

Volume 30

Number 4



A quarterly newsletter from the

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

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Fall 2005

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Chips and Sawdust

Volume 30, Number 4

Table of Contents

From the President's Chair.....	pg. 2
2005 Connor "LEAF" Award.....	pg. 3-4
2005 Fixmer Award.....	pg. 5
Annual Meeting Pictures.....	pg. 6-7
Mary Roddis Connor First Women Inducted into the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame.....	pg. 8
13 Forest Reserves & Forest Rangers.....	pg. 9-10
Plymouth, Wisconsin's Tribute to the Dairy Industry.....	pg. 11
"Ghost of the Forest" Book - Order Form.....	pg. 11
FHAW Membership Application.....	pg. 12

CHECK OUT

Our Website!

www.foresthistorywi.com



From The President's Chair

If you missed the 30th annual meeting FHAW September 30 & October 1 you missed some interesting presentations, a good tour, some good food, and some good visiting with FHAW members. Some of the highlights are presented in this issue and the full papers will be in the 30th Proceedings scheduled for next spring.

Some of you, I hope, are asking, "Where is the 29th Proceedings?" An apology is in order for the delay in its completion and delivery. Some unusual events came together to cause the delay. We lost the guest editor and had to scramble to get the materials back together. Fortunately, John Mann, our guest editor overseer, was able to contact Stephen Sydow, the editor for the previous proceedings, and Steve graciously agreed to bring it together for completion. That was a short-lived sigh of relief. Our 2004 meeting had a number of presenters who hadn't completed their papers and one lost her paper. The result is two papers had to be transcribed by Steve from the video of the presentations. Fortunately, this was the first meeting ever put on video. Even so, it required considerable effort from Steve to get those presentations on paper and to the presenters for review.

At this point, a draft of all but the lost paper has been completed and we are waiting for one paper to be returned from review to send the final draft to the printer. We have a commitment from the presenter of the lost paper to provide a rewrite this winter for a later publication. It may be included with the 2005 Proceedings or in the *Chips & Sawdust*. So, with a lot of worry and especially some good efforts and good will from John Mann and Stephen Sydow the FHAW 2004 Proceedings will be completed for delivery soon. I have seen the initial draft and it is well done.

This incident brings out a point worth mentioning. Several goals of FHAW are met at our annual meetings. But those efforts are really not complete until the presentations are put in print. We try for original work which takes on variety of faces from something never before presented to old work brought into a different light. Wisconsin forest history is a living entity. The present is derived from the past. Putting the presentations into print is a way of bringing the past to the public and help with their understanding of the importance of forests in our lives. Our Proceedings go out to our membership but also to a number of libraries, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and are sold to individuals. FHAW doesn't make a profit on this activity but does progress in meeting its mission.

Many of you joined FHAW for the same reasons FHAW exists. I encourage you to put your experiences and/or research on paper and consider sharing it with the membership and others through *Chips & Sawdust* or a presentation at an annual meeting with your paper in the Proceedings.

Miles Benson
FHAW Board President

2005 CONNOR AWARD

The Forest History Association of Wisconsin
Distinguished Service Award To an Organization

Forestry education in Wisconsin at the K-12 level can be described by one acronym, LEAF - Learning, Experiences, & Activities in Forestry. LEAF was created by legislation in 2001 to help promote forestry education in Wisconsin schools. LEAF is a partnership program between the Wisconsin DNR's Division of Forestry, and the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education at the College of Natural Resources at UW-Stevens Point. The program is housed in the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education located within UWSP's College of Natural Resources.

Directing this cooperative effort is the LEAF Advisory Committee and program director, Sterling Strathe. The Advisory Committee is made up of 24 individuals and guides the LEAF program. These committee members represent an array of forestry stakeholders in Wisconsin.

Director Sterling Strathe is a history buff, and was the author of the LEAF 4th grade unit. This unit focuses on the history of Wisconsin forests from pre-European settlement to the current day and looks into the future of our forests. Wisconsin history is mandated to be taught in the 4th grade, and the LEAF unit is serving as a welcome addition to many schools 4th grade history curriculum. His role has been to assure that forest history be accurately portrayed in all history materials.

For more information please visit their web site at
www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/index.htm.

Comments from Sterling Strathe, Director

"Wisconsin's forests are a basic human life support system. LEAF is proud to provide an educational foundation for the future of these forests. The LEAF Staff is excited that we have been recognized for distinguished service. As the Forest History Association meets 50 years from now, LEAF hopes to have played an important role in the future history of our forests."

"We are delighted to receive statewide recognition and it is a measure of the staff and quality programming we bring to Wisconsin's students," said Sterling Strathe, LEAF program director. "Our focus is bringing to life the rich tradition and history of Wisconsin's forest and forestry industry and how today's forests are better managed and sustained for all citizens."

The LEAF Program, under the direction of Sterling and the committee, truly believe in helping students understand the importance of forestry in Wisconsin. The LEAF Program is working hard to help the next generation of young people understand that sustaining Wisconsin's forests include sustaining forests for ecological, economic, and social benefits, now and in the future.

LEAF is a long-term program designed to bring together existing educational efforts and provide factual resources to help schools infuse forestry education into their current curriculum.

The Forest History Association of Wisconsin presents this year's Connor Award to the LEAF Program.

rationale for program:

As citizens of Wisconsin, our perceptions of the importance of Wisconsin's forests and how they should be managed are based on our knowledge and experience with forests. For many this knowledge comes from high visibility forest issues that are from other regions of the country or world. As a result, those perceptions often are based on misconceptions and as a result affect the way our citizens look at our forests. The LEAF program's purpose is to develop citizens that better understand forests from a Wisconsin perspective. This is done by providing materials and services for schools to develop an accurate knowledge base in our students. Only with the Wisconsin context in mind, can students make sound decisions that will contribute to sustaining Wisconsin's forests for ecological, economic, and social benefits.

LEAF Goals:

- To document forestry concepts Wisconsin K-12 students should learn.
- To develop "Wisconsinized" forestry education materials for the classroom and field.
- To build partnerships with other Wisconsin K-12 Forestry Education Stakeholders and support their efforts.
- To provide teacher training opportunities in forestry education including college credit courses and workshops.
- To assist schools with the infusion of standards based forestry education concepts into their curriculum.
- To assist school forests with site management and education plan development, networking, and training programs.

A large, bold, black, hand-drawn style logo of the word "LEAF". The letters are thick and slightly irregular, with a soft, greyish shadow or mist effect behind them, making it appear to float or be part of a larger graphic.

Forest History Association of
Wisconsin
Distinguished Service Award To
LEAF Program

In Recognition of the LEAF program's success in providing a long-term program designed to bring together existing educational efforts, and providing factual resources to help schools infuse forestry education into their current curriculum.

Presented By
Forest History Association of Wisconsin
at the Annual Meeting on
October 1, 2005
Sheboygan, WI

NOTE: This is the inscription for the log stamp plaque.

On Monday, October 24th, a piece aired on Channel 7 regarding the LEAF program and recent award to UW-Stevens Point.

2005 FIXMER AWARD

The Forest History Association of Wisconsin
Distinguished Service Award To An Individual - Bob Brisson



Bob Brisson, a native of Menominee, Michigan, has devoted his career as an educator for the University of Wisconsin - Extension in Marinette. He also taught environmental education at Upham Woods in Wisconsin Dells for UW-Extension. Bob attended Michigan Tech, receiving a forestry degree in 1962. He then attended UW-Madison and received his Master's in Forestry in 1973.

Bob's interest in forest history began in high school and has continued throughout his career. He is a Charter Member and Life Member of the Forest History Association of Wisconsin, and currently serves as Vice-President. Bob has been instrumental in the success of the association, filling many duties. He has been the Chips and Sawdust editor, Treasurer for five years, and on the board of director's for twelve years.

Bob's most critical role to the association was to serve five years as the executive secretary, after the unexpected and untimely passing of long-time Executive Secretary Frank Fixmer. The shoes of Frank's were very large as can be noted by the name on this very award. Bob stepped up during a critical time, and continued operating the association when it easily could have ceased operations.

Contribution to history in general by Bob has been noteworthy, preparing various papers and providing historical presentations on the County Forests of Wisconsin, the Marinette County Forest, Marinette County Parks, Snowmobiling, Logging the Cedar River Watershed and the "History of J.W. Wells and the Wells Lumber Company".

Bob is also active in the Marinette community, serving as a life member of the Marinette County Historical Society and the Menominee County Michigan Historical Society. He also volunteers at the Chappee-Webber Learning Center teaching the "History of Logging the Menominee River Watershed" to all Menominee County 4th grade students each year.

For his continued dedication to preserving forest history, educating our youth, and in recognition of his invaluable service to the Forest History Association of Wisconsin since its inception in 1976, the association presents the 2005 Fixmer Award to Bob Brisson.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS • MARK YOUR CALENDERS

31ST ANNUAL MEETING

September 22 & 23, 2006

Camp 5 Museum, Laona, WI



ANNUAL MEETING



Sheboygan City Historian, Bill Wangemann, enlightens the FHAW attendees.

At one time, Sheboygan manufactured one million pieces of furniture per month.

Sheboygan had a maritime history, too. Shipwrecks were most interesting. The "Phoenix" went down in 1847. It was an immigrant laden ship. The schooner, "Alvin Clark," also foundered. A steamship, the "Vernon," rolled over and sank as well as the "Lottie Cooper," which sank in 1897. The "Lottie Cooper" was made by Berger in Manitowoc as a centerboard boat. Other companies in Sheboygan included American Chair Company, Garden Toy and Western Valley. The Crocker Company at one time, it employed over 600 people.



Miles Benson, President of Forest History Association of Wisconsin presiding at 30th annual conference.

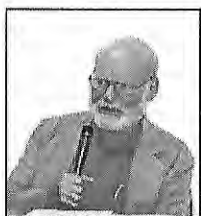


Catherine C. Dellin, President of Camp 5 Museum Foundation, thanks the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame and the Forest History Association of Wisconsin for inducting her mother, Mary Roddis Connor. She also talked about the dynamic partnership of Mrs. Connor and her husband, Gordon R. Connor (1906-1986).

SPEAKERS



Director of Wade House, Jim Murray tells about the "Herrling Sawmill Restoration."



David Richardson from Richardson Brothers.



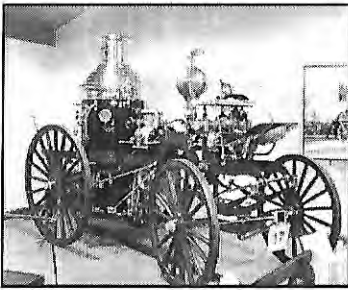
Robert Brisson, Menominee, MI receives Frank Fixmer Award at 30th conference from Miles.

A W A R D S



Don Lambrecht inducts Mary Roddis Connor (1909-2000) into the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame. Accepting for her family is Catherine Connor Dellin, President of Camp 5 Museum Foundation, Laona, WI, which Mrs. Connor co-founded with her husband, Gordon R. Connor. Mrs. Connor is the first woman and they are the first husband and wife to be inducted.

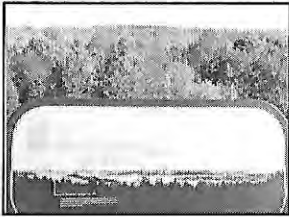
MUSEUMS



Fire was always a town remembered event! This fire cart was at the W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House.



Sawmill Dam at Wade House



"The Kettle Moraine is known...for its famous glacial features..."



PHOTOS

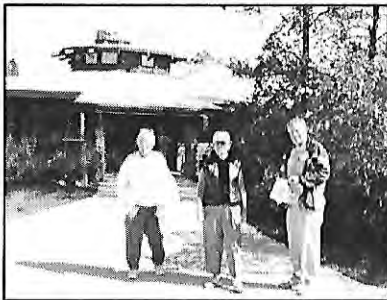


Jim Simon, with the help of his wife, talked about the Oak Forest in the National Kettle Moraine State Park.

"Our mission is to be the world leader in the engineering and manufacturing of cabinetry for luxury or production motor yachts and cruisers."



The drive belts and wheels for the waterpowered sawmill at Wade House



Karen Benson, Sara Connor and Miles Benson at Ice Age Center.

T O U R S



The operator of the sawmill at Wade House tells Dean Einsphur and Dan Lambrecht details of running the sawmill.

MARY RODDIS CONNOR

FIRST WOMAN INDUCTED INTO THE WISCONSIN FORESTRY HALL OF FAME

Mary Roddis Connor (1909-2000) was inducted into the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame. She is the first woman. She and her husband, Gordon R. Connor (1906-1986) are the **only husband and wife** to be so honored.

Mrs. Connor was honored at the Forest History Association of Wisconsin 30th Annual Conference in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, for her more than 60 years of actively participating and appearing before state and national legislative bodies concerning forest products industry issues and promoting multiple-use sustained yield forest management. She was a co-founder of the Forest History Association of Wisconsin and a past - president.

Mary Roddis Connor was at the forefront of forestry and environmental issues. Beginning in the 1930's, for example, she advocated the use of metal poles rather than maple trees on train flat cars hauling logs to save on waste of a valuable resource. In the 1940's she advocated for better fire management. Given that the Connor Lumber and Land Company, along with Goodman Lumber Company were the first to initiate sustained yield forestry management methods, Mrs. Connor was a proponent of sustainable forestry before it became a mainstay of the forest products industry. She addressed the United Nation's World Forestry Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on forestry issues in the 1970's. She worked and wrote tirelessly on forest products industry and environmental issues until her death in 2000.

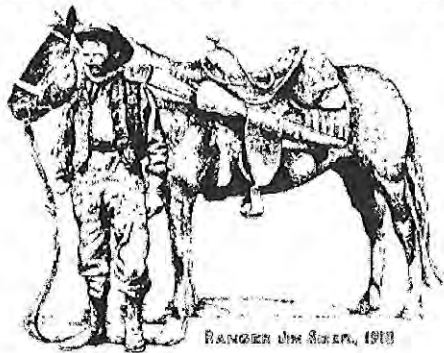
Mrs. Connor was the author of two books and many papers on forestry issues. Throughout her life, she showed great knowledge of forest management. In 1946, Mary Roddis Connor authored Forestry Futures and Conservation Misconcepts. It advocated a visionary Nine Point Plan of Forestry Management for the Great Lakes States.

Mary Roddis Connor was active, with her husband in testifying to establish the Michigan Technological University Forestry School in Houghton, Michigan. She was actively involved in civic organizations and was a historian and an advocate of the U.S. Constitution. Active in the Federation of Women's Club in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, she was also active on the National Lumber Manufacturers Association Women's Advisory Council.

Mary Roddis Connor, author and speaker, worked tirelessly for sixty years to shape legislation and educate the public about sustained yield, multiple-use renewable forests. Co-founder of Camp Five Museum Foundation, Laona, Wisconsin with her husband, Gordon R. Connor (1909-1986), its goal is preserving Wisconsin logging history and promoting the wise use of natural resources. They were married for 57 years and were partners in forestry endeavors. She endowed the Gordon R. Connor Center of Excellence in Forestry at the University of Wisconsin - Madison.



13 Forest Reserves & Forest Rangers



Passage of the Federal Forest Reserve Act of 1891 gave the President authority to set aside timberlands from the public domain, but at the time, the purpose of the reserves remained a matter of congressional debate. Roughly, 40 million acres were established as reserves by 1897, the year Congress finally defined the purpose of the reserves ("watershed protection and source of timber supply for the Nation") in the Forest Management ("Organic") Act. The act also gave the

Secretary of the Interior authority to regulate occupancy and use within the reserves, develop mineral resources, provide for fire protection, and permit the sale of timber. It was left to the U.S. Army to police Yellowstone Park from the years 1886 to 1918. But beginning with the creation of Yellowstone Park Timberland Reserve on March 30, 1891, supervising the reserves became the responsibility of the Department of the Interior.

Bernhard Fernow is credited with providing the model - adapted from the Prussian system of state forest management - in an 1891 report on how to manage the reserves. The task actually was undertaken by the Department of the Interior until 1905 - first by the General Land Office (1891-1901) and then by the Interior Forestry Division (1901-1905) under Filbert Roth (1858-1925), who earlier had worked for the Department of Agriculture under Fernow. The two departments' forestry divisions cooperated on forest reserve programs.

Early custody of the reserves by the General Land Office was based on a hierarchy of State superintendents, reserve supervisors, and rangers who managed districts within the reserves. The key to success of forest reserve management was the ranger.

The word "ranger" was an American variant of the ancient French verb for "rover," introduced to England by the Normans who came with William the Conqueror in 1066. Rangers were the game wardens on the Royal Forests of England and became the foragers/scouts of colonial expeditions in Virginia in 1716. The forest master of Prussian forestry became the forest ranger or protector of the reserves after 1891. Beyond this vague notion of protecting the reserves, the actual duties of the first rangers were rather unclear to all concerned.

One of the early rangers was Edward Tyson Allen (1875-1942). He was hired at \$50 per month in 1898 by the General Land Office and sent west to Washington State to assume the post of ranger on the Washington Reserve (now the Gifford Pinchot National Forest). After he reported to his supervisor in Tacoma, Allen waited for instructions, only to be told: "That letter [you have] appoints as a forest ranger, doesn't it? It is signed by the Secretary of the Interior, isn't it? Well, you are now a forest ranger-so go out and range!"

Allen helped set the future trend for rangers by departing for his district, buying a horse, and exploring the area until he knew it in detail; he then proceeded to define his job while doing it as he saw fit. Later in 1902, he helped Roth at the Interior Department to prepare a book of regulations that emerged a few years later (1905) as the Forest Service's first Use Book - the regulations and instruction for the use of the national forests (Secretary of Agriculture). The challenge of the job along with the opportunity to earn a steady income in rural areas of the West appealed to venturesome local men. The first-defined duty of the ranger was to protect the reserve's resources. In 1898, William Kreutzer left ranch work to be appointed an early ranger in Colorado "to protect the public forests from fire or any other means of injury to the timber growing in said

reserves," or so his certificate of office stated.

By 1899, the USDA Division of Forestry under Friggord Pinchot was expanding rapidly and because of the lack of professional foresters, student assistants were being hired from the few existing forestry schools, especially Yale. By 1901 the Department of the Interior's Division of Forestry and the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Forestry divided the task of Federal forestry. Interior personnel patrolled the reserves and Agriculture foresters provided technical management plans. The Forest Reserve Manual of 1902 regulated timber use and grazing. The enforcement of grazing regulations was to be a constant challenge for many rangers.

The job of gaining the cooperation of forest users by earning their respect fell to the district rangers. Accustomed to taking timber and forage from adjacent public lands at will, local forest users did not easily accept regulations. The employment of local men as rangers helped, because these rangers could draw on their common background to explain the need for rules to their friends and neighbors. Knowledge of local customs sometimes extended to local language. The 1906 Use Book section on rangers states that those employed in Arizona and New Mexico should know "enough Spanish to conduct reserve business with Mexicans".

By 1905, with the transfer of jurisdiction of the reserves to the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Forestry accepted transfer of many of the early Government Land Office field people and mixed them with its own staff, including the numerous student assistants. In 1901, there were 81 student assistants on the 179-member staff of the Bureau of Forestry. The Forest Service, to its credit, brought out the best in its rangers - many of the eastern "dudes" soon were as adept at western ways as the local rangers, while more than one western-born ranger was promoted to top management. A further factor in selecting rangers in 1905 was the extension of Civil Service authority to the forest reserves. The Forest Service- the new name for the former Bureau of Forestry - developed the first exams (written and practical) for rangers by May 1906. The physical standards demanded then would not apply today; early recruitment posters stated bluntly: "invalids need not apply." Rangers were expected to "build trails, ride all day and night, pack, shoot, and fight fire without losing (their heads)." New rangers received a salary varying from \$900 to \$1,500 per year, out of which they bought a horse, sidearms, and clothing, to be the lone steward of several hundred thousands areas. As described by Robert J. Duhse (1986:7); "The ranger in his district was often the only policeman, fish and game warden, coroner, disaster rescuer, and doctor. He settled disputes between cattle and sheepmen, organized and led fire fighting crews, built roads and trails, negotiated grazing and timber sales contracts, carried out reforestation and disease control projects, and ran surveys." Injury and even death was the fate of more than one early ranger.

It was not until the mid-1930's that the Forest Service announced it would no longer make appointments at the professional level without a degree in forestry or a related field, a move that ended the era of the self-taught, "rugged outdoorsmen" in the agency. Of course, not all those early rangers were alone; many were married and their wives acted as their husbands' unpaid assistants, performing clerical and technical duties such as tree planting and fire control. Today, it is not unusual for the district ranger to be a woman, with the further change that she may have a staff of 40 and carry a laptop computer instead of a pistol into the field. The challenge of the office is no less, and it may be that some rangers today envy early rangers their solitude and freedom.

References

Burns, John. 1980. "Invalids need not apply." Persimmon Hill 2 (Spring)
City, State: National

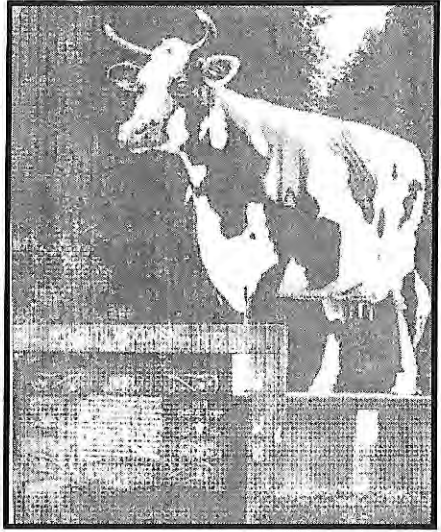
Cowboy Hall of Fame and Heritage Center: 56-63.

Duhse, Robert J. 1986. "The saga of the forest rangers." Elks Magazine July-August.
Submitted by Robert L. Hendricks, USDA Forest Service

Plymouth, Wisconsin's Tribute to the Dairy Industry

This cow represents Plymouth's civic tribute to the dairy industry and was recently refurbished by David Drewry and christened Antoinette, in honor of the late Jack Anton, who spearheaded the original project in 1977. Plymouth is the former home of the National Cheese Exchange and is the headquarters for a number of large cheese manufactures and marketers.

David J. Drewry, a young octagerarian, is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin - College of Agriculture in agronomy. He operates a family partnership in Drewry Farms in Plymouth, Wisconsin. A "Wisconsin Century Farm," it produces milk, meat, and maple syrup. A veteran of the WWII U.S. Army Air Corps and U.S. Air Corps, he as a navigator in B-24's. He also was involved in the occupation of Japan for 14 months with C-47's. Mr. Drewry says that he and his wife, Ruth, "continue to lead a rich and rewarding life."



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31st Annual Meeting

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32nd Annual Meeting

Sara Connor & Miles Benson (Madison)

33rd Annual Meeting

(Western Wisconsin)

34th Annual Meeting

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FHAW Website

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