

Volume 27

Number 3



# ***Chips and Sawdust***

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A quarterly newsletter from the

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

P.O. Box 424  
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0424

2012

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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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# Chips and Sawdust

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e-mail address?**

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**Advantages:**

- Faster delivery of Chips and Sawdust Newsletter
- Newsletter with full-color photographs
- Receive additional news items and communications



## From The President's Chair

*Dear Friends,*

*Happy Valentine's Day!! It seems it was just Fall Conference in the Dells! What wonderful memories! Many thank you's to David Peschau and his committee - Miles Benson and Arno Helm for all of their hard work! Thank you, too, to Judy Waterman for making arrangements and suggestions for our visit!!*

*Mark your calendars!! The 2013 Park Falls Conference is arranged for Thursday, September 12 - Saturday, September 14, 2013. Flambeau Paper Company is the Host for the Park Falls Conference and we are thrilled at their participation!*

*The motel is America's Best Value at \$55 per night. There are 10 rooms reserved for you! Reserve early! There are five rooms on the 1st floor - for members - especially if they can not get up the stairs. Therefore, when you call to make a reservation and you are able bodied, please say that you want the second floor!*

*We will have a tour of Flambeau Paper Company, St. Croix Rod Company, Price County Historical Society viewing their wonderful photo collection, and other sites including Penokee Veneer Company and a logging dam. There will also be some other sites and talks of great interest to FHAW members.*

*You can Google any of the area through the Chambers of Phillips and Park Falls. Both are user friendly and the Chamber of Commerce Representatives have been very helpful. As we plan for the upcoming year, the "Chips and Sawdust" and the website will be carrying the information needed for the conference.*

*If you have viewed Miles's map of conference sites, the 2013 one fills in a huge gap. The Forest History in this area is hugely significant. Butternut, Park Falls, and Phillips had some of the large mills and huge forest areas with major contributions to the forest products industry. Thank you Miles for keeping track of us!*

Recently, the FHAW family lost Mr. W. D. Godshall. He was a longtime member.

This past fall, I had the wonderful opportunity to talk to Mike Trampe in Green Bay. Did you know that 185 Wisconsin lumber companies issued Scrip/tokens?

The fall and holidays flew by so rapidly. I hope you are all staying warm during this cold snap!!

Sincerely,  
Sara

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### **Longtime FHAW Member Passes**



William Duncan Godshall, age 91, died on December 18, 2012 at Alden Estates Nursing Home in Jefferson, Wisconsin. Duncan was born November 10, 1921 in Peshtigo, Wisconsin.

In a June 2008 interview with Lauren Benditt, Duncan discussed his time working for the Forest Products Lab. He spoke of his years of employment at the Lab, beginning in 1957 through 1983 when he retired.

During the interview, Duncan explained that his entire family history had been tied up with the wood product industry in one way or another. One grandfather was a treasurer of a lumber company, another grandfather was a timber cruiser and laid out the logging railroads. His father, George Godshall, worked in a lumber mill and Duncan's first job was in the paper mill at Peshtigo testing paper.

After completing his World War II military service, Duncan attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he earned a degree in electrical engineering. With that, he helped build two television stations in Madison before being recruited as an instrumentation engineer assisting with experimental research projects at the Forest Products Laboratory. Over his career he worked with packaging and pallets, instrumentation and acoustics.

Duncan is survived by his wife Wanda of Madison and daughter Karen of Verona. He was preceded in death by a daughter Kathryn. The family asks that any memorial gifts be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

A full transcript of his 2008 interview can be found at the following url: <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/FPLHist.OH937>

## MEAD AND MCMILLAN FOREST PLANS UP FOR REVIEW

MILLADORE, Wis. Interim plans to guide the management of forest resources on the George W. Mead and McMillan Marsh wildlife areas are now available for public review.

Interim forest management plans allow timber taken off these lands to be certified as sustainably managed, a "seal of approval" to give the public confidence these properties are well managed. The properties are located in Marathon, Wood and Portage counties.



*George W. Mead Wildlife Area — DNR Photo*

Such plans benefit sawmills and other companies using timber from those properties, said Brian Peters, area wildlife supervisor with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

"These interim plans are important for forest certification, which in turn is important for business," Peters said. "People want to know we are managing public lands well, and consumers increasingly prefer products from sustainably managed forests."

A guaranteed stream of certified wood means sawmills and other forest product companies will have the competitive edge they need to do well in domestic and global markets. Forest certification assures consumers that timber has been grown and harvested in a way that meets strict environmental and social standards.

The Wisconsin forest products industry is a \$16 billion per year business that directly supports more than 56,000 jobs and annually generates \$228 million in state and local tax revenues.

DNR expects to begin master plans for these properties at a later time. The public will be involved in that process when it occurs. The interim plans for Mead and McMillan can be found online on the DNR website - [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) - by typing the keyword IFMP in the search box.

Comments can be submitted by mail to Brian Peters at Wisconsin DNR, S2148 County Hwy S, -Milladore WI 54454, or at [brian.peters@wisconsin.gov](mailto:brian.peters@wisconsin.gov) or Mead and McMillan forest plans up for review by calling 715-457-6771.



## *From the Newspaper Archives*



### **ANNUAL DRIVE OF LOGS**

#### **About Thirty Millions of Feet of Timber Floating Down the Fox River**

**Big Drive is Now Fully Underway  
Above Lake Poygan and the Logs Are Traveling  
At a Rate of About Four Miles an Hour  
High Water Has Helped the Work,  
Which Is Six Weeks Ahead of Time  
The Danger to Boats**

Boatmen and owners of small craft have observed more or less difficulty of late in navigating the Fox River above Lake Poygan because of the annual Drive of logs. The logs are floating to all parts of the river and moving at a rate of about four miles an hour with the current.

The process of driving logs is not well understood by the layman and Col. S. W. Hollister of the Hollister-Amos Company was asked to explain the method to a Northwestern reporter and the details as given by him are very interesting. The logs being driven at the present time are the United States and upper river logs, about thirty million in all. The rear of the drive is now at Schioc-ton and about two and a half millions have already been rafted, being the Red River drive, the Scott Drive and some, of the United States logs. The river will be filled with logs from this time on until about the tenth of August. The logs were started about April 15 and first reached the navigable part of the river about the middle of June and because of the high water this year, the drive will be cared for more quickly than usual. It frequently happened that the logs are running for several months and the work is about six weeks ahead this year because of high water.

#### **HOW LOGS COME DOWN**

The logs are started in the upper river near Shawano and thereabouts and are driven down only by means of flushes sup-

plied by dams. They are rolled into the river and permitted to come down as best they may, their progress being assisted by letting out the water of dams, thus hurrying them along. Men are stationed at various places along the river from Shawano to Bay Boom where the logs are rafted. After being started there is no way to stop the logs until that point is reached. The government gives lumbermen equal rights with boatmen to use the river, but to build a boom or place any other obstruction would lay that person liable to heavy damages. Men are stationed at places where the river bends sharply and near bridges to break up any jams and the logs can be handled only by being brought along as fast as the river will carry them. Some years when the water is low and the wind is blowing up-stream they will stop entirely for a time. Other times they will run at the rate of a mile an hour or more and with high water as at the present and with volumes of water back of them, the logs are coming fast without jamming to any serious extent. Men are stationed at the following points to break up any possible jams; Freemont, Gill's Landing, Northport, New London, Hortonville, Shiocton, Town of Maine, Sempie's and town line bridge of Shawano.

### **AT BAY BOOM**

Arriving at Bay Boom the logs are all diverted into a small channel or race. Each log has been marked on the end and side and as the logs pass into the race they are more simply marked a second time. They pass through the channel and are diverted by different men into different parts of the boom. Each man's or rather each firm's logs being separated from the others. They are then made up into rafts for towing. Crews of men are employed at rafting and driving the logs.

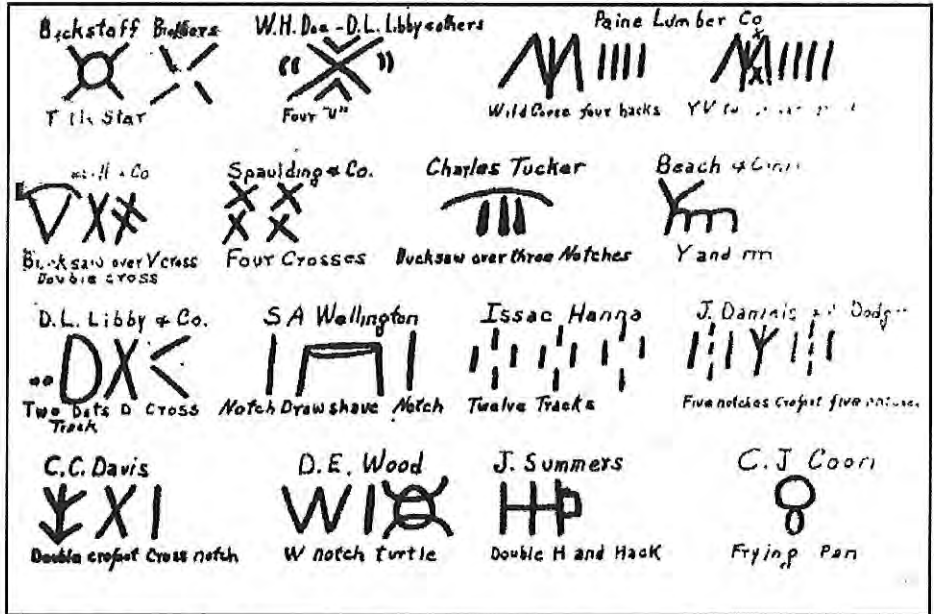
Lumbermen are the ones this year who are benefitted rather than injured by the high water and little trouble has been experienced. After the logs have been rafted, a few days will be required in raising those that have sunk in the river but by the middle of August the river will probably be clear of logs and boats will not be impeded by them. During the period the logs are running boats go round by the way of the "cut-off" in order not to pass through Bay Boom. At the cut-off a large boom stops all logs and diverts their course to one side. This has an opening through which the boats pass and below Bay Boom the river is free from all floating logs. It makes navigation slow when logs are running and to some extent proves a hindrance to small boats. For a launch to run upon a log is liable to mean a broken



wheel. During the log running season navigation is carried on with much care on account of the danger.

(Editor's Note: This Newspaper Archives article originally appeared in the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, July 14, 1905, Page 6. The log marks below appeared in the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, June 5, 1953, Page 8.)

## Men Made Their Marks in Rugged Old Days



— Back in the bay-boom era, lumbermen had to place considerable faith in the integrity of others in the same line of business. But at the same time, they wanted what belonged to them. Because one log looked much like another, the lumbermen devised the idea of marking the logs with their individual marks, thus making identification possible. Here are some of the familiar marks of that era as compiled by the Oshkosh Public Museum.

Interested in learning more about Boom Bay, the second largest booming works in Wisconsin, see *The Wisconsin Logging Book, 1839—1939*, by Malcom Rosholt, 1980.

McMillan Memorial Library, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin obtained permission from the copyright holder to digitize *The Wisconsin Logging Book*, and display it in its entirety on their website. It may be viewed at this url: <http://www.mcmillanlibrary.org/rosholt/wi-logging-book/index.html>

## Don't Judge a Tree by Its Size

Innovative tool sheds new light on tree age, growth rate

MADISON, Wis. - A new tool developed by the U.S. Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) provides a more accurate look at how trees grow, and may have significant implications in forest management and climate-change studies.

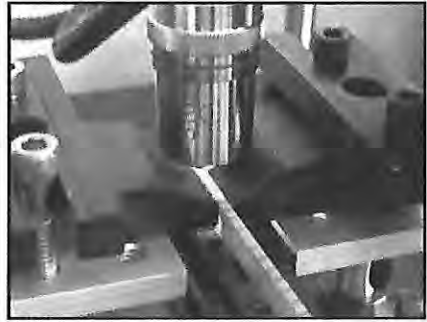
Developed by FPL engineer Tim Scott and colleagues David Vahey and JunYong Zhu, the Ring Profiler can reliably determine the anatomical properties of trees from small core samples. This allows researchers to more accurately determine a tree's age, how much it grows each year, and to calculate its mass accumulation.

The ability to accurately calculate mass distribution is valuable in terms of forest management and restoration practices. Regarding global climate change, for example, there is considerable interest in knowing the growth rate of trees in order to calculate the rate at which trees sequester carbon or function as carbon sinks.

Current inventories of forest biomass are based on forest stand density and measurements of the circumference of individual trees. However, while working on a project in a severely overcrowded forest near Bend, Ore., Scott and his team observed such physical measurements may not accurately reflect forest health and tree vigor in suppressed-growth forests.

"What we assumed by looking at the exterior of a tree did not always match up to what we found once we were able to study the tree's rings," says Scott.

The forest consisted of roughly 1,000 trees per acre, about 10 times the desired number of trees for a healthy, productive forest. Scott and his team observed that these century-old trees varied widely in size, from as small as five-inches in diameter to over two-feet in diameter. The smallest diameter trees exhibited extreme growth suppression, adding as little as ¼-inch of radial growth over several decades. A healthy, vigorous tree can add the same in just one year. Surprisingly, they found that even the



*Ring Profiler prototype used to examine fiber structure and growth characteristics of a wood sample.*

*Photo by David Vahey.*

largest trees sampled exhibited growth suppression in the last couple of decades.

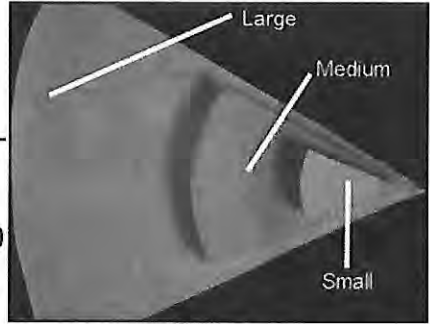
Studying a tree's rings can provide a fairly accurate determination of how old a tree is and how much mass it accumulates over time, but when there are 50 or more rings within a half-inch section, making such determinations can be difficult. The Ring Profiler allows a more accurate look at these extremely tight growth rings.

The tool works by illuminating samples from the sides, allowing the wood cells to act like fiber optic conductors. Light is internally reflected within the cell walls, producing a bright, high-contrast image of the cellular anatomy when viewed from above.

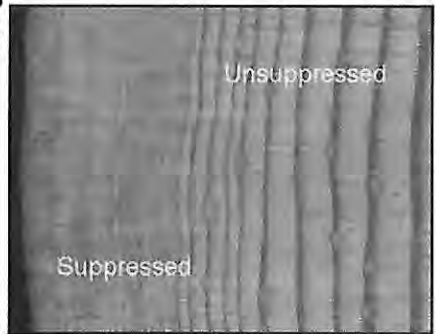
"Side illumination is the key to this invention," says Scott. "The clear, high-contrast images obtained by the ring profiler can be used in conjunction with image analysis software to calculate the shape and width of the cells, the thickness of the cell walls, and the proportional area of the sample occupied by cell mass. Subsequently, if the density of the cell wall is known or can be estimated, a calculation of local wood density can also be made."

Scott's team is now working on automating the process. Their ultimate goal is to develop a laboratory instrument that could be used by forest managers to more accurately assess the growth characteristics and carbon sequestration potential for trees and to improve forest health and aid in restoration efforts. Scott and his team have patented the Ring Profiler and are interested in finding an industrial cooperator for product development.

For over 100 years, FPL's work with academia, industry, and other government agencies has led to ground-breaking discoveries with great benefit to the public.



*Wedge samples from three different diameter, century-old trees showing growth ring structure. Photo by Stephen Schmieding.*



*Detailed yearly growth ring structure for a severely suppressed tree. Photo by Stephen Schmieding.*

## Something to Share with Children and Grandchildren



### The Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Since 1961, the U.S. Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs Inc. have worked together to sponsor an annual poster contest that reaches elementary children throughout the United States. The contest helps promote Smokey Bear and his fire prevention message "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires" and Woodsy Owl and his conservation message "Lend a Hand – Care for the Land".

First through fifth grade students are invited to demonstrate through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl their understanding of fire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles.

The Grand Prize National Poster Contest Winner wins a free trip to Washington DC, including round trip airfare and accommodations for four, to attend the Recognition Ceremony. A \$50 check, sponsored by the National Garden Clubs, Inc., is awarded to the First Place National Winners from each grade level Poster Winners.

For a listing of Contest Rules and Poster Tips visit [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5366969.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5366969.pdf)

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**Menominee Indian Tribal Cultural Museum and Wisconsin Logging Museum**  
Located just off State Highway 47 on County Highway VV West,  
just north of Keshena, WI



The Museum features the largest collection of logging artifacts in the world, there are seven log buildings to explore in this reproduction and restoration of a base logging camp typical of those found in the lake states between 1860 and 1910.

#### Regular Hours:

The Menominee Cultural Museum is open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 p.m., and the Logging Museum is open Monday through Friday 9:00 am and the last tour is 3:00 p.m. Tours are given on Saturdays with a request in advance

Chief Oshkosh (1795–August 29, 1858) was the chief of the Menominee Indian tribe from 1827 until his death. Oshkosh, Wisconsin is named after him.

# New DNR Online Map Shows 1.1 Million Private Acres Open to the Public

Madison—More than one million private acres classified as open for public use under a landowner-incentive program are easier for outdoor enthusiasts to find thanks to a new online state mapping tool unveiled today by Governor Scott Walker. Earlier this year, the Governor directed the Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

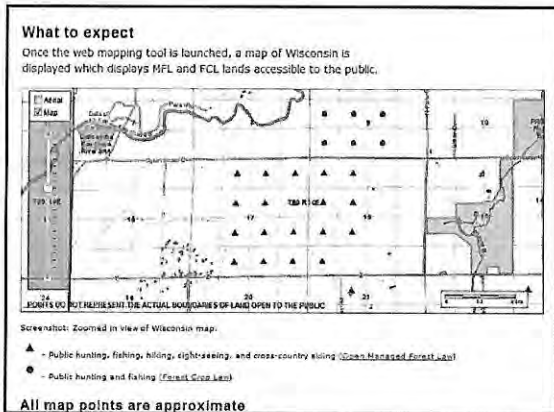
to develop a mapping system as a short-term solution, while a more comprehensive mapping application is developed by the department.

"The Managed Forest Law (MFL) is a valuable program for the overall health and productivity of our forests," said Governor Walker. "MFL land plays an important role in Wisconsin's timber industry, the tourism industry, and in our state's rich hunting heritage. Lands enrolled as 'open' in this program must be accessible. The mapping tool will raise awareness about specific parcels of land that are open to the public."

Created by the DNR, the web-based mapping tool will help users find privately owned land open for specific recreational activities under the Managed Forest Law. This law is a landowner-incentive program that incorporates sustainable forest practices, such as timber harvesting, wildlife management, water quality and recreation—while improving public access to these lands.

"We understand some of the MFL land parcels are hard to find," said DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp. "This new tool was developed in response to immediate concerns that some of the lands are hard to find, especially for the upcoming hunting season. We have been working on a more detailed system that will digitize the tens of thousands of maps associated with the tax law programs. However, because of the size of that project, we wanted to take action now to provide better information in the interim."

To access the mapping tool which also includes lands enrolled under the Forest Crop Law, visit the DNR web site at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), and type "MFL open land" in the Search or Keywords field.



# Forest History Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

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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)
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- \_\_\_\_\_ Non Profit Organization Membership (\$30.00)
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- \_\_\_\_\_ Individual Life Membership (\$250.00)

Other Contributions:

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



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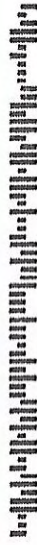
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