



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

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# Officers & Directors

## 1984-85

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## A Special Message To All Members

In their annual reports to members, both retiring president Arlan Wooden and secretary-treasurer Frank Fixmer stressed the precarious financial position of the Association. Although still solvent, the accumulated surpluses of previous years have now been depleted and current membership dues no longer cover increasing costs of operation. In an effort to live within our means, it appears that some curtailment of publishing and distribution efforts, and scholarships, will be necessary unless additional income can be generated.

The Board of Directors is not contemplating an increase in membership dues in order to balance its budget. It recognizes that such a move would only jeopardize membership retention and discourage membership expansion. Instead, a stepped-up capital fund campaign is underway, with a goal of \$25,000. Hopefully, the additional investment income from its capital account will assure the continuation of the Association's program of recent years.

To provide the incentive needed to raise that amount, the Association has been offered "challenge grants" by two foundations (which have requested anonymity). Each will donate \$1.00 for every \$2.00 raised toward the goal. However, one of those grants is conditional on \$4,000 being raised, either in cash or pledges, by November 15th of this year.

That is the challenge we must meet **now**. Those members who have not already done so are asked to make a **one-time-only** capital fund donation (or pledge) by November 15th.

The success of this campaign is dependent on the immediate response of each and every member. Won't you contribute to that success and thereby show your continued support for the Association's objectives?

## New Directors Elected To Board

The election of six directors was a principal item of business on the agenda of the Association's annual members meeting on September 28, 1984.

Elected to that office were three new directors: Dean Einspahr of Appleton, James Kaysen of Cedarburg and Charles Twining of Ashland.

Einspahr is on the faculty of the Institute of Paper Chemistry and is a member of the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters. Although his specialty lies in the field of forest genetics, he maintains a general interest in all aspects of forest history.

Kaysen is a retired civil engineer with an intense interest



in logging railroads. His research efforts over many years have resulted in a superior collection of maps showing the original locations of many such railroads in most of northern Wisconsin.

Twining is a professor of history at Northland College. He is the author of "Downriver: Orrin H. Ingram and the Empire Lumber Company" (1975) which won the first book-award-of-the-year presented by the national Forest History Society. Three directors were re-elected for two-year terms: Tom Albrecht of Shawano, Ed Nagel of Land O' Lakes and Jacques Vallier of Milwaukee.

In a subsequent special meeting of the Board to elect Association officers, Nagel was named president and Albrecht vice-president; Fixmer continues as secretary-treasurer.

## **1984 Awards Given for Distinguished Service**

Highlight of the dinner program that followed the Ninth Annual Members Meeting on September 28th was the presentation of three awards for distinguished service in the preservation of Wisconsin's forest heritage.

Recipients were Dr. Richard C. Brown of Eau Claire and the late Howard Peddle of Iron River; the organizational award was won by the Timber Producers Association of Michigan and Wisconsin.

Dr. Brown's contribution to forest history was the writing and publishing of two books: "Rails Into The Pines" (1980), a history of the Chippewa River & Menomonie Railroad, and "Logging Railroads of Rusk County, WI." (1982). Pending publication is his third book, "Sawmills of the Chippewa River Valley".

The award to the late Howard Peddle was received by his long-time friend and fellow history buff, Frank King, of Duluth. Peddle was well-known as an authority on railroad logging in the Lake Superior area of northwestern Wisconsin. His hobby of collecting log stamping hammers and researching their origins led to his compiling and publishing "Wisconsin Log Marks" (1980), a first in that field.

Carl Theiler of Tomahawk, executive secretary of the Timber Producers Association accepted the award for his organization, which was cited for its outstanding service to the timber industry over the past 39 years. Special recognition was given the T.P.A. for its monthly magazine which has printed many articles and photos recalling the life of the early-day logger and thereby fostering a continued interest in the state's forest heritage.

Following the presentation of awards, the dinner group

viewed the film "Timber on the Move", an outstanding documentary on the 200-year history of log transportation from forest to mill. Produced by the national Forest History Society in 1981, the film won a first place award in the educational category of the annual Film Festival sponsored by the Society of American Foresters.

## **Forestry Hall Of Fame Dedicated; Three Inducted**

The dedication on October 19th of the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point was climaxed by the induction of three pioneers in the fields of forestry, conservation and land use.

Charter members honored at the special ceremonies were E. M. Griffith, Wisconsin's first state forester; F. G. Wilson, who implemented many of Griffith's early recommendations for restoring the state's forest resources; and R. B. Goodman, noted lumberman and conservationist, who was the first of his kind to apply forest management principles to his company's timberlands.

Keystone speaker at the inaugural event was C. D. Besadny, executive secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. He emphasized the significance of the contributions made by each of the three inductees to the progress of forestry in the state. Individual biographical sketches were delivered by Tom Rausch of the DNR, Herbert Fleischer, retired director of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, and Frank Fixmer, secretary of the Forest History Association of Wisconsin. Plaques honoring the recipients were presented to Dean Daniel Trainer of the College of Natural Resources for placement into the display cases comprising the Hall of Fame, located on the main foyer of the College.

The structure forming the Hall of Fame consists of two L-shaped walls, each 11' X 17', enclosing a lounge area. The outside panelled walls have four 3' X 5' recessed and glass-covered cases which house the walnut plaques that honor the inductees. The plaques are mounted with laser-etched reproductions of the recipients' photos and engraved citations of their main accomplishments.

## **Association's Nominees Selected For Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame**

Worthy of special note is the fact that F.H.A.W.'s board of directors, at its May 24, 1984 meeting, had nominated the three candidates for the Forestry Hall of Fame who subsequently

became the three charter inductees. The final selections were made on the basis of majority votes by representatives of the seven state-wide organizations comprising the selection committee.

It was at the insistence of the Association's Board over two years ago that potential candidates include non-professionals in the field of forestry, as long as they had made significant contributions to the advance of forestry in the state. One such leader was R. B. Goodman, Marinette County lumberman, who decided in 1927 to abandon the traditional practice of clearcutting and began to apply to his company's 67,000 acres of timberland the forest management principles he had observed on trips to northern Europe.

The following is the complete text of the citation read by Frank Fixmer, secretary of F.H.A.W., at the induction ceremony that took place at the College of Natural Resources on Oct. 19th:

R. B. Goodman  
1871 - 1957

Our third inductee today was not a professional forester. He was, however, an enthusiastic supporter of forestry principles long before the potential benefits of forest management gained widespread popular support.

Robert B. Goodman determined the ultimate destiny of the Goodman Lumber Company when he decided, in 1927, to abandon the traditional practice of clearcutting in favor of selective cutting management on the company's 67,000 acres of timberland in northeastern Wisconsin. The sustained yield operation he carried on through several successive changes in ownership over the past 57 years reputedly made the Goodman timber tract the longest privately managed forest in the United States.

Goodman was a staunch supporter of the Forest Crop Law and an ardent advocate of rural zoning. His influence in both of these aspects of forestry and land use did much to make his home county a leader in those fields. In 1928, Marinette County was the subject of the first of a series of special land use reports that was published to emphasize the detrimental effects of widespread farm abandonment and tax delinquency, and to recommend the means for correcting the situation. Then in 1930, Marinette County became the first to establish a county forest with its entry of 14,000 acres under the Forest Crop Law.

Wisconsin was the first to hold a conference on commercial forestry, as the result of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce having conducted such a session in Chicago in November 1927. When the Wisconsin Commercial Forestry Conference was held in Milwaukee in March 1928, R. B. Goodman presided as chairman



of the Executive Committee. In the course of the proceedings, he presented a paper on the application of Wisconsin's Forest Crop Law to townships in the forested and cutover regions of the northern counties. Many municipalities subsequently followed the example set in Marinette County.

Governor Philip LaFollette, in 1932, appointed a special Committee on Land Use and Forestry to study and make recommendations for policies which would restore the productivity of the state's cutover areas. R. B. Goodman became chairman of that committee, which eventually presented a report that virtually became a blueprint for positive action in the fields of rural zoning, forest land taxation and the management of both public and private forests.

R. B. Goodman was also a distinguished member and chairman of the former Wisconsin Conservation Commission from 1931 through 1939.

When a joint congressional committee on forestry held a hearing in Madison in December 1939, Goodman testified as to the need for research in forest products. He declared that "We rightly plan to grow more trees, but we wrongly neglect to search for better ways to utilize the future forest growth".

It is truly fitting and proper that we honor today a traditional lumberman who became a pioneer advocate of the forestry and land use principles that have revived and restored Wisconsin's forest heritage to its former preeminence.

## **More About R. B. Goodman and the Goodman Lumber Company**

We are pleased to be able to publish the following article written by Association member Charles H. Stoddard of Minong on the adoption of forestry practices by the Goodman Lumber Company, a first of its kind in Wisconsin. Stoddard was a forester for the Northern Hemlock and Hardwood Association in 1935 when he first met R. B. Goodman and had the opportunity to observe the Goodman Lumber Company's sustained yield operation in its early stages. In researching the company's history, Stoddard credits John Noblet of the Louisiana-Pacific Corporation for facts on the last several decades of the operation:

### **The Goodman Forest — Continuity in Sustained Yield**

Established by the Goodman family of Marinette in 1907, the Goodman Lumber Company began in the traditional pattern of large Lake States hardwood — hemlock lumber operations — build a company town and a sawmill for utilizing logs trans-

ported by rail from a big tract of timber until it was completely liquidated. Yet the village of Goodman, established as just another company town, began to take on an air of permanency with the building of two churches, a bank, a school, a clubhouse for social occasions and theatre, post office, emergency hospital and a general store and residences with varied architecture. Rock elm shade trees line the streets. R. B. Goodman, the guiding hand behind this transition, combined the qualities of a sound businessman with practical philanthropy. Investments in community development would (and did) pay off in worker well-being and hence productivity.

But "R. B." (as he was called by his colleagues and friends) knew that some day there would be no future for his village or industry — the timber would be gone. During the early 1920's on trips to northern Europe he became intrigued with German and Scandinavian forestry and its possible application to northern Wisconsin. But the constant danger from forest fires and high ad valorem property taxes on timberlands discouraged long-term investments in forestry. Passage of a Wisconsin constitutional amendment opened the way to the Forest Crop Tax law and appropriations for State reforestation and fire control programs, both of which encouraged Goodman to hire (in 1927) the forestry consulting firm, Mason & Stevens, to develop a forest management plan. Reduction of the annual timber harvest from 21 million board feet to 15 million and a shift from clearcutting to selective management were the two most drastic recommendations in the consultant's report for a sustained yield program on the company's 67,000 acres in Marinette, Forest and Florence counties (48,000 acres of northern hardwood-hemlock timberland and another 19,000 acres in aspen and swamp conifers).

To make this transition without reducing the number of jobs, Goodman intensified his production processes and utilized his timber cut more efficiently. Sawmill slabs and small logs were converted into small dimension stock for furniture, flooring and even women's high heels along with a variety of special products. A rotary veneer mill was installed to use the best logs. A wood distillation plant to produce charcoal and chemicals from wood and mill waste was also installed.

Since there was little previous research and practice in managing the unevenly aged northern hardwood-hemlock forest, Goodman's foresters — John Carr and later Robert Martin — experimented with different volumes of timber removal through selective cutting over several cutting cycles. The actual amount of timber cut in recent years has been around 6 million board feet though the estimated annual growth has been close to 10 million board feet. Conservative single tree marking for cutting rather than group selection has encouraged maple reproduction



with the result that the Goodman Forest contains more maple but less yellow birch than it did when the sustained yield program began.

In the early 1950's R. B. Goodman decided to sell the company with the stipulation in the sale agreement that the new owners would keep the Goodman name and that sustained yield management would continue. Calumet & Hecla bought it in 1955 and then in 1966 transferred the company to Universal Oil Products with this deed restriction requiring sustained yield management. In 1974 UOP sold the plant to Louisiana-Pacific along with cutting rights to the timber; and in 1983 L-P sold the plant along with timber cutting rights to an independent group (Goodman Forest Products Ltd.). UOP, a subsidiary of Signal Oil Co., still has title to the land and timber.

Despite these changes from resident owner-operation to absentee corporate control, foresters who have observed these transfers at close hand feel that the integrity of the sustained yield tradition has been followed — mainly because the new owners have allowed professional judgment to prevail in the choice of forestry methods to be followed and the deed restrictions on timber management imposed by R. B. Goodman.

So far as I am able to determine, this sustained yield forest operation, carried on continuously for over 50 years, has been in effect longer than any other privately managed forest in the U.S. And the village of Goodman continues to survive and thrive as a viable community. R. B. Goodman was a true pioneer in industrial forestry who left a living memorial of Aldo Leopold's definition of conservation as "a state of harmony between man and the land."

## **John H. Saeman Honored By Former Colleagues**

The past president of F.H.A.W., John H. Saemann, was honored in early September at a ceremony that took place at Camp Bird in Marinette County. In tribute to the role he played in the development and operation of the youth camp during his 33 years as Marinette County Forester and University of Wisconsin Forestry Agent, the camp's recreation building was named Saemann Hall.

Saemann was the county's forest administrator from 1946 to 1973, during which period Marinette County became the leading pulpwood producing county in the state and was often cited for its remarkable reforestation and forest improvement accomplishments. During his tenure, he also served as chairman of the Wisconsin County Forest Administrators Association

and as president of the Marinette County Historical Society. In 1977 he was named Wisconsin's Forest Conservationist-of-the-Year.

John and his wife, Patricia, moved from Marinette to their tree farm on Woods Creek in the Town of Fern, Florence County, after his retirement in 1979.

## Logging Congress Sidelights

Regular readers of "Chips & Sawdust" will recall that the February, 1984 issue included a photo of an early model chain saw that was being demonstrated by the late F. B. Trenk, then extension forester. A request was made for identification of that chain saw, but no responses were received.

At the September 1984 Logging Congress in Green Bay, an exhibit that attracted considerable attention was one of a drag-saw that was powered by a 1/2-scale model of a 1915 Case 65 steam tractor. That exhibit also included a number of "antique" chain saws, a hobby of collector John Brown of Findlay, Ohio. When your editor approached Mr. Brown with the February issue of "C & S" and asked if he could identify the saw in the photo, he said "Sure, there's one of them right over there". Sure enough, there it was: A 1945 Disston Model KB 7-A. manufactured by the Kiekhafer Corporation of Cedarburg, Wisconsin.

In the course of the three-day Logging Congress, numerous members of F.H.A.W. appeared on the scene either as visitors or as staffers of the several exhibits that pertained to forestry and conservation. Among those your editor had an opportunity to greet at our Association's booth were Rheiny Krause of Algoma, Don Ingram of Wisconsin Rapids, Fred Ziemann of Wausau, Larry Hathaway of Green Bay, Carl Diez and Dick Bierlich of Tomahawk. Staffing the U. S. Forest Service exhibit were Sym Terhune and Myron Smith, from Nicolet National Forest headquarters at Rhinelander; Russ Roberts of Tomahawk supervised the Booth of the Society of American Foresters; Dave Lee of Phillips and Dave Stoiber of Waupaca looked after the Wisconsin Tree Farmers exhibit.

A special "thank-you" goes to John Saemann of Florence and Karl Baumann of Marinette for helping with the staffing of F.H.A.W.'s exhibit.

## Old Survey Records Wanted

The most recent issue of "The Nicolet News", internal employee newsletter of the Nicolet National Forest, has requested that "Anyone with knowledge of the whereabouts of any old

survey notes are invited to pass this information on to any one of our (Nicolet) surveyors."

The following article should be of more than passing interest to many Association members who are familiar with the value of survey monuments and markers in defining the boundaries of their properties:

"The old records of land surveys that were kept by the surveyors who came through after the original government survey, were retained as their personal property. As such, they were often stored away in dusty corners and perhaps forgotten until discovery by surviving relatives or were bought and sold down through time. Keeping track of them or knowing where to look for them was next to impossible, making it difficult for modern-day surveyors to research the notes for definitions of known survey markers or for clues to "lost" boundaries and corners. So when a bit of information surfaces, or a comment is heard, it is sure to get attention.

Last month, Milo Stefan, Land Surveyor, while visiting Robert Nordine's engineering office in Shawano, picked up a tip which resulted in Milo contacting Mr. Nordine's nephew who resides in Klamath Falls, Oregon. As a result, the records of surveys made by John J. Melindy and his three sons were located and have been made available to our surveyors.

The surveys made by these men were done throughout Oneida, Oconto, Vilas, Forest and Langlade Counties from the 1880's to the 1940's. Their work subdivided hundreds of sections and made thousands of new ties to the original corner locations. They made many an "X" on stones for the lack of better witnessing locations because most of the lands they were subdividing had no trees. The timber had been harvested and people were taking up homesteads . . . burning and clearing the land. Many corners were marked with posts placed in mounds of sand or rocks.

One set of survey notes in the Melindy records was of particular interest. The entry reads:

Time — 1888 by J. J. Melindy

Place — T41N, R12E, Wisconsin — T35N, R41W, Michigan

Purpose — Investigate trespass Findings:

SWSW Section 12	3 Trees	3,780 Bdft.
NWSW Section 12	7 Trees	12,800 Bdft.
NESW Section 12	1 Tree	1,640 Bdft.
SENW Section 27	14 Trees	23,440 Bdft.
SWNW Section 27	3 Trees	4,710 Bdft.

The picture is very clear. Some scoundrel had "selectively"



cut some very large white pine from a piece of land and J. J. Melindy had been called in to determine ownership of the land from which the tree had been cut.

An earlier find of records were located in the Wabeno Museum. These were notes made by John Hammes who had served as the County Surveyor for Forest County during the 1930's through the 1950's. They had been donated to the museum by his family members. Numerous records still evade us. Anyone with knowledge of the whereabouts of any old survey notes are invited to pass this information on to any one of our surveyors."

## Reference Library Accessions

Space limitations in the August issue of "C & S" prevented acknowledgement of several other contributions to the Association's reference library.

"County Forests In Transition" was written by Association member Harold C. Jordahl, Jr. of Madison. As he states in his preface, "This account describes a revolt in the early 1960's by 27 counties over the management and control of 2.3 million acres of land enrolled in the Wisconsin county forest crop program. Had the revolt been successful, the county forest system as it exists today would have been dramatically different." Readers interested in obtaining this publication should write to: Agricultural Bulletin Building, 1535 Observatory Drive, Madison, WI 53706.

Jordahl also contributed a copy of Vernon Carstensen's study of the development of Wisconsin's land use policies, "Farms or Forests". This booklet is a reprint, in new format, of the original text that was published in 1958. It narrates the evolution of the state's land policy in northern Wisconsin during the period 1850-1932.

At the conclusion of the Association's 1984 annual meeting in Ashland, Frank King of Duluth, who had accepted the plaque for distinguished service on behalf of the late Howard Peddle, presented the Association with a copy of his "Minnesota Logging Railroads" (1981). This beautifully illustrated book (\$34.95) is "a pictorial history of the era when white pine and the logging railroad reigned supreme".

A truly antique publication, donated by Bob Brisson of Marinette, is the "Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the American Forestry Congress". Printed in 1886, it details the addresses and papers presented at the meeting of the Congress in Boston in September, 1885. Judging from some of

the titles of those presentations, a number of the concerns of a hundred years ago are still topical today!

Again, our thanks to all the formentioned donors for those valuable additions to the Association's reference library.

## **Welcome to Our New Members**

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### **Scholarship Awards**

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### **Distinguished Service Awards**

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### **Annual Proceedings**

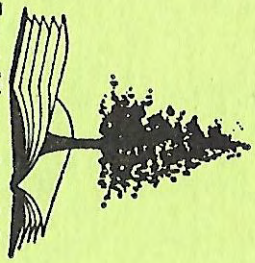
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