

TRAILS & TALES

Newsletter of the Forest History Association of Alberta

Sixth Annual General Meeting held March 18, 2010

The sixth annual general meeting was held on Wednesday March 17, 2010 at the Coast Edmonton Plaza with 37 members in attendance. Bruce Mayer provided an overview to the evening and introduced the new Forest History Association of Alberta President Peter Murphy. The directors committee met in September 2009 and elected Peter as president, following the resignation and then passing of Arden Rytz, and Bruce Mayer as secretary, with the resignation of Bob Newstead. Peter Murphy provided thanks to Bruce Mayer for organizing the meeting and then spent time delivering a well received overview of past president Arden Rytz's life and accomplishments

including his work establishing the quota system, silviculture practices in the province and the Forest History Association of Alberta. Peter said "since Arden did not have direct line authority, all work he achieved was accomplished through power of persuasion and the strength of his own character". Fred McDougall also added his thoughts stating that "before the quota system was established the timber industry in Alberta was producing less than half a billion board feet per year. Within four years that grew to three billion, a six-fold increase. The timber industry would never have been able to do that without the security and

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President Peter Murphy providing introductory remarks and an overview of Arden Rytz's life and accomplishments



Membership at the 6th Annual AGM March 17, 2010

tenure brought to the sawmill operators. Arden transformed the timber industry in the province with his work on the quota system. Arden was a very modest individual and we have not fully recognized or acknowledged his contributions; he is right up there with Huestis, Loomis and Crossley. He was a builder of the industry, a major contributor to the forest industry in Alberta."

Mayer provided an overview of the previous year's activities from the Trails & Tales newsletter in February to completion of a working website (www.albertaforesthistor.ca), work on the lookout calendar book, the forestry cabin inventory project and the completion of a Certificate of Gift document to use when collecting pictures, artefacts, interviews, etc. Mayer went through the pages of the new website online and encouraged everyone to review and provide feed-

back on content and suggestions for additions or improvement. A big thank you went out to volunteer Kurt Gonzales for his work developing and populating the website.

Elections were held for four executive positions. Butch Shenfield was acclaimed for a three year term as the government member; Bob Stevenson was acclaimed for a three

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L to R: Bob Newstead and Cliff Smith



L to R: Ian Whitby, Butch Shenfield and Bill Tinge



Fred McDougall talking about the contributions of Arden Rytz. (L to R): Ed Gillespie, Con Dermott, Trev Wakelin, Fred McDougall, Bob Newstead, Bob Udell and Craig Rose



New display developed for the Forest History Association of Alberta

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Sign up today to be part of Alberta's only Association dedicated to perserving and promoting our unique forestry heritage.

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Name of spouse (family membership): _____

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22 Hutchinson Place, St Albert, AB T8N 6R3
www.albertaforesthistor.ca

For more info contact Bruce Mayer

Ph: (780) 644-4656
E-mail: bruce.mayer@gov.ab.ca
FHAA@albertaforesthistor.ca

year term as the public member; Trev Wakelin was elected for a three year term as a forest industry member; and Cliff Smith was elected for a two year term as a forest industry member, replacing the late Arden Rytz. Door prizes consisted of history books presented to Hans Zurcher,

Ian Whitby, Eleanor Claydon and Wayne Williams.

A number of movie clips were played from converted 8mm and 16mm films of A.E. (Tony) Earnshaw, Radio Superintendent, Alberta Forest Service and Dale Huberdeau, Forest Area Manager, Waterways Forest

Area. Clips from Earnshaw movies included Lovett Lookout in the 1940s and a portable SPF radio with pack horses. The Huberdeau clips showed Dale at the Fort

McKay Ranger Station in the 1960s and Air Spray B26 airtankers taking off from either the old Fort McMurray or Rainbow Lake airtanker bases.

Final presentation for the evening was from Bob Udell who gave an overview of the projects and books finalized by the Foothills Research Institute over the last few years; many of which either FHAA members have participated in or the association provided financial support to; and an overview of the latest Adaptive Forest Management/History Program project, the Northern Rockies Ecotour project. The project team will be developing a travel companion guide outlining the many features and current and past activities occurring within the study area. Further information can be found at the Foothills Research Institute website, <http://foothillsresearchinstitute.ca>.



L to R: Bill Tinge and Lowell Lyseng



L to R: Con Dermott, Jeff Henricks and Tim Klein



L to R: Cordy Tymstra and Fred McDougall



L to R: Ed Gillespie and Con Dermott



L to R: Daryl D'Amico and Peter Murphy



L to R: Trev Wakelin and Steve Ferdinand



L to R: Andy Gesner, Tom Archibald and Jim Maitland



L to R: Cliff Henderson, Bruce Cartwright and Morgan Kehr

Fred McDougall, past Director FHAA

Fred was born in Lethbridge, Alberta in 1937 and attended school in both Edmonton and Calgary, later graduating from the University of New Brunswick with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry in 1959. Following graduation, Fred joined the Alberta Forest Service in 1959 as a Forester at Peace River working on timber sale and planning activities; supervision of forest land use activities; planning and supervision of reforestation operations; and supervising small sawmill operators in their woodlands operations.

In 1963 Fred joined Swanson Lumber Co. Ltd. as Assistant Production Manager, responsible for road and cut block layout and operations supervision for seven contract sawmills.

In 1964 Fred returned to the Alberta Forest Service as Forester-in-Charge of the Woods Operations Section, Forest Management Branch. While in this position, Fred was instrumental in the development of weight scaling systems for both short logs and tree length stems, and played an important role

in designing and coordinating the quota reconnaissance surveys that established the sawlog volume estimates used for the establishment of provincial timber quotas. In 1969, he was promoted to Head of Forest Management Branch becoming responsible for the overall administration of the *Forests Act*, including land use and provincial silvicultural programs. In this position Fred was the principal author of a new *Forests Act* which was enacted in 1971.

This initial Act still forms the basis of Alberta's forest management legislation and policies. In the early 1970s Fred managed the location, design, budget approval and construction of the Pine Ridge Forest Nursery project. Fred was later promoted to Director of Forestry in 1974,

managing the forest fire control, forest management, forest land use and silviculture/reforestation programs.

In May 1978, Fred was appointed Deputy Minister of Renewable Resources, Department of Energy and Natural Resources. Fish and Wildlife Division was added



Three Directors of Forestry who would later carry the title of Deputy Minister (L to R): Fred McDougall, Eric Huestis and Bob Steele, c. 1979

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Fred McDougall on woods inspection in the Doig River area, 1964

to the Renewable Resources group in 1979, and the Bureau of Surveying and Mapping in 1981. In this position Fred became responsible for land use and resource planning, and was instrumental in the establishment of the Forest Industry Development program which successfully supported a major expansion to Alberta's forest industry with the addition of two major hardwood kraft pulp mills (Diashowa and Alpac), two CTM pulp mills (Millar Western and West Fraser), a newsprint mill (Alberta Newsprint), a major expansion at the Hinton kraft pulp mill, a laminated veneer lumber mill, two oriented strand board mills (Pelican at Edson and Drayton Valley), and numerous major sawmill expansions. Most of these developments required the negotiation of forest management agreements. Fred was the principal negotiator for the province. As Deputy Minister, Fred obtained approval for major enhancements to the forest fire control program in the early 1980s culminating in the delivery of the first of four CL215 water bombers on October 10, 1985. Fred was appointed Deputy Minister of Forestry, Lands and Wildlife when the new Department was created in 1986.

On August 1, 1989 Fred joined Weyerhaeuser Canada as Vice-President and General Manager of the new Alberta Division. The Alberta operations consisted of sturdi-wood (O.S.B.) panel plants at Edson, Drayton Valley and Slave Lake; a major sawmill and planer mill at Drayton Valley; a planer mill in Boyle; and sawmills at Hangingstone and House River. In his position with Weyerhaeuser, Fred negotiated new stumpage agreements for the oriented strand board industry and was an active participant in the Alberta Forest Products Association, particularly in matters related to the U.S. softwood lumber countervail. Fred was also responsible for the establishment of Alberta's second wood-fired power plant which was



Alberta Forest Service staff in front of the first Canadair CL215 water bomber purchased by Alberta, October 10, 1985. (L to R): John Benson, Director of Forest Protection; Owen Bolster, Supervisor of Wildfire Operations; Fred McDougall, Deputy Minister; Cliff Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister; Gordon Bisgrove, Manager Wildfire and Aviation

located next to the Weyerhaeuser oriented strand board mill and sawmill at Drayton Valley. The plant was owned and operated by Drayton Valley Power Ltd. Fred retired from Weyerhaeuser in May 1995, and has remained active in forest management activities doing consulting work.

Following his retirement Fred purchased a small farm near Spruce Grove and began breeding and raising horses for show jumping. Several of these horses have shown at Spruce Meadows, and one horse, Bristol, was the Alberta Show Jumping Association Reserve Champion in 2007. Fred was made Honorary Member of the Alberta Forest Products Association at their 60th Annual General Meeting on September 26, 2002 and was recognized as a Golden Year Member of the Canadian Institute of Forestry at their Annual General Meeting on September 23, 2009.

Fred married Gail on October 19, 1968 and they have two children, Ian and Nancy. Nancy married Darren Kirkpatrick on June 9, 2007 and provided great joy to grandparents Gail and Fred with the birth of their son Thomas on January 25, 2009. On June 9, 2010 Ian graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta and is currently articling with an Edmonton law firm. Gail and Fred enjoy time with their family and summer visits to their property at Beartrap Lake, near Bonnyville. Fred has been an active member and director of the Forest History Association of Alberta since 2005.



Gail and Fred McDougall on holidays in Quebec City, 2008

St. Jean Lumber (1984) Ltd. - Submitted

In 1934, William (Willie) St. Jean and three of his sons, Philias, Ovila, and Robert purchased a steam engine, sawmill, planer, and shingle mill from Alex Hamilton of Lac La Biche and set it up in the Parent School District near Wandering River. During that first year, they made twelve hundred packages of shingles, which they sold for 75 cents a package.

From 1934 to 1938, they did custom work by sawing and planing for local farmers. The St. Jeans' share of lumber was hauled by team and wagon to Lac La Biche. They sold the shingle mill in 1938 when asphalt shingles became available. In 1938, the St. Jean's rented J. G. Fowler's sawmill and set it up at the mouth of the La Biche River. Lumber was shipped by scow to Athabasca, with a full scow containing roughly forty-three thousand board feet.

When the quota system was established in 1966, Ovila was issued a timber quota with a volume of 1,278m³ per year, within Forest Management Unit L3, north of Wandering River. Most of the logging on the quota was completed near May Tower.

By 1968, Ovila had bought out his father and brother's shares. Ovila and his family then set up a sawmill at its present site near Breynat, in SE 4 Sec 25 Twp 70 Rge 17 W4.



St. Jean's mill, Athabasca River, 1930s

Prior to this, sawing was done in the bush, with employees staying in camp for the winter months. St. Jean Lumber purchased its first logging truck in 1972, and was the first company to haul logs on the new Highway 63.

Many improvements have been made over the years from the original steam powered mill starting in the 1930s to a diesel caterpillar unit in 1975 and then electrical power in 1989. A beehive burner was added in 1986; a change from line skidders in the bush to grapple skidders occurred in 1986; the first feller buncher was purchased in 1992; and the planer mill was rebuilt in 1992, after a fire in 1991. In 1994 a weigh scale was added to the operations.

In July 1998 St. Jean Lumber planted its first tree, and celebrated the planting of its one millionth seedling in May 2004.

Additional improvements included the addition of a debarker, chipper, chip screens and chip bins in 1998 and a post mill in 2000. In 2005, St. Jean Lumber produced 145,000

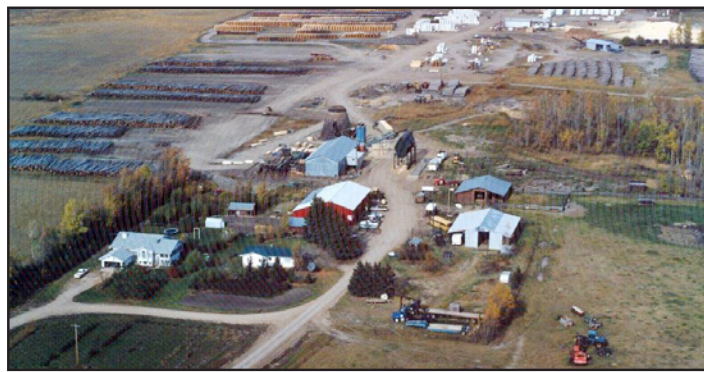
posts. Bush operations improved with the purchase of a Komatsu delimber in 2001. From 1980 to 1990, additional harvest volume came from fire salvage from the Round Hill Tower and the May Tower fires. Additional salvage came after 2002 from the House River fire.

In 1984 the company was re-named St. Jean Lumber (1984) Ltd. with Ovila and his son Odean as the principal owners. In 2002, Odean and wife Emily bought out Ovila's shares of the company and the timber quota. An additional quota was issued to St. Jean Lumber (1984) Ltd. in June 2004 for volume in Forest Management Unit L8, an area St. Jean had previously operated in under commercial timber permit. In 2003, St. Jean stopped using the beehive burner and began selling all wood fibre not produced for chips as hog fuel to Alpac. St. Jean Lumber is proud they utilize 100% of each tree hauled into the yard.

The entire mill was rebuilt and opened in May 2005 after a devastating fire on October 6, 2004. Additions to the new mill included a small debarker for smaller diameter logs, and a hew saw. A twin overhead scragg was installed replacing the carriage head rig, and a ten inch edger, small edger, trimming station, a centralized electrical room and an external hydraulic system were all added.



St. Jean Lumber's new mill addition with burner, late 1980s

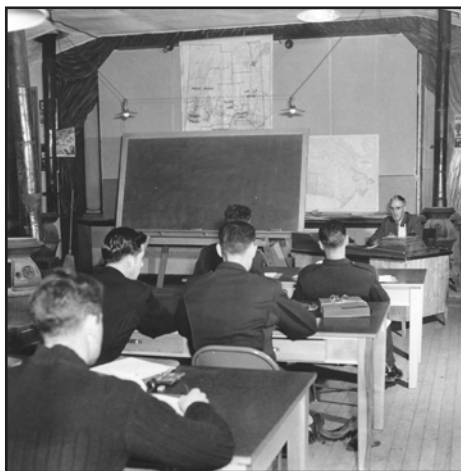


Aerial view of the St. Jean Lumber (1984) mill yard near Breynat, 2001

Hinton Training Centre celebrates 50 years

The Hinton Training Centre celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 2, 2010 at the school in Hinton. An overview of the event will be provided in the next Trails & Tales newsletter.

At the recent tree planting ceremony on August 25, 2010, Peter Murphy, first director of the training school, credited Eric Huestis for his foresight on the need for training; Ted Hammer for his determination to have Hinton as the location of the forestry training school; Frank Platt for his drive in fire management training; and Rocky Hales, Edson Fish and Wildlife Officer, for his support of integrated resource management training. Following the tree planting ceremony Peter Murphy presented Rob Galon, current director, a framed tree cookie from a 4,200 year old tree that was uncovered along Solomon Creek in the Cache Percotte Forest.



Director of Forestry and Commissioner of Game Eric Huestis seated at front of class during one the first training classes held at the Forestry Training School, Kananaskis, 1951



Peter Murphy with a 4,200 year old tree cookie he presented to the Hinton Training Centre on its 50th Anniversary.



Jack Macnab and Peter Murphy, Forestry Training School, Hinton, 1960



Peter Murphy and Rob Galon with ceremonial planting shovel, August 25, 2010



Peter Murphy and Rocky Hales discussing course curriculum, Forestry Training School, Hinton, early 1960s

Peter Murphy, first director of the Forestry Training School and Rob Galon, current director of the Hinton Training Centre putting final touches to planting of 50th anniversary tree; August 25, 2010

Recent forestry retirements

Rob Thorburn



On May 3, 2010, Rob retired from the Hinton Training Centre with 35+ years of service with the Alberta government. Rob started with the Alberta Forest Service as a Junior Forest Ranger in 1972. The main project was to assist Harry Edgecombe in the construction of the log AFS Museum at the training centre in Hinton. Rob then worked seasonally in timber management and forest protection before graduating from NAIT's Forest Technology program in 1976. After graduation, Rob first worked as a Forest Officer in Whitecourt transferring then to Keg River and Fort Vermilion. Rob then moved to High Level as the air attack officer and later the Forest Officer III in the High Level district office. Rob moved to the Forest Technology School in 1986 as a fire instructor, became the senior fire instructor and then retired as the Director of the Hinton Training Centre, a position he held since 2003. Following retirement Rob embarked on a North American motorbike ride, first across Canada and then through the United States. Rob's plan is to complete the trek in late fall 2010.

On May 17, 2010 Mamoon retired from the Provincial Warehouse and Service Centre with 35+ years of service in the provincial government. His career started in June 1974 while completing a diploma in Marketing Management at NAIT. Mamoon worked seasonally in the refurbishing shop, cleaning hose and fireline tools, and then upon graduation returned full time to the Forestry Depot in the Forestry Construction and Maintenance Division. From 1977 to 1980 Mamoon worked in the welding shop fabricating propane stoves, aircraft refuellers, garbage bins, generator trailers, lookout towers, cupolas, etc. for use by Forest Rangers in the field. From 1980 to 1991 Mamoon was the warehouseman for Fish and Wildlife doing their purchasing, inventory control, shipping and receiving; most of the time at their south side warehouse. In 1991 Mamoon returned to the Depot where he spent the remainder of his career first as a forestry warehouse section supervisor, then administration section supervisor and then the Manager of the Warehouse and Service Centre. Mamoon, and his predecessor Jamie McQuarrie, are credited with the establishment of a nationally recognized wildfire inventory management system. In retirement, Mamoon now has time to focus more on his love of painting (<http://mamoonsartcorner.com>).



Abdul Mamoon

8 Craig Quintilio



On July 23, 2010 Craig retired from the Alberta government after 38+ years. Upon graduation from Missoula with a BSc in Forestry in 1972, Craig worked as a forester in Burns Lake, B.C. Following a short stint there Craig joined the Alberta Forest Service in 1972 and until 1975 worked as a planning forester with the Timber Management Branch in Edmonton. From 1975 to 1983 Craig was a forester in the Grande Prairie Forest. In 1983 Craig returned to Edmonton and worked in many roles until his retirement. Over the years Craig was a landscape forester, Manager of the Forest Revenue Section, Assistant Director of the Timber Management Branch, Acting Director Forest Management Division, Director of the Program Support Division, Land Administration Division and Forest Protection Division. From 2002 until 2010 Craig was the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Public Lands and Forests Division and then Lands Division. Craig is enjoying retirement catching up with outdoor pursuits and playing with his grand children.

Retirements - Continued

On September 8, 2010 Bob Guest was recognized by staff from the Foot-hills Area on his 25 seasons as a lookout observer. Bob first started at Copton Lookout in 1961 eventually making his way to Adams Creek Lookout in 1997. 2010 was Bob's 25th and final season with the department. Bob was raised in the Peace River country south of Beaverlodge and is a profes-sional artist with works represented in various national and international collections. Along with his paintings Bob is an accomplished historian and writer with a love for nature and landscapes. Bob and his wife Myrtle con-tinue to reside in Grande Cache.



Bob Guest



Jan Schilf

On August 30, 2010 Jan retired from the department after a 32+ year ca-reer. Raised in Edmonton's river valley Jan developed a love of forestry and the outdoors at an early age. With her family behind her, Jan enrolled in and graduated from the University of Alberta with a BSc in Forestry in 1978. Jan began her career with the Alberta Forest Service as a technologist working for the Reforestation and Reclamation Branch and then as the forester in charge of the genetics program at the Pine Ridge Forest Nursery in Smoky Lake, specializing in seed production research. In September 1990, Jan moved to the Reforestation Branch in Edmonton as a tree improvement forester with the Genetics Section where she spent her time measuring and writing up results related to seed production, provenance and progeny tests. In 1997 Jan began a new role as forest tenure specialist which she held until her retirement. In this position Jan was involved with forest tenure policy development, tenure renewal and administration of the quota system. Jan plans to spend her retirement exploring Canada with her husband and their truck and camper, maybe the world, and continuing her work with the College of Alberta Professional Foresters.

Doug retired on July 30, 2010 with a 40+ year career in forestry, the last 38 years with the Alberta government. Doug moved from New Brunswick to Alberta on December 27, 1972 starting on a timber management crew in Slave Lake in March 1973. Doug moved to Kinuso as a Forest Officer in 1974, then Assistant Land Use Officer in Slave Lake Headquarters, and then in 1975 as Forest Officer in the Slave Lake district. Doug and Mildred were married on April 5, 1975, at which time Doug required written permis-sion to leave the Forest for his honeymoon. In May of 1978 Doug moved to the South Wapiti Ranger Station and then Grovedale in 1979. In 1981 the family headed to Fort Vermilion where Doug was the Forest Officer III. In 1987 the Ellison's returned to Slave Lake where Doug stayed for the rest of his career. In 1990 Doug was promoted to Forest Officer IV in charge of the silviculture program for the Slave Lake Forest. There he was responsible for planting millions of trees over the next decade. Doug became a Forest Protection Technician in 1998 specializing in aerial ignition, fire behaviour and wildfire investigations.



Doug Ellison

Retirements - Continued

Al Hovan



On September 10, 2010 Al retired from the Alberta government after a 32+ year career. Al began working for the Department of Environment in the water surveys branch in 1973. He then worked summers for the Alberta Forest Service Forest Land Use Branch on a range survey crew while attending the University of Alberta forestry program. Upon graduation in 1979, Al was hired on permanent as a planning forester assigned to collect range information for numerous integrated resource plans. From 1979 to 1983 Al worked throughout the province as the Green Area range improvement program coordinator. From 1983 to 1986 he was the range forester responsible for five forests in the provincial range program. A move to High Level in 1986 took Al into the reforestation program for the Footner Forest. Al moved to Slave Lake in 1988 in a timber forester role, later heading up the Slave Lake Forest timber management section in 1992. Subsequent roles saw Al as the forester in charge of the new Marten Hills District, the Forest Area Manager, the Public Lands and Forests Manager and since 2006 the Land and Range Program Manager in the new Lesser Slave Area. Al is enjoying retirement spending time seeing the sights on his motorbike.

In December 2008 after 38+ years in forest industry, Norm retired from Weyerhaeuser as the Vice President of Timberlands Canada. Norm graduated with a BSc in Forestry from Missoula in 1970 while working summers for Sauze Forestry throughout Alberta. After graduation he began working for Swanson Lumber out of Edmonton, then High Level and then running the Swanson sawmill at Embarrass on the Athabasca River north of Fort McMurray. In early 1980 Norm went to work for Pelican Spruce Mills in Edson at the new Oriented Strand Board operation. In the late 1980s Norm moved to Edmonton as the Alberta Forestlands Manager holding that position until 2006 when he became the Canadian Timberlands Vice President. Norm served as the Director of the Registered Professional Foresters Association and President of the Alberta Forest Products Association. Norm is enjoying retirement on land near High River and volunteering with the Alberta Stewardship Network and the Rotary Club. He also spends time on horseback and riding his motorcycle around Canada and the United States.



Norm Denney

Gordon Miller



On February 12, 2010 Gordon retired from the Canadian Forest Service after 30+ years. Gordon received a Ph.D. in Entomology from Simon Fraser University and served as a research biologist with the B.C. Ministry of Forests prior to joining the Canadian Forest Service in 1980. Gordon served as a research scientist and Program Director at the Pacific Forestry Centre, Director of Operations, Director of Science and Director-General of the Science Branch at the Canadian Forest Service Headquarters in Ottawa; and most recently as the Director-General at the Northern Forestry Centre in Edmonton. Gordon spent the last year and a half coordinating national initiatives on behalf of the Canadian Forest Service. On his retirement Gordon was quoted to say, "in University I originally wanted to be an undersea explorer, but no one was hiring at that time so I went into entomology instead. It's a field I couldn't have dreamed would lead to such an enjoyable career."

Hot off the wire



ALLIGATORS OF THE NORTH *The Story of the West & Peachey Steam Warping Tugs*

Harry B. Barrett & Clarence F. Coons
Foreword by Ken Armson, R.P.F.

Alligators of the North

The book *Alligators of the North* is now available through the Canadian Forestry Association. Built in Simcoe, Ontario from 1889 through to the 1930s, the Alligator was a common sight in forest operations on rivers and lakes across eastern Canada and the USA up until the 1950s. The Alligator was a sturdy scow equipped with a winch and mile-long cable to tow massive booms of logs and even haul itself overland – hence the name “Alligator”.

Alligators of the North may be purchased at local bookstores, can be ordered on-line at www.dundurn.com, or can be ordered through Dave Lemkay, Canadian Forestry Association at (613) 649-2616 or manager@canadianforestry.com.

Forest History Associations around the world



Within Canada

British Columbia

<http://www.fhabc.org/>

Alberta

<http://albertaforesthistory.ca/>

Ontario

www.ontarioforesthistory.ca/

Quebec

<http://www.shfq.ca>

Canadian History and Environment Network

<http://niche-canada.org/foresthstory/networking>

Outside of Canada

Forest History Society

<http://www.foresthistory.org>

American Society for Environmental History

<http://www.aseh.net/>

National Museum of Forest History (American)

<http://www.nmfs-history.net/>

European Society for Environmental History

<http://eseh.org/>



Above: Teams curling at the 34th E.S. Huestis



Left: Ted Soltys and Greg Boyachuk piping in the Huestis trophy at the 34th E.S. Huestis Forestry Curling Bonspiel; Athabasca Multiplex; March 6 and 7, 2010



Above: Eric McGhan, Deputy Minister Sustainable Resource Development drops puck to start the 25th Annual AFS Oldtimers Hockey tournament. Dave Cheyne from Alpac on the left and Jim Wagner from Fish and Wildlife Division, SRD on the right; February 27, 2010; Redwater

Obituaries

Gordon Matthews Gordon passed away on March 10, 2010 at the age of 98. The Dirty Thirties was a tough time for Gordon with no work for him in his home town of Plunkett, Saskatchewan, so he headed west across the provinces hiding in boxcars, desperately looking for any type of employment. Eventually, Gordon made his way to Banff and later Lake Louise where he worked for outfitters like Ike Mills and Jim Boyce. Gordon broke his back in 1945 shoeing an unruly horse, and luckily was not permanently injured. After regaining his strength at the Bar C Ranch, Gordon was offered a full-time job with the Alberta Forest Service. Gordon worked with the AFS at the Ghost, Elbow and Kananaskis from 1947 until his retirement in 1975. When Gordon was off patrolling the forest, fighting the many fires or dealing with countless emergencies, his wife Ida would remain at the station selling fishing and hunting licenses and sending in the daily weather reports. After retirement, both Gordon and Ida contributed to the many organizations well known in the Cochrane area – the Horseshoe Club, the Seniors Curling Club and the Rebekah Lodge. Both gave countless hours of their time, effort and dedication to these organizations.

Mike Watson Upon graduation as a Forest Technologist from NAIT, Mike briefly worked for MacMillan-Bloed-

dell in the Queen Charlotte Islands. Returning to NAIT he worked 25 years as the Education Lab Technician and Instructor. A natural teacher, Mike was charming and will always be remembered for his extraordinary kindness, pleasant smile and willingness to assist. He was well liked and highly regarded by many of his peers and students. Mike loved the outdoors and he delighted in introducing his students and family to the joys of just tramping around the bush. A bush day would usually end with a big bonfire to sit around and tell stories. Mike passed away suddenly on April 5, 2010 at the age of 56.

Bill Wuth Wilhelm (Bill) Max Wuth was born in Edmonton, Alberta January 4, 1931 and passed away on September 12, 2010 in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, at the age of 79. Bill worked a number of jobs from cat skinning to logging and in 1955 was instrumental in founding Headhunters Diesel Ltd. settling in Edmonton. Bill's love however, was the forest and in 1962 he started his career with the Alberta Forest Service as an Assistant Ranger at Embarrass Portage on the Athabasca River. After a long career with the AFS, covering most of the province, Bill retired and continued his taxidermy business until 2005.



Hinton Training Centre 50th Anniversary Belt Buckle Order Form

The Hinton Training Centre (HTC) is taking orders for its 50th Anniversary Belt Buckle. Deadline for orders will be **January 14, 2011** with expected delivery of the buckles March, 2011.

Buckle Dimensions:	3" wide x 2" tall
Price:	\$25 each (includes GST)

Number of buckles:	
Order Total:	



Make cheques payable to the: **Hinton Training Centre Staff Fund**

Send order form to: Marg Bish, HTC
1176 Switzer Drive, Hinton, AB T7V 1V3
Fax: (780) 865-8266
E-mail: marg.bish@gov.ab.ca

Shipping Address Information:	
Name:	
Mailing address:	
Town/City:	
Province:	
Postal Code:	

For further enquiries please contact Marg Bish at (780) 865-8204



Dennis Quintilio, Tom Archibald, Rob Thorburn, Cliff Henderson, Al Walker and Bruce Mayer; April 27, 2010; Rob Thorburn retirement party, Hinton



Pancakes, eggs, bacon and sausage cooked by Deanna McCullough, Jules LeBoeuf and Bruce Mayer, Provincial Forest Fire Centre K-Days pancake breakfast, July 23, 2010



Daryl D'Amico with the dress and work uniforms he donated to the Forest History Association of Alberta, January 24, 2010



Gordon Baron and Mike Dubina at the Provincial Forest Fire Centre K-Days pancake breakfast, July 23, 2010



Peter Murphy standing beside the wood heater used to heat the Kananaskis Forestry Training School, located now at the AFS Museum in Hinton, 2010. The wood stove is visible in the 1951 picture behind Eric Huestis. (Page 7)

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Published by the Forest History Association of Alberta

Current membership: 100+

Layout by Rob Harris

Please send story ideas to
Bruce Mayer at (780) 644-4656

