

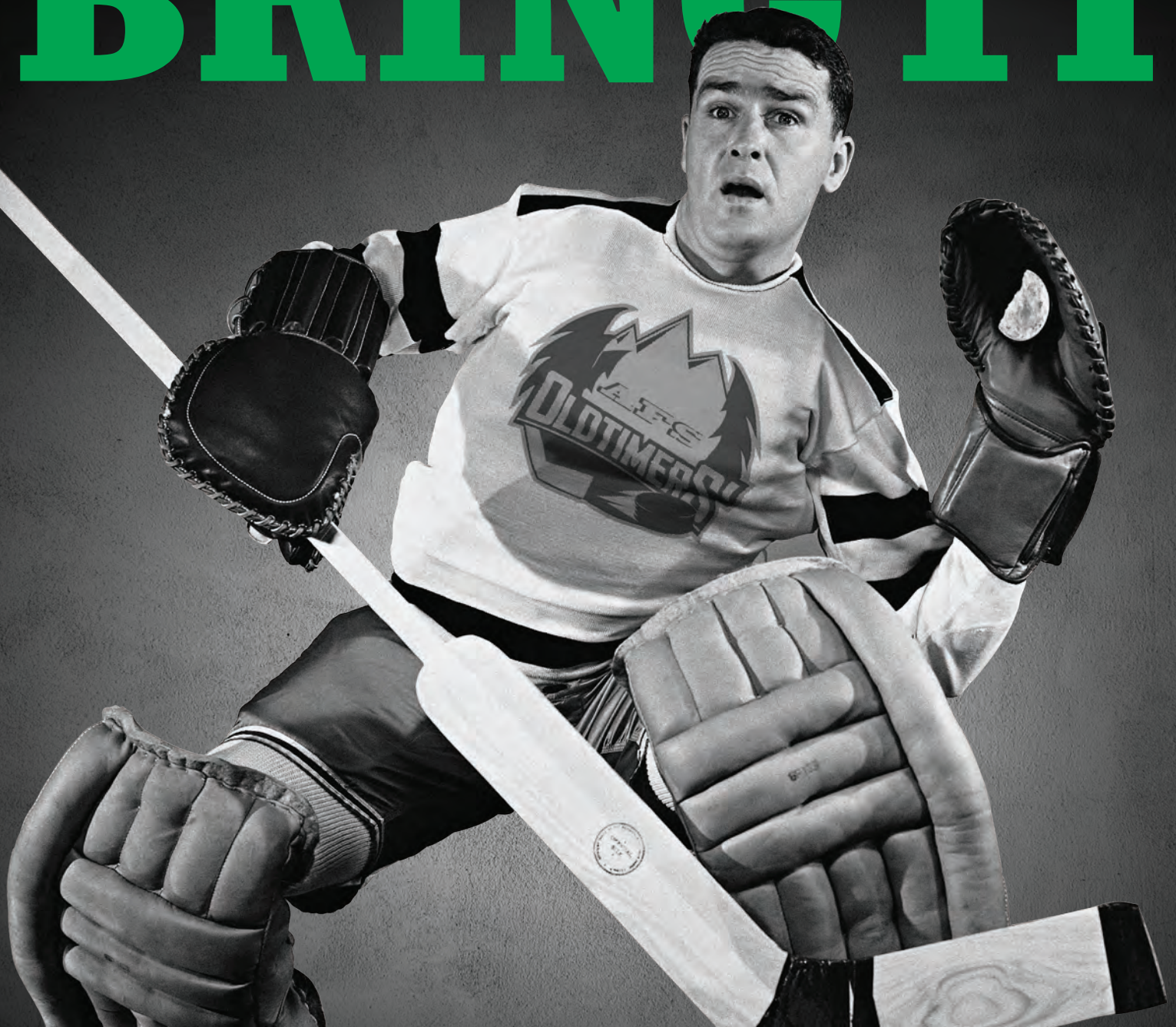
TRAILS & TALES

PUBLICATION OF THE FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA



MARCH 2015
ISSUE #14

**DON'T FORGET YOUR TEETH AND
BRING IT**



31ST
ANNUAL

**AFS OLDTIMERS
HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

MARCH 5-6, 2016

ATHABASCA MULTIPLEX | ATHABASCA, ALBERTA

Contact Charlene Guerin at Charlene.Guerin@gov.ab.ca to register to play hockey and/or help with the tournament (volunteers and referees needed).

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SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE



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NORTHWEST LUMBER COMPANY



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CLARENCE SAWYER



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M.P. Bridgland, c. 1927
Lorne Larson Collection,
Forest History Association of Alberta



2015 MEMBERSHIP: 123
(MEMBERSHIPS TRACKED ON A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS)



IMPRESSIVE LINE-UP ENTERTAINS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With nearly one hundred members in attendance, the room was abuzz with old friends and colleagues catching up on old times. Not forest history related, but radio and television stations were covering the breaking news of the resignation of Alberta Premier Alison Redford.

History regardless.

Peter Murphy provided a personal welcome to all stating he was encouraged by the attendance. He gave recognition to the newsletter saying it has grown incrementally and the document is trend-setting.

Peter's main message was that we are a part of a broader history network where we have the ability to share ideas and learn from others. He commented on the importance of collecting old photographs and was happy to see new collections being recorded. In closing, Peter encouraged people to share stories and family or company histories with the association and for the newsletter, in order for those histories to get recorded.

A number of guest speakers helped open the meeting. John Pineau, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian

Institute of Forestry (CIF) brought greetings on behalf of the CIF and provided an overview of the national forest history program initiated through the CIF with support from Jim Farrell, former Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service. John continues to feel that facilitating wider distribution of forest history is a good role for the CIF. Initiatives include the Old Growth section in the Forestry Chronicle and the upcoming May/June 2014 forest history focussed edition of the Forestry Chronicle. The Forest

History Association of Alberta has articles published in both venues. John closed reinforcing the role that CIF will play in bringing forest history together across Canada. June 2014 was also identified as Canadian Forest History month.

Doug Hutton, President, King Motion Picture Corporation provided an overview of an exciting new initiative he has undertaken called *Canada's Forest Treasures, Celebrating 150 years of Natural and Cultural Heritage, 1867 to 2017*. This new program will celebrate 150 years of Canadian confederation showcasing the cultural heritage of Canada including its forest industry and how Canadians promote stewardship values. Doug would like to focus as well on youth and careers in the various resource sectors.

Brett Spady, Junior Forest Ranger Specialist with Environment and Sustainable Resource Development was on hand to announce that 2015 is the Junior Forest Ranger program's 50th anniversary and that he was in the beginning stages of organizing a celebration. He will be looking for stories, photographs, and names of people over the next year.

Bruce Mayer acknowledged the good work of Terry Kristoff, West Fraser Alberta Plywood, on his work to retain and preserve a copy of the *Report on Timber Conditions Around Lesser Slave Lake*, a 1912 Department of Interior Forestry Branch Bulletin. This document was the first real historical look at documenting forest conditions and access in and around the Slave Lake area. Mayer also thanked Sheldon Belanger for his creative flair and layout skills in the redesign of the Trails & Tales newsletter.

There are a total of 9 directors within the association, elected on a 3-year rotation; 3 from government; 3 from forest industry; and 3 from the public. Positions up for election at the 2014 AGM were the government position held by Bruce Mayer, the forest industry position held by Bob Udell and the public position held by Peter Murphy. All three people were acclaimed for another three-year term.

2013 was a productive year in that the pre-1930 Dominion Forestry Branch photographs were scanned at high resolution, and scanning commenced on new collections provided by Pat Guidera, the daughter of G.A. (Alf) Longworth and an individual who purchased a Forest Ranger Clarence Sawyer collection at a garage sale. A number of the Sawyer photographs appeared in the January 2014 Trails & Tales. Members Rick Arthur and Bruce Mayer also provided articles for the Forestry Chronicle Old Growth column.

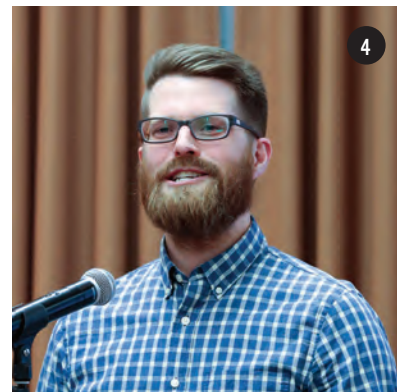
During the evening, members were entertained by three presentations, Kat Spencer on Timbersports, Jason Boucher on the history of Boucher Brothers and MJ Munn Kristoff with an overview of the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society. Kat Spencer, a professional wood chopper and

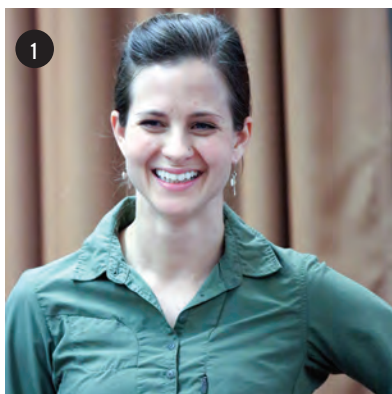
1. Peter Murphy providing opening remarks

2. John Pineau, Executive Director, Canadian Institute of Forestry

3. Doug Hutton, President King Motion Picture Corporation

4. Brett Spady, Junior Forest Ranger Specialist, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development





Timbersports athlete who joined the woodsmen team while at the University of New Brunswick and developed a lifelong bug for Timbersports. Her presentation was a passionate overview of what she is calling 'History in the Present'. Timbersports and their rich colourful history originated in the early logging camps by those who used the axe and cross-cut saw as a part of their daily logging work.

Through her passion for the history and sport, Kat is driving to bring Timbersports back to Alberta. Part of the presentation was to also promote the June 14, 2014 STIHL Timbersports Canadian Western Qualifiers. The competition will be held at the Fort Saskatchewan Museum and Historic Site. The top four male competitors, one female and one rookie, will represent Canada at the Toronto Indy July 20, 2014.

Jason Boucher, Partner and Acting General Manager, told a very entertaining story on the Boucher Brothers history. The family logging business goes back to the 1930s and 1940s in Quebec where Camile Boucher operated his first sawmill. In 1951, Camile moved the family to Marie Reine (south of Peace River) to start what is now a third



generation logging and saw milling business. From 1951 to 1953, they contracted to the Maisonette's at Spring Burn, outside of Nampa. By 1957, the mill was producing one million board feet and employed 20 people. In 1957, the operation moved to Camp Creek at Keg River logging year-round for Donnelly Sawmills. While there, Camile built a school for the community and mill workers. After close to a decade in the Keg River area, the mill moved north to High Level for a large contract with Swanson Lumber. Sons Normand and Jean Louis joined Camile in the business in High Level. Normand and Camile formed Boucher Sawmills and Jean Louis and another brother Victor, formed Boucher Logging. The family joined Leo Arsenault (Real's father) in 1958 at Taylor Flats, BC, logging on an island close to Hudson Hope. Normand and Jean Louis remember 'always being wet' and 'losing many logs from the booms' on the way down to the mill.

At the High Level operation the Boucher's employed 100 people, 60 at the mill and 40 in the bush. They started producing 6 million board feet per year and after ten years were at 56 million board feet per year. Unfortunately, in 1977, the mill burned down. Camile retired



and Normand and Jean Louis joined forces and opened the Boucher Brothers sawmill in Nampa in 1979. Over the years the mill has steadily grown with new equipment purchased to remain competitive. Always looking for opportunities, Normand remembered what he'd heard from Mike Sauze, about this 'basket of wood up north in Mackenzie'. Normand founded Manning Diversified Forest Products, and with eight other partners opened the mill at Manning in 1994.

Back at home it came time for Normand and Jean Louis to consider a succession plan, and they brought in Berry Heinen as General Manager to run the Nampa operations and work on a transition plan to help bring the next generation along. Jason was joined by his brother Brian and cousins Bertin and Rick in the operation of the family business. Things were ready to go in 2005/06 and then the market collapsed in

1. Kat Spencer, Professional Wood Chopper and Timbersports Athlete

2. Jason Boucher, Partner and Acting General Manager, Boucher Brothers

3. MJ Munn Kristoff, Executive Director, Lesser Slave Forest Education Society

“ MJ MUNN KRISTOFF, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STARTED OFF THE EVENING INDICATING THAT ALMOST EVERY BOSS THAT SHE HAS WORKED FOR IN THE PAST WAS IN THE ROOM! ”

2007. Jason commented, although a huge challenge for the team with staff layoffs, they have managed to weather the storm and are back on track for another generation or two. Camile Boucher had stated early in his life that 'the little man will go far', and from what we heard from Jason, he certainly has.

MJ Munn Kristoff, Executive Director, of the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society (LSFES), started off the evening indicating that almost every boss that she has worked for in the past was in the room!

LSFES is a non-profit charitable organization that has been in operation since March 2000. The LSFES vision is 'committed to forest focussed environmental education'. This translates to the LSFES providing bias-balanced information or multiple perspectives to the public, particularly youth, on forestry and environmental matters.

The LSFES offers programs to schools and community groups, teaches curriculum through hands on activities during field trips and classroom presentations, develops special event programming to the general public, hosts workshops for teachers to enhance their environmental curriculum, and provides post-secondary scholarships to students interested in pursuing careers in forestry. The board of directors is made up of representatives from the public, various schools, Northern Lakes College, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, the Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation (BCBC) and the forest companies in the area. The LSFES has two full-time educators that work for both the LSFES and the BCBC.

The LSFES offers day camps, webinars, has worked with 350 students over a three-day period during Alberta Forest Week, and has seen sixty thousand people in the last fourteen years. Their success has been through strong partnerships, diverse offerings of educational programs, continuous professional support from partners, fantastic volunteers and supporters and excellent environmental educators.

Each year the LSFES has a spring dinner as part of their outreach program. This year they invited the Forest History Association of Alberta to an event on May 3, 2014, titled 'Uncover the Past and Discover the Voices in the Forest'. Peter Murphy provided an overview history of forestry in the Lesser Slave region followed up by Con Dermott and Terry Kristoff, with a history of forest industry operators and operations in the area.

2014 FHAA EXECUTIVE

Peter Murphy,
President

Butch Shenfield,
Vice President

Bruce Mayer,
Secretary Treasurer

Bob Udell, Director
Bob Newstead, Director
Cliff Smith, Director
Norm Denney, Director
Ken Yackimec, Director
Rob Thorburn, Director

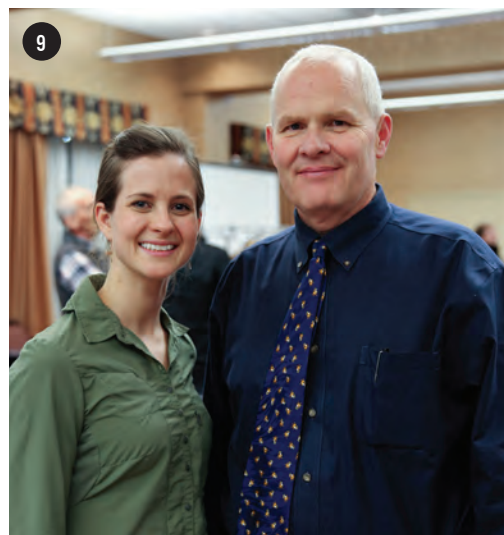
11th Annual

FHAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 18, 2015

Days Inn & Suites
West Edmonton
10010 - 179A Street

Contact:
Bruce Mayer
Bruce.Mayer@gov.ab.ca
for further information





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12



13

1. L to R: Gordon Sanders, Murray Anderson and Ray Ault

2. L to R: Lou Foley and Bruce MacGregor

3. L to R: MJ Munn Kristoff, Matthew Kristoff and Anne McInerney

4. L to R: Norm Denney, Fred McDougall and Dave Kiil

5. Hugh Boyd and his 'supper of champions'

6. L to R: Evelynne Wrangler, Cliff Henderson and Teresa Stokes

7. L to R: John Pineau and Wayne Williams

8. L to R: Mike Tucker and Chad Morrison

9. L to R: Kat Spencer and Bruce Mayer

10. L to R: Con Dermott, Bernie Simpson and Kat Spencer. Con and Bernie are reminiscing about Timbersports activities while at Missoula.

11. L to R: Dennis Frisky and Bruce Mayer

12. L to R: Con Dermott, Cliff Smith and Bruce MacGregor

13. L to R: Dalibor Houdek, Jason Boucher and Con Dermott





1. L to R: Dave Kiil, Herb Cerezke and Kat Spencer
2. L to R: Terry Jessiman and Wes Nimco
3. L to R: Patrick Loewen, Tim Klein and Michelle Shesterniak
4. L to R: Deanna McCullough and MJ Munn Kristoff
5. L to R: Steve Ferdinand and David Patterson
6. L to R: John Ellison and Dalibour Houdek
7. L to R: Lou Foley and Bruce MacGregor
8. L to R: John Collins, Kevin Freehill and JP Beliech
9. David Morgan
10. L to R: Norm Denney, Fred McDougall, Doug Hutton and Bob Newstead
11. L to R: Hudson Foley and John Caldwell
12. L to R: Peter Murphy and Cordy Tymstra reviewing a map Peter has drawn depicting the approximate boundaries of the 1919 wildfire that overran Lac La Biche
13. Byron Grundberg reviewing the January 2014 Trails & Tales



SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE

The Forest History Association of Alberta had the honour to be invited and partner with the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society in Slave Lake on May 3, 2014 at their yearly spring dinner. The evening theme was 'Uncover the Past and Discover the Voices in the Forest', and told the story of the history of forestry in the Lesser Slave Lake Region.

Peter Murphy took the audience on an historic tour of early explorers, the Treaty Commission, settlers and the inception of a forest industry. Access at the time was overland via the Athabasca Landing Trail, steam wheelers on the Athabasca River, York boats on Lesser Slave Lake and later railroad. The late 1800s was the time of 'trackers', workers

that walked the banks of the rivers pulling boats upstream with towropes. In writing about their expedition of 1899 to Lesser Slave Lake, Charles Mair, a Commission Secretary, commented on the hazards of tracking where "deep pits and fissures gaped in the festering clay, into which the men often plunged to their arm-pits. It was

EARLY LOGGING TOOK PLACE ALONG RIVERS AND LAKES, INCLUDING THE NORTH AND SOUTH SHORES OF LESSER SLAVE LAKE, WHERE LOGS WERE BOOMED AND MOVED TO SAWMILLS.

1. Separating jammed logs along the Athabasca River destined for the Chisholm Sawmill, 1920s

2. Logs on the Lesser Slave River, Sawridge Hotel top left of picture, Sawridge, Alberta, 1919 (Provincial Archives of Alberta)



horrible to look upon. The chain-gang, the galley-slaves – how often the idea of them was recalled by that horrid pull! Yet onward they went, with teeth set and hands bruised by the rope, surmounting difficulty after difficulty with the pith of lions.”

Early logging took place along rivers and lakes, including the north and south shores of Lesser Slave Lake, where logs were boomed and moved to sawmills. Loggers would stack the logs along the rivers during winter logging and then either release them on to ice or into the rivers when the ice had gone. Success was had on Lesser Slave Lake and the Lesser Slave and Athabasca Rivers, the same could not be said about the Salteaux River. Logs were only driven on the Salteaux River once as they became a tangled mess due to the low water and tight corners.

Recognizing the importance of the region, the Dominion Forest Service began posting staff in the early 1900s with W.W. Badgley as the first ranger on the Lesser Slave Forest Reserve in 1914. Other foresters, timber surveyors and fire rangers settled in the region after that. Herb Hall was raised on a homestead at Slave Lake and became a clerk and later Ranger in the Lesser Slave Forest Reserve, a Forest Superintendent in the Clearwater and Brazeau Forests and Assistant Director of Forestry in Edmonton. In 1930, the Alberta Forest Service was formed with the Transfer of Resources from the federal government. Donald Buck, who worked for both the Dominion and Alberta governments, was another key builder of the Forest Service in Slave Lake during his tenure from 1923-1931.

After the evening dessert break, Con Dermott and Terry Kristoff entertained the audience with their personal stories and deep knowledge of the Lesser Slave Lake region and described the people who built forest industry into the powerhouse it is today in the region. The introduction of the railroad into the region before 1920 was a major catalyst for the establishment of a forest industry in the region. Although service was limited, the opportunity to transport logs and timber grew.

From the 1930s to late 1950s, there were 30 to 40 bush mills and planer mills scattered across the region from Chisholm to High Prairie. Some of the mills and communities were Chisholm Sawmills (later Swanson Lumber) at Chisholm, Fawcett Lake and Slave Lake; Stelter Lumber at Smith; C.R. Ross Lumber at Spurfield; Imperial

Lumber in Kinuso; McCrae Lumber at Faust; Hough Construction in Joussard; the Bissell Brothers at Enilda and Buchanan Lumber and O'Brien Lumber at High Prairie. Many other smaller contractors logged and sawed rough lumber for the larger companies. Urchyshyn and Vanderwell for Chisholm, Bill Rempel and a mill at Otter Creek for Stelter, Tanghe and Sloan for Imperial at Kinuso are a few examples.

Today there are two major sawmills with associated planer facilities, Vanderwell Contractors and Buchanan Lumber (now High Prairie Forest Products, West Fraser). A number of these mill locations became small communities on their own with accommodations for single and married men and women, a company store, a laundry, post office, church and a school for the children. As an example, about forty families lived in Chisholm and two hundred people and thirty families lived at Spurfield. During World War II lumber was in high demand, as was labour with many men and women serving their country. A number of mills hired children and women to run the operations, with Swanson Lumber at Fawcett Lake

1. Settlers hauling gear and supplies with horses and wagons over corduroy on wet area crossing

2. 'Trackers' with towrope walking side slope along the bank pulling boats upstream on the Athabasca River (Glenbow Archives)

3. Cordwood cut and stacked along the Athabasca River for steam boats. The boats would use 20 to 60 cords per day (50 to 150m³).





1

having a unique opportunity to use German POWs from the local internment camp. McCrae Lumber at Faust used as many as sixty-five POWs from Germany and Japan to meet their labour force needs.

The forest industry excels at innovation and the early days were no different. Early logging was done with axe and cross-cut saws and later chain saws. Transportation of logs and rough lumber was done by horse and wagon or sleigh, rail, modified trucks and by water. The river drive was the main supply of timber for the Chisholm mill, with the last drive occurring in 1937. This was a dangerous job for those men driving the timber. In 1933, the Athabasca River was high and the log pond at Chisholm broke with approximately one-third of the timber lost down the river.

Many things from the past remain the same today with the forest industry – shortage of labour, enormous innovation, concern for the environment and focus on forest protection. What has changed from the early days are central mills that operate year-round, improved truck and transportation routes that eliminate the need for bush camps, feller bunchers that have eliminated cross-cut and chain saws improving safety, the elimination of the horse and modified truck with the grapple skidder and the delimeter on the landing has replaced the axe. The companies have also diversified their products to ensure near one hundred percent utilization. Great strides have also been made on how forests are reforested and monitored.



2

1. Steam powered sawmill making boards for houses and buildings

2. Dominion Forest Service Forester Harry Holman on log boom, Lesser Slave Lake, 1920





1. Loading railways cars with a jammer, early 1900s

2. Logs jammed in the Salteaux River, low water flow, tight curves, early 1900s

3. Chisholm Sawmills mill at Chisholm along the Athabasca River, 1920s

4. Loading logs from Lesser Slave Lake to rail cars using an A-frame jammer, 1920

5. Chisholm Sawmills, Fawcett Lake camp, 1942. During World War II German POWs worked in this camp. The camp is located where the Government of Alberta recreation area is at West Fawcett Lake.

6. Logs decked alongside the Salteaux River, early 1900s

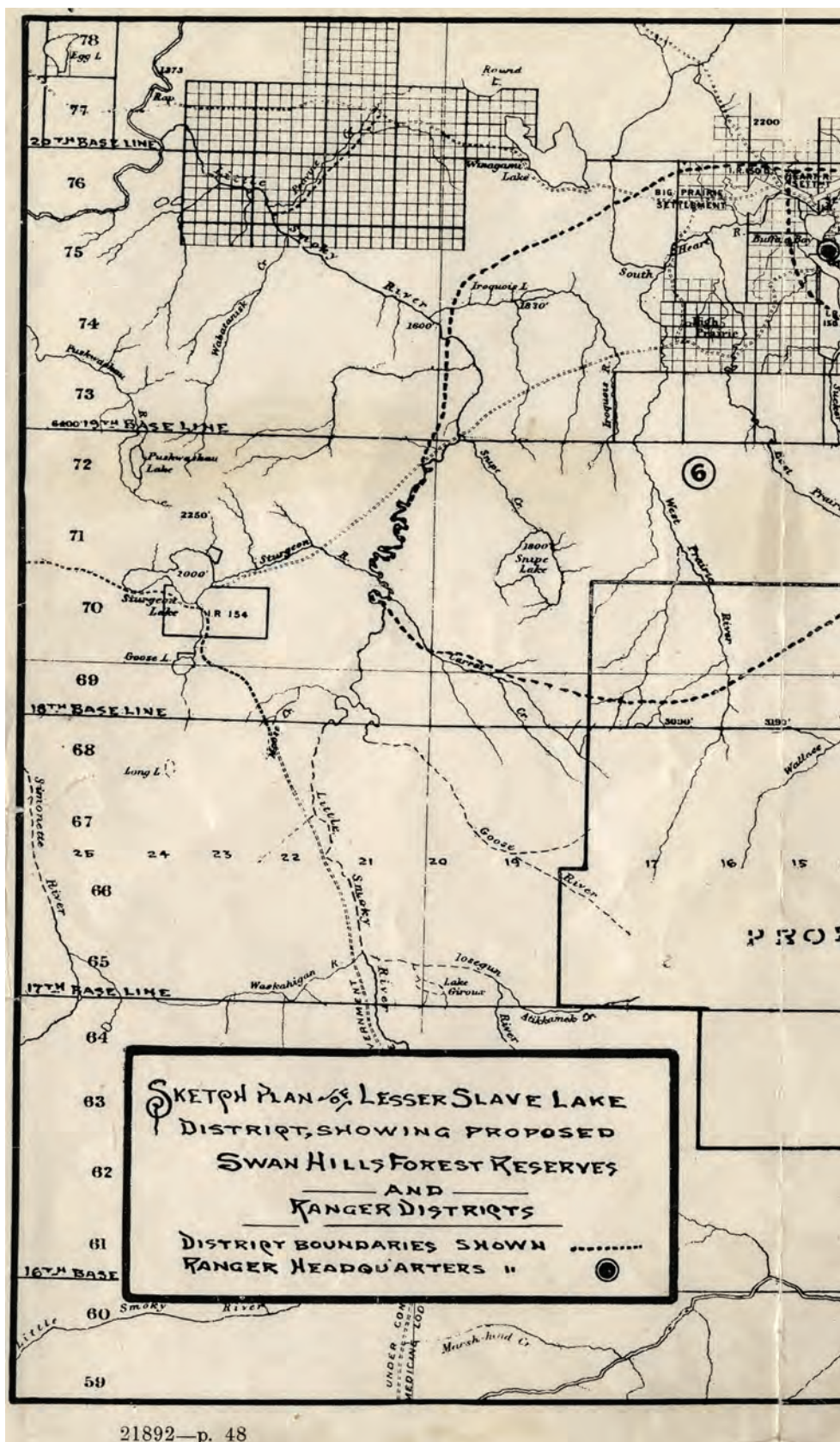
7. Floating camp on the Athabasca River used for crew while driving logs, Chisholm Sawmills

8. Driving logs along the Athabasca River to the Chisholm Sawmill, 1920s

9. Vanderwell Lumber (bush mill) producing rough lumber from Chisholm Sawmills, young Bob Vanderwell with red hat



This map is an early survey done around Slave Lake by the Dominion Forestry Branch, from a report they published in 1912. Terry Kristoff, local Slave Lake forester and historian has carried a dog-eared copy of the Forestry Branch Bulletin No. 29 Report on Timber Conditions Around Lesser Slave Lake for years.





1. Peter Murphy
2. L to R: Kelly O'Shea and Glen Sloan (age 93)
3. Forest History Association of Alberta display
4. L to R: Jim Maitland and Dennis York
5. L to R: MJ Munn Kristoff, Terry Kristoff, Peter Murphy, Con Dermott and Bruce Mayer
6. L to R: Howard Gray and Bill Bereska
7. Terry Kristoff
8. Con Dermott
9. Historic firefighting and communication equipment
10. Historic logging and sawmilling equipment





LUMBERJACKS

Written by George Franklin (while in Propp's Camp, 1965)

*Have you ever been at a sawmill camp
And watched the lumberjacks
Rolling logs with a cant hook
Or limbing trees with an axe*

*Have you ever watched the sawyer
And seen the gleam in his eyes
That says we'll cut fifty thousand
Or know the reason why*

*Have you ever watched the canter
As he moves with speed and grace
And flips the log on the carriage
And dogs it into place*

*It's a sight that's well worth watching
And you stand and gaze with awe
At the roaring diesel units
And the whining circle saw*

*Now I work at such a sawmill
And it's owned by Arthur Propp
And he figures to cut fifty thousand
Before he has to stop*

*He hires a crew of thirty men
And they work from dawn to dark
They figure on fifty thousand feet
And seldom miss their mark*

*They fall the trees with a power saw
And haul them in with trucks
Franklin measures them into logs
And Ernie's the man that bucks*

*Ernest and Merl and Kreiger
Are the crew that goes out to fall
Albert and Art are skidding
So that Gus and Ronnie can haul*

*Joe Deynaka's the sawyer
The canters are Gilbert and Jack
Frenchy rolls on the landing
And sometimes falls on his back*

*Stan Deynaka is feeding the gang saw
And Marvin's the edgerman
Oscar and Allan are tailing the gang
And work as fast as they can*

*Carl is driving the fork lift
And hauls the lumber away
And loading for Bill and Walter
For they make two trips a day*

*Mrs. Propp does the cooking
And the flunky is Mrs. Scharr
But Albert Williams' the bull cook
Is the busiest one by far*

*He fires-up in the morning
And gives the truckers a call
Cuts wood and hauls the water
For he's really on the ball*

*But he says he thinks this winter
Will be his last in camp
But I know they'll miss the bull cook
For he's really been a champ*

*Brian does the scaling and never a log is missed
He marks them down in a little black book
that he has strapped to his wrist
He chalks each log with a number and tallies
up the score
And figures show we're cutting 600 logs or more*

*George Kerr scales the lumber and runs the
office too
He's just about the busiest man I think I ever
knew
But sometimes he gets lonesome and dons his
Sunday duds
And climbs into his Chevy and goes home to
warm his spuds*

*Melvin is always quite busy working around
here and there
Tuning up motors and welding, keeping things
in repair
Jake's the official road builder with the old 15
and blade*

*When you cruise through the timber you
marvel at the miles of road he has made
But the winter soon will be over, the mill will
come to a stop
And the lumber jacks will be saying good-bye to
Mr. and Mrs. Propp
They'll pack their kit bags and blankets, head
out for home once again
They'll fondle that cheque in their pockets and
know it wasn't in vain*



Mr. and Mrs. Art Propp, July,
1991 (P. Goebel)



Art Propp sawmill, south west of Fox Creek,
1960s (J. Deynaka)



Art Propp sawmill, overview of yard and camp,
Fox Creek, 1960s (S. Deynaka)



THE NORTHWEST LUMBER COMPANY

John D. McArthur (1854-1927) had been operating in Manitoba for several years by the time his Canadian Northern Railway reached Edmonton in 1905. This line originated in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. McArthur would continue building railways throughout Alberta for several years to follow. In 1914, J.D. McArthur acquired the rights to timber berths around Lac La Biche, prompting him to erect a sawmill near Edmonton. This resulted in the formation of a new firm called Northwest Lumber Co. While a certain amount of the timber from Lac La Biche was used to make rail ties, the rest would be converted to lumber and sold at his lumberyard in Edmonton. The logging operations at Lac La Biche were discontinued in 1919 (after the town of Lac La Biche burned) and relocated to the Greencourt area. McArthur generally built locomotive tramways from his cutting operations to the main rail lines in order to haul the logs out of the bush. Northwest Lumber Co. continued to log in the Greencourt area until 1932, at which point the sawmill at Edmonton was shut down and the company dissolved. (Echoes of the Forest, Alan Soucie)

1. Nelson Lumber along St Albert Trail, just north of 118 Avenue. This site was the Northwest Lumber Company location in the early 1900s.



1



2



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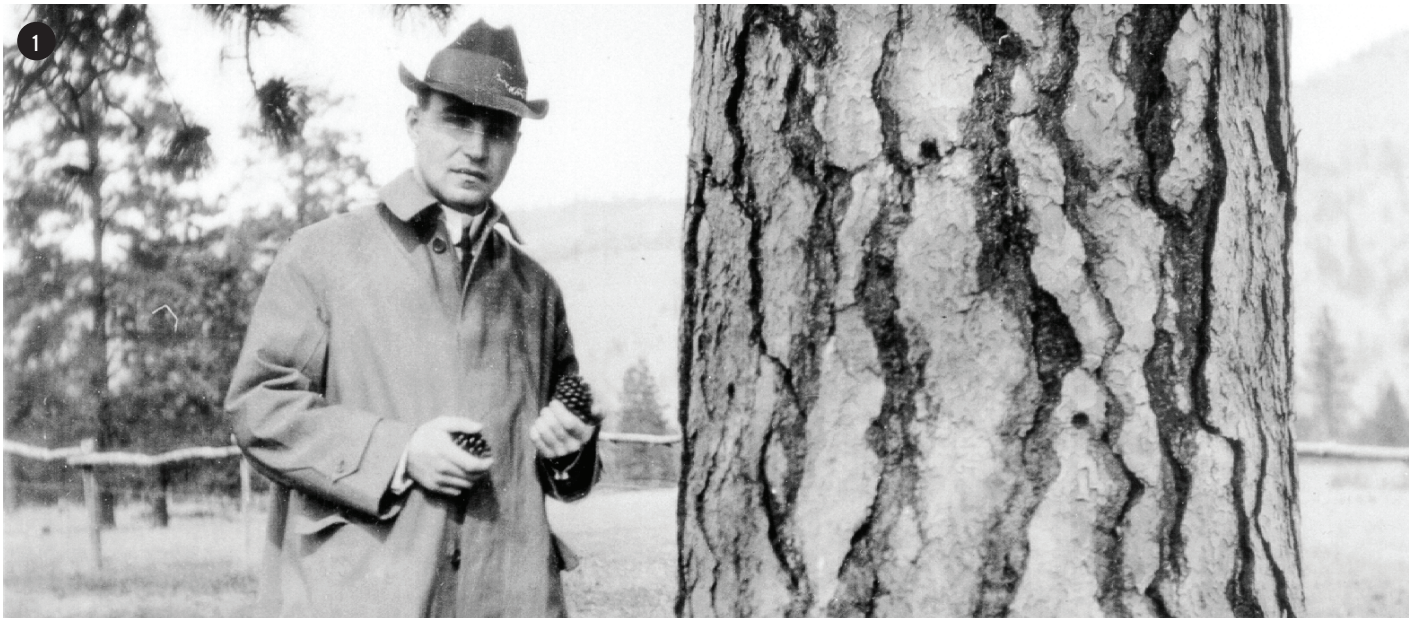
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1. View of Northwest Lumber Company yard, with rail spur, rail line and the (now) St Albert Trail to the right, early 1900s (Glenbow Museum)

2. Northwest Lumber Company, rail car with logs to left of pond, early 1900s, St Albert (Glenbow Museum)

3. Northwest Lumber Company, logs on rail car middle of photo, early 1900s, St Albert (Glenbow Museum)

4. Logs being unloaded, Northwest Lumber Company, St Albert Trail on right, early 1900s (Glenbow Museum)



H.R. MACMILLAN & JIM CLARK

BY PETER MURPHY

The name of H.R. MacMillan is well known to foresters of earlier times. He was the dynamic force behind the MacMillan-Bloedel Forest Products firm, a major player in British Columbia and internationally. MacMillan was born and raised in Ontario. He took forestry courses at Ontario Agricultural College then graduated with a degree in forestry from Yale in 1908. He began his career as a forester with the Dominion Forestry Branch (DFB). He had worked as a seasonal Forestry Apprentice with the DFB since 1903, two seasons at the Indian Head Forest Nursery

for prairie tree planting stock, two in the field surveying for forest reserves, and one at head office in Ottawa. Upon graduation he was appointed Inspector of Forestry Reserves with broad responsibilities for making the Forest Reserve system operational, so he spent a lot of time in the west, especially in Alberta.

By 1908 the broad outlines of the Dominion Forest Reserves had been laid out. They were scattered throughout the prairies on higher ground which supported trees and which were not suitable for agriculture. However, the major

1. H.R. MacMillan, 1912

2. Jim Clark, 1962

3. Reproduction of a letter written by H.R. MacMillan



one was the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve which lay along the east slopes of the Rockies from the US border north for about 900 miles. Its rough outlines were first described in an Order-in Council in 1910. In the fall of 1912, H.R. MacMillan was invited to become Chief Forester of the newly created British Columbia Forest Service. He served until 1915 when he went into business.

Jim Clark was a noted industry forester in Alberta. He was born and raised in Nanaimo, B.C., worked part time at a sawmill and graduated in Forestry from The University of British Columbia in 1949. He was one of the eight graduates hired from that class by Eric Huestis, Alberta Director of Forestry, to expand forest management capability of the Alberta Forest Service. Jim Clark was sent to Rocky Mountain House as an assistant forest superintendent. In 1952 he left to work for the B.C. Forest Service as district silviculturist in Kamloops. He responded to an invitation in

1955 from Des Crossley, newly appointed Chief Forester for North Western Pulp and Power Ltd. in Hinton. Jim accepted and moved to Hinton in August. Jim became Woodlands Manager in 1968 and retired in 1985. During his last two years he served as president of the Alberta Forest Products Association as well as completing his term as president of the Canadian Institute of Forestry. In 1994 he completed his "Forester: A Memoir by James D. Clark", a story about his career in forestry in Alberta. In an epilogue, he described an interesting historical connection between himself and H.R. MacMillan – as well as a connection of MacMillan with the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve and Rocky Mountain House in 1908:

"Rocky has a unique identity for me in that it was the place I earned enough money to repay a \$640 loan to Mr. H.R. MacMillan, which he made to me in 1948 while I attended the University of British Columbia. I still have his thank-you letter."

May 23, 1950

Dear Mr. Clark:

I have your letter of May 8th and wish to express my satisfaction at having been able to help you, and to compliment you on the splendid manner in which you have paid off this loan. I hope that everything goes along well with you.

Yours sincerely,

H.R. MacMillan

It has been 42 years since I was at Rocky Mountain House - 38 years since I set up first forest administration in Alberta and put out field parties on defining east slope boundaries.

HRM

MOON'S MILL: A SAWMILL WAY OF LIFE

BY WANDA ZENNER

Charlie Moon, along with his siblings and widowed mother, Elizabeth, left Orillia, Ontario in 1905 for Edmonton where they resided until 1912 with the elder Moon boys working in lumber camps. Upon hearing of the opportunities for homestead land in the Peace District, the family made the arduous trip over the Edson Trail and settled in an area northwest of the Bezanson Townsite. As all of Charlie's brothers filed on land in close proximity to each other, the area soon became known as the "Moon Settlement". To supplement the farming income, Charlie, as many others in the area, would work in lumber camps in the winter months. Once

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lumbering had become a way of life for Charlie, he could foresee an opportunity for a profitable business venture. Charlie along with his brother Pete, operated a mill for several years in the 1930's along the Wapiti River south of their farms. Charlie had purchased a mill that had originally operated on the banks of Bear Creek in Grande Prairie. It was probably the remains of the Grande Prairie Planing Mill, owned by H.R. Walker which burnt in August 1932. When crown land became available for timber berths northeast of Crooked Creek, Charlie found an excellent stand of white spruce that had never been ravaged by fire. He had a new sawmill built in Edmonton and moved his operation to the area legally known as N ½ LSD 2-22-71-25-W5 (20 acres). The mill was powered by two steamers, one of which was a

165 Case. He moved in 1940 and started sawing in 1941. In 1946, he entered into a partnership with Hector Morrison of Grande Prairie, forming the "Crooked Creek Lumber Company". The operation soon became known simply as "Moon's Mill".

The mill-site and camp became a small village with twenty-six log cabins for married men and their families, a store complete with gas pumps, a cookhouse, shops and two bunkhouses – one large enough to house twenty men and another smaller one. A large log building was erected which served as a school and dance hall. The aboriginal workers also had a camp of log cabins in an area slightly removed from the other cabins. Cooks included Ada Bryenton, Rosie Dorscheid, Thelma Ames with her

1. Charlie Moon and Elsie Ames who was employed as the book-keeper and storekeeper, on the steps of the store

2. Moon's Mill Crooked Creek, 1941





husband, George, fulfilling the “flunky” duties. Pete Doerkson was hired to maintain the livestock; specifically the cows that supplied the fresh dairy products. He also butchered the pigs that the cooks would use for meal preparation and also saw to it that fresh pork was available for sale at the store. Any purchases at the store would be deducted from wages earned. Water for the camp was hauled

with horses and a stone boat. Many employees stayed at the camp year-round and would continue to saw and pile lumber in the summer. As in any small community, entertainment usually consisted of dances on Saturday nights or alternatively, card parties.

Charlie Ames moved his family to the mill once he found employment as a steam engineer and eventually spent seven years on location. In an

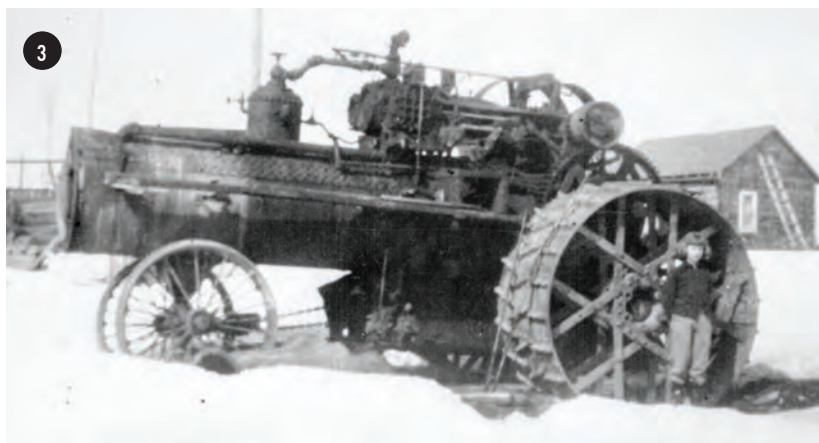
effort to provide an atmosphere of life whereby employees could bring their families that often consisted of school-age children, Charlie sought the assistance of Stan Hambly, a former school inspector, to see if it would be feasible to provide educational instruction at the mill. A special permit was granted to operate a private school during the winter months. Mrs. Betty Moon was the first teacher followed by

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1. Charlie Moon's house at the Mill – sons Ross and Grant

2. Betty Moon's pupils

3. Steam powered grader, Jean Scott standing in rear wheel



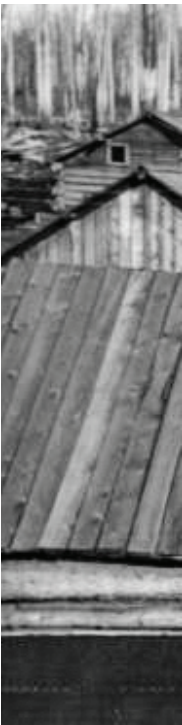
Mrs. Isobel Moody in September, 1948 for one year while Mrs. Moon was on maternity leave. The teacher often had as many as 20 to 25 pupils receiving instruction at one time. The school opened on November 7, 1947 and operated until June 28, 1952.

The Dorscheid family of Glen Leslie, who had sub-contracted timber from the Crooked Creek Lumber Company, located their

mill-site slightly north of Moon's Mill. Their employees' children also attended school at Moon's Mill. The sawmill crew consisted of fifty percent aboriginal workers, mostly skidders and loggers. Some of the employees of the mill itself included sawyers – Vern Sederstrom, Art Loewen, Bill Chapman; boilermen - Pete Wright, Charlie Ames and Otto Miller; canter - Elmer McLaughlin. Emery

Parrish hauled logs with a four-up team and sleigh, Paul Diemert and Cliff Loewen skidded the logs with horses. As in any operation there can be serious accidents; Harry Nellis one of the repairman, lost a portion of his arm.

Moon's Mill operated from 1941 to 1953 and could produce 40,000 FBM per day. They logged in the winter but sawed year-round. The operation had started logging with



" BY 1955, THE OPERATION HAD SEVERAL HUNDRED EMPLOYEES AND AN ANNUAL PAYROLL RUNNING INTO THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WITH PLYWOOD BEING SHIPPED ACROSS CANADA AND POINTS BEYOND. "

1. Wes Reimer's Truck - Moon's Mill
2. Moon's Mill 1949
3. Remains of mill site, 1977
4. Remains of cook house, 1977
5. Legal Land description of Moon's Mill

crosscut saws and horses and ended with power saws, cats and arch trucks. By 1945-46, a gas-powered 30hp caterpillar hauled the sloops to skid the logs. Donny Norton had two IHC Arch Trucks that skidded from the bush. The mill operation had a planer-mill but seldom used it. The rough boards were cut three inches thick and then shipped to the Northern Planing Mill in Grande Prairie where they were planed down to two inches.

In 1946, Bickell & Swallow Lumber Company and Crooked Creek Lumber Company formed a new company, Northern Planing Mills and located the business in Grande Prairie at 9649-94 Avenue, an area that was next to the Northern Alberta Railway Yard. The location is currently occupied by Prairie Sunrise Towers. Although the operation was very successful with

the profits being split proportionate to the volume of lumber supplied, the mill was destroyed by fire in April 1953 and not rebuilt.

In 1952 Hector Morrison and Charlie Moon along with the Bickell's, Roy, Bob, Bill and John incorporated Northern Plywoods Ltd. to produce plywood from poplar logs. Veneer began to be produced in the spring of 1953, followed by the production of plywood. By now Moon's Mill at Crooked Creek had completed the timber berth requirements stipulated by the Province and essentially closed down. Once the mill was vacated, the Scott family, who were operating a mill nearby, lived in the "Moon's Mill Store" for the first winter only. The two steamers that powered the mill were eventually obtained by Stan Reynolds of Wetaskiwin who was



collecting period-specific artifacts and equipment for display. He donated his collection to the Province of Alberta who established the Reynolds-Alberta Museum that subsequently opened in 1992.

By 1955, the operation had several hundred employees and an annual payroll running into the millions of dollars with plywood being shipped across Canada and points beyond. Canadian Forest Products Ltd. of Vancouver, BC became interested in the enterprise and bought out Hector Morrison's and Charlie Moon's shares in the Company. The plywood plant was located on Hector Morrison's land, which at that time was quite a distance out of town. Sears and the Real Canadian Superstore (12225 to 12429-99 Street, Grande Prairie) are currently located on the old mill-site.

It was the end of an era for Charlie Moon. An era that was initiated as a small-scale sawmill and ended with the sale of his interest in the only plywood factory in Alberta. He had returned to the farm in Bezanson in 1953 and continued farming until his death in 1967. The community was deeply saddened at the loss of a pioneer who had contributed immensely to the development of the area through his many business ventures.

(References: Charlie Wales interview; Sharon (Moody) Dodd; "My Story" by Roy Bickell; "Smoky to Grande Prairie" History Book; "Sawmills: Across the Smoky" History Book; "Leslie & Morrison Family History" courtesy of Bill Leslie; Ross & Theresa Moon - all photos except for those specifically noted otherwise; Jean (Scott) Rynsburger)



N ½ LSD 2-22-71-25-W5 (20 acres)

13	14	15	16
NW		NE	
12	11	10	9
5678			
SW		SE	
4321		MOON'S MILL 20 acres	



ARCHIVAL DONATION GUIDE: CANADIAN FOREST HISTORY PRESERVATION PROJECT

BY DAVID BROWNSTEIN - KLAHANIE RESEARCH LTD AND UBC GEOGRAPHY.

Editor's Note: Originally published in The Forestry Chronicle, Dec 2014. We thank the editors for permission to republish this work here.

The Canadian Forest History Preservation Project's mandate is to protect Canada's forest history by identifying at risk collections and helping facilitate their placement in archival repositories. While preservation has always been a concern, our current efforts respond to the threat of historic document loss posed by consolidation in the forest industry and an ageing population. As historic papers are often space consumptive, and hold little current utility or personal meaning, they may not be welcome at either the office or home. They are, however, invaluable to the archives. We need your assistance to ensure that precious forest history documents don't end up in the landfill or the recycle bin.

This guide will help you decide whether you have historic records that ought to be preserved in an archives, or whether it is OK to send unwanted papers for recycling.

If you have things that you think warrant preservation, you will find important details here on the process of archival donation. We will not be covering objects. Objects of historic value belong in a museum rather than the archives.

PART 1. DECIDING IF YOU SHOULD DONATE.

WHY DONATE?

By donating to the archives, you will become part of a greater public project to preserve the historical record and to make this knowledge available to future generations.

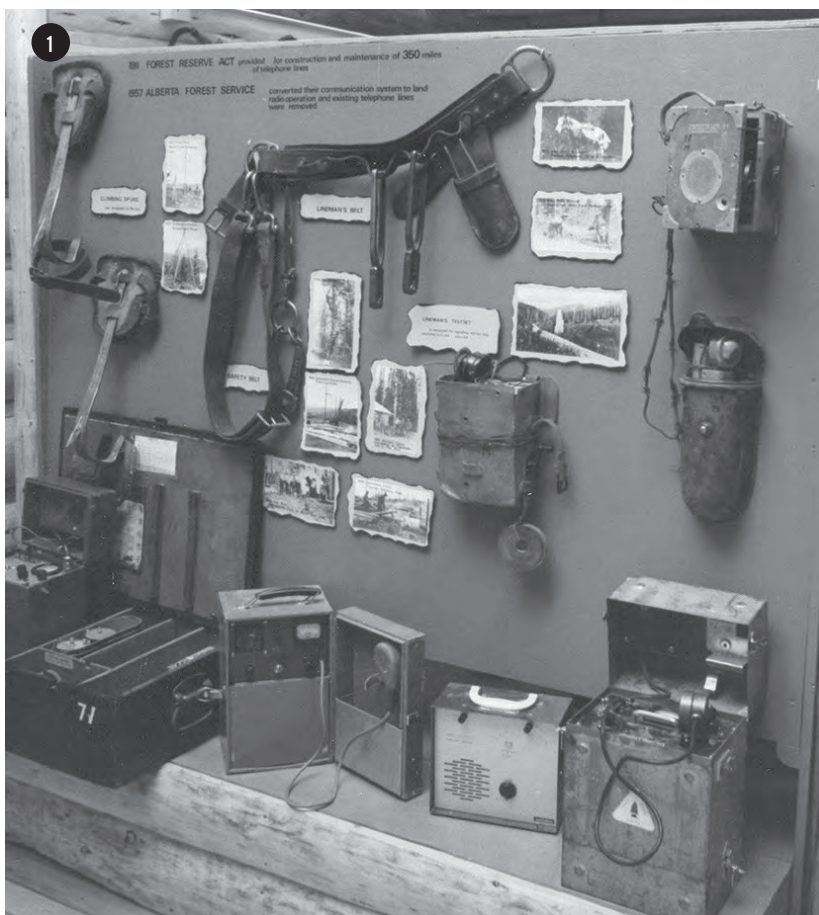
What is worth keeping? What might an archives want?

Overwhelmingly, archives collect primary sources. Primary sources may be loosely defined as unique, eye-witness records that intentionally, or inadvertently, document historical events,

processes and procedures, and mind-sets of an earlier time. They may be produced by an individual such as a diary or a manuscript, take the form of an organization's minutes, a company's report or statistics, or even government correspondence. Primary sources are not always written sources. Archives collect photographs, films, maps, artwork, as well as sound and video recordings.

Archives do not typically collect secondary sources, often synonymous with published materials such as books or magazines. While a very old copy of a published journal such as the Forestry Chronicle might seem valuable, it is unlikely that an archives will want it. Chances are good that many institutions, particularly libraries, already have

1. Dominion Forest Service Ranger, early 1900's, Rocky Mountains Reserve



1. Radio's and equipment used for telephone line maintenance—climbing spurs, linesman belt, AFS Museum, 1980's

“ BY DONATING TO THE ARCHIVES, YOU WILL BECOME PART OF A GREATER PUBLIC PROJECT TO PRESERVE THE HISTORICAL RECORD AND TO MAKE THIS KNOWLEDGE AVAILABLE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS. ”

a copy of something that was once widely distributed. One exception to this rule is if the secondary source has been heavily annotated, especially if the annotations were made by someone of historical interest. Marginalia, underlined passages and readers' notes increase the archival value of old published works.

PHYSICAL CONDITION: WHAT SORT OF SHAPE ARE MY RECORDS IN?

Archives do not require that your records be in pristine physical condition. When assessing a donation, however, they will consider possible long-term conservation costs and threats to other holdings.

Documents contaminated with mould or bugs will likely be rejected as a danger to the larger collection. Objects in very poor condition will only be considered if they hold great historical value. If you want to donate in the future, it is important to take good care of your records today. You can do this by storing your records in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE MY COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHIVES?

In a word, don't! When preparing to make an archival donation, you may be tempted to sort, cull, weed, clean, and organize your collection. Archivists frown on this practice, and for good reason.

While your pre-selection and pre-ordering may seem helpful, it may actually devalue and damage the collection. You could unintentionally throw out the most valuable documents. Please leave your collection as is, and let an archivist make these determinations. Where you see value, and where an archivist sees value, may lie in different places. It is important not to throw anything away.

If there is sensitive information, the archives may be able to arrange restricted access until a future date. As for cleaning, or damage to your objects, archives employ trained conservationists for this purpose.

Don't risk destroying a valuable piece of history.

One way you can help is by providing contextual information or provenance about your potential donation. Perhaps you can identify people in a photograph, know a missing creation date, or backstory, which increases knowledge or understanding of the gift. If so, please make notes to accompany the records. Take care not to write this information on the documents. Instead, provide a separate sheet of information. Should the archives agree to accept the donation, an archivist may be able to provide you with assistance.

FINDING THE RIGHT MATCH: WHERE TO DONATE?

Your provincial forest history group will have suggestions on where to best direct your forest history-related collection. The Canadian Forest History Preservation Project also has a national list of archives

that wish to expand their forest history holdings. You can find the contact information at the end of this document.

When considering where to donate, it is important to understand that all archives are not the same. Archives vary in size, facilities, staff, funding, and mandate. Bigger does not always mean better, but larger institutions may offer increased preservation and security for your donation.

All archives have a pre-determined set of criteria to focus the institution's collection. The most common constraint is jurisdictional, meaning archives will only accept documents relating to their own region, and will refer all other documents elsewhere. If your records are of local significance, it is best to approach a municipal archives. If your papers have broader regional or historic significance, they may be better placed at a university, provincial, or even national archives.

Topic should also influence your repository choice. Some archives have thematic goals, often determined by what is significant to their region, or current trends in research. An archives may have a very specific mandate such as the collection of railway history, or simply a pre-existing concentration of holdings, such as logging, famous botanists, or cartography.

If you have fragile documents, ask about the use of climate control in storage facilities, and how the facility plans to address long-term conservation issues relating to your gift.

You may also want to enquire after the institution's current accession

1. Alberta Forest Service Museum,
Hinton, Alberta



1. Joe 'Lucky' Lieskovsky in the Forestry paint shop where he was responsible for creating and making signs for the department, early 1960's

2. Walt Disney, creator of the Bertie Beaver mascot, at McCall Airport in Calgary, 1965

backlog, and its impact on your donation. Due to staff and funding shortages, many institutions have a substantial lag between the time that a donation is gifted, and when it is accessible to researchers. To overcome this obstacle, some institutions encourage monetary donations, when possible, to accompany physical gifts. These funds permit the archives to hire additional help to begin cataloguing your gift now, to become available to researchers sooner.

SIGNIFICANCE: HOW DOES MY COLLECTION CONTRIBUTE TO THE HISTORICAL RECORD?

While nobody truly knows how the past will be perceived by future generations, and what questions they will pose, archives have established criteria to help determine historical value. The most important consideration is a document's capacity to help explain a bigger local, provincial, or national historical picture. Typically, if a document has relevance to something greater than itself, such as an interest group, movement, historical event, or field of study, it will hold increased value for the archives.



THE MORE THE MERRIER

Unlike museums that acquire rare, individual artifacts, archives collect large groups of thematically-related records called "fonds", which are organized around their creator (significant individual, company, or organization), and retain the creator's original structure when possible. Documents diverse as business papers, personal correspondence, photographs, maps, and diaries, can be grouped in a single fonds. What is important is the relationship between the sum parts. Each item derives meaning, not only from itself, but from its relationship to the whole.

PART 2. HOW TO DONATE. WHAT HAPPENS ONCE AN ARCHIVES ACCEPTS MY DONATION?

NEGOTIATING THE TRANSFER OF YOUR RECORDS: ACCESS, COPYRIGHT, TAX CREDITS

When the archivist has identified your documents as historically significant, and wishes to acquire them, you can expect some legal paper work.

First, you must be sure that you are ready to part with your donation.



Archives will almost never accept material on loan. Limited resources constrain their operations, and they don't have the time or money to care for objects beyond their own collection. If parting with your donation is difficult, consider a future bequest in your will. Most archives are very experienced at this, and have the proper paperwork to ensure that your wishes can be realized at a later date.

If you are ready to make the donation, the archives will want to know if someone else might hold a competing claim. For instance, just because you are keen to donate your parents' old photos, do your siblings share your enthusiasm?

Another question to consider when making your donation is the right of access. If you have sensitive information which you want protected for a reasonable period, you must negotiate these details prior to the transfer. This period may be stipulated to end at a pre-determined time, or cease upon the death of all parties associated with the material. You may further wish to place restrictions on who is permitted to access the material, and under what conditions. Enquire about the archives' access policy to learn more.

TRANSFER OF COPYRIGHT

During your donation, expect to be asked for the transfer of copyright. The archives will require you to cede your right to control reproductions of the gift, so that they may grant reproduction rights to future researchers. Without this permission, a researcher would be able to consult a document, but be unable to reproduce it in a book, government report, internet blog, or even a student paper. To gain reproduction rights, the researcher would need to seek out your permission, or the permission of whomever holds the copyright.



1. Many of the badges worn by Forest Rangers and Forest Officers over the last 100 years

2. Radio Operator Joe Wuetherick in front of a bank of teletype machines c. 1955

Current ownership of copyright is also important. While you may physically possess archival material, you may not hold its copyright. Typically, copyright belongs to the person who created the object. So, a photographer would hold copyright of his photographs, a professor would control copyright of her papers, and a business would own copyright of its records.

However, this is not always the case. Individual copyright is often ceded in commercial and government settings, copyright can be sold or transferred, and copyright lapses after a proscribed period of time. For more information, talk to the archives about your particular situation.

APPRAISALS FOR TAX RECEIPTS

Archival donations are eligible for tax credits in Canada. Some repositories can appraise your gift for these purposes. At others, this is the responsibility of the donor. Please discuss this topic with the facility in advance of your donation. Most archives will be happy to accommodate your request.

WHAT HAPPENS ONCE I'VE TRANSFERRED MY DONATION?

Once you've transferred your documents to the archives, they will be described and catalogued as part of the institution's collection, assessed for possible conservation needs, and placed in a storage facility for safe-keeping. These records will be entered into a searchable computer database, card-catalogue, and/or paper finding aid to help researchers navigate the institution's materials.

Your papers will be kept together as a single collection, which will never be dispersed. What unifies your collection is its creator. It does not matter if it contains information about a variety of places, themes or issues. Your collection will be assembled together.

Unlike a library, archives do not operate as an open stack where a researcher can physically browse the holdings. Instead, the researcher must submit a request to the archivist, citing the appropriate accession number to be retrieved from a closed stack. Frequently, especially with larger facilities, not all records are held on site. In these instances, researchers must return at a later date to view the recalled documents. Documents are always viewed on-site, and in the case of fragile, valuable records, under the supervision of an archivist.



HOW ARE MY RECORDS DOCUMENTED?

Your documents will be represented in a standardized, hierarchical format, which explains their contents at a macro and micro level. The highest level of description is called the fonds, which refers to the entire record group. Typical fonds are the collected works of a person or family, government department, or organization. Fonds level descriptions summarize the thematic and physical content of a record group and are sometimes accompanied by a terse, contextual biography or history. Fonds are sub-divided and organized into major themes called series. Series might represent work within a company department, a piece of legislation, a project, or some other significant aspect of the records. Series are further sub-divided into similar documents which share boxes, files, and ultimately into the individual objects themselves. Document level descriptions indicate information

such as author, publisher, subject, date, size, material, and scale, varying with the type of documents represented.

While item level detail is the ideal scenario for record description, it is labour intensive and not representative of most archival holdings. Individual records are more commonly listed as the contents of a fonds, and are located through a finding aid. For instance, a finding aid may note that there are 25 letters of correspondence between the Minister of Forests and a sawmill operator.

WILL MY DONATION BE DIGITIZED?

In the internet age, we've become accustomed to a glut of digitized information. You may have visited websites of some of the larger archival repositories, and have been overwhelmed at the extent of information available on-line. However, even at institutions with large digital libraries, only a

small portion of records, typically high-demand, are accessible in this format. While it is possible that your donation may be digitized, it is not the most probable outcome. Digitization is expensive. If you want your material to be digitized, you will likely have to make a large financial donation.

This guide has been undertaken with the support of The Canadian Forest Service, The Network in Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE), and The Forest History Association of British Columbia.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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www.fhabc.org

Forest History Society of Ontario

info@ontarioforesthistory.ca
www.ontarioforesthistory.ca

Société d'histoire forestière du Québec

shfq@videotron.ca
www.shfq.ca

NiCHE, The Network in Canadian History and Environment

www.niche-canada.org

INTERNATIONAL:

Forest History Society

www.foresthistory.org



THE UNVEILING OF CLARENCE SAWYER

BY BARRY SHELLIAN AND KEVIN GAGNE

In the January 2014 issue of *Trails & Tails*, eight photographs were published depicting the life, travels and family of an unknown Alberta Forest Ranger in the 1930s. These were also published in *Rocky Mountain House* and *Red Deer* newspapers, in the hope of identifying the Ranger. Several leads came in, taking us to Calgary to speak with Jean Maser the sister-in-law of Clarence Sawyer.

Clarence Sawyer, one of 14 children, was born in 1895 in Bemedji, Ontario and came west with his father to the Swift Current

area and then to Calgary to file for homestead land. At age 13, Clarence drove a horse wagon, by himself, to Calgary where he met his father and family. The Sawyer family proceeded to their Caroline area homestead in 1909. Clarence began his military career in 1916 and was assigned to the Forty-Ninth Infantry overseas where he was accidentally gassed during training which resulted in pneumonia. Returning to the Caroline area in 1918, Clarence worked on the homestead and at odd jobs. He began his forestry career in 1926

1. Clearwater Ranger Station

2. Copy of letter from E.H. Finlayson, Director of Forestry, Department of the Interior, to Clarence Sawyer advising him that his position was terminated as a result of the transfer of natural resources to the Province of Alberta. Mr. Sawyer was then hired by the new Alberta Forest Service.

DIRECTOR OF FORESTRY,
E. H. FINLAYSON, B.Sc.F.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FILE DESIGNATION

47885 Forestry

YOUR FILE

Forest Service,

Ottawa, 17th December, 1930

Dear Mr. Sawyer,

It is with sincere regret that I carry out the duty now devolving on me of advising you that your period of active employment with this Service terminated on the 8th of November last, by reason of the transfer of natural resources to the Province.

I desire to take advantage of this opportunity to express on behalf of the Department its recognition of the loyal and efficient service you have so freely rendered. I question whether any branch of government has witnessed a greater spirit of co-operation than it has been our good fortune to enjoy in the Forest Service, and it has not therefore been possible for us at Head Office to view altogether unmoved the dispersal of so fine an organization.

There remains but to express my personal sense of obligation for your substantial contribution to the success which we have in the past obtained, and my sincere good wishes for your future happiness and prosperity. You may rest assured that the Department will take all possible steps to ensure that you may receive every consideration in the way of retiring leave to which you may be entitled.

Faithfully yours,

Director of Forestry.

C. Sawyer, Esq.,
Caroline, ALBERTA.



at the Clearwater Ranger Station with the Federal Dominion Forestry Branch and transferred to the Alberta Forest Service in 1930. Working out of Clearwater Ranger Station, Clarence patrolled to the Meadows cabin area and built the Idlewilde cabin. Sawyer went on to conduct one of the first surveys of timber wolves in the province in the mid-1940s. The results were presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Mammologists in Washington, D.C. and published in the *Journal of Mammology* in 1950. Clarence retired as a Game Inspector with Fish and Game in Pincher Creek on August 3, 1960.

In a letter from E.S. Huestis, "I have in my office a list of names of people in forestry and fish and game who were employed by the department when I first came to Edmonton in 1940 and who are still with us. When you retire the list will be reduced to 16 people. This makes you one of the old old-timers in the organization."

His wife Helen, seen in many of the photographs, worked as a secretary for Fish and Wildlife. The others depicted in the albums were Helen's brother Robert Forster, his wife Gertie and Jean Maser, sister to Robert and Helen. Clarence had a passion for photography, which provided some excellent photos, but the collection provided few of the Ranger himself. Jean remembered the album well and shared with us the other two photo albums from the set. ESRD was proud to be able to return a recreated lost album to the family and was able to collect over 300 photos taken of the west country.

1. Assistant Ranger Roy Hughie breaking horses

2. Banff Park Boundary Mile 51, Clearwater Trail

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



JUNE 20, 2015

LOGGER SPORTS
COMPETITION

12 - 5pm
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

Contact Kat Spencer at
katherine.j.spencer@gmail.com
for further information



JUNE 21, 2015

LOGGER SPORTS
COMPETITION

11am - 5pm
Morinville, Alberta

Contact Kat Spencer at
katherine.j.spencer@gmail.com
for further information



JUNE 25, 2015

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING

Slave Lake, AB

Contact Richard Horne at
Richard.Horne@gov.ab.ca
for further information



AUGUST 18-19, 2015

50TH ANNUAL JUNIOR FOREST
RANGER CELEBRATION

Cold Creek
Fire Base Camp

Contact Brett Spady at
Brett.Spady@gov.ab.ca
for further information



MARCH 5-6, 2016

31ST ANNUAL AFS OLD TIMERS
HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Athabasca Multiplex
Athabasca, Alberta

Contact Charlene Guerin at
Charlene.Guerin@gov.ab.ca
for further information



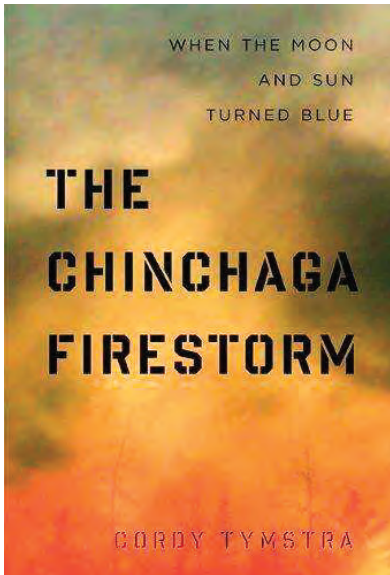
MARCH 5-6, 2016

40TH ANNUAL
E.S. HUESTIS BONSPIEL

Athabasca Multiplex
Athabasca, Alberta

Contact Greg Boyachuk at
Greg.Boyachuk@gov.ab.ca
for further information

HOT OFF THE PRESS



THE CHINCHAGA FIRESTORM: WHEN THE MOON AND SUN TURNED BLUE

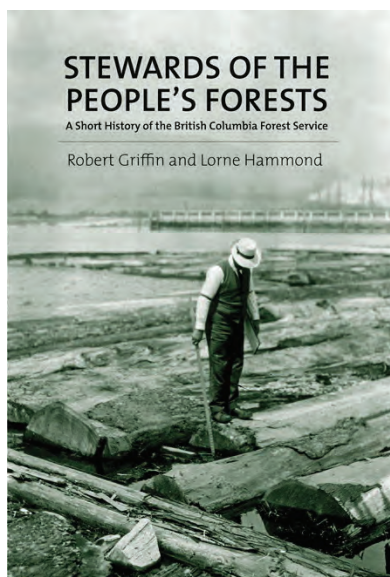
BY CORDY TYMSTRA

The biggest firestorm documented in North America - 3,500,000 acres of forest burned in northern Alberta and British Columbia - created the world's largest smoke layer in the atmosphere.

The smoke was seen around the world, causing the moon and the sun to appear blue. The Chinchaga Firestorm is a historical study of the effects of fire on the ecological process. Using technical explanations and archival discoveries, the author shows the

beneficial yet destructive effects of forest fires, including the 2011 devastation of Slave Lake, Alberta.

Cordy Tymstra tells the stories of communities and individuals as their lives intersected with the path of the wildfire - stories that demonstrate people's spirit, resourcefulness, self-sufficiency, and persistence in the struggle against nature's devastating power. The 1950 event changed the way these fires are fought in Alberta. Forest fire scientists, foresters, forest ecologists and policy makers, as well as those who are interested in western Canadian history and ecology, will definitely want this book in their library.

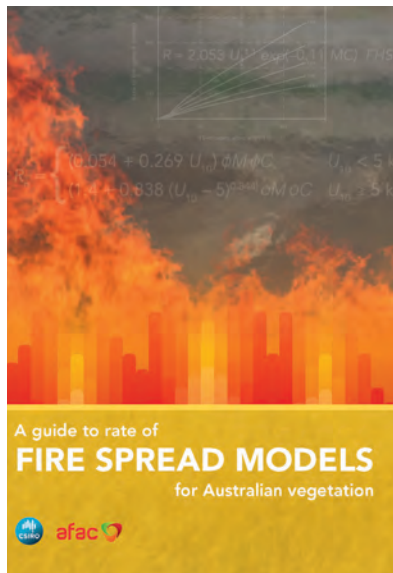


STEWARDS OF THE PEOPLE'S FORESTS: A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BC FOREST SERVICE

BY ROBERT GRIFFIN AND
LORNE HAMMOND

Begun in an industrial forestry crisis, the creation of the British Columbia Forest Branch in 1912 marked the start of over a century of service by the many women and men who served as stewards of British Columbia's forests. It is a remarkable story. This book honours those decades of service and presents a small portion of the many events and personalities that mark the evolution of British Columbians' relationship with their forest history.

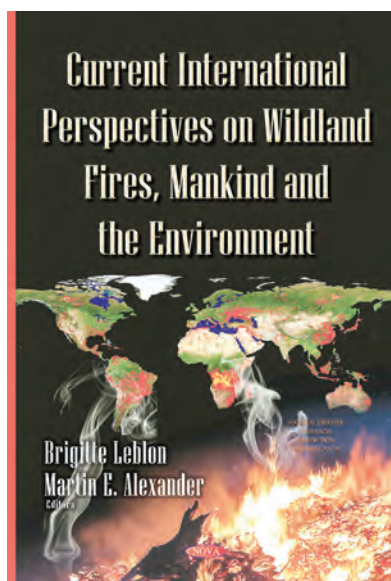
Historians Robert Griffin and Lorne Hammond tell the story of the BC Forest Branch--renamed the Forest Service in 1947- over a century of stewardship of the province's largest industry. The authors relate not just the big stories involving the major personalities, such as H.R. MacMillan, Ernest Manning, C.D. Orchard and Ray Williston, but also the front-line foresters, rangers and firefighters who dedicated their lives--and sometimes risked them--to protect BC's forests. This book is about a group of people who made an important contribution to the growth of British Columbia as an economic force in North America.



A GUIDE TO RATE OF FIRE SPREAD MODELS FOR AUSTRALIAN VEGETATION
BY DR. MARTY ALEXANDER

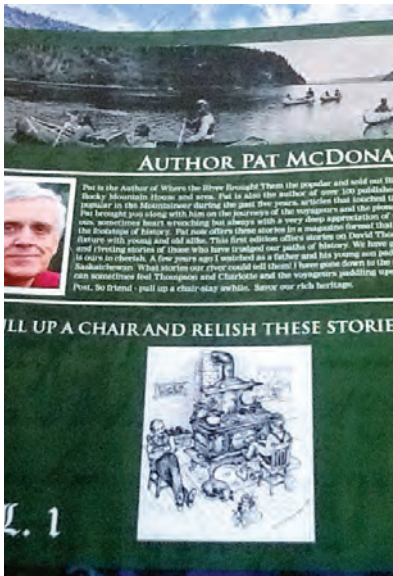
Dr. Alexander is one of six authors, the other five all hailing from Australia. The objective of this book was to provide a technical description of the models presently used operationally in Australia to predict bushfire rate of spread. According to AFAC CEO Stuart Ellis, "Different fire spread models work in different burning conditions. The challenge is knowing which to apply in formulating accurate and timely

predictions. This publication will assist fire managers and incident managers in making decisions for the best outcomes in different bushfire conditions. These are decisions that can save lives." This book was jointly published by the CSIRO Land and Water Flagship of Australia and the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC).



CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON WILDLAND FIRE, MANKIND AND THE ENVIRONMENT
BY DR. MARTY ALEXANDER

This book constitutes a co-edited affair with Dr. Brigitte Leblon, a professor with the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management at the University of New Brunswick. The book, published by Nova Science Publishers consists of a collection of nine chapters covering topics that support the management of wildfires and prescribed fires written by authors based in the northern and southern hemispheres.



WHERE THE RIVER BROUGHT THEM OUR PRECIOUS HERITAGE ARTICLES

BY PAT MCDONALD

Dear friends of "Our Precious Heritage". For the past year I have been planning to republish my popular Pioneer and Fur Trade Articles that appeared on the pages of the Rocky Mountain House Mountaineer in an easily readable glossy print magazine format with large print. It has happened.

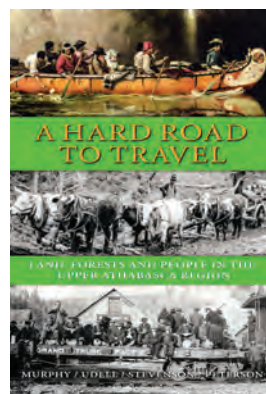
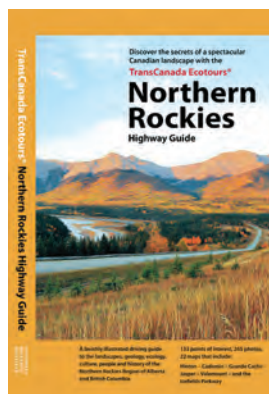
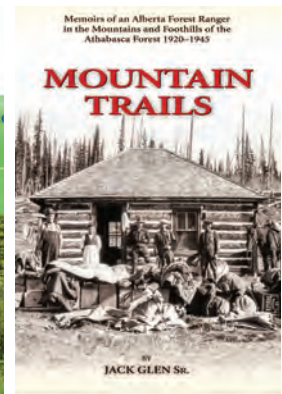
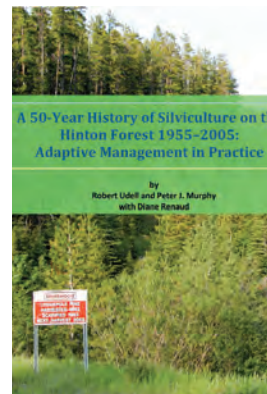
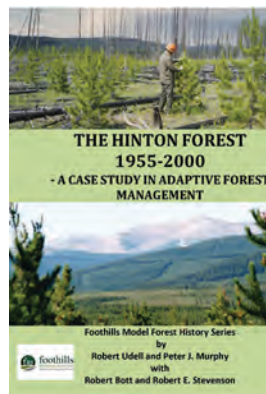
The first volume will contain thirteen of your favourite stories including the Dambusters (Fred Sutherland story in WW II). The initial magazine has arrived and I am satisfied. A lot of hours went into the writing of these stories and now you the reader will have

a magazine that can be easily mailed to friends or perhaps kept for children and grandchildren to at least know something of our great history. This first publication will only be 500 exclusive copies unless the demand exceeds this.

After costs are covered I hope to be able to give proceeds to our hard working museums. I do not want any personal profits. The price of magazine including GST will most likely be \$10.00 only. The first printing run should be ready by the end of February. Is it possible to mention to your relatives not living here especially seniors who were a great part of this Heritage? I do want to give them or their children ample opportunity to access this and future publications.

E-BOOKS

FRI RESEARCH HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED CONVERSION WORK ON A NUMBER OF ITS PUBLISHED BOOKS INTO AN INTERACTIVE E-BOOK FORMAT. INFORMATION ON THESE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE AT FOOTHILLSRI.CA/PROGRAM/FOREST-HISTORY-PROGRAM.





“NEW” PHOTOGRAPH OF M.P. BRIDGLAND

BY PETER MURPHY AND ROB THORBURN

Rob Thorburn, retired Director of the Hinton Training Centre, interviewed Lorne Larson in June, 2014, to record his recollections about his father's career as a Forest Ranger in Alberta. Lorne is third in a three-generation family with a "forestry" connection. First was his grandfather Harry G. Ennis, a renowned guide and outfitter who had also worked for the Dominion Forestry Branch. Second was his

father, Carl Larson a forest ranger who had married Harry's daughter Marjorie. Lorne worked seasonally for the Alberta Forest Service for about six years but his career took a different path. Among Lorne's collection of family photographs was one labelled "M.P. Bridgland, D.L.S.", which features Bridgland seated on a horse at a camp in a mountain valley. What makes this story particularly interesting is that

1. Morrison Parsons Bridgland, c. 1927. Lorne Larson Collection, Forest History Association of Alberta

1. P. (Pete) Campbell, W. (Bill) Shankland and H.G. (Harry) Ennis, Forest Rangers, Clearwater Forest, c. 1924. Lorne Larson Collection, Forest History Association of Alberta

there are very few photographs in which Bridgland appears. As author I.S. MacLaren noted: "In fact, not a single photograph of Bridgland himself has survived that shows him alone. He is always in the company of others."¹

Morrison Parsons Bridgland was a noted Dominion Land Surveyor (DLS) whose life and career were well described by author and historian I.S. MacLaren in his *Mapper of Mountains: M.P. Bridgland in the Canadian Rockies 1902 – 1930*². Bridgland was a pioneer in the use of panoramic photographs as an adjunct to triangulation surveys and topographic mapping. He applied the technique in 1915 when he conducted his now-celebrated survey along the Athabasca River through Jasper Park. It is remarkable that during his three-month field season, he established 92 photograph stations and took over 700 photographs. As a result, he not only mapped the area with contour lines, he captured the state of the forests as they existed in 1915, including evidence of recent fires, leaving a record that became the focus of a repeat photography project in 1999.³ We believe it is likely that Harry Ennis took this photograph in 1927 somewhere north and west of Entrance when both Ennis and Bridgland were working in that area.⁴ An alternate year and location is 1924 in the Upper Saskatchewan area of the



Clearwater Forest west of Nordegg. Both Ennis and Bridgland were working in that area, too. The nature of the country seems more representative of the Entrance area.

The provenance of Larson's photographs starts in the Nordegg area of the Clearwater Forest. William Shankland was chief forest ranger at Nordegg that year for the Dominion Forestry Branch (DFB). His assistants included B.P. (Bert) Alford and J.F. Smeaton, both of whom had met Bridgland in the field that season. The name of Harry Ennis is not on the DFB staff list, but he made a living in the Nordegg area as a guide and outfitter and did packing and trail work for DFB. Ennis moved to Entrance in 1934 with his wife and two daughters, Eileen and Marjorie. He also did packing for the Alberta Forest Service and lived at Entrance until 1954.⁵

Carl Larson started as an assistant ranger north of Entrance at

Muskeg in 1940 and married Ennis' daughter Marjorie in 1941. They had three sons; the eldest was Lorne who initially worked seasonally for the AFS.⁶ When Marjorie passed away, the accumulated Ennis-Larson family photographs were divided among the three sons. The Bridgland photo was among those in Lorne's share. This is a valuable addition to the photographic record.

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3. Rhemtulla, Jeanine 2002. Eighty Years of Change: Vegetation in the Montane Ecoregion of Jasper National Park, Alberta, Canada. *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*. 32 (2002): 2010-21.
4. Larson, Marjory Ennis. 2000. *Stories From a Mountain Man's Daughter*. May, 2006. 44 p. PDF, FHAA Lorne Lawson Collection, p 2.
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6. Hart, H.R. 1980 *History of Hinton*. Published by Mrs. Hazel Hart, Hinton. P 129



LOGGER SPORTS

Do you like or have a passion for Logger Sports?

Kat Spencer is underway with planning for two Logger Sports competitions this coming summer. Those who want to volunteer, be a sponsor, or those interested in having a promotional tent at these events are to contact Kat at: katherine.j.spencer@gmail.com.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN LOGGER SPORTS COMPETITION
SATURDAY JUNE 20, 2015 | 12PM TO 5PM

MORINVILLE ST. JEAN BAPTISTE FESTIVAL
SUNDAY JUNE 21, 2015 | 11AM TO 5PM

FORESTRY MINIMUM SECURITY CREW



This article is highlights of the book *Locked Up!* by Don R. Campbell. Don Campbell worked at the jail in Fort Saskatchewan for nearly 20 years. His book, *Locked Up!* takes you into the brutal, gritty, and sometimes funny world inside the infamous Alberta jail. Excerpts from the book were captured to tell the story of the Minimum Security or Forestry Work Program for inmates.

In the summer of 1961 the Departments of Solicitor General and Lands and Forests agreed to develop a Forestry Work Program for inmates. Although new to Alberta, the program had been used in other jurisdictions for years. For the Jails, it was a way to clear out some of their over-crowded cells and find a

whole new field of work projects. For the Alberta Forest Service (AFS), it was the first attempt at providing initial attack groups for firefighting. Don Campbell recalls that the camp in the Whitecourt Forest was not the Hotel Hilton or the Hotel Fort Saskatchewan, it was a semi-permanent field-type operation used by the AFS in those days. Basically, it was a plywood floor with a four-foot-high side wall and four or five rafters. Over this was placed a heavy canvas tent about 12 feet by 14 feet. Two of these

“ FOR THE JAILS, IT WAS A WAY TO CLEAR OUT SOME OF THEIR OVER-CROWDED CELLS AND FIND A WHOLE NEW FIELD OF WORK PROJECTS. ”



had been set-up off to one side, the doors faced each other. One served as a tent kitchen and the other was the dining room. The guard's tent was behind the dining room. A short distance away was another row of six similar tents to house the inmates. The kitchen contained a wood cook stove and some storage boxes. The dining room had some picnic tables and an old airtight tin heater. Our tent had two army cots, an airtight heater and a small desk and chair. The inmates' tents contained four army beds and a heater. Mattresses and sleeping bags had been provided.

Camp Number 1, the first camp west of Whitecourt, was located on an old mill site at Old Man Creek. The first priority upon set-up was site cleanup. After that crews were engaged in clearing road right-of-ways and doing some brushing and burning. As well, the inmates would be a stand-by crew in fire season and on call when needed. All inmates would receive full firefighting wages when on a fire, which at that time I believe was about \$1.75 an hour. If my memory serves me correctly, I believe inmates received \$1 per day while

at camp, while working inmates at the jail were getting \$1 a month, plus a tobacco issue twice a week. Full strength for each camp would be twenty-four inmates and two guards with guards working two week shifts in camp with one week off. The AFS Forestry radio was the only contact with the outside, the closest phone being Whitecourt, a two-hour truck ride away. At Camp 1 the inmates enlarged the old mill site well in the stream for water, and then built a dam downstream to create a swimming pool. The camp was closed in December when water became harder to get, with the inmates moved back to Fort Saskatchewan. During this initial camp, Assistant Deputy Warden Alex Kennedy worked with Campbell until a guard shift schedule was established.

Don was assigned to other duties following that first year and when he finally got back involved in the program again he was impressed at how the camps had improved over the years. They now consisted of mobile trailers that housed a kitchen, washrooms, office and sleeping units, as well as a power plant and new trucks. In mid-

1965, there were four camps geographically located around Fox Creek, Whitecourt, Edson and into the Coal Branch. Resupply to each of the camps was done from Fort Saskatchewan about once a month. Lyle Flemming and Jack Stevenson were two other guards that Don mentions in his book that were guards at the various camps. Don's crew cut roads into Fickle Lake south of Edson and Fairfax Lake further south and also built campgrounds at both locations. Other crews spent two or three years working on a right-of-way south from Highway 16 near Peers into Wolf Lake. Every year they would move further into the bush

1. Minimum Security Crew, Camp 8, during firefighter training, 1977

2. Examples of bi-planes referred to by Don Campbell. Pictured here is an Air Spray group consisting of a Consolidated-Vultee L-13 biplane aircraft, and Stearman (bi-plane) and Thrush airtankers, mid-1960s.





and cut more miles to the lake. Jack Stevenson's crew had built a more semi-permanent camp by constructing some frame buildings at a site on Highway 16 west of Edson. Additionally his crew brushed out some land near Edson one summer to enlarge the airstrip.

Fires always took first priority. All camps had enough hand equipment for twenty four men, including water pumps, backpack sprayers, power saws, shovels, axes and Pulaski's. In high fire season, the crews would stay in camp and the trucks were kept loaded with equipment. When a call came in, we could be ready to go in fifteen minutes. Usually the whole crew and both guards would go, unless a smaller crew was requested. Don's first fire was a grass and brush fire near Peers. 'Nothing to worry about' the Ranger told us. 'We can beat this today'. He sent one guard and six inmates about three miles ahead to set up a pump and lay a hose from a small stream, and told them where he wanted them to meet us in about two hours. I took the other eighteen inmates to the fire line and started cleaning out in front of the fire by removing grass and brush and wetting down the area with a little water from our backpacks. Things were looking pretty good by early afternoon. We had refilled our backpacks from the pump and were working across

1. Totem pole at the Minimum Security Crew camp, Ghost Ranger District, 1977

“ FIRES ALWAYS TOOK FIRST PRIORITY. ALL CAMPS HAD ENOUGH HAND EQUIPMENT FOR TWENTY FOUR MEN, INCLUDING WATER PUMPS, BACKPACK SPRAYERS, POWER SAWS, SHOVELS, AXES AND PULASKI’S. ”

a large open meadow. The pump crew was going to move again and try and get ahead of the fire. We had spotter planes overhead and the planes were dropping retardant wherever the fire started to get away from us. Suddenly, the wind picked up. The grass was taller out here and the fire picked up speed. It also got a hell of a lot warmer. Up ahead, a whirlwind danced across the fire line and around behind us. The whole meadow was instantly covered with a sheet of flame moving towards us. I gave my whistle to the closest inmate. “Start blowing on this. Get the crew in here.” The spotter plane was yelling at me over his loudspeaker, “Get your men together. Lay down in a group. We are going to hit you with a load.” Inmates were wetting down the area and each other. I’m trying to count to eighteen. The spotter plane came around again and the loudspeaker blared out, “All crew lay down. You have thirty

seconds to get down.” I think I had the whole crew. I heard the little bi-plane screaming in like an angry hornet. The pilot pulled a lever and his little plane bounced upward as his load of retardant floated free for a few seconds in the air above, looking like a heavy red cloud. Then the whole mass slammed earthward, engulfing everything in a cooling, sticky, slimy, wet-mass of pink froth. The rest of the day was an anti-climax. The little planes killed the fire, the inmates got back to knocking down the hot spots, and digging out and wetting down any potential flare-ups. By eleven o’clock, the crew of smoky, pink-spotted men were having hamburgers and chips, courtesy of the forestry department, before heading back to camp. They then spent the next day patrolling the fire to make sure it was completely out. The forest ranger told the crew they did a good job. Then he added: “you all had a close call today. We are going to have to be more careful.” In my next three years at camps, I never came any closer to cooking inmates than on that little grass fire.

That same summer, we were called out to a fire in the Swan Hills area. It was an all-day trip to the jumping off area where two helicopters were ferrying us in, four men at a time. We got in just before dark and began to set up camp. Unfortunately, darkness shut the helicopters down before our supplies were completely in. Next morning, the smoke had drifted over the whole area and the helicopters couldn’t find us. We cleared out a small area near a creek, built some fire lines, and waited. The ranger found us that afternoon and a Nodwell – a large truck with tracks – brought in our supplies. We stayed

for ten days on that one. That fall, we were called to a large fire just outside the Jasper Park boundary. It was a big fire and a nearby logging crew of about two hundred men had been called in. When we arrived the water trucks were filling backpacks and men were heading to the fire line, walking behind a couple of Cats. Our crew became the camp crew, setting up a kitchen and dining room, as well as sleeping tents. Then they went on shift as cooks. For the next week, we worked almost around the clock as men and equipment were coming and going at all hours of the day and night. The fire was brought under control in about a week and we spent another week looking for hot spots and cleaning up. I recall a fire near Edson where another crew had a fire overrun their camp and burn up their tents and supplies. They were camped near a river and spent some time in the river until the fire burned down.

Postscript from Bruce Mayer: In his book Don Campbell mentions that smaller camps were closed with a larger camp being established at Nordegg. Mr. Campbell’s book focussed on bush camps established from Fort Saskatchewan, but when I worked in the Ghost Ranger District in 1979, a camp was in existence there as well. This camp was managed from the Spy Hill Penitentiary on the northwest side of Calgary.

If you have further information, stories or pictures on the forestry minimum security camps please contact the Forest History Association of Alberta through Bruce.Mayer@gov.ab.ca.

RETIREMENTS



ROGER MEYER

Roger enrolled in the Forest Technology program at NAIT right after high school. He graduated spring of 1975, with other graduates like John McGarva, Jim Maitland, Don Harrison, Mike Hancock, Rick Arthur, Rory Thompson, Hugh Boyd, Jim Steele and Dave Bartesko. His first summer job was in Hines Creek working for Canfor on scarification and planting projects. He began his career with the Alberta Forest Service on May 20, 1975 as a Forest Officer on wages in the Lac La Biche Forest doing regeneration surveys looking for two and three year old seedlings in waist high calamagrostis grass. In July he moved to the Ghost Ranger Station (DB4), Bow Crow Forest as a permanent Forest Officer I. Roger had a transfer to Grovedale (DG2), Grande Prairie Forest in March 1980 as a Forest Officer II. He was promoted to a Forest Officer III with a move to Canmore (DB3) in

June 1987, and then took a lateral transfer to the Elbow Ranger Station (DB2) in June 1991. Since the mid-1990s, Roger took on a number of roles in Calgary, mainly focussed on land management and land use planning. Use of, and interest in, the forested land base around Calgary was, and remains today complicated, with many stakeholder meetings and public open houses required to address the multi-use issues. Recreation and backcountry management was of special interest to Roger, with a focus on working with groups to respect the land and minimize environmental impacts. Roger kept his hand in the wildfire management program throughout his career, especially as an aerial ignition specialist. Roger was a strong voice for staff within the department as a union representative. He was on the bargaining committee for 10 years and proud of the implementation of a safety footwear program and implementation of a standby program. He retired on March 31, 2014 after 39 years of service.



KAREN MACAULEY

A retirement barbeque and pie party was held for Karen at the Calgary Bearspaw Fire Centre on April 16, 2014 celebrating 25 years with the Alberta government. Her official retirement date was May 1, 2014. Karen started in 1979 as a lookout observer in the Slave Lake Forest, one year on Enilda and two years on Sandy Lake. From October 1981 to October 1982, Karen was a radio operator in Fort McMurray moving then to Footner Lake for the summer of 1983. Karen commenced as a radio operator in Calgary in 1984 working there continuously ever since, retiring as the dispatch supervisor. Karen had a lot of patience training many young seasonal staff over the years, both Bruce Mayer and Morgan Kehr receiving some of that 'mentoring'.



ROGER LOBERG

Roger grew up on a farm near Hythe, Alberta and went to school in Hythe and Beaverlodge, graduating from High School in Beaverlodge. He started employment with an income outside the farm in 1970 at the Canfor Chetwynd sawmill, starting his post-secondary school of experience. The next couple of years were spent in logging camps, skidding logs and loading trucks (Lloyd Hansen Logging for Imperial Lumber in Grovedale and Tommy McNally logging for Canfor south of Valleyview), private business in Chetwynd and Dawson Creek and a stint in Inuvik working on construction of the Dempster Highway. That early taste of sawmilling, logging and his farming background created an interest in forestry and forest manufacturing that carried on for the next forty years. Roger began his career with Procter and Gamble in 1974 as an operator in the wood yard. He held various operating assignments for a couple of years before transferring to Woodlands as a scaling coordinator in 1977. Procter and Gamble, later Weyerhaeuser, invested significantly in leadership development for employees and he took advantage of every opportunity. Through

that development he was given opportunity for various assignments in Wood Procurement managing chip and log purchase contracts, then transitioning to management in 1989 with a special assignment in logistics and inventory management. He spent a few years managing the wood room and wood yard prior to returning to Forestlands and Wood Procurement. Roger eventually became Forestlands Operations Manager and then Timberlands General Manager. He spent a few years as a member of the Canadian Woodlands forum, served on the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta board in the early years of the Forest Resource Improvement Program, then as a member of the Alberta Forest Products Association Forest Management Committee before joining the board of directors. Roger also spent the last few years of his career on the FRI board and executive committee. Roger retired in May 2014 after 40 years at Procter and Gamble/Weyerhaeuser. He is proud of his long career in forestry and said "it has been very rewarding and I am very proud to have been involved in significant changes in the industry from an improved environmental focus and forest stewardship, operating efficiency improvements, reduced waste, improved cooperation and collaboration between industry and regulators, and improved and increased sustainability. There has been a huge change from crayons and paper and compass and ribbon, to GPS and digital satellite real time images". Roger has been married to his wife Sheree for 40 years. They have two sons and two daughters, and eleven grandchildren. Retirement brought a return to golfing, boating, fishing and camping, and even a trip to

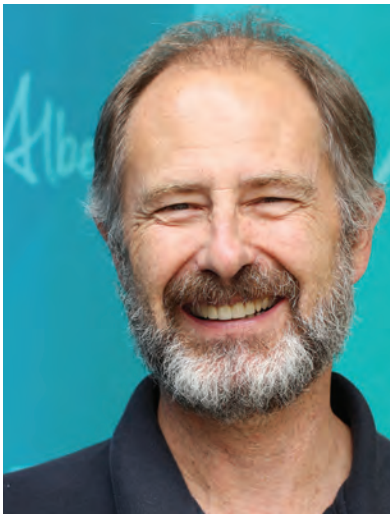
Alaska. Next on the list are trips to the United States and a cross-Canada venture. Other retirement endeavours include chauffeuring grandchildren, being elected to the Beaverlodge Town Council in a by-election in October, work with the local constituency association and overseeing the restoration of the Beaverlodge Catholic church that was significantly damaged by fire a year ago.



KEVIN HEARTWELL

A pig roast was held on June 20, 2014 at Bob and Brenda Lenton's place to celebrate Kevin's retirement from the Alberta government. He first started working seasonally for the Alberta Forest Service as a Compassman in the Rocky Clearwater Forest while attending NAIT. Kevin worked as well as an equipment aide and a clerk at the Forest Technology School in Hinton. He graduated the NAIT Forest Technology program in the spring of 1976 with Jack Budd, Bill Black Sr., Don Cousins, Bart Elliot, Ian Hancock, Bill Lesiuk, Evert Smith and Rob Thorburn. Following graduation Kevin worked as a Cruiser on the Timber Management crew in Rocky until he obtained a permanent Forest Officer job and

moved to Spirit River, Grande Prairie Forest in May 1981. In May 1983 he was reclassified to a Forest Officer II and then in July took a lateral transfer to the Strachan Ranger Station, Rocky Clearwater Forest. Kevin spent the rest of his career out of the Rocky area, moving to the Rocky Mountain House office after Strachan closed. He was promoted to Land Management Operations Head in October 2006, a position he held until his retirement on June 18, 2014. Much of his work involved working with user groups on back country recreation use, minimizing environmental conflicts. Kevin was also involved heavily in the wildfire and prescribed burning program with his expertise in aerial ignition.



JOHN BREWER

A retirement party was held on June 6, 2014 to recognize John's 38 years with the Alberta government. From a military family, John was born in France and then spent time in Cold Lake where he met Rob Thorburn, and in Ontario where he went to school with Jim Lunn. John graduated from Sir Sandford Fleming College in 1975 and then came back to Alberta joining the

Alberta Forest Service in May 1976 on the initial attack crew in the Robb District, Edson Forest. The next summer he was crew leader in Robb, then a Forestry Aide III, Cruiser that fall. In January 1978, John moved to the timber management crew in the Whitecourt Forest as a Cruiser, becoming Assistant Party Chief in November. John became a permanent Forest Officer I in Blue Ridge, Whitecourt Forest on May 1, 1979 and reclassified to a Forest Officer II in 1981. He took a promotion to a Forest Officer III Air Attack Officer in Whitecourt in June 1982, moving to the Footner Lake Forest in September 1984. In 1987 he moved to Fort Vermilion as the Forest Officer III. In July 1989 he was promoted to a Forest Officer IV, first as a Forest Protection Technician then as a Timber Management Technician, in the Peace River Forest. He was promoted to District Superintendent in the Mackenzie District (Manning) in September 1995. This was a period of transition from the old Alberta Forest Service to the new Land and Forest Service, department amalgamations and where centralization was occurring and small ranger stations were being closed. John remained in Manning until moving to Slave Lake in December 2000 as the Wildfire Manager for both the Marten Hills and Lakeshore Forest Areas under the new Forest Protection Division in Sustainable Resource Development. Under a regionalization exercise in June 2006, his position was changed to Area Manager, Lesser Slave Area. He moved into the Provincial Forest Fire Centre in June 2008 as the Director, Wildfire Operations, a position he held until his retirement on July 31, 2014. Many changes also occurred through John's air

attack career, from Canso's, B26's and DC6's to Electra's, Convair's and CL215's. John is known for his calm approach and strong leadership skills. Retirement has taken John to Victoria, where he keeps busy with odd jobs on his property on Salt Spring Island.



KARL PECK

On September 30, 2014 Karl retired with 35 years with the Alberta government. He started with the Alberta Forest Service in April, 1978 on an initial attack crew in the Whitecourt Forest. He continued on timber management project work, tanker base manager and initial attack crew leader roles while taking the Forest Technician program at NAIT, graduating in 1981. Others in the class included Wes Nimco, Henry Grierson, Dave Lind, Herman Stegehuis, Ray Luchkow and Shawn Milne. After graduation, Karl spent a few months on wages in Fort McKay, Athabasca Forest, then moved to Grovedale, Grande Prairie Forest as a Forest Officer I. In 1983 he was reclassified to a Forest Officer II and then took a lateral transfer to Grande Cache, Edson Forest in

November, 1986. In May, 1988 he was promoted to a Forest Officer III in Wandering River, Lac La Biche Forest. He was promoted to a Forest Officer IV Timber Management Technician in the Slave Lake Headquarters in 1990. The position was then reassigned to the Peace River Headquarters in September 1995. At that time Karl began specializing in annual allowable cut modelling and analysis and in June, 2002 he transferred to the Forest Management Branch in Edmonton, as the Senior Resource Analyst. Retirement plans for Karen and Karl include renovations at Karen's parents place in Grande Prairie, plans for moving into their house in Armstrong in April 2015 and hiking, biking and skiing in beautiful British Columbia. Karl's view is 'life is too precious and too short to waste'



DAVID PATTERSON

Dave retired from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development on November 28, 2014 after 37 years with the Department. He first began taking Pre-Med at the University of Lethbridge in 1972 switching to Forestry at the University of Alberta in 1974.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry in 1978, with minors in Chemistry and Economics. Dave first started with the Alberta Forest Service in June 1975, as a Compassman in the Footner Lake Forest, with immediate promotion to a Cruiser. That winter Dave was compiling annual allowable cuts by hand before computers had been invented. He spent the summer of 1977 as the Aerial Observer and Initial Attack Leader in High Level. In 1978 Dave was the Planting Supervisor for Northwest Pulp & Power in Hinton. After his graduation he provided logistical support and assisted in research projects for various Professors at the University of Alberta. In 1979 Dave became the Assistant Party Chief for the Timber Management Crew in the Athabasca Forest. Dave was promoted as a Phase III Inventory Project Forester in the Athabasca Forest in September 1979; transferring to the Slave Lake Forest in 1981 under the Maintaining Our Forests program. In September 1982 he transferred to Peace River as a permanent Silviculture/Forest Management Forester II. In January 1988 Dave packed up and moved to the Reforestation and Reclamation Branch. In Edmonton, Dave held many roles from Provincial Silviculture Forester, Senior Forest Policy Advisor, Forest Management Planning Forester, Provincial Timber Supply Forester and Provincial Climate Change Forester. During that time, Dave also obtained a Diploma in Advanced Forest Management from the Alberta Advanced Forest Management Institute. From 2006 to 2008 Dave was seconded to the Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada Division of FPIInnovations reviewing forest fuel management and biomass utilization. When Dave

retired he was the Bioproducts Specialist in the Forest Industry Development Branch. In the 1990s Dave built and maintained computers and helped run the first network for the Department before IT people existed. Dave spent much of his field and reforestation career focussed on reforestation advancements and silviculture equipment development, and has been involved in campaign wildfires over the years in the logistics role.

In his spare time Dave designs and builds Schuetzen, Black Powder and bolt action rifles; loading his own shells and casting his own bullets. In 2007 Dave set a World record of 1245/1250 points shooting 50 cast lead bullets at 200 yards with a single shot rifle. One 10 shot group was 0.799 inches. At the International Single Shot Association (ISSA) U.S. Nationals; Dave was the International Benchrest Champion in 2008 and in 2013. At the ISSA Nationals in 2014 Dave won eight medals. So far Dave has won 90 ISSA medals competing against the top American shooters. In retirement Dave will be shooting in Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette matches (out to 550 yards).

**HUGH BOYD**

A retirement party was held on October 18, 2014 to recognize the contributions Hugh has made over his over 35 years with the Alberta government. He first started a number of decades ago as a Junior Forest Ranger in Blairmore in 1973. While going to NAIT, Hugh worked as a Compassman and Cruiser in the Footner Lake Forest. He graduated from the NAIT Forest Technology program in 1975 with the likes of John McGarva, Jim Maitland, Rory Thompson, Don Thompson, Rick Arthur, Roger Meyer, Bill MacDonald, Jim Steele and Dave Bartesko. Following graduation Hugh spent a summer on initial attack in Fort Liard before travelling to New Zealand working for the New Zealand Forest Service. He then spent time in Fort McMurray and Fort McKay in the Athabasca Forest before getting on permanent in Fort McKay as a Forest Officer in 1977. There, in a two-man office with Mike Thompson, he got to appreciate no indoor plumbing and communication only by radio. The ranger station was in the hamlet, but the accommodations were further north. As Hugh described it, Fort McKay was in the middle

of nowhere, and to get there, you just kept driving north. At the end of 1979 Hugh immigrated to New Zealand and worked with a private forestry consulting firm. Once again returning to Alberta, in 1982 he was promoted to Forest Officer III in Fort McKay, then taking a lateral transfer to Grande Cache, Edson Forest, in July 1985. In August 1987 he moved to Lac La Biche as the Forest Protection Technician, and then to Smith, Slave Lake Forest on promotion to Chief Ranger. In 1994 he transferred to High Prairie as the Chief Ranger later becoming the District Superintendent of the newly created Lakeshore District in the Northwest Boreal Region. In September 1996, Hugh moved into the Provincial Forest Fire Centre in the wildfire prevention program. He was promoted to the program manager in 1999, with a few other reclassifications until his last promotion to Executive Director of the Wildfire Management Branch in January 2011. Hugh held this position until his retirement on January 2, 2015. Hugh was dedicated and passionate about the work he did, providing great leadership to staff and stakeholders. Retirement plans include working on his cabin at Tawatinaw and learning what granddaughters are all about.

**LES CROY**

In the summer of 1977 Les' first job with the Alberta Forest Service was at Fort Vermilion at Watt Mountain planting seedlings, he was 17. Later that fall he started working at the Footner Lake mechanic shop for work experience under Bob Yurkxa. By June 1978, he was a maintenance service worker apprentice under the direction of Bob, and Marvin Dayton. Four years later (1982) Les had completed his mechanical apprentice program and he was promptly hired as an Automotive Mechanic 1 under Harold Ronning. In 1987 Harold retired and Les ran the Footner Lake shop until it was closed in 1997. During that time his position was re-assigned from Footner Lake to the new Northwest Boreal Region reporting to Ken McCrae. In the spring of 1997, Les made the southern move to Peace River as the department closed all of its remaining mechanical shops. His role then changed from the hands on mechanic to contract supervisor for the mechanical program. The transformation from field work to the office was now complete. He soon retired his tools and began

to lead broad based projects on behalf of the Department. In 2003 Les began working with Rob Manwaring in the Construction and Maintenance (C&M) section where his job continued to evolve from mechanical duties to C&M duties. In 2004 he was re-assigned from Automotive 2 to Technologies 4 as a supervisor in the C&M section. In 2006 Les took over C&M duties for the Upper Hay Wildfire Management Area, where he also taught chainsaw safety and power plant maintenance training for lookout observers. Les was reclassified from a Technologies 4 to 5 in 2009, and in April 2011 was given the Upper Hay and Slave Lake C&M program under Al Law, following Rob Manwaring's retirement. In 2013 he was given most of the northwest with Upper Hay, Peace River and Slave Lake, a responsibility he held until his retirement on January 31, 2015.



LEONARD BARNHARDT

This interview of Leonard's career was conducted by Donna Palamarek at the Alberta Tree Improvement and Seed Centre.

Donna: Tell me how your career with forestry first began?

Leonard: In March, 1973 I spoke to Jay Sumner, a fire detection technician at Footner Lake, and in April that year I was heading to Hinton for fire lookout training. My first posting was at Foggy Mountain tower, a fly-in site, which was perfect for my "angry young man" phase of life. I worked as a tower man from 1973 to 1978 in various Footner Lake Forest locations, which included finishing construction on and being the first tower person stationed at Petitot Tower. Winters were spent doing everything from working in the radio room at Footner Lake, being a carpenter's helper, and working as brushing foreman on the Rainbow Lake fireguard. In 1977 I took the summer off as a tower man for felling, timber salvage, and post cutting contract work west of Caroline where I met my future wife, Shirley. I spent my last summer as a tower man in 1978 at Bassett Tower, reflecting that this job was probably not the best career choice if I wanted a family.

Donna: So things had to change?

Leonard: Pretty much. In 1978 I started my undergrad in forestry at U of A, got married in 1980, and Shirley and I had our first child, Ashley, in 1983. I juggled school, work, being a house husband, a move to Valleyview, and taking correspondence courses through Athabasca University to finally get my degree in 1986. In that same year I started working for Dr. Bela Sivak with the Alberta Forest Service, Research Branch out of Spruce Grove doing ecological site classification work with Daryl Gilday and Grant Klappstein. We tented and trailered our way from Waterton Lakes National Park to Rocky Mountain House, digging pits, measuring trees and identifying plants all along the way. The

data we collected were used as a foundation for development of the Field Guide to Ecosites of Southwestern Alberta. When the Research Branch was dissolved I started log yard scaling for Millar Western in Whitecourt until I got a call from Dr. Narinder Dhir who was looking for someone with an ecology and site classification background to work on breeding region development. Narinder hired me on my 37th birthday in the spring of 1989 as a wage Tree Improvement forester in Edmonton until I switched places with Jan Schilf who was working out of Smoky Lake. In 1994 I got my Masters in forest genetics and became a tree breeder until I assumed the manager's position at ATISC in 2000.

Donna: Was doing site classification where you developed your insanely intimate geological and ecological knowledge of every nook and cranny in Alberta? Or does having a photographic memory help?

Leonard: (laughs) I worked on field and office assignments related to the development of the most recent revision of Natural Regions and Subregions so that helped too. I have some great memories from this period of doing rotary wing recon flights with Harry Archibald to ground check Natural Subregion boundaries.

Donna: What are some of your career accomplishments you'd like to highlight?

Leonard: Well, these are by no means accomplishments by me alone but being part of the team that developed the Natural Regions and Subregions is one. The development and implementation of a seed zonation system

and Forest Genetic Resource Management and Conservation Standards are two more. Related to conservation and sustained use of tree gene resources, there was joint work with Provincial Parks on development and implementation of the Gene Conservation Plan for Native Trees of Alberta, sitting on the Alberta Forest Genetic Resources Council and the national Conservation of Forest Genetics Resources steering committee and participation on the provincial recovery team for whitebark and limber pines. Also very gratifying was collaborative work on climate change modelling and genetic adaptation for native trees beginning in the early 1990s with participation on the Climate Change Research Users Group, Team Taking Action on Climate Change and most recently, on the Tree Species Adaptation Risk Management Project, a cooperative project with forest companies funded through the Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation.

Donna: Anything else?

Leonard: As well, although my management achievements are fewer, I think I have successfully introduced principles of genecology to ATISC functions that will significantly improve our potential to achieve sustainable use of forest genetic resources on public land and ultimately maintain forest health and improve productivity in the future.

Donna: In English please.

Leonard: Genecology is the study of the relationship of genetic variation within a species and environmental variation. We need to understand generally how genetic resources

are allocated within and between individuals of a species, among populations of the species and how genetic processes, the environment and mating systems have shaped this on the landscape in order to do effective tree breeding, adapted deployment in reforestation and reclamation work, conservation work and policy development. Current public land practices will both directly and indirectly affect forest plant genetic resources and the ultimate health, genetic diversity and evolutionary resilience of public land forests. I believe with Branch support, the existing cooperative tree improvement structure that includes companies and improving academic collaboration, ATISC is currently better placed to advance effective tree breeding and sustainable forest genetic resource management on public land than ever before. The current extension of this work to include trees and shrubs in reclamation work is evidence of this. I would go so far as to say that the program with the skills of its current staff and collaborators is placed to achieve greater national and even international recognition for advanced strategic thinking and policy implementation in the area of sustainable forest genetic resource management. This makes it much easier to leave.

Donna: Hmmm, yes much clearer now. Nerdy scientist or program manager?

Leonard: A bit of both and neither. I have coauthored some published papers which I have derived great personal satisfaction from and I'm probably a decent manager, although I think I'm getting a little past my "best-before-date" in that capacity. I think the real

opportunity I was given as ATISC manager was permission to be "adequate" in the administrative role and given licence to focus more effort on applying my genetics background to broader forest genetic resource policy and management systems development. Although my son Aaron would probably disagree, he has issued many "Nerd Alerts" during family discussions.

Donna: Speaking of kids, both of yours chose early careers in forestry. What does that mean to you?

Leonard: It's very satisfying both as a father and a colleague. I think both were determined NOT to have careers in forestry and maybe that stemmed from spending family vacations in and around genetic plantations or the fact that I lived and breathed forestry. Somehow, whether from supper table discussions or years with Junior Forest Rangers and Wardens, they developed an aptitude and appreciation of forestry despite their best efforts. I have to say, that while I devoted countless hours of my time to work, often at the expense of my family, having kids has exceeded all my expectations whether they're in forestry or not.

Donna: What challenges do you leave us with?

Leonard: I believe it's the broad management of forest genetic resources. There's a poor understanding, even among professionals, of the role of genetic processes and genetic variation in adaptation, evolution, and the production of human utility that puts sound tree breeding and effective genetic resource conservation work at risk. As a

department we have taken on the task of genetic conservation of native tree species, particularly commercial species, but current human activities are potentially putting sustainable use and conservation of all forest plant genetic resources at risk – and who's looking after those? I think our children's children won't be able to experience or draw benefit from nature the way we have.

Donna: That's pretty gloomy.

Leonard: Well I don't know. I call myself a cynical optimist. I'm not sure we'll make it but I'm still willing to try. (sad chuckle)

Donna: Okay on to happier thoughts. What does your retirement look like?

Leonard: Of course it means more time with Shirley, the kids and grandkids. But also the time to reconnect with extended family members. Shirley and I would like to do some travelling around Canada and Alaska and she has a hankering for Scotland and I'd like to visit Syria and Iraq.

Donna: Whaaaaat!

Leonard: (laughs) Well, I'm fascinated by early human civilization, but yes, those probably aren't safe destinations and I wouldn't take Shirley there. Maybe Greece or Italy is better. Being the oldest of seven kids I've always worked so I'll start my retirement working on home renovations. And always more music, I look forward to playing the guitar with more people.

Donna: That sounds lovely. I know I can speak for all the staff at ATISC when I say that we will miss your intelligent insights, passionate drive and, most of all, friendship. We wish

you all the best and hope that your retirement will be as productive as your career was with ESRD. Thanks for your time today and don't be a stranger.



ROD HOULE

A retirement tea was held for Rod on November 7, 2014 to celebrate his 38+ years with Environment and Sustainable Resource Development. During Rod's high school years he was a Junior Forest Ranger in Cypress Hills. He went back the following year on the initial attack crew working for Joe Krikpatrick. Rod graduated from the NAIT Forest Technology program in 1977 along with Don Brewer, Pieter Broerson, Bruce Cartwright, Buck Dryer, Patti Culp (Shenfield), Butch Shenfield, Russ Stashko and Darrell Hemery. Most of that class have moved on to second careers or have now retired, save a few industry and government folks. Following graduation Rod started with the Alberta Forest Service in May 1977 on initial attack in the Grande Prairie Forest. He then worked as a Forestry Aide III Cruiser in Grande Prairie before becoming a Forest Officer I in February 1979, working

as the assistant land-use officer under John Graham. In March 1980 Rod moved to Debolt as a Forest Officer I, reclassified to a Forest Officer II in February 1981 and took a lateral transfer to Turner Valley in October 1982. In May 1999 Rod transferred to Fort McMurray in the Waterways Forest Area as a Forest Protection Technician and later as the Wildfire Prevention Officer. In August 2003 Rod transferred to the Provincial Forest Fire Centre as a Land Management Specialist and then a Prescribed Fire Specialist, a role he held until his retirement on January 2, 2015. Through Rod's career he was very involved in the safety program, becoming a certified auditor in 2008, and in the recent decade deployed to numerous campaign wildfires as safety officer. Rod is also an avid hockey player and photographer, coordinating and working on the Oldtimer's Hockey Tournament for years, and being behind the scenes at most events taking pictures. In retirement, Rod has started his own environmental service company, Rod Houle Environmental, where he plans to work as an environmental monitor, connected to the forest working on land management and forest management activities.



JIM STEPHENSON

Although Jim grew up in Edmonton he developed his love for the outdoors while hunting or fishing most weekends with his Dad. His extended family are in the farming business, but at an early age Jim decided he wanted to become a forester. He entered the University of Alberta Forestry program in 1972 after a summer as a fishing guide in the Northwest Territories. In 1974 Jim worked for International Forest Fire Systems (IFFS) in British Columbia on their Rappattack crew. Enjoying the work, he decided to take a year off school to work full time with them. He returned to the U of A graduating in 1977. After graduation Jim continued to work for IFFS as a base manager and trainer in the smoke jumper program, mostly working in the Northwest Territories and the Yukon. After the IFFS became insolvent in 1978, Jim worked as a cartographic draftsman and surveyor in Edmonton for a year. During that time he married his high school sweetheart, Pat. In May 1979 he took a job with Swanson Lumber in Fort St John, BC. Jim's first couple of years in Fort St John

was spent timber cruising, doing road layout, supervising silviculture work and anything else that needed to be done in the bush. When Canfor bought Swanson in 1981 he was promoted to engineering forester and assigned responsibility for development of an all-weather road system. At that time most of the operating area could only be accessed in the winter. In about 1990 Canfor bought Balfour including Peace Wood Products. Jim had been promoted to Harvesting Superintendent by that time and became responsible for the Niteal log rail haul operation and the Fontas area. Up until that time almost all Canfor's operations had been west of the Alaska Highway but the Peace Woods operating area was east of the highway and much further north than Canfor had been. It was a big learning curve to say the least. In 1993 Jim became Woods Manager for the Fort St John division. About that time the Forest Practices Code was enacted which caused the BC forest industry to place a lot more emphasis on environmental performance. In 1995 Ken Higginbotham asked Jim to lead the development of Canfor's certification and environmental management systems. That required a family move from Fort St John to Prince George. The Stephenson's spent five years in Prince George and jumped at the opportunity to move to Grande Prairie where Jim became the Woodlands Manager. He spent seven years as Woodlands Manager, later becoming Chief Forester for Alberta operations, a role he had until his retirement at the end of 2014. During his career Jim was honoured to serve on the boards of a number of respected organizations including the Muskwa Kechika Management Committee, the Northern BC Forest Product's

Association and the Alberta Forest Products Association. Jim and his wife Pat have two children (Michael and Britta) and four grandsons. Mike is a lawyer and Britta is a teacher (following in her mother's footsteps) and they are very proud of their many accomplishments. He and Pat intend to do a lot of travelling and renew many of the hobbies and sports activities they once enjoyed before careers and kids became the priorities. In February 2015 Jim was playing lead on a Grande Prairie team in the Senior Curling Provincials in Medicine Hat finishing third and fourth. On February 22, 2015, Jim's team lost in the semi-finals at the Senior's Masters bonspiel in Calgary. This was the seventh provincials Jim has participated in.



GAIL TUCKER

After graduating in 1978 from McMaster University with a BSc. in Biology, Gail Tucker moved to the Yukon Territory eventually working on an initial attack crew in Ross River, Yukon in 1980. In September of the same year she left the

Yukon to take Forest Technology at NAIT, graduating in 1982. After graduation, Gail worked seasonally in Edmonton in the Reforestation and Reclamation Branch as a field assistant and in Slave Lake on the Timber Management Crew as a forestry aide and assistant party chief. In October 1986 she was posted in Red Earth Creek as a project forest officer then as a permanent forest officer. In November 1989 she moved to the McLennan Ranger District until the ranger station closed in June 1991,

then transferred to Peace River. In Peace River Gail was a Forest Officer, and then was promoted to Silviculture Technician in 1993. That northern pull continued and Gail moved to Footner Lake as the Senior Ranger in November, 1996, and then was promoted to Forest Area Manager, Land and Forest Service in April 2000. A number of reorganization changes had Gail in various management roles, Forestry and Land Manager, Land Manager and most recently Approvals Manager in the new Operations

Division of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development. Gail has been very active with the Girl Guides, particularly the Pathfinders (ages 12-15). In April, 2015, Gail will retire from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development after 32 years. Since rediscovering her roots on "the rock" Gail will be moving to Winter Brook, Newfoundland where she has a beautiful ocean front home on Bonavista Bay and is anticipating lots of visits from her western friends.

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OBITUARIES

ERNIE CHORNOBY

Born on February 12, 1938 in The Pas, Manitoba, Ernie passed away on January 24, 2014 at the age of 75. Ernie's family moved to Westlock, Alberta and then Edmonton where he remained until his retirement, then moving to Sidney, British Columbia. His friendship was pure, his concern real and his selflessness was obvious to all who knew him. He loved people and families enjoying their past stories and their future hopes. His life was tackled with courage and determination, deeply intelligent and a wonderful ability to understand a problem and solve it without acclaim. Ernie was a quiet, calm individual, loyal, and supportive to all and very dedicated throughout his working in various fields and finally as a Financial Manager with the Alberta Forest Service where he retired after 35 years in 1991. Terry Seaborn remembered her first introduction to Ernie while working for him. "I was using a manual typewriter, which I had never used before, and he gave me a requisition to type, multiple pages. I was going along quite well, when I made a typo and I was so scared to tell him, but I had to ask him what I was supposed to do to correct this. I finally worked up the guts to ask him what I was to do about the mistake I made and he just looked at me and said 'That's easy, you don't make mistakes'. Another girl in the office came to my rescue, but boy did I make sure I didn't do that again. He sounded pretty scary, but it turned out that

he was one of the sweetest guys to work for and we became fast friends."

MICHEL (MIKE) SAUZE

Born on August 20, 1933 in Aix-en-Provence, France, Mike passed away on March 19, 2014 on Pender Island, BC at the age of 80. His father, Rene Sauze, was employed by a shipping company and his work took the family to various port cities in Africa and Southeast Asia. As a result, Mike spent his early boyhood years in equatorial climates in Madagascar, New Caledonia and Singapore. In 1941, the family was living in Singapore when the Japanese invaded. Mike, along with his mother and siblings, were relocated shortly before the invasion to India and remained there for the duration of the war. Mike's father was separated from the family and was killed in Indochina in 1945. Mike and the family moved to France at the end of the war in 1945, where he earned a diploma in Forest Technology from 'L'Ecole des Bois' in Paris. Upon graduation in the early 1950s, his spirit of adventure took him to Scandinavia, England and Ireland, but times were hard and work opportunities were limited to manual labour. Mike was not afraid of risk and decided a move to Canada might be a good idea. He left Europe in the mid-1950s, but not before meeting Francoise Vidal at a soiree des Grandes Ecoles de Paris. In Canada, Mike enthusiastically joined a wave of

European immigrants and readily found employment in Canada's extensive forests. He spent a wonderful summer in the lake country in Northern Ontario and a miserable wet winter working at the pulp mill in Powell River. He embraced Canada's beauty and was continually amazed by its vastness and scale. After several years in Canada, he went back to France where he and Francoise were married in 1959 and their daughter, Anne was born. They spent one year together in Vancouver while Mike completed his Forestry degree at the UBC. When Mike graduated in 1962, they moved to northern British Columbia and eventually to northern Alberta where their two sons, Marc and Eric, were born. In Alberta, Mike initially worked for the Alberta Forest Service but he quickly discovered his direct nature and spirit of adventure were not ideally suited for civil service. He started a forestry consulting company named Sauze Forestry and spent the 1960s cruising timber in Alberta's forests. Mike was completely at home in 40 degree below zero weather in the middle of nowhere wearing his cruiser's vest and smoking a pipe. Identifying a need for specialized instruments to help Canadian foresters be more effective and efficient, Mike started a forestry equipment company in the early 1970s, called Canadian Forestry Equipment Ltd. During his early years in Scandinavia, he'd become familiar with advances in forestry equipment, so Mike decided to import this equipment to

Canada, initially working out of his basement in Edmonton. Through his tireless efforts the company grew nationwide by the 1990s with offices from Vancouver to Halifax. He retired at the end of the 1990s and focused his passion on sailing and travelling.

Mike wasn't a natural sailor but he was fearless and determined to visit as much of Canada's West Coast as he could in his 38 foot sailboat, Elysian. From his home on Pender Island, he took the Elysian as far north as Alaska, along the outer coast of Vancouver Island, and through the straits and islands in between. He was constantly looking for friends and family willing to crew on another adventure. Mike's curiosity and restless spirit also took him all over the world, joined by his lifelong friend Martin Vennesland and Martin's wife Anne Brevig, on his sailing adventures. Mike also explored the Rocky Mountains on horseback with Peter Denny and the deserts of the US southwest in his Chrysler convertible. French cooking was another passion Mike pursued in his retirement and he would use every utensil and pan in the kitchen creating 'Gigot a la Gasgonade Provencale', 'Lapin Chasseur', 'Daube' or 'Paella', consulting with Françoise now and then as he tried new recipes. Mike was an honest, forthright man - always interested and interesting. He lived life to the fullest and left an impression wherever he went. Carrying on the Sauze legacy are his wife, Françoise; his children: Anne (Denis), Marc (Helen), Eric (Kathy); his grandchildren: Melanie, Celine, Luc, Jocelyn, Claire, Natalie, Fiona.

GORDON CROWDER

Born December 27, 1949 in Athabasca, Gord passed away on

April 6, 2014 at the age of 64. Gordon started his career with the Alberta Forest Service in 1971, where he worked in Keg River and Lodgepole. From Lodgepole, he came to Edmonton to work in the Timber Management Branch as a Timber Audit Coordinator. Gordon remained in this position until he retired in September of 2009. His interests and hobbies included travelling, woodworking and photography.

NARINDER DHIR

Narinder passed away in Edmonton on April 23, 2014. He was hired by the Alberta Forest Service, Timber Management Branch in 1975 to develop a genetics and tree improvement program for the province. At the program's inception, he was the only staff member and had no facilities. Under his direction, Alberta's tree improvement program has become very well-established, with a network of field test sites, both government and co-operative and seed orchards producing improved seed for reforestation. During his tenure, the Alberta Forest Genetics Resource Council was established to promote dialogue between government, industry and other stakeholders; the Standards for Tree Improvement in Alberta, which regulate management of tree gene resources on provincial Crown lands, came into effect; the Genetics and Tree Improvement Unit took over management of reforestation seed storage and registration; and the Forest Genetic Association of Alberta was inaugurated to address the needs of smaller forest companies lacking the resources to carry out tree improvement and research work. Through all the administrative and scientific challenges over the years, Narinder was always the

strongest and most determined advocate for maintaining a viable tree improvement program within the Alberta provincial government. Narinder retired in 2008 after over 30 years with the Alberta government.

ROBERT BARNARD (BOB) VANDERWELL

Born in Edmonton on February 27, 1939, Bob passed away in Slave Lake on May 4, 2014 at the age of 75. He attended the Keephills School and worked on the family farm until the age of 14, when he joined his father and uncles in the family timber industry operating a small portable sawmill, manufacturing lumber. Later on, setting out on their own, Bob and Barney started their own sawmill operation, Vanderwell Contractors Ltd., which has grown into a large successful operation to this day, one which Bob continued to enjoy visiting, encouraging and providing direction to in his retirement. Bob served on the Alberta Forest Products Association Board of Directors from 1980 to 1993. He was well thought of in the industry, and will be deeply missed by his peers and 'employee-family'. Bob's passions also included the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, The Miracle Channel, many other charities and classic 1950s vintage vehicles, which he enjoyed driving, purchasing and having restored. Bob and Gordon Buchanan were two founding members and huge supporters of the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society.

ROBERT ANDREW (ANDY) DAVISON

Born January 1, 1953 in England, Andy passed away on May 20, 2014 at the age of 61 years. Andy immigrated to Canada from England

when he was three, and then lived all over the provinces of BC and Alberta. He graduated from the Recreation Wildlife option of the Forest Technology Program in Hinton in 1975 and became a Fish and Wildlife officer serving the province of Alberta well. He retired as a bear specialist and manager of his region. He was extremely skilled and his love for animals and the environment was like no other. He also did a six-year stint as a Calgary Fire Fighter. Andy and Dawna retired to Campbell River in 2008, after falling in love with the community and the beautiful ocean. They sailed the waters here on the West Coast in their sailboat and the majestic, solemn coast seemed a peaceful place to spend the rest of their retired lives.

JOE SOOS

Jozsef (Joe) Soos was born on June 22, 1930 in Hungary, the son of a forest ranger (technician). While growing up, he spent many hours in the outdoors mentored by his Dad on the identities of plants and the habits of animals in nearby forests. He graduated from high school (Gimnazium) in 1949 and then spent the next four years (1949-53) studying at the Faculty of Forest Engineering in Sopron. Following graduation, he spent two years working as Head of a District Forest Office in Szentpeterfa and Head of Woods Operations in Keszthely, also in Hungary. During the Hungarian political upheaval in 1956, the majority of the Sopron Forestry Faculty (students and teaching staff, including Joe) immigrated to Canada as refugees. Under the auspices of the Canadian government, the entire group came to Vancouver and was attached to the Forestry Faculty of the University of British Columbia as a distinct group, starting September 1957. Joe, like

his colleagues adapted quickly to the forestry program and staff. In fact, Joe served as an instructor in Silviculture of the Sopron Division for two years (1957-58). He spent the following three years (1959-62) as Assistant to the Research Forester of the UBC Research Forest, Haney, BC. At the same time Joe was working towards a Master's degree in forestry at UBC, which he successfully completed in 1961. Part way through 1962, Joe joined the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Edmonton as Supervisor of Forestry and Arboriculture. Among many tasks, he was instrumental in establishing numerous attractive coniferous stands such as those along Groat Road and on adjacent slopes north of the Groat bridge. There are memorable reminders of his efforts. In 1964, Joe joined the Canadian Forestry Service (CFS) as Research Officer and Officer in Charge of Prince Albert operations in Saskatchewan. This work involved interacting with industry and provincial agencies on various projects eg. hybrid poplar provenance trials, black spruce planting with mechanical ditching to enhance boreal sites and numerous other management 'forest type' concerns. His personal and accommodating nature was a benefit to everyone involved in this work. On October 15, 1974 he continued some of these studies when he moved to the Alberta Forest Service first as a Forest Research Coordinator and then as Director of Research. This work followed a decline by the federal authorities in research that Alberta felt should be conducted and hence, now, became a provincial priority. A goal he set for himself was "To organize and maintain an effective provincial forest research organization for the improvement of current forest management

practices in Alberta." Joe was instrumental in fostering input with academics, industry and various government personnel on forest regeneration, including nursery programs and related studies. On June 15, 1987 Joe retired, living for a brief time in Canada before returning to his beloved home area in Hungary. He enjoyed the Hungarian countryside and hunted, occasionally, in Africa before his eyesight began to fail. Perhaps this was his biggest loss because of a lifelong interest in books and love of nature. Joe will be fondly remembered by his Sopron classmates and numerous Canadian colleagues for his joyful personal nature and dedicated interest in many phases of forestry. From an overview of his career, Joe said "Canadian forestry is rapidly changing from timber 'mining' to forest management; an encouraging sign of intensive forest management is on the horizon. We should all contribute to this forestry goal in our adopted country to the best of our abilities".

BARRY WOOD

Barry passed away on May 31, 2014 at the age of 62 years. Good friend Larry Lafleur said "Barry started in February, 1978. I started one month ahead of that in January, 1978, but Barry always reminded me that his first job in Alberta when he hitchhiked out from Ontario was with the Government surveyors who did the survey for the new Pine Ridge Forest Nursery (PFRN). Barry started out as a Forestry Aid working as part of the irrigation crew, but soon became a grower and eventually the head grower as part of the Alberta Forest Service. He did sort of leave the nursery for a few years when he joined me as part of the Commercial Tree Nursery group and he as part of our team was a

major factor in getting the private seedling industry up and running in Alberta. When my group took over the operation of PFRN and renamed it Smoky Lake Forest Nursery (SLFN) I of course kept Barry on as head grower, a position he held until his untimely death. In the last few years Barry dedicated most of his time to figuring out how to germinate and grow native shrubs. Barry and I worked together almost continuously from 1978 until May 2014 a long time and a career by most people's standards. I did some rough calculations on the number of seedlings Barry and I have been involved in growing and I know my total exceeded 1 billion and I think Barry's came out somewhere around 600 million. This includes seedlings grown at PRFN/SLFN and those grown under contract through the CTN section and those grown by the start-up nurseries in the years Barry was involved in teaching them. My number goes up by over 50 million a year these days, but I figure once I can say over 1 billion why keep counting as I don't expect to make it to two!! Barry went from being a new graduate with a biology degree to one of the most respected and knowledgeable seedling growers in Canada. The one thing that set him above most others was his passion. He truly loved what he did and it showed in his dedication and work ethic."

GORDON SMART

Born January 6, 1926, Gordon passed away in Parksville, British Columbia on June 3, 2014 at the age of 88. He was born and raised on the family farm in southern Saskatchewan leaving to join the Canadian Army during World War II. He met his wife Eunice in Saskatoon and it was love at first sight. They were soon married even though he was not demobilized from the Army. Together they established

their family, first in Nipigon, Ontario and later in Edmonton. Gordon had a long and successful career in forestry with the provincial government before retiring to Vancouver Island. He became a writer, editor and publisher – a pastime that was a labour of love for many years. When Eric Huestis recruited Reg Loomis in 1949 to manage the forest inventory program, Reg, in turn, recruited Gordon for his photogrammetric skills. Both were working in Nipigon at the time. Gordon joined the AFS in 1950, retiring as Head, Land Use Branch in 1981.

MELVIN FENTON

On June 26, 2014 Mel passed away in Slave Lake at the age of 73 years. Previous to his employment with the Alberta Forest Service (AFS) Mel worked oilfield in the Zama Rainbow Lake field. He started with the AFS in the Slave Lake Forest in the mid 1970s under head mechanic Don Wilier along with Ivy Neal. He took the Tanker Base Manager course in 1987 and worked as the base manager at Loon River through to 1990. In 1990 Mel completed his mechanics ticket and was employed as a mechanic in Slave Lake until 1996 when positions were abolished, then as contract mechanic until 1999 when he suffered a stroke

WILFRED TAYLOR

Born on August 10, 1921, Wilf passed away on August 26, 2014 in Whitehorse, Yukon. Wilf was raised in the foothills of the Rockies on the family homestead farm west of Nanton. Besides farming and ranching skills, he learned to hunt, trap and fish; and worked on various farms and ranches. In 1941 he enlisted in the Canadian Army, was trained in a tank unit in England and served in active duty

in France, Belgium and Germany. On his way to England in 1942 he met and married Vera Dunn in Truro, Nova Scotia. On his discharge in 1945 he returned to Alberta with Vera and worked variously on farms and ranches, breaking horses, and as a logger, hunter and trapper. Beginning in 1950, with three children, Joanne, Charles and Hugh, Wilf was employed as a National Park Warden, serving in Banff, Yoho and Kootenay for about five years. He then held various positions with the Alberta Forest Service in the Crowsnest, and with what was then the Alberta Game Branch. In 1965 Wilf decided that his interests lay in the fields of forestry and wildlife; also that he needed an education to qualify for the sorts of positions he had in mind. He took a job as towerman to enable him through correspondence to upgrade his education sufficiently to qualify to enrol in the two-year Forestry program offered through NAIT and the Forest Technology School (FTS) in Hinton. By then he and Vera had three more children, Bruce, Lynn and Karen. Together the family put Wilf through the first year at Hinton by leasing the Royalite Gas Station, which had a small house attached. The family ran the business while Wilf was at school. Peter Murphy recalled "I admired how he and his family took on running the old Royalite station as a place to live and to help with supporting him at school. He was a very enterprising and contributing individual, it was great to have him and his family in Hinton. He was a positive influence on our students". With his diploma in hand in 1967, Canada's Centennial Year, he had five job offers; he chose the one from the Mackenzie Forest Service in the Northwest Territories as a Resource Management Officer stationed at Inuvik. He and Vera headed north with their four youngest

children. While most of Wilf's duties involved environmental protection related to the oil and gas industry, Wilf became involved with forest fire fighting and was there in 1968 when Inuvik itself was threatened. In 1971 Wilf was hired to head the modest forest protection program of the Yukon Forest Service (YFS). Headquartered in Whitehorse, Wilf introduced a number of innovative forest fire fighting procedures based on what he had learned at FTS. Prior to Wilf's arrival most of the techniques used by YFS staff were based upon the empirical experience of individual staff members. With funding from the Yukon Territorial Government Wilf designed and implemented a six-month fire suppression training program focused mainly on seasonal staff. He was able to bring fire suppression experts from across North America to his school to teach both the theory and practices of modern fire suppression. Bob Newstead said "I met Wilf when he joined the Yukon Forest Service as Forest Protection Officer in the early summer of 1971. I recall that Wilf was 'older and wiser' than me, and exhibited a distinct sense of humour, along with his several years of experience accumulated during his time in Alberta". Wilf kept abreast of fire protection research and techniques across the world. He supported testing of some of the more promising ones in Yukon. One of them which originated in Australia involved the use of ping pong balls loaded with potassium permanganate. When injected with antifreeze the balls would quickly burst into flame. YFS staff flying in helicopters would inject the balls with a syringe (and sometimes their hands if the air was turbulent) then drop them into the forest as a "safe" means of lighting backfires and burning off unburned patches of forest within large fires.

Later automated methods for delivering the ping pong balls were developed and the technique was adopted by other forest protection agencies in North America. Another technique Wilf and his staff tried was the use of primer cord for rapid construction of fire lines. While the technique worked it was deemed too dangerous to employ. In 1982 Wilf moved to Dawson Creek, B.C. to make a new home on a 300-acre ranch with Vera and his horses.

W. GORDON BUCHANAN

Gordon passed away on October 19, 2014 at the age of 85. Born in McCleary, Manitoba, he was around a sawmill from a young age. His father Arnold moved the family and operation to High Prairie in 1956, but died five years later. Gordon then took over. At a recognition event in High Prairie, Gordon said "The smell of wood being sawn, the hum of the saws ... that's in my blood. It was then and it still is today. My desire has always been to get the best recovery out of every log that enters the mill. By the grace of God and with a lot of hard work, we made it happen. Today, we have a zero waste policy. Every part of a log that comes to Buchanan Lumber is used – the bark, the chips, the sawdust". Gordon believed in the power of education and importance of team sports. He donated to the Town of High Prairie Recreation Centre and Aquatics Centre and to an MRI at the Stollery Children's Hospital to help sick children. He commented that "A very rewarding decade of my life was from 1973 to 1984, as Director of the Alberta Opportunity Company. We were a lender of last resort to companies with good ideas that were unable to get financing. We gave them a chance and we witnessed many success stories as a result". Gordon also took part in

financially supporting the Oilers hockey team and contributed greatly to the Buchanan Centre, an Edmonton wellness centre for those living with Parkinson's disease. Gordon and Bob Vanderwell were two founding members and huge supporters of the Lesser Slave Forest Education Society.

GLEN SLOAN

Glen passed away in Slave Lake on November 10, 2014 at 93 years of age. He worked for the Alberta Forest Service from 1956 to 1980. Glen attended the Forestry Training School in Seebe in 1957 and was Chief Ranger in Kinuso when he retired. His brothers Bud and Ray also worked for the AFS. Two sons in laws of Glen's also worked for the AFS, Harold Evenson and Dave Laing.

PAUL WALLACH

Paul was born on May 1, 1922 in Monarch, Wyoming and passed away in Athabasca on November 22, 2014 at 92 years of age. In 1927 the family travelled by train from Wyoming to Athabasca and then by horse and wagon to Richmond Park to begin life as new Canadians. He attended Richmond Park school beginning at age 8 but left school after grade 6 to find work and relieve his parents of another mouth to feed. He was only 15 years old. His first job was ice fishing with nets on Rock Island Lake working for the Wanning Brothers and earning \$5 per month. His second job was at a sawmill where he earned \$27 per month. In 1939 adventure took him first to the coast of British Columbia where he landed a job at \$80 per month in sawmills at Port Mellon and Port Alberni. Later that year he rode in and on top of boxcars of freight trains for 9 days on \$9 to Montreal in hopes of finding work at the Vickers Airplane factory. As he

was one of at least three thousand job seekers he decided his chances of securing work were very unlikely. So he rode the rails back west first stopping in Manitoba to help with the fall harvest and then eventually returning to Alberta. In 1946, he began his sawmill business and then in 1954 he expanded it to include a planing mill component operating under the name of Wallach's Planing Mill. Initially his timber supply areas or 'berths' were in the Calling Lake and Lac La Biche areas, and thereafter northeast of Slave Lake in the Wabasca area. While his sawmilling occurred during the winter months much of the planing of the 'rough' sawn lumber was done in the summer on a property east of Athabasca. Paul's lumber was well known for its high quality and it was always in demand. He sold it to a variety of customers and markets throughout central and eastern Alberta. Local individuals from the Athabasca area also purchased lumber from Paul. It was not uncommon for a farmer to come by and pick up five or six boards, often on credit, and then one or two weeks later after selling his cream or eggs faithfully return and pay Paul. In addition to his lumber business, in the summer he farmed his three quarter sections of land located east of Athabasca, primarily growing wheat and canola. Also during the summer and fall, Paul would often take on extra work with his trucks hauling gravel, seal coat and rock chips for Alberta Transportation. These jobs took him to nearly every corner of Alberta, travelling thousands of miles and experiencing the province's scenery and geography. Paul was a hard-working dedicated sincere individual, passionate about lumbering and farming. Many of the ways he chose to do things in his businesses and personal life were a reflection of his care and concern for the environment.

RONALD FYTCHE

Born on December 14, 1926 in Alma, New Brunswick, Ron passed away on December 12, 2014, two days short of his 88th birthday. He graduated from the University of New Brunswick (BSc. F.) in 1947, and from the University of Michigan (M.F.) in 1951. His personal summary from 2001 stated "I joined the Alberta Forest Service in February, 1954, coming from Ottawa. I first worked for the old Forest Surveys Branch. I still remember riding horseback when we cruised the Tony Creek timber west of Whitecourt in 1955. The horse was definitely the boss! Later on I was with the Timber Management Branch as the Forester in charge of the Forest Statistics Section. I took early retirement in March 1982 at age 55 and started my own business in property maintenance. I think my greatest contribution to the Alberta Forest Service was the establishment of the initial annual allowable cut regulatory framework for the province. Von Mantel's Formula forever!" Peter Murphy said of Ron "He was keen about forest management, including forest inventory, land-use planning and calculation of allowable cuts -- all relatively new concepts during his early days there. He was happiest in office positions where he could work on photos, maps and plans. He was always affable and willing to help as a volunteer on forestry related committees".

LAWRENCE GIDEON (LARRY) HUBERDEAU

Born on July 7, 1930, Larry passed away at 84 years of age in St Albert on December 29, 2014. While born in Edmonton, Larry spent most of his youth in Colinton, Alberta. After a short period of time in

the Air Force (as a navigator) he worked on early radar warning systems in the Canadian north before beginning his career with the Alberta Forest Service in 1960. Larry graduated from the first formal forest technician course offered at the Forestry Training School in Hinton in 1966, and along with Horst Rohde and Emanuel Doll, supervised one of the first three Junior Forest Ranger crews during the program's inaugural year in 1965. After working in a number of northern communities in Alberta (Peace River, Footner Lake, Grande Prairie), he retired in April 1987 as the Forest Superintendent of the Lac La Biche Forest. Larry had said he enjoyed every minute of those 27 years. His lifelong passion for photography resulted in the ownership of a photography business post-retirement, which was sold in 1990 when he and Margaret moved to St. Albert. Together, they enjoyed several years of travel. Larry was active in the St. Albert Photo Club for many years and was an avid reader and never lost his zest for learning or enthusiasm for new experiences. In most recent years, Larry attended the Adult Day Program at the Sturgeon Hospital twice a week, where he met great people and made friendships that meant so much. For the last 13 years, Larry's greatest joy was his three grandchildren. Larry Huberdeau was seen as a gentleman and mentor for many new forest officers, a few who provided their thoughts. Wes Nimco commented that "Larry was a great person and an outstanding leader. He had a positive influence on a large number of people throughout his career with the Alberta Forest Service. He could bring the best out of people and wasn't afraid to take a risk." Butch Shenfield said Larry was "easily the most forward-thinking superintendent of the

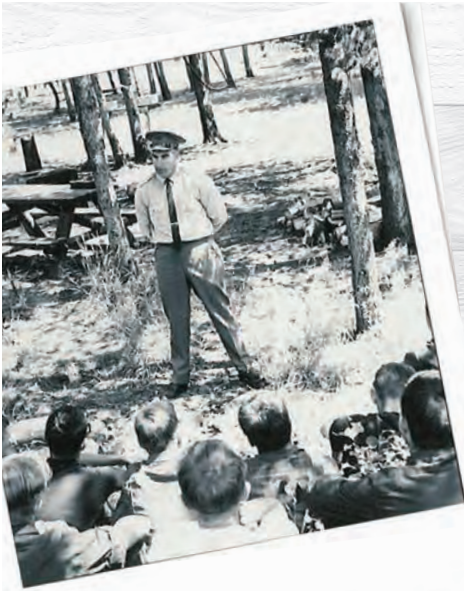
Alberta Forest Service, Larry was wise beyond wise. Really knew how to work with people and bring out the best in everyone. He liked to challenge the 'norm' or 'is this really the best way to do things'. He was always friendly through to the core and people wanted to sit with him to learn and grow with him." Russ Stashko had the following story, "As a young Ranger starting in Lac La Biche at the same time Larry got his promotion there I was privileged to spend three years working with him as the 'Oogemow'. I would like to share a story of my first real face to face with him. I was a wage ranger working out of Beaver Lake and really liking my assignments and the Chief Ranger Lou Foley. One day I was summoned to the 'Superintendents office'. At that time this was like being called before God. I arrived, knocked on his door and he asked me in. There were no other chairs in his office other than the one he was occupying and his desk was spotless. No paper on it at all. I asked where I was to sit and Larry said 'Son - you won't be here that long to sit, if I wanted a long conversation with you we would go to the conference room'. I was kind of taken aback but gathered my courage and asked how he kept such a clean desk being the Superintendent and all - my chief rangers' desk was much more cluttered. He then took the time to show me his method of paper and time management. In one of his desk drawers were five folders for each day of the week and 12 for each month. He told me when incoming paper came in and he couldn't deal with it right then he would file it in the day or month he could, only handling it once. I adopted that strategy and it served me well in my career with forestry and fish and wildlife - passing it on to many subordinates. He

then gave me one of the best assignments of my career to date - a short term transfer to La Corey District to complete a Lakeland Recreation survey. Larry was into Tom Peters and Peter Drucker and other 'management gurus' years before they became vogue and shared his thoughts with me. He used to travel to the Lac La Biche ranger stations regularly on a 'ride for truth', have coffee with us, tell stories and listen to ours. Years later I realized he was 'managing by walking around'. I shared his love for photography and learned from him. He was an inspiration to many and will be missed." Ken Yackimec remarked that "I first met him as a somewhat distant figure in his lofty office at the old M+M building in Lac La Biche in 1979 when I went for an interview for a tower job. Paul Campbell, the detection technician in Lac La Biche, pointed him out to me as the 'big boss', the SUPERINTENDENT and seemed a bit in awe. I guess those who lived through the Bert Coast years tended to have a bit of that in them, but as I got to know Larry in the years that followed, that old school way was not his, he simply commanded respect for his low key leadership and competence. Mind you his decisions weren't always that clearheaded as he is the guy who talked me into going to the NAIT Forestry course in 1981 and even wrote me a letter to back me up, as my eventual application was kind of late. However, most of his ideas were a lot better than that. I always kept in touch during my seasonal years and when the 1983 NAIT class was graduating I asked if he could be the speaker at our ceremony, as he was the president of first NAIT class in 1966. He delivered the address in his usual wry, witty speech that actually started with the lines 'Now that you've laid eyes on me let me assure you that

a Forestry career doesn't make you look like this; it's just that I started kind of late'. I remember his farewell address to the somewhat distraught troops in 1987 when he announced his retirement. He predicted that the coming years would see a lot of changes in the Alberta Forest Service and that we should be prepared for these changes to come and accelerate during our careers. Great advice as usual, except that in my naivety I thought there would be some changes for a few years and then things would settle down. Yeah, right. I also recall in his speech he said that in his time in Lac La Biche he had managed to achieve his main objective of getting all the Ranger Stations in the Forest indoor bathrooms, which just goes to show you where we were, even in the mid 1970's".

EILEEN MOROZ

Born February 13, 1955, Eileen passed away on February 11, 2015, two days short of her 60th birthday. Eileen started working with the Alberta Forest Service as a Forest Protection Clerk in Lac La Biche on July 1, 1985. Through a number of organization changes, Eileen remained focussed on wildfire related work, branching out to more of a regional role in contracts and budget support. She was still working for Environment and Sustainable Resource Development when she passed away, a thirty year career.



JUNIOR FOREST RANGERS

— 1965 - 2015 —

The Junior Forest Ranger program is turning 50!

Walk down memory lane, connect with fellow alumni and join us as we showcase our summer success in celebration of youth in forestry at our annual Bull of the Woods competition.

2015 Event Program

50th Anniversary Celebration

Tuesday, August 18th, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Bull Of The Woods Competition

Wednesday, August 19th, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, August 19th, 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Located at the
Cold Creek Fire Base Camp

For more info and to secure your ticket:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/botw2015
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Thank you for your support!

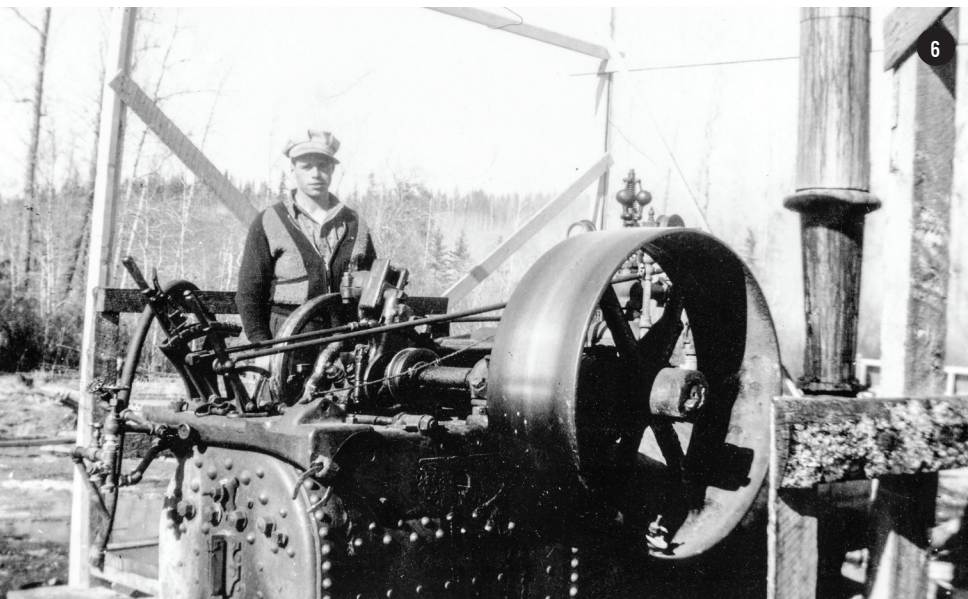


Cold Creek Fire Base Camp
South at MacKay intersection
Right at Stop Sign
Follow road to the Bull of the Woods
Watch for signs

albertajfr.ca

FOREST HISTORY PHOTO CORNER





1. Livingstone Gap Ranger Station, early 1950s. Photo is from William Weber who was a Forest Officer in the 1950s and Assistant to Wally Walton when he was in charge of the Livingstone Gap Ranger Station.

2. Alberta Newsprint Company's log storage yard, Knight siding, north of the Athabasca River off Secondary Highway 947, 1991

3. Alberta Newsprint Company's Peterson Pacific DDC 5000, 1990. This machine was used to debark and chip small diameter pine trees.

4. Steam engine and logging operation in the Slave Lake area, 1920s or 1930s. FHAA member Robert Bryce, a steam engine hobbyist, said this engine was built by the Avery Company. The engines were very strong, well built, and only a few remain.

5. This was the last Forestry Training School class held at Kananaskis, then the Kananaskis Forest Experiment Station operated by the Canadian Forest Service. The classroom was the library and meeting hall for the Prisoner of War Camp, created after 1939. The site is now the field station of the University of Calgary.

Standing (L to R): Jim Andersen, Whitecourt; Jens Kristensen, Grande Prairie; Don Harvie, Fort McMurray; Irv Allen, Manning; Gordon DeGrace, Forester, AFS Edmonton, visiting instructor; 'Bugs' Ross, Nordegg; Jack Macnab, FTS Instructor, 2 i/c; Vic Wilson, Hythe; Peter Murphy, FTS Forester, i/c; Sam Sinclair, Slave Lake; Ron Fytche, Forester, AFS Edmonton, visiting instructor; Bill Mitchell, Medicine Lodge; Jack Brock, Steen River; Art Peter, Lodgepole; Phil Stoley, Grande Prairie

Kneeling (L to R): Eric Seyl, Fort McKay; Al Werner, Slave Lake; Bruce Johnson, High Prairie; Don Lowe, Rock Lake; Hylo McDonald, McLennan; Maurice Verhaeghe, Red Deer (west of Sundre); Jack Plews, Fort Chipewyan; Bud Sloan, Sunset House; Frank Jones, Canmore

6. Steam engine, 1920s or 1930s. FHAA member Robert Bryce, a steam engine hobbyist, said this is a portable engine built by J.I. Case, which still builds agricultural tractors today. The picture appears to have been taken during its annual inspection, or possibly when washing out the boiler.

1. L to R: Mike Sauze and Peter Denney, on Mike's sailboat the Elysian, off Pender Island

2. L to R: Peter Murphy, Bob Vanderwell and Con Dermott at the Spray Lake Sawmills 70th Anniversary celebration, September 2013

3. Hugh Boyd at the 29th AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament, February 2014. This was Hugh's 25th year playing in the Oldtimers.

4. L to R: Donna Dyck and Lin Newton with their retirement bouquets, December 2013

5. L to R: Peter Murphy, Bob Udell, Bob Stevenson and John Luckurst; celebration of FRI Forest History accomplishments; Fall 2013

6. L to R: Paul McMahon and Jerry Sunderland, 2014 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 22, 2014

7. L to R: Arnie Mostowich, Steve Mostowich, Cliff Smith (Assistant Deputy Minister, Alberta Forest Service) and Ron Mostowich; Mostowich Lumber; mid 1980s

8. L to R: Lowell Lyseng and Chad Gardeski, 2014 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 22, 2014

9. L to R: Jesse Baron, Chad Gardeski and Bill MacDonald, 2014 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 22, 2014









1. On export to Anchorage, Alaska are the four Alberta CL215T skimmer airtankers and two Conair Convair land-based airtankers on contract to British Columbia; May 2014

2. Ambrose 'Jake' Jacobs recognized for his 40th year firefighting with the Alberta government; Slave Lake; March 15, 2014

3. L to R: Elaine Mayer, Ken Yackimec, Joe Lyons, Dave Heatherington, Doug Smith, Bart McAnally and Bruce Mayer; Forest Technology School graduates Class of 1983; June 13, 2014

4. L to R: Mike Harkies, Bruce Mayer, Frank Oberle and Brad Thorlakson, Tolko Industries 200 Millionth Tree Planting celebration, High Level; June 6, 2014

5. L to R: Dave West, Cliff Henderson, Murray Summers, Dave Kiil, Dave Wall, Bruce Mayer and Norm Denney; Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta Board of Directors; June 19, 2014

6. L to R: Honourable Frank Oberle, Minister Aboriginal Relations, and Brad Thorlakson, President and CEO Tolko Industries; Tolko Industries 200 Millionth Tree Planting celebration, High Level; June 6, 2014

7. L to R: Brad Thorlakson and Bruce Mayer; Tolko Industries 200 Millionth Tree Planting celebration, High Level; June 6, 2014

8. L to R: Peter Mason (Owner) and Kevin Chapman (Peers Plant Manager), Brisco Wood Preservers; June 13, 2014

9. L to R: Peter Mason (Owner), Dan Lux (Executive Director, Forest Industry Development Branch) and Corey Boilard (VP Operations) at the opening of Brisco Wood Preservers Doweled Post and Rail Plant; July 15, 2014

1. L to R: Therese Yacyshyn and Patti Campsall; John Brewer's retirement party; June 7, 2014

2. L to R: Kevin Vander Haeghe, daughter Pam Wheat, son Perry Wheat and Tim Klein; Ken Wheat Memorial at Ansel Tower; June 2014

3. Teresa Stokes handing out seedlings at the STIHL Timbersports competition on behalf of the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Rocky Mountains Section, Forests without Borders program, June 14, 2014

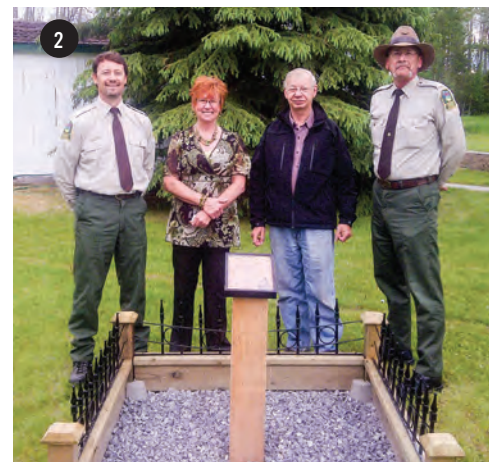
4. L to R: James MacKinnon, Mathew Christie, Bruce Mayer and Mark Missal; John Brewer's retirement party; June 7, 2014

5. L to R: Tom Archibald, Bernie Schmitte, Jim Lunn and Wade McDonald; John Brewer's retirement party; June 7, 2014

6. L to R: Al Law and John Brewer at John's retirement party; June 7, 2014

7. L to R: Ed Dechant, John Brewer and Bruce Cartwright; John Brewer's retirement party; June 7, 2014

8. Group picture of ESRD wildland firefighters following their 'wet' tug-of-war challenge, the last event of the 2014 Wildfire Competition; Cache Percotte Forest; June 2014









1. L to R: Eric Higgs (University of Victoria, Mountain Legacy Project) and Robert Mueller; ESRD Calgary Stampede Pancake Breakfast; July 11, 2014

2. L to R: Daryl Stastook (Manager, Foothills Forest Products), and Darren Tapp (Executive Director, Forest Management Branch); Grande Cache; July 24, 2014

3. L to R: Hugh Boyd and Paul Rizzoli; celebration event to recognize Paul's 50 years of firefighting; August 22, 2014

4. L to R: Rod Houle and Patrick Loewen; Rod's retirement tea; November 7, 2014

5. L to R: Bruce MacGregor and Hugh Boyd; Bruce presenting Hugh with a gold chromed Pulaski on Hugh's retirement; October 18, 2014

6. L to R: Morgan Kehr, Hugh Boyd, Wes Nimco, Kevin Gagne, Mark Freedman, Bruce Mayer and Bernie Schmitte; Spreading Creek wildfire, Kootenay Plains; July 12, 2014

7. L to R: Brent Currier, ESRD; Gordon Sanders, West Fraser Timber; Bruce Mayer, ESRD; Darren Tapp, ESRD; Tim Burns, West Fraser Timber; field tour near High Prairie; August 21, 2014

8. L to R: Bruce Mayer, Bertie Beaver and Hugh Boyd; ALS Ice Bucket Challenge; August 28, 2014

9. L to R: Incident Commander Rick Hoddinott, Hugh Boyd, Kevin Vander Haeghe and Morgan Kehr; wildfire EWF-054-2014 Camp Creek; July 18, 2014

10. L to R: Denis Hebert, Dennis Sampietro and Paul Rizzoli; celebration event to recognize Paul's 50 years of firefighting; August 22, 2014



1. L to R: Noel St Jean, Doug Smith, Al Hovan and Karen Hovan; 2015 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 21, 2015

2. L to R: Lowell Lyseng, Jerry Sunderland and Mel White; 2015 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 21, 2015. This was the 30th Anniversary of the AFS Oldtimers and the 30th Anniversary of Jerry Sunderland playing in the AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament.

3. L to R: Paula Hoffman, Christa Woodworth, Brianna Bergen and Pam Alford; 2015 AFS Oldtimers Hockey Tournament and Huestis Bonspiel, Athabasca; February 21, 2015

4. L to R: Bruce Mayer, Hugh Boyd and Howard Gray at Hugh's retirement; October 18, 2014

5. L to R: Mike Kakoullis, Mark Crowley, Trevor Lamabe, Morgan Kehr, Al Law, Chris McGuinty, Wally Born, Bruce Mayer, Laurier Houle and Tim Klein; Notikewan Tower replacement project; February 13, 2015

6. L to R: Kelly O'Shea, Craig Rose and Jules LeBoeuf; Hugh Boyd's retirement party; October 18, 2014

7. L to R: Dave Wall, Ed Roste and Darren Tapp; Millar Western Forest Products; Boyle; November 13, 2014

8. ESRD Deputy Minister Bill Werry (L) with the 2014 Junior Forest Rangers after planting a commemorative tree; Cold Creek Staging Camp; August 20, 2014

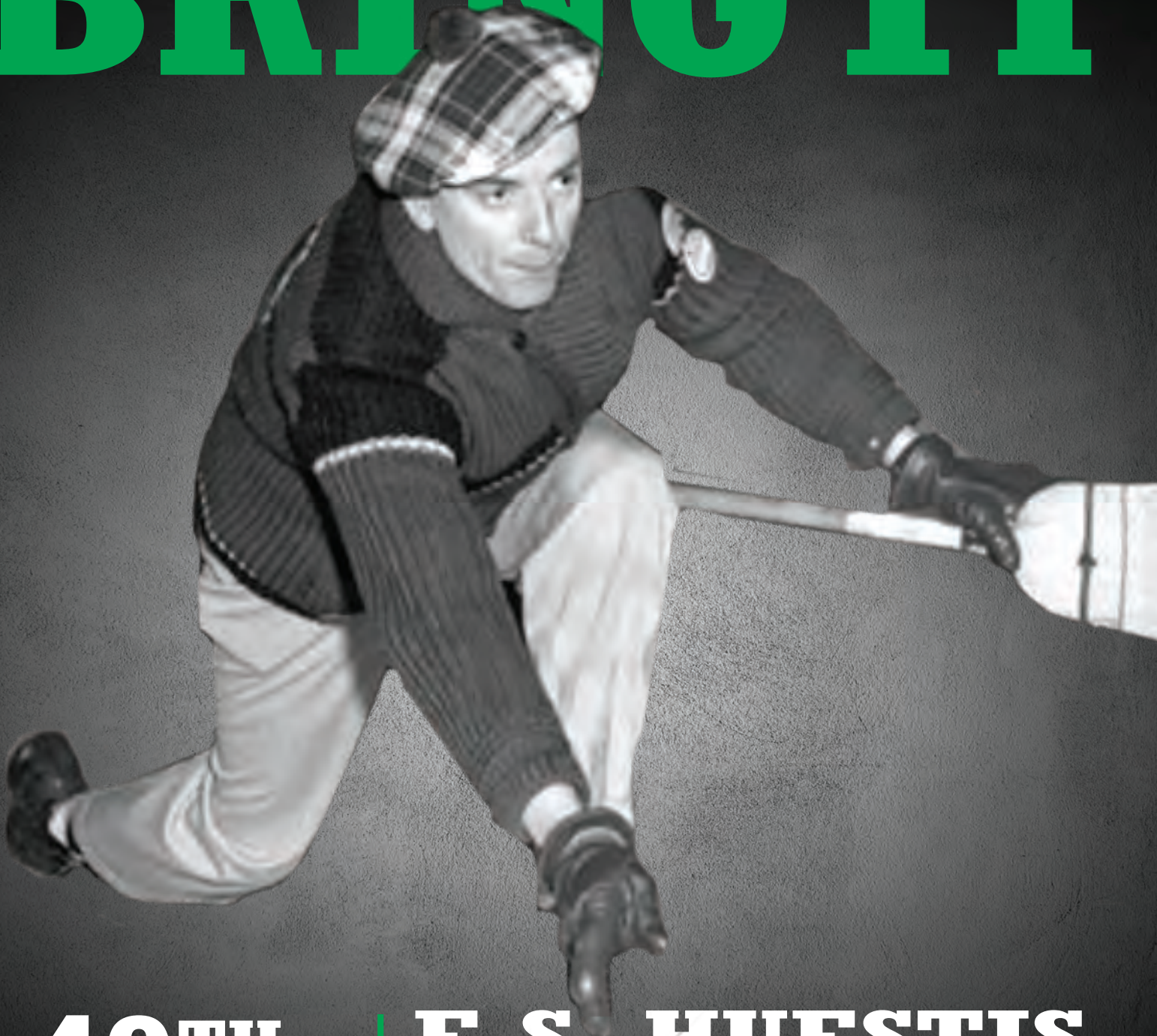




The Junior Forest Rangers are celebrating 50 years this year. Here's a look back at the program.



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Published by:
Forest History Association of Alberta

Design and Layout by:
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