



A Newsletter

From

Forest History
Association Of Wisconsin, Inc.
403 McIndoe Street
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May 1993

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POLITICS IN TIMBER COUNTRY

F.H.A.W.'s secretary-treasurer, Frank Fixmer, spends his winters at his South Florida retreat near the west edge of the Everglades National Park. Although there no longer is any forest products industry in the area, there have been extensive logging and sawmill operations in the slash pine and cypress forests that characterized the region. Fixmer developed an interest in Florida's past lumbering activities and discovered numerous books that included references to some aspects of its forest history.

One such work is the two-volume Florida's Past, containing short articles and essays by its author, Gene Burnett. One article in particular drew Fixmer's attention because it reminded him of a book titled Pine Logs and Politics dealing with Wisconsin. Politics have always been involved in the exploitation of timber resources in many states and Florida was no exception; as far back as the 1820's when John Quincy Adams was president, he became embroiled in a controversy over the preservation of Florida's live oaks.

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THE MIGHTY OAK FALLS TO POLITICS

John Quincy Adams fought to save north Florida's great live oaks, but political intrigue aborted his efforts.

We tend to think of the environmental movement as strictly modern phenomenon, in which packs of Audubon and Sierra Club Davids suddenly arose to meet the Goliaths of pell-mell and devastating development.

But Florida's first conservationist was active more than 150

years ago, and that he was also president of the United States lent considerable clout to his activism.

In the 1820's, great forests of huge live oaks swept majestically across the north and northwest sections of the state. The mighty oak's tough and durable timber was more valued than any known, especially for shipbuilding. But these forests were being systematically plundered by freebooting lumber and shipping interests. In fact, by 1827, Naval Secretary Samuel Southard told Congress that more than half the timber in accessible Florida coastal areas had been ravaged; along the St. Johns River, forests had been stripped bare up to fifteen miles inland.

This timber was a vital strategic material to the young democracy's naval defenses. An oaken vessel was seaworthy for half a century or longer. Oak is extremely hard wood, close-grained but buoyant, and the angular shape of its limbs for ship hulls made it a highly prized naval acquisition--so much so that in 1799 John Jay initiated federal funding of \$200,000 toward preserving timber lands. Another law in 1817 forbade the sale by government of any lands containing live oak and red cedar.

But these laws were loosely enforced, if enforced at all. They failed to stop shipping and lumber barons from bringing in whole teams of woodcutters to pillage Florida's rich stands. The cutter, dubbed "Live-Oakers" by Naturalist John J. Audubon, usually were imported from large Northern cities. They would move onto a site, hastily set up living shanties, and start cutting rapidly, mainly between December 1 and March 1, when the tree sap is completely down. The valuable timber drew premium prices, especially overseas.

President Adams, long an avid student of plant and tree cultures, was much disturbed by Secretary Southard's report. He decided to act at once to save Florida's live oaks "from the certain destruction to which they are tending." He spurred Florida's territorial delegate, Joseph White, to push through Congress authorization for Adams to establish a sixty-thousand-acre plantation on mainly public lands adjacent to the navy yard at Pensacola on Santa Rosa Island. The farm would not merely preserve existing

stands but would also bear planting of thousands of new trees. He also initiated scientific studies of the oak for a better understanding of its cultivation and growth processes.

There was another live oak enthusiast who owned sixteen hundred acres of the proposed tree farm site, Henry M. Brackenridge, then district judge for west Florida. Brackenridge gladly agreed to sell his acreage provided he could keep a small orange grove on the tract. But Adams was so impressed by the judge's considerable knowledge of tree culture that he appointed him to superintend the farm. Brackenridge agreed to do so, serving without pay. Laborers were brought in for clearing and planting, and the farm soon became a thriving experiment.

The judge quickly proved himself to be perhaps the nation's first pioneer forester. (His studies and practices in forest management are still in use today.) The Deer Point project, as it came to be called, was soon in "a flourishing condition," Adams observed, with 1000,000 trees, both existing and newly planted. The judge also quickly proved his contention that "no other tree so improves with care as the live oak."

But this pioneer effort to save the state's great oaks was almost doomed after the bitter presidential election of 1828, which Adams lost to Andrew Jackson. The new administration took a skeptical view of conservation, deeming it also as something competitive with, or adversely affecting, private commerce.

More pointedly, the acrid personal antagonism spawned in the volatile campaign left the new regime looking for any hint of scandal in the old. Thus, when a disgruntled ex-employee fired by Secretary Southard claimed that federal funds for the tree farm were used for private benefit, the new naval secretary, John Branch, leaped on this morsel. He ordered the suspension of the Deer Point operations until a navy commission could investigate it.

In the meantime, Branch and an aide, Amos Kendall, made attempts in Congress to besmirch both the farm and the individuals involved. When the commission finally reported finding no evidence of misspent funds or any misfeasance, Branch simply ignored it and contrived his own report.

Judge Brackenridge fought back, accusing Branch of "willful misrepresentation" and "a dishonorable suppression of the [commission] report, because it would have refuted and falsified his own." To Branch's innuendos that Judge Brackenridge may have gained private financial benefit, the delegate produced papers and documents showing that the sixteen hundred acres were sold to the government "for one-fifth its value." He also demonstrated that the value of the timber was far greater than the seven thousand dollars spent annually for the farm's operation. The judge even offered to rescind the contract and buy the acreage back at the same price at which it was sold. But a sympathetic Congress declined this offer.

Adams himself was incensed and lashed out at "the base purpose" of the secretary. "All is to abandoned by the stolid ignorance and stupid malignity of John Branch and his filthy subaltern, Amos Kendall," Adams fumed.

But the Deer Point tree farm soon would die. A dilatory Congress did not act on the conservation issue until 1831, when it enacted a law for forest preservation that specifically forbade the cutting by private parties of any trees on public lands. Nevertheless, the lawmakers failed to rescind Branch's termination order. Shortly after, when Branch was replaced by Levi Woodbury, Brachenridge renewed his efforts to save the tree farm but drew only a promise from Woodbury that the existing plantings would be cared for; the project itself remained abandoned.

But the 1831 law, like the previous laws, became just another shadowy, toothless parody of itself, and soon enough, the Live-Oakers were back in Florida in force, chopping away in earnest.

When his bench term expired in 1832, a disgusted Brackenridge left Florida for good and returned to his native Pennsylvania. Years later, in the latter nineteenth century, when the United States opened large tracts of north Florida to homesteading, most of the remaining high stands of live oaks would be chopped down indiscriminately. Today, all that remains of the Deer Point Experiment is that 1831 law and a smattering of government lands near Pensacola.

NEW ADDITIONS TO ASSOCIATION'S REFERENCE LIBRARY

F.H.A.W. is grateful to member Bud Schlosser of Durand, WI. for his donation of "The Wood Crosstie - A 150-Year Success Story", a new publication of the Railway Tie Association. Its 277 pages in a 8" X 11" soft cover are profusely illustrated with photos of crosstie production in all parts of the country from the days of the "tie-hacker" to steam-powered sawmills to the computer controlled mills of today.

Numerous reprints of news media articles relate the recurring controversies that existed over the years regarding the relative merits of various species of trees, hewed versus sawed ties and the relative values of various preservative treatments. A surprising statistic reveals that Wisconsin had 70 tie-producing sawmills in 1919, and that 70 years later, in 1989, there were 74, notwithstanding the fact that railroad track mileage had decreased drastically in the past two decades. Forest History Association members whose special interest is the railway tie industry will find this publication to be a nostalgic review of an industry that has had a roller-coaster existence during its 150-year history.

Another donation of considerable significance was recently received from its author, Dr. Randall Rohe of the UW-Waukesha Center, currently a director of the Association's Board and former editor of "Chips & Sawdust". His 60-page soft-cover booklet titled *Survival of the Fittest* is a centennial history of the Jones Lumber Corporation. This company had its beginnings as an old tumble-down mill with an extensive tract of timberland near Buckbee, west of Clintonville, WI. Eventually, the G.W.Jones Lumber Co. began operations at Wabeno, WI. and became one of the largest lumber producers in the Mid-West during the early years of this century. The steam hauler used for log transportation in those years is on display at the Wabeno Logging Museum. The Jones Lumber

Corporation still exists as a viable business operating out of Minneapolis, MN., with Richard O. Jones as president. The company is currently a corporate member of F.H.A.W. The sixty page monograph contains over thirty photographs and other illustrations, references, etc. Those interested in obtaining a copy should write Richard Jones, Jones Lumber Corporation, 722 Kasota Circle, Minneapolis, MN 55414.

A third reference work recently donated is a copy of *From Sawmills to Villages*, the donor being Jack Bazile of Tigerton, WI. This 329-page, 8" X 11" soft-cover book was compiled by a high school teacher at Marion, WI. It recounts the early history of the communities of Big Falls, Caroline, Leopolis, Pella, Buckbee, Granite City, Hunting and Split Rock, all now considered to be ghost towns compared to their hey-days as bustling sawmill villages. The many illustrations depict not only the logging and sawmilling operations of those days, but also the social, educational, business and religious activities that occupied the pioneers of those communities.

All of these foregoing works will be added to the Associations reference library located in the Area Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, which is also the depository for all of the Associations's archival records.

CHEWING GUM FROM A FOREST PRODUCT?

Chips & Sawdust was recently informed by a press release from the nationally-oriented Forest History Society that the winner of the 1993 Weyerhaeuser Forest History Scholarship was Barbara L. Dugelby, a doctoral candidate at Duke University's School of the Environment. Her graduate study focused on chicle latex extraction in northern Guatemala. Chicle, used in the manufacture of chewing gum, is a forest product that offers significant employment opportunity to the indigenous workers. Dugelby's research includes the historic importance of chicle in the Guatemalan economy and the ecological impact of its extraction.

That news brought to this reporter's mind the nostalgic thought of when a lot of American chewing gum came in the form of candy-coated "chiclets". Early-day Wisconsin loggers, however, had to make do with spruce gum as their alternative to chewing tobacco or "snoose". Some of our Association members may have fond memories of chewing spruce gum but probably never heard of its production having offered significant employment opportunity!

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY TO BE AVAILABLE

From time to time, members of the Association have inquired about the availability of a directory. Their purpose for having such a reference is usually stated as wanting to know who and where members may be with special interests in forest history that are similar to theirs. It would also broaden their opportunity for exchanging or purchasing desirable artifacts or memorabilia of one kind or another. Some also feel that having a directory would be helpful in soliciting prospective new members.

In its earlier years, the Association published several editions of a directory and distributed them to all members as an added benefit of membership. However, that policy became decidedly uneconomic due to rising costs of publication and the fact that annual dues were not keeping pace with the rate of inflation. Additionally, membership listings required regular revisions due to numerous changes of address, new member additions and deletions of "dropouts".

The Association currently maintains a computerized roster which is corrected by the Secretary about three times each year. Copies of the printouts are given only to the Board of Directors at this time. However, at the suggestion of an interested member-at-large, the Board, at its fall meeting last October, gave formal approval to making copies of those printouts available to the general membership on the condition that purchasers would not re-sell them or divert their use to some commercial enterprise. The price was tentatively set at \$5.00 per copy including postage. This may become slightly higher depending on costs of copying, stapling and first class postage at the time of distribution.

To evaluate the potential demand for such a "directory", members are requested to send a note or postcard to the Secretary, F.H.A.W., 403 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI. 54401, indicating their interest in becoming a purchaser. A purchase order form will then be sent to them, for pre-payment of established price.

LAIRD E. ROSS
July 14, 1907 - April 28, 1993

The Forest History Association has lost a dedicated and loyal life member. Laird Ross was active in researching the logging industry, especially as related to railroad transportation, sharing this interest with many of our members. He gave freely of his time and knowledge so that others could learn and appreciate the history of our state's logging heritage.

Laird was born in Omro, Wisconsin, where at the time, his father was employed by the CM&STP Ry as depot agent and bridge tender for the railroad's bridge over the Fox River. A year later his father was transferred to Mayville, as depot agent and telegrapher. However, his heart was in farming, so in the spring of 1911 the family moved to a farm just north of Greenwood, in Clark County. It was here that Laird grew up, graduating from Greenwood High School in 1925. It was during these years that he was introduced to the logging activities of various major loggers like John S. Owen and N. C. Foster. He also became well acquainted with the operation of the Fairchild & Northeastern Ry. (known locally as the "Fanny") and the Greenwood Branch of the Soo Line.

Laird attended Coyne electrical school in Chicago. He married Alice Alden on September 14, 1932 and in 1935 they moved to Waukesha where he was employed by the Waukesha Motor Company. He was with the company for 35 years, most of the time as supervisor of the tool department.

After his retirement he and Alice moved to Buffalo City, Wisconsin (Cochrane post office) on the Mississippi River. About three years ago they moved to Oregon, Wisconsin, settling into an apartment, to be nearer their son, Pete. He maintained a membership in Masonic Lodge No. 249 at Greenwood and always found time to attend some meetings and especially

enjoyed the school reunions in his home town.

Alice and Laird had three children; two daughters, Sylvia Anderson and Nancy Marion, who preceeded him in death, and one son, Alden "Pete" of Madison, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Laird was interested in all railroads; he and the family traveled to all parts of the country to ride trains and enjoy the scenery, taking photos to share with others. But, it was the shortline and logging railroads of Wisconsin that interested him the most. He authored several articles, including histories of the Stanley, Merrill & Phillips and the "Fanny", in national magazines. He contributed much historical data and information to various historical societies over the years and was a regular attendee at their annual meetings, as well as the FHAW. He also assisted many other writers with their books and articles.

Many of you will remember Laird as an easy person to talk with. He always had an interesting story to share and was a good listener, eager to learn new ideas on most any topic.

His sense of humor was evident even to the end. A few days before he died, he commented to son Pete that, "if I'd known I was going to die in the Spring, I wouldn't have waited through this lousy Winter!"

The FHAW has lost a good member and we will all be the lessor by his passing. Laird was one of those unique persons whom you meet just a few times in your lifetime and can never be replaced. He will be missed by all.

RELIC OF FIRST WISCONSIN OPERATION

The following article was taken from the November 1, 1924 issue of American Lumberman.

Ripon, Wis., Oct. 28 --A relic of the first lumbering operations in Wisconsin still stands at the edge of this town. It is the famous "long house" of the Ceresco community, which stands under the shadow of the hill near Crystal Creek. It is the last remaining evidence of the effort made in Wisconsin to realize the communistic ideals of Charles Fourier, Frenchman.

The colony, under the leadership of a shrewd New Englander by the name of Warren Chase, began its operations at Ceresco in May, 1844, but they came to an end six years later. It was called, as was each of the Fourier communities at "phalanx." Besides the "long house," which at one time was the abode for twenty families, it had a complete sawmill. This operated in those early days in supplying building materials. There also were a common dining hall, a grist mill, a school house and barns.

The colony owned 1,400 acres of land and was self-sustaining. Nevertheless, the theories of communism failed to live through practical demonstrations and in 1850 there was a friendly dissolution. Although the members were honest, frugal, and hard working, the experiment failed utterly. Some of those who belonged to the colony remained in and about Ripon and a number who were of Welsh extraction moved to Cambria.

The "long house" considering its age of eighty years, still is remarkably preserved. Uninhabited except for an invalid woman who lives in an apartment at the left end, it is an embodiment of hopes which never were realized. The aged woman still there tells the story of its history.

LOG STAMPING HAMMER COLLECTORS

F.H.A.W. members who are collectors of log stamping hammers will be interested to know that a large collection of those implements has been donated to the Rusk County Historical Society at Ladysmith, WI. The donor was Mr. Norm Maxon. The collection consists of 105 stamping hammers, representing the lumber companies of the area that sent their logs down rivers to their sawmills.

ANNUAL AUCTION ENHANCED

The 1993 annual auction, which will be our sixth annual, has been enhanced through a generous donation of logging and railroad tools by the James River Corporation.

Association members Lloyd Godell and Norm Syrnala were involved in the cleaning out of the old warehouse at the James River Amasa Chip Plant in Upper Michigan. The cleaning out of the warehouse is in connection with the shutdown of the Green Bay Pulp Mill and ends the association with Amasa that started in the late 1920s.

The tools go back to the Patten Timber era prior to 1950. All timber cut on the Patten Timber lands north of Amasa was shipped to the chip plant on the Patten Timber Railroad. The railroad joined the Milwaukee Road and the Chicago and Northwestern Railroads at "Triangle Spur", which is the site of the chip plant. From the spur that timber was shipped to Northern Paper Mill at Green Bay. Patten Timber was subsidiary of the Northern Paper Mill. Northern eventually became the James River Corporation.

- Following is a list of the donated items;
- 3 sets log tongs (2 large, 1 small)
 - 2 each Hemlock bark peelers with extra blades
 - 7 (approx.) pulp hooks
 - 2 sets log pups
 - 1 rail car mover
 - 1 cross haul hand hook
 - 2 rail jacks (one had some parts missing)
 - 2 steam engine jacks
 - 1 small grindstone 18" diam. approx. (no axle or stand)
 - 1 larger grindstone 30" diam. approx. (with axle and handle, no stand or bearings)
 - 2 hand rail carry tongs
 - 1 each rail spike crowbar
 - 1 each hand operated piston pump
 - 1 each track drill
 - 2 sets rail lifting tongs (for use with a crane)

We will need to begin acquiring additional items for the fall annual meeting. Last year's auction was very successful with record-breaking receipts totalling \$978.00. The auction is one of the few ways in which we can increase our operating income to hold down dues increases. Relics, artifacts, books, photos, post cards, tools, and other logging, railroad and lumbering memorabilia are needed.

Mike Weckwerth, 110 South Prospect Street, Merrill, WI. 54452 has agreed to solicit auction items again and hold them until the auction. His phone number at home is 715-536-1342. Thanks to all who donated and purchased items at last year's auction. Look deeper in that garage for itmes in 1993!

Mike Sohasky
President

LOGGING CAMP EXCAVATION

From August 9 to 20 Dr. Randall Rohe, Professor of Geography at UW Waukesha, will serve as co-director along with Forest Archaeologist (Nicolet National Forest) Mark Bruhy, of the archaeological and historical study of the multi-component Violet Road Site. The site is both prehistoric Woodland Indian site and a 19th Century River Drive-Pine Era logging camp. The logging camp, apparently operated by the Oconto Lumber Company, dates to the late 1860s or early 1870s. Those interested in participating in the excavations (5 day minimum) should contact Mark Bruhy or Kim Potaracke at 715-362-1300 as soon as possible. Visitors are welcome. The site is located south of Mountain on Hwy. 64 and will be marked with signs.

FINISH SEVEN MILES OF LOGGING RAILWAY

The following article was copied from the August 30, 1928 *The Forest Republican*.

Couderay, Wis. - The Edward Hines Hardwood and Hemlock Lumber company of Chicago have now completed seven miles of the 27-mile logging road which they are building south from Loretta in this county to their timber holdings in that section.

They will connect with the old Kaiser Lumber company logging road south of the Thornapple river and use part of the road in connection with their own in hauling the logs into Loretta where the timber will be shipped out to their mills at Rice Lake and Park Falls.

The concern has still about 10 years work south of Loretta. It is estimated that there are seven hundred million feet of timber

yet to be cut there.

This tract is the only tract of that size or anywhere near it, left in Wisconsin. The timber consists of hemlock, pine and hardwoods, 50 per cent being hemlock. The land and timber was purchased from Weyerhaeuser interests of Chippewa Falls 15 years ago, along with other timber that has already been cut by the Hines concern.

NEAR TWO MILLION TREES PLANTED IN SPRING PROGRAM

This article was copied from the *Oconto Republican*, June 13, 1940 issue.

19,000 Acres in Five-Week Spring Schedule Just completed by County Forest Department; 240 Workers.

Aided by the largest single WPA crew in the county, the Oconto county forestry department has just completed a very successful spring planting program in which 1,900 acres were planted a total of 1,800,000 tree seedlings. A total of 240 men were employed to make the planting during the last five weeks.

The trees, consisting principally of Norway pine, Austrian pine, white pine, jack pine, white spruce and Norway spruce, were planted in the Peshtigo Brook forest just south of highway 64 in the towns of Bagley and Breed, and in Machickanee forest in the town of Abrams. Most of those in Machickanee included in the planting were north and west of the ranger station and fire tower. A crew of over 100 is continuing work this summer to prepare for fall planting in about September.

The seedlings used were obtained from state nurseries at Wisconsin Rapids, Trout Lake and prison camps at Gordon and Athelstane. A small nursery has been started in the Machickanee area where there are now over 100,000 seedlings, and because the

state nurseries are unable to keep up with the great demand for trees throughout the state, plans are being considered to enlarge the Machickanee nursery.

The work has been carried on under the direction of the Oconto county board of supervisors with D.E. Hall, county land agent, directing the work. The county's share of the cost of the program is borne by the 10 cents per acre allowed it for reforestation operations under the forest crop law. Aiding also in the work are James Hovind, state district forester, as technical advisor, and George U. Jenson, WPA conservation director.

DAYS OF WOODS TEAMSTER WANING

American Lumberman, Oct. 5, 1923

Antigo, Wis., May 1 - That the days of the teamster in logging operations is rapidly ebbing is surely evidenced by the increasing use of the gasoline tractor and the steam log hauler, both of which are now a very important part of the equipment of every up-to-date lumber camp thru out the country. Where horses were formerly used altogether in dragging sleighs or wagons loaded with logs and for skidding, they are now being replaced with mechanical apparatus much stronger and surer in action.

The real old fashioned teamster refuses to do any other work for he loves his horses and gets up very early in the morning to care for them and makes their welfare his last duty at night. The call of the woods and love of their teams call the teamsters back to the camps each winter and some of them care for the same team of horses for years.

May 4, 1993

TO: BOARD of DIRECTORS
SUBJECT; SPRING MEETING

Because Jacque Vallier's recovery is still extremely slow, the site of the Board's spring meeting, originally scheduled for the Vallier's Treehaven summer home, will instead be at the Cutlass Motel at Antigo. It is located on Highway 45 near the south city limits. The date; Thursday, June 3rd, at 10:00 A.M.

The following agenda includes several important items that need your input; please make a special effort to attend this meeting:

1. Minutes of previous meeting.
2. Committee reports:
 - a. Publications- "C & S" editorship; May issue; future format.
 - b. "Proceedings" - cost of 1992 edition future editorship
 - b. Annual meeting = Location, dates, agenda
 - c. Publicity
 - d. Student Scholarship Award - 1993 winner
 - e. Forestry Hall of Fame- 1993 inductees; host organization
 - f. Distinguished Service Awards - nominations; balloting
 - g. Travelling exhibit - status
 - h. Membership - New vs "drop-outs" 1992-93
3. Financial reports
 - a. Status of investments

- b. Capital fund donations - 1992-93
- c. 10-month operating statement
- d. Preliminary 1993-94 budget
- 4. Membership directory - price change for "printouts" of roster.
- 5. Revision of "Firsts"
- 6. Appointment of nominating committee members whose terms expire this year. for B/D
- 7. Nominations for successor to secretary and treasurer. separate offices of
- 8. Other items offered by Board members.
- 9. Next meeting - date and place
- 10. Adjournment (by 3:00 P.M.)

Frank N. Fixmer
Secty-Treas.

P.S. - Please give some preliminary thought to nominations for this year's Distinguished Service Awards; awardees to be selected by closed ballot.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Carl Bajema	Allendale, MI.
Ralph Eswein	Black River Falls, WI.
John Zazada	Rhineland, WI.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Paul Brenner, Boulder Junction, WI., was a guest speaker at the spring meeting of the Lac du Flambeau Historical Society. Paul is a recognized authority on the logging history of the Lac du Flambeau and surrounding Lakeland area, and is a longtime collector of photos and log-stamping hammers.

Russell Roberts, Wisconsin Rapids, WI., has been elected to the national Council of the Society of American Foresters, the policy-making body of that 18,000-member organization. He represents the upper Mid-West Region of five states. Russ is the supervising forester for Georgia Pacific's tree farm program, assisting non-industrial forest landowners with their forest management goals.

Walter Naab, Wautoma, WI., was elected as a new member of the board of directors of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association and appointed as treasurer. Since retiring from the Wis. DNR after 32 years of service, he has been applying multiple use principles to his 75 acres of forest land fronting on a lake in Vilas County.

Howard Lovestead, Rhineland, WI., also has been elected to the board of directors of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association. He served as an industrial forester in various supervisory capacities for Consolidated Papers Corporation for 30 years, retiring in 1980. Other interests have been service with Rhineland's Library Board of Trustees, on the City Council and on the Oneida County Board of Supervisors.

Jay Cravens, Milwaukee and other parts of the U.S. hiked mountain trails in Arizona and Colorado in 1992 and plans more high country hiking in Utah and New Mexico in 1993. He is

looking forward to more of the same in England later in the year. Jay has also completed a final draft of his eventually-to-be-published book, "A Well-Worn Path". which tells of his life through three careers: with the U.S. Forest Service, teaching at U.W.-Stevens Point and as a consultant with Geo. Banzhaf & Company.

ANOTHER FIRST IN WISCONSIN FOREST HISTORY

A fire lookout tower on the Lakewood ranger district of the Nicolet National Forest, near Mountain, has become the first tower to become listed in the National Historic Lookout Register.

The Mountain Tower was erected in 1935, one of nineteen constructed on the Nicolet N.F. during the C.C.C. era. When aerial fire detection replaced lookout towers, the towers were gradually removed. Mountain Tower was retained to facilitate U.S. Forest Service radio communications.

To qualify for listing on the Lookout Register, a fire lookout tower must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. Minimum age of 30 years.
2. The last lookout existing in a park or forest federal, state or county, regardless of model or year of construction.
3. An authentically reproduced replica of a vintage lookout, employing design and materials equivalent to the historic original.

If any readers of the foregoing know of any lookout tower on any state or county forest that meet the above criteria for listing in the National Historic Lookout Register, please communicate the details to the Secretary, F. H.A.W., 403 McIndoe St., Wasusau, WI. 54401. The Association is currently revising and updating its Educational Leaflet No. 1 - *Firsts in Wisconsin Forest History* and will include the above in that revision.

Committee Chairs 1992 - 93

Distinguished Service Awards

Frank N. Flaxner

Publicity

Joyce Bant

Student Awards

John Saemann

Mike Sohasky

Annual Proceedings

Randall Rohe

Newsletter

Temporarily Vacant

Traveling Exhibit

Alvin Barden

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bulk 3rd class mail. Please inform
the secretary-treasurer of any
change in address.



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