet Laureate of the Golden Age of Wisconsin Lumbering

**Thomas Becher** submitted the following two articles recounting the life and works of William N. Allen, a.k.a. "Shan T. Boy." August Derleth, in his book: *The Wisconsin: River of a Thousand Isles*, referred to Allen as "the poet laureate of the golden age of Wisconsin lumbering."

## William N. Allen

William Neal Allen was born in the province of New Brunswick, December 20, 1843. He came to the United States with his parents in 1856, the family residing in Delta county, Michigan for eighteen months, when he came to Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. When eighteen years old, having acquired a knowledge of the business and an education in the public schools of Michigan and Wisconsin he took to the "brush" and has since followed the calling of a "cruiser," surveyor and woodsman. He came to Wausau in 1868, and has practically resided here ever since. He has been county surveyor twelve years and it is as sure as is anything in politics that he could have had the office as long as he wanted it, but he refused a renomination this year. He has a pleasant home in this city, which is shared with his aged mother, Mrs. Martha Allen.

He is familiarly known throughout the pineries of Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota as "Shan T. Boy," author of "Shanty Boy of the Big Eau Claire," "The Banks of the Little Eau Plaine," "The Big Pine Tree," and numerous other songs which have been sung beside almost every camp fire and in every lumber camp in those regions. In his "cruisings" he has visited every Indian tribe in the white pine lumber region and was held in high regard and looked upon



William N. Allen a.k.a. "Shan T. Boy"

with respect and considerable awe by the aborigines, who called him "Red Squirrel." He knows the forest as a scholar should his book and reads the signs of nature with unflinching accuracy. His estimate upon a tract of timber is taken without question and when he says a certain "forty" is located in such a section, town and range-well, it is always found that he is right....

Socially, Mr. Allen is a very pleasant gentleman and one whom it is pleasant to meet. He has a store of reminiscences and anecdotes relating to early and present days in the pinery and the hearer is charmed by the touch of nature which adds spice to his narrations. [*Wausau in 1900*. Republished, 1985]

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Billy Allen very probably originated more lumberjack ballads than anyone else in Wisconsin lumbering; he seldom wrote them down, but usually sang them as the words occurred to him; putting them down came later. At eighty-three, he told an interviewer, "I began composing my poems about 1870. Of course, I had written lots of poetry when I was a kid, but it wasn't much good. I went to the woods when I was seventeen, and as a cruiser in the Wisconsin valley, I visited a great many logging camps in the course of each winter. In each camp I sang for the boys in lumberjack style." [Derleth, *The Wisconsin: River of a Thousand Isles*. (Madison, WI, 1942), p. 197]

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### *The Shanty Boy on the Big Eau Claire*

By San T. Boy

Come, all ye jolly shanty boys, and listen to my song;  
'Tis one I've just invented and it won't detain you long;  
'Tis of a pretty maiden, a damsel young and fair,  
who dearly loved a shanty boy upon the Big Eau Claire.

The shanty boy was handsome, a husky lad was he;  
In summer time he labored in the mills at Mosinee,  
But when cold winter came along and blew its blasting breeze,  
He worked upon the Big Eau Claire, a chopping down pine trees.

He loved a milliner's daughter, he loved her long and well,  
But circumstances happened and this is what befell:



The milliner swore the shanty boy her daughter never should wed,  
But Sallie did not care a lot for all her mother said.

So when brown autumn came along and ripened all the crops,  
She lighted out for Baraboo and went to picking hops;  
But in this occupation she found but little joy,  
For thoughts came rushing to her mind about her shanty boy.

She took the scarlet fever, lay sick a week or two  
Within a dreary pest-house, way down in Baraboo,  
And oftentimes in her ravings she tore her auburn hair,  
As she talked about the shanty boy upon the Big Eau Claire.

When this news reached the shanty boy his vocation he did leave;  
His terrible anxiety was awful to perceive.  
He hid his saw in a hollow log and carried off his ax,  
And hired out to pilot on a fleet of lumber-jacks.

'Twas at the Falls of Mosinee from a precipice fell he,  
And put an end to his career and all his misery.  
The bold Wisconsin River is rolling o'er his brow,  
His friends and his companions are weeping for him now.

The milliner now is bankrupt, her shop has gone to rack;  
She talks of moving some fine day down to Fond du Lac.  
At night her pillow's haunted by her daughter's auburn hair  
And the ghost of that young shanty boy upon the Big Eau Claire.

Come, all ye maids with tender hearts, and be advised by me,  
Don't be too fast to fall in love with everyone you see;  
The shanty boys are rowdies, as everybody knows;  
They dwell far in the forest, where the mighty pine tree grows.

In stealing logs and shingle bolts and telling jokes and lies,  
And playing cards and swearing, they get their exercise;  
But if you will get married for comfort and for joy,  
I'd have you for your husband choose an honest shanty boy.



## News and Announcements

### **Forest History Memorabilia Needed for Annual Meeting Auction**

FHAW Directors are soliciting donations of Wisconsin forest history memorabilia for the Annual Meeting's auction. All members are encouraged to donate items of interest to this annual fundraiser. Items should be brought on the day of the meeting. People planning to donate items are encouraged to contact John Cline in advance of the meeting so we can get an indication of the volume of items to be auctioned. Questions? Concerns? Contact John Cline at:

1201 Plumer Street  
Wausau, WI 54403  
715/842-0234

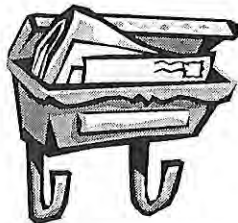
### **Lodging Information for 2002 Annual Meeting**

Remember the Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday October, 4 and Saturday October 5, 2002 in Oconto, Wisconsin. One option for local lodging is:

**Ramada Limited**  
600 Braseau Avenue  
Oconto, Wisconsin 54153  
920/834-5559

### **2002 Logging Congress Scheduled for September**

The 57th Annual Lake State Logging Congress is scheduled for September 5th, 6th and 7th at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wisconsin. The Congress is one of the most prestigious logging shows in the nation. Alternating between Michigan and Wisconsin, the attendance at the Logging Congress ranges from thirty to sixty thousand, with displays coming from as far away as Finland. The Congress is sponsored by Timber Producers Association of Michigan and Wisconsin. For more information see their web site at: [www.timberpa.com](http://www.timberpa.com)



## Member Correspondence

### FHAU member in search of Shan T. Boy ballad

- ◆ Thomas Becher is interested in talking to anyone with information on, or ballad versions of, William N. Allen (see pages 13-15). Specifically, Thomas is in search of a ballad entitled: *The Hemlock That Stood by the Brook*. He currently possess versions of the following songs:
- ◆ Antigo
  - ◆ Ballad of a Blowhard, The
  - ◆ Banks of the Little Eau Pleine, The
  - ◆ Bar'l, The
  - ◆ Big Pine Tree, The
  - ◆ Bold Blue Jay, The
  - ◆ I do Not Choose to Run
  - ◆ Irishman's Meditation, The
  - ◆ Land O' Lakes, The
  - ◆ Little Old Log Shanty on Rib Hill, The
  - ◆ Making Both Ends Meet
  - ◆ My Prohibition Friend
  - ◆ Nick, Jake, Bill and the Cow
  - ◆ Old Log House of Athens
  - ◆ Old Log Hut Near Schofield's Mill, The
  - ◆ Old Sawdust Pile, The
  - ◆ Old Settee, The
  - ◆ Recitation, A
  - ◆ Richmond on the James
  - ◆ Shanty-Boy of the Big Eau Claire, The
  - ◆ Snow Shoe, The
  - ◆ Squirrel and the Fox, The
  - ◆ Two Yankee Kings, The
  - ◆ When Sherman Marched Down to the Sea
  - ◆ Wisconsin Again
- 

Members with information for, or wanting information from, Tomas Becher can contact him at:

**Thomas Becher**  
**PO Box 205**  
**Stratford, Wisconsin 54484**

# Forest History Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

## - 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 (\$5.00)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership (\$15.00)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership (\$25.00)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non Profit Organization Membership (\$25.00)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Corporate Membership (\$50.00)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Life Membership (\$250.00)

### Other Contributions:

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Detach and mail this application with payment to:

**Executive Secretary**  
**Forest History Association of Wisconsin, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 1001**  
**Marinette, WI 54143-1001**

detach along line

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## **Committee Chairs**

**2001—2002**

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**Donald G. Lambrecht**

Forestry Hall of Fame

**Carl Krog**

Publicity

**John Saemann**

Scholarship

**Mike Sohasky**

Auction

**Randall Rohe**

Distinguished Service Awards

**Kurt Korten Hof**

Publications Editor

**James Adamson**

Exhibits

**Peter Shrake**

Archives

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Membership

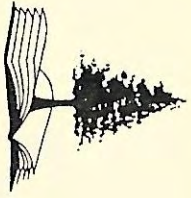
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Forest History Association of Wisconsin Members are encouraged to submit items of interest for this newsletter to the editor:

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