



"CHIPS and SAWDUST"

A Newsletter from the Forest History Association of Wisconsin
403 McIndoe Street - Wausau, WI 54401

VOLUME I - No. 2

February, 1977

The response to our first edition of "CHIPS and SAWDUST" was not exactly overwhelming, but did show sufficient interest to encourage us to continue. At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, formal authorization was given to its issuance on a regular quarterly basis. To repeat our earlier comment: We would like this newsletter to be about members and for members; only with the help of your contributions can that goal be attained. We also firmly believe that the Association, through "CHIPS and SAWDUST", can best serve by putting members with common interests in specialized fields of forest history in touch with each other.

A good example of what we had in mind is provided by the interchange of correspondence that resulted from our earlier mention of KARL BAUMANN's hobby of collecting log stamping hammers. It turned out that HOWARD PEDDLE of Hawthorne is in the process of compiling a book on log marks containing line drawings of some 350 individual log marks, with translations, names of owners and dates of registry. This could eventually become a valuable addition to the references at many county historical museums, and thereby serve as another illustration of what the Association was organized to accomplish.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

A little-known program with special significance for the Forest History Association is one which is administered by the National Park Service and known as the National Register of Historic Places. There are now at least 248 Wisconsin entries on this National Register of sites, buildings, areas and objects which are worthy of preservation for their historic, architectural, archeological or cultural value.

The 248th entry was the Holt-Bascom Lumber Company headquarters in Oconto. It was recently listed because of the firm's importance in the development of the state's lumbering industry and in the history of Oconto and Marinette counties. The company was organized in 1852 in Chicago and opened its branch office in Oconto in 1854.

Do you know of a place with a logging or forestry history that should be so recognized and preserved for future generations? Let us know about it and perhaps we can help with the preparation of the nomination form that must be processed through the State Historical Society before action is taken by the National Agency.

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MORE ON LOGGING MUSEUMS

Several members called our attention to the existence of a few more logging museums, to supplement those listed in our November issue. JIM KAYSEN (Cedarburg) tells us that there is one at Wabeno (Forest County) and another at the State Game Farm at Poynette (Columbia County), both small but with quite interesting displays. Another is located behind the library in Drummond (Sawyer County) and provides historical background of the Rust-Owen Lumber Company. Then there is also HOWARD PEDDIE's blacksmith shop and "loggers" near Hawthorne (Douglas County).

For something different in the line of historical museums, you might consider a visit next summer to Madeline Island in Chequamegon Bay, by way of ferry from Bayfield (Bayfield County). The museum there, located where the American Fur Company post stood in 1835, contains artifacts related to the early fur trading days, as well as the later fishing and logging industries of the region.

"THE WISCONSIN FOREST"

Those who have not yet seen this 28-minute color film, depicting the Wisconsin forest from the small farm woodlot to tree plantations and old growth stands, should make a special effort to do so. The film shows different management techniques for various timber species; a wildlife biologist discuss wildlife habitat improvement techniques; the multi-disciplinary approach to management on the national forests is illustrated.

Among the early opportunities to see this noteworthy film will be several of the woodland owner conferences scheduled to be held during February and March under the auspices of the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee. The film will be shown, as follows, as a preliminary to an all-day program on woodland management and protection practices:

February 12 - 8:15 a.m.	Milwaukee	Civic Center Campus Room 239 - South Hall
February 26 - 8:30 a.m.	Madison	Dane County Exposition Center Exp. Commons Bldg.
March 19 - 8:30 a.m.	Eau Claire	Holiday Inn
March 26 - 8:30 a.m.	Green Bay	U of WI - Green Bay Community Sciences Bldg.

Program details can be obtained by contacting GORDON CUNNINGHAM - University of Wisconsin - Extension, 432 North Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706

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CHRISTMAS EPILOGUE

Most members probably saw one or more of the many news stories about KENNETH GUENTHER of Black River Falls and his donation of the National Christmas tree (a balsam fir) that stood on the White House lawn last December 25th. Few knew, however, that Ken is a charter member of our Association. He also provided the state's three official Christmas trees which graced the governor's mansion, the Capitol rotunda and Governor Lucey's home.

CAN YOU HELP?

CYRUS G. BROCK would like to obtain any information that pertains to early forest operations in the area which is now the Lac Du Flambeau Indian Reservation. His address: P.O. Box 401 - Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Many organizations annually recognize the meritorious services of selective members in the furtherance of slated objectives. Your Association plans to do likewise. The nominations will be made by a special committee, the Board of Directors will select one individual and one organization to be the recipients of the distinguished service award and the presentations will be made at the annual meeting of the Association in September. Members are encouraged to submit their nominations to the committee for consideration.

MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO EXPAND

As of January 31, the Association membership included 143 individuals and 29 corporate organizations. By action of the Board of Directors, the dues payment of a new member, starting in January, 1977, will apply not only to the balance of the current fiscal year but will also make him a paid-up member for the 1978 fiscal year, which begins July 1, 1977. Members are urged to pass on the enclosed application forms to friends and colleagues who may have overlooked previous solicitations. Upon request, we will be glad to send prospects--copies of our by-laws and newsletters issued to date. Who will be our 200th member?

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board's next quarterly meeting is slated for February 18 at the Marathon County Historical Museum in Wausau. The agenda will include action on the underwriting of printing costs for the "History of the Nicolet National Forest," of which KEN ELLIOTT, retired Forest Service Ranger, is the author, with the collaboration of L.G. SORDEN, board member, professor emeritus, University of WI, and one-time county agricultural agent for Oneida County. Members who may wish to sit in on the Board's deliberations are welcome.