

# *Chips*

*and*

# *Sawdust*



A quarterly newsletter from the

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

P.O. Box 1001  
Marinette, WI 54143

**Fall - 2002**

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# ***Chips and Sawdust***

## **Volume 27, Number 1**

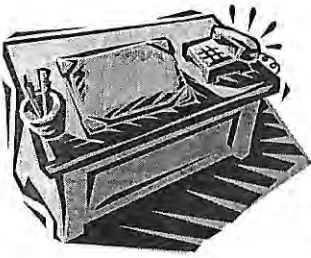
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**27th Annual Meeting  
Oconto, Wisconsin  
October 4 - 5, 2002**

**See pages 6-8 for more information and registration materials.**



## From the President's Desk

If you haven't signed up for the 2002 FHAW Annual meeting, DO IT NOW. The people in the Oconto area have put together a worthwhile meeting. See the announcement in this issue for details if you misplaced your own.

The auction is always both a highlight and a way to make some extra money for FHAW. Look around and see what you might have to contribute. Bring it with you to the meeting and call Karl Baumann to advise him what you are bringing.

You will want to take a look at the book *Ghosts of the Forest—vanishing lumber town of Wisconsin* written by Randy Rohe. He'll be at the meeting and if, after seeing a copy of the book, you want to purchase it, he would be happy to sign a copy for you.

In our last issue I spent some time discussing the progress FHAW has made. I also talked about the changes that the forests, and forest products industries have undergone in the last few decades. Change is happening as you read this and those changes are dramatic. One of the things mentioned was to be sure that things of the past of historical value are not lost. A few years out these times will become as fascinating history as our looks at the initial logging era.

For that reason it is important that we do our best to assure that current items of historical value are not discarded and lost. Many of you have photos and slides of things passing out of current usage. This is to encourage you to put some of those things together in article or exhibit form. We have an archive of publications and various papers in the UW-Stevens Point Library on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. The archive has controlled access and a place to lock up your carry-in. You can even reach it on the web through the library web site, which gives you some indication whether something you are looking for might be there.

If you know of a subject, or item, that should be saved for posterity please take the time to share what you know with FHAW. It may be only an idea, it might be a complete publication, or only a photo or collection that you can offer to save for future generations. Give it a try. Instead so saying, "Someone should," take the initiative to be that someone and get it started.

-Miles Benson, President



# Board of Directors' Update

## Minutes of the August 1, 2002 Meeting

The Meeting was called to order at 10:00AM by President Benson at the Brothers Three Restaurant in Oconto. Directors present included Albrecht, Baumann, Benson, Brisson, Einspahr, Harm, Lambrecht, and Rohe; others present included Dick Doeren, Carl Krog, and Bob Walkner.

### Minutes of May 9, 2002

Corrections were suggested to add Randy Rohe and Bob Walkner to those in attendance, and that Jack Densmore was nominated for the Forestry Hall of Fame by the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee. A motion by Baumann, supported by Einspahr to accept the minutes as printed and distributed to the directors was approved, all in favor.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Albrecht distributed a printed report of the fiscal activities from 7-01-01 to 6-30-02 and reported on the financial details. A motion by Einspahr, supported by Rohe to approve the report was approved, all in favor. Albrecht presented a printed budget for 7-01-02 through 6-30-03 and reported on the details. A motion by Brisson, supported by Einspahr, to accept the budget was approved, all in favor.

### Secretary's Report

Executive Secretary Brisson reported the membership was 229 as of June 30, 2002.

### Ghosts of the Forest

Randy Rohe, author, reported that 324 of the 1,000 copies published have been sold and several purchase orders are on hand. Rohe recommended to not discount the books to booksellers yet but to discount 20% at a later date. Moved by Albrecht, seconded by Einspahr, to not discount the books at this time; motion carried, all voting aye.

### Chips & Sawdust

A written report on Chips & Sawdust and the Proceedings prepared by Korten Hof was presented. Kurt can attend meetings if held on Friday or Monday.

### **Distinguished Service Awards**

Randy Rohe recommended Mrs Schultz receive the individual award for her work with

the IXL Historical Museum and Oconto County and its Office of Economic Development for the organizational award for publishing "A History of Logging in Oconto County." A motion by Brisson, supported by Baumann to accept Rohe's recommendations was approved, all in favor.

### **Forestry Hall of Fame**

Chairman Lambrecht reported that he would like to have someone else represent FHAW.

### **Exhibits**

Benson reported the exhibit would be at the Timber Producers Logging Congress in Madison. A motion by Einspahr, supported by Lambrecht to sell Proceedings for \$2.00 at the Logging Congress was approved, all in favor. Rohe reported he will bring the Jerry and Sherry exhibit to the FHAW annual Meeting. Rohe also reported he planned to prepare an exhibit on the CCC in Wisconsin. Brisson stated the Midwest Tool Collectors Association national meeting will be in Green Bay June 6 - 12, 2003, and might be a good opportunity for an exhibit.

### **Membership**

Einspahr presented a letter he had drafted to send to wood-using industries to solicit support for FHAW.

### **Archives**

Dick Doeren offered to work with a task force to encourage corporations to deposit their old records in public regional archives.

### **Audit**

President Benson reported Bob Englehard and Lloyd Godell volunteered to perform an audit of the FHAW books for FY 2001-2.

## **Nominating Committee**

Benson reported that the terms of Baumann, Benson, Grosman, Lambrecht and Rohe would expire and asked if they would be willing to serve another term. A motion by Albrecht, supported by Baumann, that Dean Einspahr chair the nominations committee and present a slate of nominees to the membership meeting carried, all in favor.

## **Scholarship**

Brisson reported that Saemann would like to be replaced as chair of the Committee.

## **Annual Meeting 2002**

Carl Krog reported on arrangements for the Oconto meeting and tour. Brisson and Baumann reported they would assist. Dick Doeren offered to show the Elks Club to the group after the meeting. Randy Rohe will prepare a silent auction. Doeren offered to collect auction items at the Lumbermill Gallery until the meeting.

## **Annual Meeting 2003**

Bob Walkner reported on available arrangements for a meeting and tour in the Two Rivers area. A motion by Brisson, supported by Baumann, to hold the 2003 annual meeting in Two Rivers was carried, all in favor.

## **Future Annual Meetings**

President Benson distributed copies of "FHAW Possible Future Meeting Locations" and "Possible Topics for Future Annual FHAW Meetings."

## **New Business**

A proposal by FHAW member Tom Becher to publish the poetry and songs written by William N Allen in the 19th Century. The group agreed to consider this publication after the remainder of the *Ghosts of the Forest* books were sold.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM and several of the members then visited the Elks Club with Dick Doeren.



# 27th Annual Meeting

## October 4 - 5, 2002

### Oconto, Wisconsin

#### **Tour and Meeting Agenda**

##### **Friday October 4 Tour**

- 9:00 Welcome - Board Bus at Parking Lot - Southeast Corner of US Highway 41 and Wisconsin Highway 22
- 9:30 Tour Sentinel Structures Corporation, Peshtigo - Manufacturers of Laminated Wood Products, Maurice Rhude, owner, will guide us and tell of some of their historic projects.
- 10:30 Tour Peshtigo Fire Museum - Bob Couvillion, local historian, will be our guide
- 11:00 History of Peshtigo Harbor - Randy Rohe will tell us about this "Ghost of the Wisconsin Forest"
- 12:00 Oconto County Park - Box Lunch
- 1:00 Tour historic Arndt sawmill site in Pensaukee - 10 miles south of Oconto - Richard Doeren will tell the story
- 2:00 Tour Beyer Home Museum in Oconto
- 3:30 Tour Historic Oconto by bus with guide
- 3:30 Visit the first Christian Science Church in the world built in 1886
- 4:30 Free to enjoy the Oconto area on your own.  
Visit the Governor Schofield Mansion & Oakwood Restaurant, play golf, or visit the parks and marina.

##### **Saturday October 5 Meeting**

- 8:30 Registration - Oconto Elks Club Coffee, Juice & Rolls
- 9:00 Welcome - Miles Benson, President, FHAW
- 9:10 Thdian Copper Culture in the Oconto Area - Dr. Thomas Pleger
- 9:45 The John Arndt Sawmill of Pensaukee - Richard Doeren



- 10:15 Break  
 10:30 The Peshtigo Fire Remembered - Dianne Nichols  
 11:15 The Holt Family, Remembrance of Times Past - Laurie DeWitt  
 Davidson  
 12:00 Lunch  
 1:00 FHAW Distinguished Service Awards - Randy Rohe  
 1:15 History of Oconto  
 2:00 A Pictorial History of the Lumbering History of Oconto - Douglas  
 DeWitt  
 2:45 Break  
 3:00 FHAW Annual Business Meeting  
 4:00 Annual Auction of Historical Forest artifacts, books and memorabilia  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Program - The Hard Life of a Lumberjack - William Kamke
- 



## Oconto Lodging Information

### **Ramada Limited**

Indoor Pool & Whirlpool  
 600 Brazeau Avenue - US 41  
 Oconto WI 54153  
 920-834-5559  
 1-800-2-Ramada

### **Governor Schofield Mansion B & B**

610 Main Street,  
 Oconto WI 54153  
 1-877-357-6337  
 govman@netnet.net  
 www.governorsmansionbb.com

### **Oconto Motel**

5680 5. US 41  
 Oconto WI 54153  
 920-834-2000

### **Rose of Sharon B & B**

1109 Superior Avenue  
 Oconto WI 54153  
 920-834-3862  
 Rose\_bnb@yahoo.com



# Meeting Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Tour: bus and box lunch \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$13.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Registration \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Luncheon \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$13.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** (make checks payable to FHAW) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**detach and mail to:**

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

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✂ detach along line ✂  
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## Auction Items Still Needed

Books, photographs, tools, artifacts, and other memorabilia related to forest history are still needed for our annual meeting. Remember donations are tax deductible. If you are unable to attend the annual meeting, items may be dropped off at the Lumber Mill Gallery, 107 Summit Avenue, Oconto, or you may contact one of the Board of Directors in your area (See the inside cover of this newsletter).

## **Praise for *Ghost of the Forest* *Vanished Lumber Towns of Wisconsin***

We have received the following comments about our association's recent publication.

"Just a note to say I have enjoyed very much your *Ghosts of the Forest*...I hope volume 2 appears soon." Charles, Oak Park, IL.

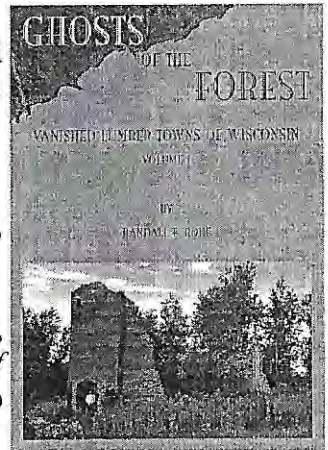
"My dad would like to buy a book... He's had my book since you sent it to me and has been showing it to everyone...He just loves it." Joyce, Hazelhurst, WI.

"Great job on the book! It is really enjoyable and precise treatment of the subject." Dan, Mequon, WI.

"Am enjoying your book." Lois, Sussex, WI.

"What a great book you have produced." Al, Colby, WI.

"I have started to read my copy of your publication, *Ghosts of the Forest: Vanished Lumber Towns of Wisconsin* which I purchased on Saturday. Hard to put the book down." Britton, Oconomowoc, WI.



"I also enjoyed reading *Ghosts of the Forest* and am looking forward to your next book." George, Shawano, WI.

"I know it [your book] will be a great addition and a source that many researchers will find extremely useful." Mary Jane, Marathon County Historical Society.

Many libraries have not yet ordered the book. Members are encouraged to urge their library to purchase a copy. If you want your own copy, please order it quickly as the Association printed only 1,000 copies. **An order form can be found on page 15 of this newsletter.** Photo copy one for your library, and use the original to order your own copy!



## News and Announcements



### **FHAW Announces the 2003 Forest History Scholarship**

A Forest History scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 is awarded annually to a student enrolled at a Wisconsin college or university.

Scholarship recipients are selected by a board of reviewers appointed by the Forest History Association. The sole criterion for selection is a paper written by the student on any aspect of forest or conservation history of Wisconsin.

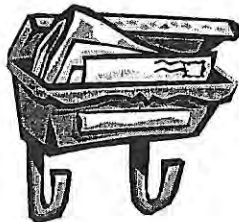
The Paper should be prepared as follows:

- An original essay authored by the person submitting it.
- Manuscript should be no longer than 1,000 words, double-spaced, typewritten on 8 1/2 x 11" white paper.
- All pages should be numbered and utilize generous margins.
- Title Page should list the author's name, school, class and major.
- Excerpts from the works of others must be properly cited.
- Should it be determined that any part of the winning essay is plagiarized, the FHAW will require the author to return, in full, the monetary award.
- FHAW gains the right to publish winning essays.
- Submission of a paper represents express agreement to the conditions listed above.

**Submission deadline is February 17, 2003**

The winner will be announced in April, 2003

Submit papers to:  
**John Saemann**  
**HC 1, Box 309**  
**Florence, WI 54121**



## Member Correspondence



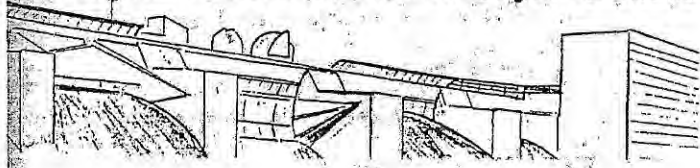
### Chippewa the Powerful

sent to *Chips and Sawdust* by Director Eugene Harm.



# Chippewa the Powerful

*The Restless River That Put Paul Bunyan To Shame*



## **From the Waters of the Chippewa...The Power of Electricity**

QUITE A MAN, the legend-rich Paul Bunyan in a single winter he could strip the timber from a whole northwestern state. But Paul today is out muscled and outdated by a restless little river 220 miles long. Chippewa, the powerful!

It is a gripping story--the building of six dams owned or leased by Northern States Power Company--dams creating wealth from farm and factory by supplying plenty of low-cost electricity. It is the story of harnessing the Chippewa to its full electric producing capacity, generating over 150,000 horsepower to ease human labor.

The story goes back ages to the time when the Chippewa built its own first dam by sweeping silt into the Mississippi to form Lake Pepin. Back to the time Father Hennepin explored the valley and it became an artery for fur traders. Back to the time when the Chippewa came alive with logs, carrying 25 billion feet of the world's finest white pine to mills.

The Chippewa's wealth helped conquer the West. After the adventurers it beckoned the builders who put up the dams and mills, and thrust the rails westward. Its rich soil lured the farmers so vital to today's economy.

Its widening opportunities on every side drew artisans and mechanics from everywhere--and they founded the industries that now provide large payrolls and make so many things for so many people.

That is the story of Chippewa, the powerful.

For as far in the future as man can foresee...

ELECTRICITY FOR EVERY NEED!

Foresight is better than hindsight. So it is that every one of Northern States Power Company's dams--every generator--every hydroelectric plant--resulted from careful plans laid years in advance.

Today, because it was planned that way, the Chippewa's electricity is powering hosts of factories, serving scores of industries... and farms throughout this NSP territory receive electric service or have it available. Electric power dams are helping to curb floods; creating new playgrounds; enhancing old ones.

All due to the enterprise--the careful planning--that harnessed the powerful Chippewa:

NSP's ELECTRIC PROJECTS WERE PLANNED, DESIGNED, BUILT AND PAID FOR BY PRIVATE CAPITAL

To you, as a taxpayer, it is good to know that the Northern States Power Company's work in developing electric power from the Chippewa was completed without tax money--without needless duplication of facilities of government construction.

Instead of requiring the use of tax money, these projects--through taxes paid by Northern States Power Company--actually lighten the government's burden. Moreover, these taxes aid state and local governments by providing additional sources of revenue.

# The Peshtigo Fire Museum

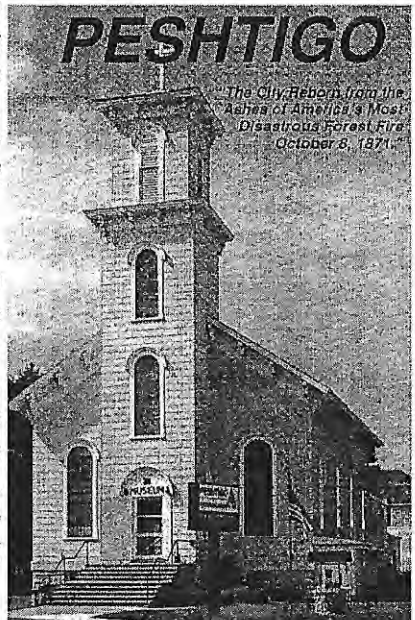
This year's annual meeting tour includes a stop at the Pestigo Fire Museum. The museum commemorates the most destructive forest fire in American history which leveled Peshtigo, Wisconsin on October 8, 1871.

The following article is taken from on-line curriculum materials posted by the Oconto Falls High School social studies department (<http://www.ocontofalls.k12.wi.us/highschool/socialstudies/peshtigo.htm>).

*At 9 p.m. on October 8, 1871, a fire broke out on Chicago's southwest side. By the following afternoon the blaze had claimed 250 lives and had wiped out 1,750 buildings in a 4-square-mile area. Almost to the minute that the fabled Chicago Fire broke out, a more deadly, yet far less famous fire was beginning to rage some 240 miles to the north. Within one hour, the fledging town of Peshtigo, Wisconsin, was leveled. To this day, the Great Peshtigo Fire ranks as the costliest fire in terms of human life in U.S. history. More than 800 people perished in the fire that consumed more than 1.25 million acres of forest.*

*At the time of its demise, Peshtigo was a booming lumber town. About 800 of the 2,000 people who lived in Peshtigo worked either in logging or saw milling operations or were employed at an immense woodenware factory... The Peshtigo Co. sawmill owned by Chicago entrepreneur William B. Ogden ran 97 saws and averaged a daily cut of 150,000 feet of lumber.*

*In the spring and summer of 1871, Peshtigo and other areas had experienced a miserable drought that set the stage for disaster. Indeed, throughout the month of September, the new local paper, the "Marinette Eagle Star," carried several reports of fires in the area's forests and the battle by volunteers to squelch them. On October 7 the paper prophetically reported, "Fires are still lurking in the woods."*





***Ghost of the Forest:  
Vanished Lumber Towns of Wisconsin***  
**-ORDER FORM-**

The hardcover book, with dust jacket, is available for \$42.50 plus postage and handling. For books shipped to libraries via Wisconsin Libraries' Delivery Network there is no postage charge but a handling fee of \$1.50 per book.

Number of Copies (x \$42.50 per copy)

Postage and Handling (select one of the five options)

Media Rate, uninsured \$4.00

Media Rate, insured (recommended) \$5.30

Priority Mail \$8.70

Priority Mail, insured (recommended) \$10.00

WI Libraries' Delivery Network (x \$1.50 per copy)

Total Enclosed:

**-Checks or Money Orders only-**

Please make check /money order payable to the Forest History Association of Wisconsin. Send your order to: Randall Rohe, U.W.W., 1500 N. University Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# 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**

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## **Committee Chairs**

**2001—2002**

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**Donald G. Lambrecht**  
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**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

**Dean Einspahr**  
Membership

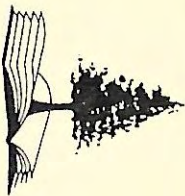
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Forest History Association of Wisconsin Members are encouraged to submit items of interest for this newsletter to the editor:

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