

**A Newsletter**  
From  
**Forest History**  
**Association of Wisconsin, Inc.**  
403 McIndoe Street                      Wausau, WI 54401

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# Annual Meeting Planning Underway

A six-man committee has been active in planning for the Eighth Annual Meeting of Members, now set to be held on September 16-17, 1983.

The committee was in accord that the session should be held at the Institute of Paper Chemistry in Appleton, inasmuch as none of the previous meetings has ever been held in that part of the state. That part of the Fox River Valley also has a rich forest heritage, and coincidentally is centrally located for a significant percentage of the Association's membership.

Although the details of the meeting's program have not yet been finally decided, it is anticipated that they will center around the development of the pulp and paper industry and its contributions to Wisconsin's forest heritage.

The planning committee is chaired by THOMAS H. SCHMIDT, Neenah, and includes LARRY EASTON, Neenah, JOHN WOLLWAGE, Appleton, LUMAN PRECOURT, Appleton, IRVING ISENBERG, Appleton and PAUL LITWIN, Appleton.

## New Membership Directory in Preparation

A revised directory of Association members is now scheduled for distribution later this spring. Long deferred because of budgetary limitations, the new directory will replace the 1979 edition. Members in good standing will receive a copy free of charge.

A feature of the revision will be the listing of members' special interests in the many facets of forest history, as indicated on their membership application or renewal forms. Where a member has failed to indicate any specific interest, the directory compiler has arbitrarily assigned him/her to the "general forest history" category. However, in many cases, the compiler's personal knowledge of many members' background was helpful in designating applicable areas of potential interest.

The initial step in the preparation of the directory was an acceptable classification of those numerous special interests. This proved to be a formidable task, but the following 30 subject titles were finally settled upon and the corresponding numbers (& letters) assigned to each member, as applicable:

1. *Archaeology*
2. *Birling (log-rolling)*
3. *Christmas Tree farming*
4. *Civilian Conservation Corps*
5. *Conservation & Natural Resources Education*
6. *Ecology*
7. *Fires —*
  - a. *Historic*
  - b. *Protection and control*
8. *Forests —*
  - a. *County*
  - b. *Federal*
  - c. *Industrial*
  - d. *Municipal*
  - f. *Small non-industrial private*
  - g. *State*
9. *General Forest History*
10. *Labor — woods and sawmills*
11. *Land use and Zoning*
12. *Logging (early) —*
  - a. *Camps*
  - b. *Dams*
  - c. *Equipment and tools*
  - d. *Procedures and techniques*
13. *Museums*
14. *Plywood industry*
15. *Post-glacial forest development*
16. *Products —*
  - a. *Manufacturing*
  - b. *Marketing*
17. *Pulp and paper ind*
18. *Rafting — logs and lumber*
19. *Railroads (logging)*
20. *Reforestation (including nurseries)*
21. *River drives*
22. *Sawmills*
23. *Settler relocation*
24. *Surveying and Mapping*
25. *Tanning industry*
26. *Tie (railroad) industry*
27. *Timber cruising and inventories*
28. *Trees*
  - a. *Historic*
  - b. *Record Sizes*
29. *Veneer industry*
30. *Wood harvesting operations (modern)*



## National C.C.C. Convention Switched to Eagle River

The national Civilian Conservation Corps' convention committee met in Eagle River in mid-December and decided that Eagle River would be the site for the organization's third annual convention. The conclave will take place September 20-23, 1983 and is expected to draw between 1,000 and 1,500 attendees.

Chairman of the convention committee is BILL WOLFF, Lakewood, one of FHAW's charter members. He had assumed the presidency of the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni upon the death of KEN ELLIOTT last September. Wolff and his committee were particularly pleased with the availability of the Eagle River Sports Arena as the convention center, and with the offer of the Eagle River Chamber of Commerce to assist with the myriad of details associated with a national convention.

Earlier in the past year, Rhinelander had been considered as the site for the convention, but several logistical problems there prompted the switch. The final decision was based on the availability of facilities for housing, a spacious meeting hall for the general assembly and the ability to feed a gathering of the expected size.

The convention will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the birth of the CCC program, generally conceded to have been one of the most successful of the emergency welfare programs during the Roosevelt administration. It also marks the 50th anniversary of the organization of the Nicolet National Forest. Among the dignitaries expected to attend the event will be Max Peterson, Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

## Forest Archaeology A Subject of Interest

Few of the many and varied matters of interest to Association members have attracted more attention than those related to the collection and preservation of relics of Wisconsin's early logging era. Previous news items in "C & S" about such activities seem to have generated an on-going debate as to the best ways to pursue them. We now have still another contributor of comments in this regard.

John H. Moore, Director, Anthropological Studies Institute, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, admits that "amat-

our archaeologists have made an important contribution to the study of the past on their own time and expense." However, he says that the previously printed "warning" to those amateurs is "... actually a request for caution and a call for (them) to know what they are doing. Furthermore, he contends, "Careful record-keeping, mapping, cataloging and photography are necessary to complete the historic record. Knowledge of the best way of transporting, caring for and preserving artifacts is also necessary."

Moore concluded with the assertion that "Involvement of all archaeologists — amateur, student and professional — is necessary if we are to record and save the early heritage of Wisconsin. Let's work together. . ."

Association members are also informed by Moore that the Anthropological Studies Institute will sponsor a number of short-term workshops in 1983, for persons of all ages. Two of these will be week-end sessions, on Memorial Day and Independence Day, with provisions for families to camp at the site being investigated. Four one-week workshops are also being planned. Further details will be supplied upon request.

## **Third Generation Forester Honored**

Association member WILLIAM SYLVESTER of Stevens Point has been elected to the honorary position of Fellow of the Society of American Foresters. The distinction was achieved for his outstanding service to the forestry profession during the almost half-century of his career.

Sylvester is an emeritus professor at the College of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he had taught for 12 years prior to his retirement in 1981. He currently serves the Association as editor of the Annual PROCEEDINGS.

The Milwaukee native's grandfather and great-grandfather were foresters in Germany.

## **THE CRANBERRY —**

### **Early History of A Unique Forest Product**

Most people are aware that the forests of Wisconsin yield more than familiar wood products. Some of those non-wood products include maple syrup, wild rice, mushrooms,



ferns, sphagnum moss, Christmas trees, evergreen roping, a variety of nuts and several species of berries. In the latter category, blueberries, juneberries, and thornapples rate high with natural food enthusiasts, but the cranberry, both native and cultivated, stands alone as the most popular and in volume of annual consumption.

Early French explorers and trappers became familiar with the wild cranberry in Wisconsin over 200 years ago. They learned that the Indians used cranberries, along with wild rice and other grains, as staples for their winter diets. Early settlers followed their example and also harvested wild cranberries as food supplements. In fact, they also became an article of commerce, when in 1828, the first movement of cranberries from Wisconsin to a market was a consignment of several boat-loads of berries from the mouth of the Yellow River at present-day Necedah, to Galena, Illinois, where they were exchanged for goods.

The potential for the cultivation of cranberries was recognized as early as 1816, near Cape Cod, Massachusetts. But it was not until 1850 that the Carey Brothers near Berlin fenced in an acre of wild cranberries in a swamp area created by Lake Oshkosh, and subsequently ditched and diked that area. The experiment proved so successful that others followed suit, and by 1865 there were about 1000 acres under partial cultivation. Good prices for the berries on the Chicago market caused a boom which resulted in once worthless land becoming quite valuable. This, in turn, motivated the development in the 1870's of the big swamp in central Wisconsin, now known as Cranmoor, which was actually the bed of glacial Lake Wisconsin.

Cranberry culture expanded, and by 1900, approximately 1,200 acres were under cultivation throughout Juneau, Jackson and Monroe counties. Further extension of the industry took place after World War I in the northwestern part of the state. With a further boom in market prices, suitable peat bogs in the northeastern portion of the state were also developed.

Natural cranberry marshes were prepared for cultivation in the early years by hand labor. Ditches, roads and canals were built with picks, shovels and ox teams, generally at a daily wage of \$1.00. In 1885, pickers received two cents a quart, with thousands moving in a line on their hands and knees, usually picking from one to two bushels per day. The bosses and the men who transported boxes to and from the ware-

houses averaged \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day.

The cranberry is no longer just another side dish associated with the traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner. Separate enterprises for the production of wines, jellies and juices have developed, which make this unique "fruit of the forest" a familiar year-round product on the shelves of today's food markets.

Those readers who are interested in greater detail regarding the development of the cranberry industry are referred to "A History of the Cranberry Industry in Wisconsin" by Dr. George L. Peltier, from which all of the foregoing facts were gleaned.

## **New Members Department**

A "welcome-to FHAW" for these new members:

**EUGENE M. ROARK**

*16 Grand Avenue*

*Madison WI 53705*

*Student Chapter — Society of American Foresters*

*UW-Stevens Point, C.N.R.*

*Stevens Point, WI 54481*

This list is noticeably shorter than previous additions to our roster. This is cause for some concern to the Board of Directors because of the "drop-out" rate during the past year. Although the Association in previous years has always offset with new members the number who have discontinued their memberships for various reasons, this may not be the case this year unless a special effort is made to enroll new members.

A successful membership drive needs the active support of every member. You can help by enrolling a friend or relative, or by suggesting to the Secretary the names of any individuals or companies you think will be interested in supporting the objectives of the Association. A brochure with application form will then be sent to them immediately.

Remember: Association dues are now \$10.00 per year. All those enrolled beginning March 1st will be getting a 16-month membership (to June 30, 1984) for the regular 12-months dues. An added bonus will be a copy of the 1982 PROCEEDINGS.



# Earliest Reforestation Efforts Forerunners of Today's Planting Machines

A recent technical release by the American Pulpwood Association describes a prototype of an automatic multi-function tree-planting machine which, in one continuous operation, cleans the planting spot of debris, prepares the soil, sprays a herbicide or fertilizer, and then plants a containerized seedling. A computer controls the spacing of the trees and makes up for trees not planted due to stumps, stones or other obstacles in the normal planting spot. The machine was developed in Finland, by a Finnish pulp and paper company. Although it is still in the experimental stage, its potential for labor savings and productivity gains are so great that further research is certain to be carried on.

What a far cry from the back-breaking, hand-planting days of the grub hoe and spade or planting-bar! Or of those years when Walter Ware planted 1,876 wildling trees, each with a ball of dirt, moving them with a team of oxen (over a distance of several miles) to his farm near Hancock in Wau-shara County. That was the first known attempt at reforestation in Wisconsin and was begun in 1869 and completed in 1876 to celebrate the Philadelphia Centennial.

Equally arduous must have been the effort involved in the establishment of the Louis Frank plantation of Norway Spruce in 1892 near Prescott in Pierce County, which is the oldest plantation of that species in the state.

No mention of historic plantations would be complete without including reference to pine plantation at Star Lake in Vilas County. Established in 1913, it was the first large-scale reforestation effort on state-owned forest land. That plantation today is a living monument to the foresight and dedication of such pioneer foresters as E.M. Griffith and F.H.A.W.'s oldest living member, F. G. WILSON, who planted it.

Perhaps the most interesting of the thousands of privately-owned plantations in the state is the "family forest" known as the Nye-Hayes Plantation, near Wascott in southern Douglas County. The first planting on that tract was done with some

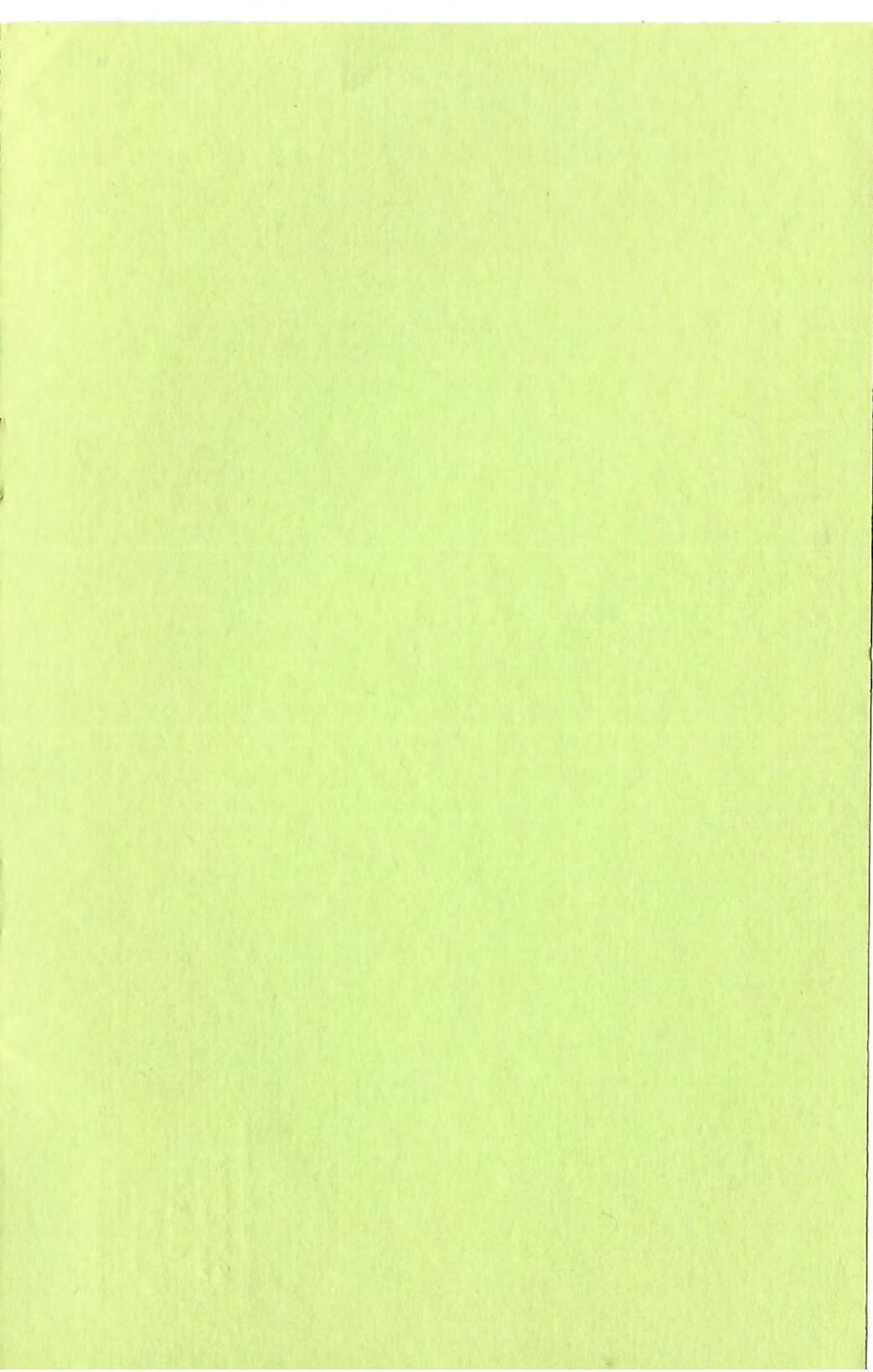
of the first seedlings raised by the first state-operated nursery at Trout Lake (Vilas County). Because of its historic background, a more detailed account of its establishment, gradual expansion and management will be the subject of an article in the next issue of "Chips and Sawdust".

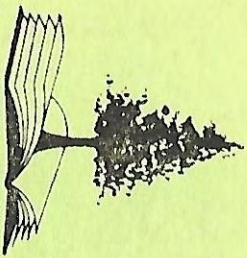
## **New Book Announced By Member-Author**

Another historically significant work with an early logging era theme has been published by Association member MALCOLM ROSHOLT. According to a flyer received by FHAW, LUMBERMEN ON THE CHIPPEWA is a book describing "the epoch of the White Pine in the Chippewa Valley from the 1830's to 1900".

Illustrated with over 300 photographs, the text accompanying them provides background information on many phases of early logging activities, including the rafting of lumber, river driving and railroad logging. The 304-page, hard-cover, 8½x11" book is available for \$24.95 plus \$1.50 postage and sales tax, from the Rosholt House, Box 104, Rosholt, WI 54473.







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