

TRAILS & TALES

Newsletter of the Forest History Association of Alberta

Hinton Training Centre celebrates 50 years

On October 2, 2010 hundreds of people showed up to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Hinton Training Centre. A pancake breakfast started off the day followed by tours

of the Alberta Forest Service Museum, the classrooms and other facilities, and a rappelling and fire simulator demonstration. The day culminated with an evening event celebrating the accomplishments of the training centre staff over the years, including all of

the school directors. Hinton Training Centre staff did a bang up job with a "walk through time, training history" display in the John Wagar gymnasium. A ceremonial cake cutting was done at noon by Bruce Mayer, Assistant Deputy Minister, Forestry Division and Crystal Miller, Facilities and Events Coordinator, Hinton Training Centre.

The training centre has been known through a number of names over the years. Starting as the Forestry Training

School in Kananaskis in 1951 and continuing to Hinton in 1960, the name changed to the Forest Technology School in 1965. In 1992 the name became the Environmental

Training Centre, followed in 2003 by the current Hinton Training Centre name. Over the history of the training centre since its move to Hinton in 1960, there have been eight directors, all but one were able to attend. John Wagar was appointed director in 1973 when



Peter Murphy moved to the University of Alberta, but suddenly passed away shortly after.

The evening event was a celebration of challenges and accomplishments over the years, led by the training centre directors, with Master of Ceremonies Jules LeBoeuf. The following are quotes from each of the individual directors:

Peter Murphy

"The beginnings that we had were really inauspicious – we had very humble beginnings, starting in 1951. It has been quite a ride. By the time I took over in 1956, we had heard stories about the tarpaper shack that the school was – and it was just that. It was adequate, but in the cold weather, in the fall, the snow would blow in through the cracks around the window and under the doors and the students would huddle around those three potbellied coal-fired heaters, making a really informal classroom arrangement. That was my first year. I hadn't been a teacher before - so it was a steep learning curve for all of us. But what really showed up, and it didn't take very long, was that it wasn't the facilities, it was the students, and that

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Annual General Meeting

Come one, come all to the 7th FHAA Annual General Meeting on Wednesday March 16, 2011 at the Coast Edmonton Plaza. The meeting will commence at 7 PM. Ken Armson, President of the Forest History Association of Ontario, and author and retired Ranger Robin Huth are the invited guest speakers. Should you wish to stay overnight, room discounts are available by calling 1-800-663-1144 and quoting booking code CEP-GFC9243.

point was already made this evening. I'm sure the others will make the same point. But the students were just phenomenal; they were there because they wanted to be. They all were keen. They were there to learn. They were there to argue and discuss and point out whether they thought we were right or wrong. They were just so enthusiastic that we were



Training Centre Directors Back Row (L to R): Rob Galon, Rob Thorburn, Don Podlubny, Ross Risvold, Dennis Quintilio. Front Row (L to R): Peter Murphy, Bernie Simpson

buoyed by their enthusiasm and it carried us a long way under some difficult conditions. And it seems to me that right through this whole 50 years, our students have reflected those same qualities.”

Commenting on all the great instructors hired and their accomplishments, Peter said “these guys all contributed so much and we are building on what they left. So, finally, I wanted to say thanks to all of you, and all who you represent, for your support and encouragement of what this school has done because what we’ve got now is just mind-blowing. It’s a far cry from what we ever envisaged. So congratulations and thanks a heck of a lot.”

Bernie Simpson

Following up after Peter Murphy, Bernie said: “you [Peter Murphy] mentioned Eric Huestis was one of the driving forces behind establishing this training centre, and in my mind Eric was the greatest administrator and director that the organization has ever seen. He was a marvelous man and I think most people would agree to that. In order to survive, all organizations, or organisms for that matter, have to undergo change. You just can’t stay as you are and survive. The forces for change come from two sources - from outside the organization and from within the organization. From within the organization, our staff itself came up with ideas for new courses and training aids. As an example we went from the old smoke and mirrors fire simulator, to laser discs created by Dennis [Quintilio] and Rob [Thorburn] and their group. That was really a wonderful thing.”

“The second year NAIT program really formed the bulk of our workload here. We had pretty big classes, like 50, 55 students or more, that took a lot of time. We were able

to staff up and provide the right level of instruction and administration required to run the program. During my years at the training centre we also built a strong program focused on in-service forest fire control training.”

Dennis Quintilio

“Well, it was a great day and, like the other directors have mentioned, a lot of quality

events that were well attended. Not a surprise for any of us that have been associated with the school. There have been a lot of positive comments on the overall day. I arrived at the Forest Technology School as a Senior Fire Control Instructor in the fall of '79 when Harry Edgecombe retired. And, as we just heard, this school had established a reputation for - and I remember this - long days, intense classroom instruction and field training with highly qualified instructors that also knew how to have fun. That hard work and hard play was, to me, you know, just part of this institution.” Dennis remarked that after 11 years as an instructor, “I moved up to the director’s office in 1990 when Bernie retired and, like the saying goes, it’s lonely at the top. All those problems and issues that looked insignificant on the outside were now major challenges, particularly when Ralph [Klein] launched his reorganization and budget review. We had a lot of pressure to increase utilization in those years - I guess that will never go away - and that became a priority for survival, even if students had to come

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Bertie Beaver welcoming visitors to the Hinton Training Centre



Part of display in the John Wagar gymnasium

from outside the department.” Strong partnerships were made with local forest industry and the development of the Foothills Model Forest proposal was a major initiative. “A working committee was appointed on this model forest proposal and you know when the 10 sites across Canada were announced, we were selected and we were surprised, honestly. And it was actually the top rated proposal, and we are now coming up to the 20th year of the program.”

“I’ve made many trips back to the Hinton Training Centre, since leaving and I always enjoy the visits with the staff here, particularly the ones I’ve worked with and a lot of them are here this evening. And I’m always impressed with the continuous improvements knowing how difficult it is to get these budget enhancements. It’s been a great ride and we’re going to hear from more of the directors. But, in my mind, this institution has deservedly survived as a unique in-service training centre and it’s a privilege to have participated in your 50th anniversary. So thank you and hope the program, like Pete says, runs another 50.”

Ross Risvold

“Welcome everyone to the FTS / ETC / HTS 50th year celebration. It’s super to see all of the Directors in attendance. We were asked to say a few words about, ‘what does this school means to me?’ And this is to be accomplished in about 3 minutes or the MC will physically pull away from the lectern.

So very briefly, I’m going to approach this in four areas. First as a student of the FTS, then as an instructor, a director and finally I am going to relate a little bit about the



Edith and Vigo Nielson. Vigo was the head cook at the training centre from late 1980s to 1998.

school and its importance to the Hinton as a community. As students, we received an excellent education which included very high level decision-making processes. I’ll never forget Stan Lockard when he was lecturing about laying out roads. He would say, if you come to a big rock, you either go this way or you go the other way. Stan could always make you laugh and this helped sustain high morale with the students.

As an instructor, wonderful memories were provided by students and staff. These included the camaraderie and visiting the local watering holes which created incidents we won’t mention at this time. As Dennis Quintilio mentioned I became Director during the days of the Alberta Government’s cutbacks. We were told we had to be self sufficient and could not rely on Government funding.

To the surprise of many in Edmonton, we were successful. Why? Because of the staff and the great cooperation of people within the forestry community. The forestry culture was truly unique and it’s ‘can do’ approach helped this school be successful over the years.

Last, what does this unique institution mean to Hinton? As a former Mayor of Hinton and as a former student, instructor and director of this institution I have an understanding of it’s positive impact on the community. Any town in Alberta or Canada would love to have it because it is a major contributor to community diversification. It puts through around 10,000 students / visitors a year. No other single organization or initiative in Hinton creates this type of visitor and tourism activity year after year after year.

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Retired AFS Ranger Gordon Campbell in the AFS Museum

The HTC is also home to the Foot-hills Research Institute and FPinno-vations wildland fire research group. These groups contribute dramatically to research and development and have an excellent reputation provin-cially, nationally and internationally. The institute, all its staff and pro-grams are an absolute resource for the community.”

Don Podlubny

Reorganization discussions and bud-get rationalization continued when Don Podlubny became the director. “There were a lot of things going on that just about sunk the ship, and I was a part of it in some ways. But the big factor here was the staff that came together and did a lot of things to strengthen the centre. We don’t give the staff enough credit in what has happened to make the facility what it is today. We have the struc-ture, the engineered buildings and we spent money. We spent a million and a half dollars fixing up these buildings. The staff here with people such as Terry Van Nest and Jim Fri-



Murray McDonald and Mike Dubina



Pool anyone?

esen brought in programs that were national and international in context. They had people coming in from all around the world and that basically saved our day.”

“We’re getting to the end, but I really want to thank the staff that I worked with, the people in the past, the ones that I actually went through NAIT with, Al Walker, Dick Altmann, Stan Lockard - they really set the pace. And Peter Murphy, I remember going into his office a couple times. What was really enjoyable for me, was that after about a month I was sitting at my desk as the director and I had to sign some certificates. They brought in this pile for me to sign and I started smiling because I used to be at the other end getting the cer-tificate with somebody else signing it, and so that was a real high point in my career.”

Rob Thorburn

I think one thing that all of us as directors and staff in the past here

at the centre had in common was the role that we played in helping to pioneer and shape the technology landscape, technology that we’re all now familiar with in the delivery of training in forest, wildfire and wildlife management. From the first wildfire simulator in 1967 that was spear-headed by Peter Murphy, through to the first class room of IBM 8086 per-sonal computers that Bernie Simpson supported, then from there on to the implementation of interactive laser-discs and CD-ROMs in Ross Risvold’s and Don Podlubny’s era, the institu-tion really has had a lot of firsts!...a lot of firsts in terms of waving the flag in leading edge technology!

“Now, what we began to realize was that the continuously spinning wheel of technology at the Training Centre was starting to develop a momentum and more importantly, that there was a gravitational pull starting to be developed with this momentum.

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Jack Wright, Ken South, Peter Murphy

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For more info contact Bruce Mayer

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E-mail: bruce.mayer@gov.ab.ca
FHAA@albertaforesthistry.ca

What was being done at the centre was starting to capture the attention of others, not just in Canada, but around the world. As heads faced towards the training centre, other good work here at the centre, particularly in the area of research and the level of expertise that the instructors had, and the ability to hold classes led by some of the greatest subject matter experts from across the country, was starting to be noticed by people from around the world. Hinton was no longer just a dot on the map, it had become a centre of excellence that has become world renowned. HTC, as it stands today, has been a leader. It still is a leader. It has taken calculated risks to get there and HTC could not be a winner if those risks had not been taken.”

In talking about the focus on training and legislation that is driving accountability, Rob commented, “this has been evidenced more substantially in recent years by the push from governments, to hold companies and agencies responsible and liable for injury and fatalities that may result from the work that they do. There is a major cultural shift that’s occurring. This centre must continue to solicit buy in from staff and empower them to remain leaders in this field, certainly to continue to pursue the leading edge of new technology, to bring the best of the best together in a classroom to deliver their knowledge and expertise, and not to just facilitate the training, but also to become experts in it as well - continuing research, as we have been doing, and continue to spin the wheel of momentum that began back in the late 1960’s. And just as the book “Horses to Helicopters” alludes to, we have to build the future, but always preserve the past. Now, just as this institute has made an impact on the men of yesterday in the horses’ era, so it will on the people of today in the era of laptops, internet, satellites and other high tech mediums. And it’s



Ben Janz and Wally Chrysler

because of this training that’s second to none that the continued momentum draws people in, remaining professional, remaining successful, remaining a leader in the delivery of forest related education, research and technology over the last 50 years and upholding the title of the day, a world renowned centre of excellence dedicated to exceptional client service.”

Rob Galon

Rob was the last speaker for the evening. “Thank you for that introduction Jules [LeBoeuf]. As the last speaker of the evening, I would like to share what I think my true purpose is here tonight. It is not to follow up Rob Thorburn and his discussion on how we added or grew our training through technology, or Ross Risvold who discussed the future and the challenges associated with tight fiscal times and generating revenue – my real purpose here as the last and current acting Director, is to tell you how proud and

fortunate I believe I am, to have had a hand in contributing to the Department and our clients. To me, the centre is a magical place. Earlier tonight we heard six other stories that shared similar observations, with the insight and leadership that grew from Peter Murphy during our early days at the field station in the Kananaskis Valley to the facility that we are today. Along the way we survived the downsizing in the 1980s and 1990s, budget cuts during the Ralph Klein era, abolishment of instructor positions in the master agreement, the departure of the second year NAIT Forest Technology program, and of course, multiple attempts from various organizations to take over the facility. Throughout these challenges, the centre has become stronger. We added programs, we forged new alliances, we added research partners, we grew ... and I think, through these changes we learned, discovered and we certainly created new roots to support our foundations. And so tonight, I ask that you stand and raise your glass and toast ‘to 50 years of instructors, administrative staff, partners, supporters, students and their families. Without you the Hinton Training Centre could not have been the resounding success that it is today.’ Thank you.”



Crew at Rappel demonstration

Bob Udell, FHAA Director

Born on June 4, 1943, Bob was raised in Melissa, Ontario, a small community located in forested country about 150 kilometres north of Toronto. Completing high school there, and following a summer working in a local sawmill, he enrolled in the forestry program at the University of Toronto. Summer work provided experience cruising with Canadian International Paper at Noranda, Quebec; road location with Kimberly Clark at Longlac; and forest pathology research with the Canadian Forest Service at Maple and across southern Ontario. In his graduating year, Des Crossley, Chief Forester for North Western Pulp and Power, Ltd. at Hinton, offered him a position. Crossley, in an interview with Peter Murphy later said “he prided himself on hiring only the best and brightest”.

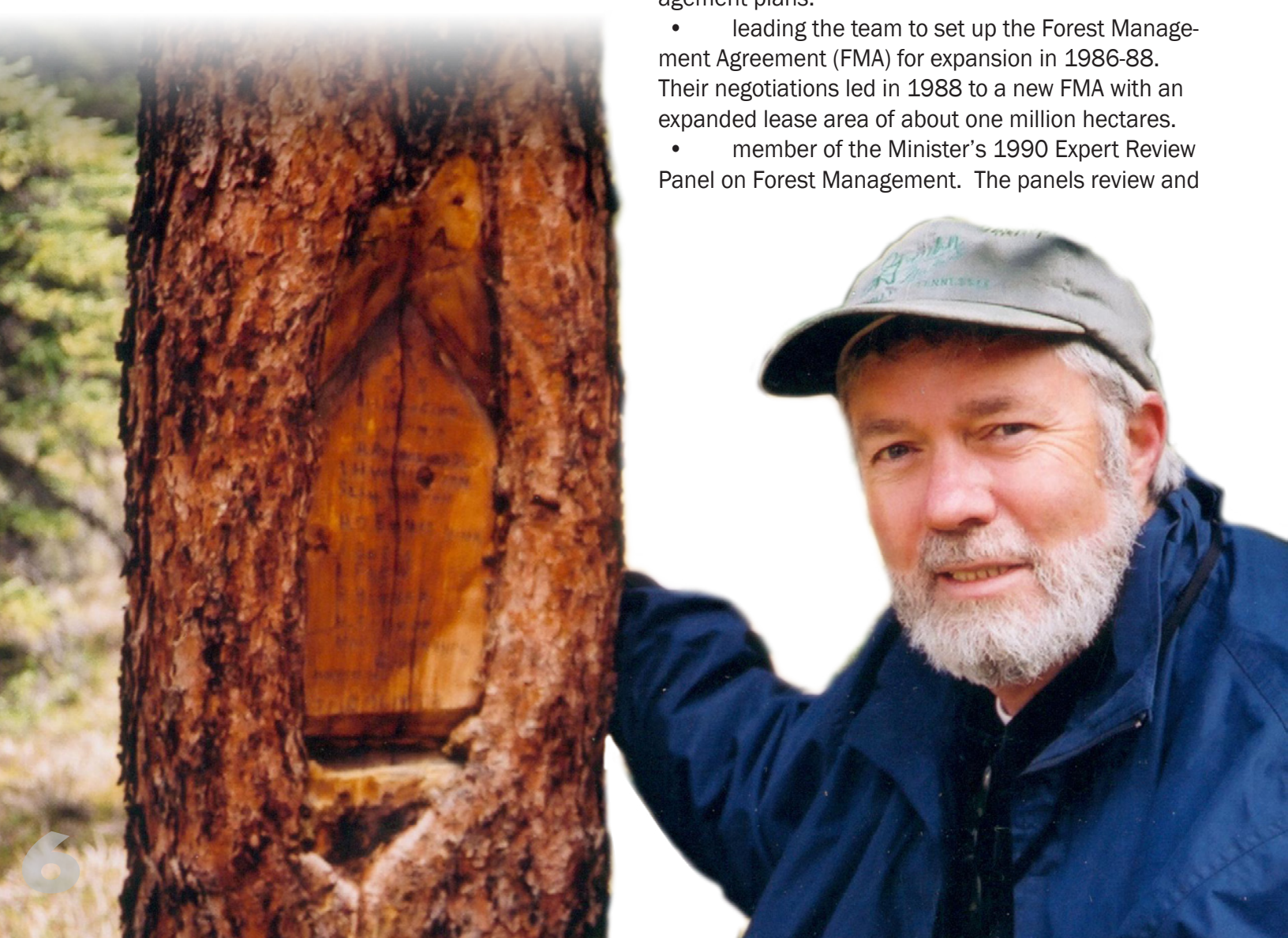
During his next five years at Hinton, Bob worked with Steve Ferdinand laying out cutblocks; re-measured company permanent sample plots with Jack Wright;

and worked on silviculture projects with Bob Carman. In 1968, Bob then became Section Head for Development and Protection. In 1970, Bob returned to Kenora, with the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests as a management forester, and later as forest management supervisor in Fort Frances, Ontario.

In 1975, Des Crossley invited Bob to return to replace Jack Wright who was to become Chief Forester. From that time Bob was largely responsible for forest management planning, including new initiatives in recreational use, trails and interpretation. He was selected in 1987 by Don Laishley to succeed retiring chief forester Jack Wright. At that point he became the forestry team leader within an expanded Forest Resources department.

During the next eventful 25 years his achievements included:

- author of the 1977 and 1986 company management plans.
- leading the team to set up the Forest Management Agreement (FMA) for expansion in 1986-88. Their negotiations led in 1988 to a new FMA with an expanded lease area of about one million hectares.
- member of the Minister’s 1990 Expert Review Panel on Forest Management. The panels review and



analysis in 1990, supported by 133 recommendations, led to commitments to extensive improvements in forest management both within the Alberta Forest Service and forest industries.

- co-chaired the committee to develop the proposal that led to establishment of the Foothills Model Forest (FMF) in 1992. This application was initiated by Udell with the Weldwood group and Dennis Quintilio at the Forest Technology School in response to the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers invitation. They were successful in a collaboration that has grown now to over 100 partners, including Jasper National Park. Bob served as president of the FMF from 1992 to 2005.

- co-chaired the Weldwood/Alberta Government team developing the Linked Planning Process of 1994 – now embedded in Alberta-wide forest management planning guidelines. This step formalized the now-accepted practice of linking harvesting planning with silviculture in an integrated approach. The concept has since expanded to include sustainable forest management for a wider range of goods and values.

- lead negotiator on FMA changes in 1995, 1998 and 1999.

- served on a number of other industry committees and task forces including the Albert Forest Products Association's Forest Management Committee, the Forest Products Association of Canada's Forestry Section, the Alberta Chamber of Resources and the National Forest Strategy consultations.

- co-chaired an industry/government task force leading to a suite of recommendations on an Enhanced Forest Management Policy for Alberta.

- Sustaining the Legacy – Udell led the team, and participated in the writing of, a major history and timeline of the Weldwood operation at Hinton, of other lands within the model forest and of the evolution of forest policy in Alberta as reflected in the Hinton forest management agreements. The book: "Learning from the Forest," was published in 2003; a second book – "A Hard Road to Travel", was published in 2007.

- one of the significant technical contributions



Tom Peterson and Bob Udell autographing Hard Road to Travel books

initiated by Bob Udell was refinement of the calculation of growth and yield of lodgepole pine.

Bob retired from Weldwood in 2004 and also retired as President of the Foothills Model Forest, but continues as Program Lead of the Adaptive Forest Management and History Program. In retirement, Bob continued to work

as a forestry consultant as well as doing volunteer work for the Forest History Association of Alberta and the Canadian Institute of Forestry (CIF). Among the achievements since retirement include recipient of the Alberta Centennial Gold Medal and the CIF Canadian Forestry Achievement Award; co-author of "The Resilient Forest", editor of the Jack Glen story "Mountain Trails", and program coordinator for the new Northern Ecotours Project.

Bob has always been community minded. One of his major avocations continues to be music, first expressed through his bluegrass band "Stumped", later named "Loggerrhythm", which has played both locally and provincially and at CIF annual meetings. More recently Bob has been the Director and Chair of the Foothills Male Chorus, a 25-man chorus based in Hinton. He conducts the chorus, chairs the operating committee of the chorus, lead and sings bass in the Pilgrims Octet, a male chorus adjunct; he is also a member of the Blue Diamond Quintet, a mixed singing ensemble. Bob's talents also appear on the stage, where he has starred as Tevye in Fidler on the Roof productions, Jud Fry in Oklahoma and other roles in Joseph's Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, My Fair Lady and Camelot.

Bob and his wife Joan have three daughters and four grandsons living in Mississauga, Ontario. He and Joan enjoy travel, hiking and skiing and music.

*Correction from the October 2010 Trails & Tales
Fred McDougall was misquoted as saying within 'four years that grew to three billion, a six-fold increase'.
The correction is that the timeframe was actually 40 years – should read, "Within forty years that grew to three billion, a six-fold increase."*

Early History of Forestry Training

Director of Forestry, Robert Campbell described the need for skilled rangers as early as 1910, but it was not until the 1960s that formally trained people became available to hire. Until that time rangers were usually hired on the basis of their experience in the bush or on farms. On the job, it was “sink or swim” – they either learned through trial and error or left. It was inefficient, but time and budgets left little time for frills like training.

During the Great Depression of the 1930s federal and provincial programs to assist the unemployed were set up; many of these comprised forestry work camps to build roads, trails, log buildings and campgrounds. Formal training got its start in these camps, first to teach basic working skills to mostly urban-raised candidates, then basic surveying and forestry. These camps were closed by the end of 1940 when all efforts were focussed on the Second World War.

Wartime experiences clearly showed the importance of training, and in Alberta the first forestry training began in 1947. Ranger Bill Shankland was charged with putting together a one-year course for returning war veterans. The plan was to start in January to teach basics in Calgary, and then move to Kananaskis in March for applied field instruction. Students were then to

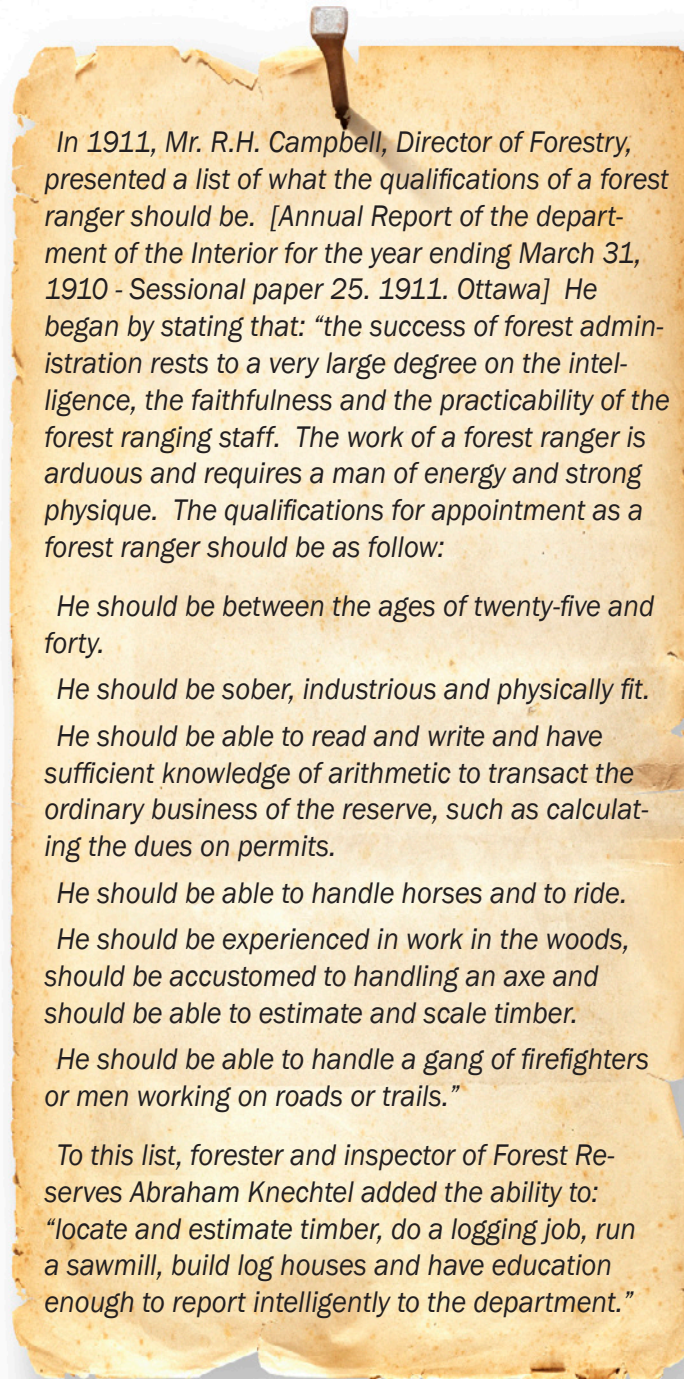
be sent to work with rangers for the spring and summer, returning for instruction in the fall. Dick Radke, who finished his career as Forest Superintendent in Whitecourt, was a successful graduate of that course. It was difficult to get the students back that fall so that session was cancelled, but it was a good

start. Many instruction manuals and courses were developed in the late 1940s by J.R.H. (Herb) Hall and delivered at ranger meetings in the foothills districts.

In 1950 a joint Alberta Forest Service and National Park Service training course was held in Banff, with Rangers Robin Huth, Jack MacGregor, Jack Roy, Larry Bunbury, Ben Shantz, Frank Jones, Ron Lyle, John Elliott, Rex Winn, Bert Coast, Ernie Ferguson, and Gordon Watt as Alberta Forest Service (AFS) attendees, along with twelve Park Wardens.

Following the success of the 1950 course, Eric Huestis, Director of Forestry, asked foresters Victor Heath and Bill Bloomberg to organize an AFS program that would focus on the more specific needs of AFS forest rangers. The first Forestry Training School was held under their direction in the fall of 1951, with a class of 20 rangers.

Training was held using the building and residential facilities at the Kananaskis Forest Experiment Sta-



In 1911, Mr. R.H. Campbell, Director of Forestry, presented a list of what the qualifications of a forest ranger should be. [Annual Report of the department of the Interior for the year ending March 31, 1910 - Sessional paper 25. 1911. Ottawa] He began by stating that: “the success of forest administration rests to a very large degree on the intelligence, the faithfulness and the practicability of the forest ranging staff. The work of a forest ranger is arduous and requires a man of energy and strong physique. The qualifications for appointment as a forest ranger should be as follow:

He should be between the ages of twenty-five and forty.

He should be sober, industrious and physically fit.

He should be able to read and write and have sufficient knowledge of arithmetic to transact the ordinary business of the reserve, such as calculating the dues on permits.

He should be able to handle horses and to ride.

He should be experienced in work in the woods, should be accustomed to handling an axe and should be able to estimate and scale timber.

He should be able to handle a gang of firefighters or men working on roads or trails.”

To this list, forester and inspector of Forest Reserves Abraham Knechtel added the ability to: “locate and estimate timber, do a logging job, run a sawmill, build log houses and have education enough to report intelligently to the department.”

tion, the former prisoner-of-war camp. The results were so successful that this basic in-service program was continued in to the 1970s when it was phased out as graduates of the NAIT forestry program became available.

The Forestry Training School (FTS) was held each fall at Kananaskis until 1959. John Hogan ran the school from 1953 to 1955 and Peter Murphy took over in January, 1956. The FTS program was extended from the original 10 weeks to over 12 weeks, with a new course for Fish and Wildlife officers held during the summer of 1959. Increased training needs for forest officer staff and the increased lookout training requirements led to the construction of a new Forestry Training School at Hinton. The school was officially opened by Minister Norman Willmore in October, 1960, with a 20-man Basic Ranger course as its first offering. Alberta partnered with the Junior Forest Warden program in 1960, operating it out of FTS. The Junior Forest Ranger program was later added in 1965. The FTS in Hinton started with the Basic Ranger course, but quickly expanded based on government, industry and municipality needs. Courses soon included an Advanced Forestry course, a complex of courses in forest fire management, and a variety of programs in forest management, fish and wildlife and parks.

Rytz recognized at FILS

On November 4, 2010, Forest History Association of Alberta president Peter Murphy provided a memorial to Arden Rytz, a long time supporter of the Forest Industry Lecture Series. During his 40 years of practice Rytz was remembered as a strong leader in forestry and forest policy both in Alberta and internationally. He was always a strategic thinker, a visionary – brilliant, creative and innovative.



A new two year Forest Technology program was created in 1964 in partnership with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT). Second year of the program was held in Hinton, with the first graduating class in 1966. The graduating class included Dennis Cox, Revie Leiskovsky, Gordon Bisgrove, and Larry Huberdeau. Instructors were Dick Altmann, Stan Lockard, Jack Macnab, John Wagar and Peter Murphy. Early instructors at NAIT included George Ontkean, Mick Lalor, Dick Hillson and Joe Rickert.

In 1970 the University of Alberta began their forestry program with the first graduating class in 1974. Members of that class included Doug Sklar, Rod Simpson, Keith Branter, Brydon Ward and Fred Moffat. Instructors included the first Chairman of Forest Science Jack Schultz, Jim Beck, Jack Heidt, Jock Lees, in January 1973, Peter Murphy, and soon after Bruce Dancik and Kare Hellum.

An early forestry worker program was started at Grouard in the 1960s, later succeeded by the forestry training program at Portage College in Lac La Biche, with the first Forestry Crew Worker program graduating in 1981. Instructors there included Margarete Hee, Brock Allen and Ken Scullion. These were later complemented with programs at Grande Prairie College and the Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (W.O.L.F) programs based at Slave Lake.



TIMBER FALLERS
(BEFORE CHAIN SAWS)

Listening to hear the hinge break, Eldon R 'Ole'

Mac Millar recipient of AFPA honorary life membership

On September 23, 2010 Fred McDougall presented Hugh Mackenzie (Mac) Millar with the Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA) Honorary Life Membership. The following is Fred's presentation. "Mac successfully followed in the personal example set by his uncle A.J. Millar, with the result that tonight we recognize Mac for his consistent and significant help and support for the Alberta Forest Products Association, and for his major contribution to the growth and development of the Alberta forest industry. Following graduation in 1970, Mac joined Millar Western taking on increasing responsibilities in the company's forest operations. At that time, Millar Western was producing 16 million board feet annually, primarily boards, not dimension framing lumber. Millar Western was then one of the largest sawmills in the province.

In the 1970s Mac became involved in a major expansion of the business, which included the completion of a new planer mill in 1978 and a larger and more efficient sawmill in 1980. In 1988 Millar Western began production at Alberta's first chemi-thermo-mechanical (CTM) pulp mill. This was a significant addition to Alberta's forest industry, as it was able to use aspen and had much better wood recovery than the kraft pulp mills. Millar Western pioneered the development of markets for CTM pulp from western Canada. A second CTM pulp mill was opened in Meadow Lake in 1992, the first such mill to have no effluent discharge. In the early 1990s Millar Western was instrumental in the development of the 25 mega watt Eagle River wood-fired power plant near Whitecourt, another first in Alberta.

The Boyle sawmill was built in 1996 and now produces about 150 million board feet annually. In 2001, the sawmill at Whitecourt was replaced with a high speed, high efficiency facility which has been continuously improved to the point where it now produces approximately 300 million board feet per year. A new sawmill is now under construction at Fox Creek, which

will produce about 60 million board feet per year. A new 27 mega watt syngas power plant is being built on the Millar Western site at Whitecourt, which will demonstrate much higher efficiencies and lower emissions than traditional steam boiler plants.

So Mac has taken Millar Western from a single sawmill producing 16 million board feet per year in 1970, to three modern lumber mills capable of producing over 500 million board feet annually. Along the way, he has built a 310,000 air dry metric tonne per year pulp mill, and has facilitated the development of two wood fired power plants.

These impressive accomplishments are enhanced by the fact that Millar Western has also been an industry leader in forest management. Mac has always supported the development of talented people, and many years ago selected Trevor Wakelin to lead his forest management and fibre supply team. Under Trevor's leadership and with Mac's full encouragement and support, Millar Western has been a leader in the industry in developing successful forest management programs and policies.

Finally Mac has been a strong supporter of the Alberta forest products industry and the AFPA, serving on a number of forest industry associations and related organizations from the AFPA as president from 1984 to 1986, to Forintek, the Canadian Wood Council, the Alberta Research Council, the U.S. National Forest Products Association as Canadian liaison, the Forest Advisory Council to the Government of Canada, and on the Business Advisory Council to the Faculty of Business at the University of Alberta.

As impressive as it is, this list of accomplishments does not adequately describe Mac's contribution to his native province. Quite simply, Mac has not only extended the proud history of one of Alberta's oldest lumber companies, he has built it into a fully integrated, major forest products company of international stature."

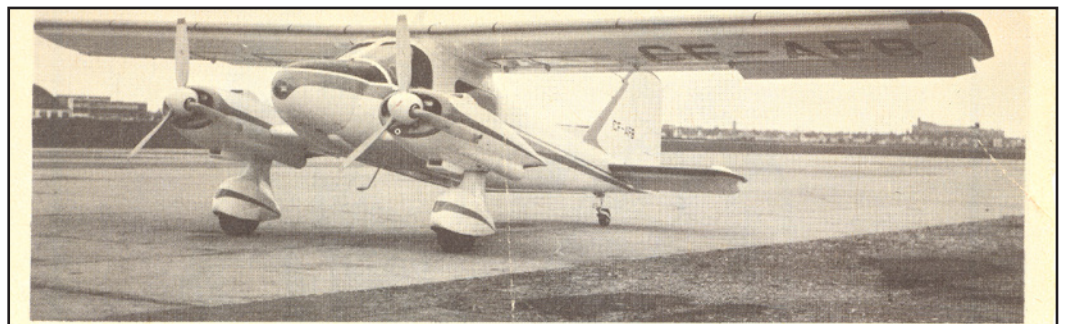


Fred McDougall and Mac Millar

Don Hamilton in the Aviation Hall of Fame

Don Hamilton, owner of Air Spray (1967) Ltd. will be inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame on May 26, 2011. At 86, Don has been flying for more than 65 years, and will be honoured because of his outstanding career in aviation. Don bought his first plane for \$2,945 right after the Second World War ended and began crop spraying in the Moose Jaw area before moving to Cold Lake around 1949. He earned money flying trappers and fishermen in and out of the area and hauling fish to the plant in Cold Lake. He later flew contractors back and forth from Edmonton while they built an airport at Cold Lake. In the mid 1950s Don began work in the far north working on the Distant Early Warning (DEW) Line and then with the many oil companies exploring at the time.

In the summers of 1970 and 1971 Don partnered with an individual with a bombing contract fighting forest fires in northern Alberta. In 1972 he bought out his partner, starting his forest fire suppression business, Air Spray Ltd. Over the years Don has had many contracts with provincial agencies providing airtankers, including B26 and Electra L-188s.



Notice anything different about the plane pictured above? It's a Dornier 28, twin engine, light bush aircraft manufactured in Germany and sold exclusively in Canada and Alaska by Hamilton Aviation Sales Ltd. Don Hamilton claims this to be the first true, twin engine light bush plane. It has a cruising speed of 170 m.p.h., lands and takes off at 45 m.p.h., which makes it ideal for landing on short unimproved landing strips, and can easily be fitted with wheels-skis and floats. The unique mounting of the engines allows for maximum visibility and the nose can be easily removed for unobstructed access to the instrument panel. Pictured right, Al Asmussen, world renowned Ferry Pilot removing the nose with just a screwdriver. Al flies everything from the lightest planes to the biggest jets all over the world. He is the only man we know who is on his second passport book this year. Below left, Don Hamilton, left, with Bob Kostynuk, Edmonton Manager of Delta Acceptance Corporation Limited. Delta supplied the funds for a "lease purchase" on one of these planes. Although Hamilton are primarily in airplane sales they do have four planes leased out. Right, Al Asmussen hands over the keys of their newly purchased craft to Bob Steele, Director of Forestry, with Stan Hughes, Senior Superintendent of Forest Protection, left, and Frank Platt, Assistant Senior Superintendent, looking on.



Frank Crawford sawmills

In 1943, Frank Crawford purchased a small sawmill from Chester Overholt and then bought a timber berth from the Alberta Forest Service. This first timber berth was north of Athabasca, directly north of the Calling River bridge and ran parallel to the river. The sawmill was powered by a V-8 Ford engine. A crew of three men would log for one day, and then saw the next – sawing approximately 6,000 board feet per day. A mule and team of horses were used to skid and bring the logs to the mill.

Over the next few years Frank's mill was moved and located to new timber berths, again mainly along the Calling River. At one mill three miles south along the Calling Lake road Frank built a cook house, horse barn, and bunkhouse. He operated there until the spring of 1945, sawing about 10,000 board feet per day for the Imperial Lumber Company. Eight men were employed and six horses were used for skidding and hauling. In the fall of 1945, Frank moved his mill east about three miles on the old Calling Lake road near Five-Mile Creek. He set up the mill and built the necessary buildings. There he sawed about 12,000 to 15,000 feet daily. Frank remained at that location until the winter of 1949-50. During the first nine or ten years, Frank used crosscut and Swede saws to fell and buck trees.

In 1950 Frank moved his sawmill to Sucker Creek, north of the Jean Baptiste Gambler Indian reserve at Calling Lake and sawed there during the summer months. In the fall, the mill was moved east of McCullough Lakes (south of Calling Lake), and lumber was sawed for the Bridge Branch, Department of Highways. Bridge piles were sawed in 30-foot lengths. A planer was also set up to plane dimensional lumber. Frank supplied the lumber for building the Athabasca bridge as well as several other bridges throughout the province. In 1952 he moved to Whitecourt and continued to saw for the Bridge Branch. A sawmill and planer were set up, with camp for a crew of 25 men. Frank then moved operations to Barrhead for a couple of years, and then in 1955 bought a large timber berth four miles west of Calling Lake. Rock Island Lake became home for the Crawford mill in 1960. This mill was sold to Eugene (Sarge) Bissell of Wabasca in 1961, when Frank went to work for the Depart-



Frank Crawford mill, home quarter, along Hwy 813, spring 1995

ment of Highways as a road foreman, building roads in the Athabasca area.

During the spring of 1968, forest fires swept through the area north of Athabasca leaving a great deal of fire-killed timber. Frank Crawford purchased a large quota of this burned timber west and south of Calling Lake. He bought a complete sawmill and a jackladder and set the mill by a small lake (locally known as Otto Lake) west of McCullough Lakes. During the winter of 1968, Frank logged 60,000 trees and placed them into the lake to preserve them from cracking and insect infestation. In the summer, when they were sawing these trees into lumber, they used a steel airboat to gather the floating logs in the lake into an enclosure near the mill site and used the jackladder to lift them out of the water to the mill landing. In this manner, about 18,000 board feet of lumber was sawed daily. This operation went on well until January 1970, when the sawmill was completely destroyed by fire. Frank then rented a mill from Bill Kocuipchyk of Edmonton and continued operating at Otto Lake until the summer of 1972 when this mill also burned, leaving trees still needing to be sawed.

Frank then worked in Grande Prairie for Procter and Gamble, building logging roads for the pulp mill operation.



Crawford sawmill at Otto Lake (west of McCullough Lake) late 1960s

He worked for fourteen months and with additional funds from his farming, was able to purchase another sawmill – from the Konior Brothers. The mill was re-established at Otto Lake to saw the remaining logs and then moved to their farm in 1974. With this old conventional sawmill (head saw and carriage) and a three-saw edger, Frank sawed and also

Continued on Pg 13

planed approximately one million board feet a year from the timber berths they had purchased. They operated mostly during the winter months until 1986.

By then timber regulations had changed and sawmill operators were required to harvest down to four to six inch diameter butts. It was not profitable to use the old style sawmill on this small timber. In 1986 Frank had a two-saw scragg sawmill built with a vertical edger that had a cluster saw. This enabled him to manufacture from 15,000 to 25,000 feet per day, using the 4 to 6-inch logs. The boards were of good, even-cut quality. In 1974 timber dues were about \$6 per thousand board feet, with planed lumber being sold for approximately \$180 per thousand. In the early 1990s, the Crawfords purchased a Randle sawmill for cutting squared timbers, and a Pendue sawmill for building logs, lathes, tongue-and-groove shiplap, log cabin siding, or regular dimensional lumber. A debarking machine was also purchased with the chips and waste products also being sold as product. Bush operations



Jackladder at Crawford sawmill, Otto Lake (west of McCullough Lake) late 1960s

changed over the years from buck saws and horses to feller bunchers and skidders.

(Frank Crawford sawmill information from Reflections from Across the River: A History of the Area North of Athabasca.)

Instructions to Forest Officers

(This excerpt from the Timber Disposal Manual was produced by the Department of the Interior, Forest Service in 1929, and provided instructions to Forest Officers charged with inspecting timber operations.)

Close supervision should be given at all times, particularly during the preparations for the operation and its preliminary stages. A careful checking at this time of all violations of the conditions will frequently save endless difficulties later. In the course of their work officers

should be firm but courteous, and should aim to secure compliance with the conditions by persuasion rather than by a resort to penalties. Supervision should be intensive enough to ensure unsatisfactory work is being corrected before it has gone very far; when sales expire while there is still a number of conditions not complied with, laxity in supervision is indicated.

The purchaser is responsible for the actions of his contractors and, except in matters of trifling importance, it is with him

and not with the latter that the supervising officer must deal. It makes no difference if the contract between the purchaser and contractor holds the latter responsible for the fulfilment of all the conditions of the sale. In brief only the assignment of the sale (when approved) can relieve the purchaser of his obligations. Similarly, supervising officers should point out unsatisfactory work to foremen or superintendents rather than attempt to have it corrected through individual workmen.

The Power of Prayer

Excerpt from an interview of Eric S. Huestis on January 20, 1976, conducted by Robin Huth

On February 22nd, one year a big fire started from a tie-hauler's lunch fire. If the fire had jumped the river, the town of Rocky Mountain House would have been in serious danger. All the townspeople were organized; schools closed, families handy with cars ready to drive out and men were at the bank of the river with wet sacks, mattocks, shovels, etc. Eric Huestis was driving a light delivery Model T truck back and

forth picking up men to take to help out at the river. The last man he picked up was the Anglican minister, a very young and very devout person. When he got out of the truck, he asked Huestis what he could do. Huestis' reply was "get down on your knees and pray because we aren't being effective on the fireline." The preacher did that. Fifteen minutes later, the wind switched and it started to snow. There was little snow that winter. In fact, it was necessary to shovel snow from under the trees onto the logging roads in order to get any kind of sledding for the log haulers.

The 1910 Fires in Alberta's Rocky Mountain and Foothills Regions

Summary of a paper presented by Mandy Annand and Rick Arthur

Fire history studies are an important tool for understanding the role previous fire events played in structuring today's landscape. The year 1910 was a monumental year for wildfire events in the northern U.S. and Canada. These fires had a profound influence in setting forest firefighting policy that still has implications today.

While the ecological and societal effects of the 1910 fires have been studied closely in the U.S., little research has been done on the magnitude of these fires in Canada until recently. In Alberta, the 1910 fires were monumental both in terms of the area burnt and the development of forest fire policy in the Dominion Forestry Branch. As part of her honors studies, Mandy Annand (Mountain Legacy Project, University of Victoria) teamed up with Wildfire Prevention Officer, Rick Arthur, U of A Forestry Professor Emeritus, Dr. Peter Murphy, and former Parks Canada Resource Conservationist, Robert Watt, to define the scope of the 1910 fires in Alberta. The study also examined the evolution of Dominion forestry and fire protection in the context of the 1910 fire events.

Evidence from local histories, newspaper articles, historical reports, survey photographs, and recent fire history studies were used to evaluate the extent of the 1910 fires in southern Alberta's Rocky Mountain and foothill regions. Results show that the fires in 1910 consumed close to 300,000 hectares (~0.7 million acres) of forested land in the Sheep, Highwood, Elbow, Bow, Ghost, Porcupine Hills, and Oldman River regions. The social impacts of the 1910 fires were keenly felt in the communities south of the



Mandy Annand and Rick Arthur, Spokane WA, October 2010

Bow River and in the Crowsnest Pass. Fire events also occurred in the Athabasca, Brazeau, and Clearwater Forests. Comparatively smaller fires occurred in the Rocky Mountains (Banff) Park region.

The establishment of the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve in 1910 reflected the emergence of a new era in western Canada's fire fighting policy. Examining the

1910 fire events in Alberta provides a basis on which to deepen our understanding of how those events influenced forest fire policy and social attitudes towards wildfire. Rick Arthur and Mandy Annand recently presented their research findings at the 3rd Annual Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference, hosted by the International Association of Wildland Fire in Spokane, WA.

To see conference proceedings for an extended abstract and the full paper and map, go to <http://mountainlegacy.ca/research/projects.html>.



COMPASSMAN & CRUISER

Washing feet and socks after day in the bush, Eldon R. 'Ole' Olin

Recent forestry retirements

Steve Luchkow



Steve Luchkow retired from Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd. (DMI) on October 15, 2010. Steve graduated with a Forestry Degree from the University of Alberta in 1977. His career as a forester with the Alberta Forest Service took him from the Footner Lake Forest to Whitecourt Forest to Edmonton and back to Footner Lake again. His last role before leaving the AFS was forester-in-charge at Footner Lake. Steve started work with Daishowa Canada Company Ltd., later DMI, in 1988 and held many positions until his retirement. Steve and his wife Janet moved to Garden Bay, B.C. overlooking Pender Harbour on the Sunshine Coast. In the spring they intend to start building their new house. Steve intends to keep involved in forestry where he can.

Steve and his wife Janet, Iguazu Falls, widest falls in the world located between Argentina and Brazil

A retirement party was held for John Huey on January 15, 2010. Friends celebrated with John his 40 years in the wood business. "Starting my career working in the sawmill cleaning up sawdust on weekends during the school term, progressing to lumber piler for the summers, to loader operator, to logger, to forest technician, to forester and then into management has shown me how important everyone's role is in completing the picture." Following graduation from high school in Princeton, BC in 1972, John enrolled in a six week course at Malispina College, Nanaimo. His first job was with Rayonier in Holberg, Vancouver Island setting chokers and then running front end loader on the road construction crew. John then attended Selkirk College and graduated in 1976 from the forest technology program.

From there John took a temporary position with Atlas Lumber in the Crowsnest Pass with Gary Leithhead, and then later obtained a permanent position with Canfor in Hines Creek working for Doug Sklar. After five years with Canfor, John enrolled at the University of Alberta graduating in 1983. With jobs in the forestry sector scarce, John went back to the Crowsnest Pass with Atlas Lumber. Shortly after that John was transferred to the mill in Sundre. There John managed the bush operations and sawmill for Sunpine Forest Products until joining the Alberta Forest Service in the woods operations section in Edmonton. John then accepted the woodlands manager job with Sundance Forest Products in Edson. After a few lean years, markets and selling prices went on a positive tilt and expansion requirements had John partner with other forest industry players on fibre rationalization agreements to ensure expansion.

John was involved in many organizations in his 20 years in Edson, including the Chamber of Commerce, minor hockey, the golf course, and Rotary. He and his wife of 31 years, Wendy will be moving to the Kootenays in the spring, challenging each other on the golf course.



John Huey

Retirements - Continued

Marty Alexander



Marty Alexander retired from the Canadian Forest Service on November 12, 2010 after nearly 35 years of service. At the time, he was a Senior Fire Behavior Research Officer stationed at the Northern Forestry Centre in Edmonton. His primary research interests remain as wildland fire behavior and forest/grassland fire danger rating, including the practical and scientific application of such knowledge to fire/fuel management and other disciplines. Marty was one of the architects of the Canadian Forest Fire Behavior Prediction System and also served as one of the co-coordinators of the International Crown Fire Modelling Experiment in the Northwest Territories from 1995-2001. He has been heavily involved in fire behavior training on a national and international basis. In 1993, Marty was made the first Honorary Life Member of the Forest and Rural Fire Association of New Zealand.

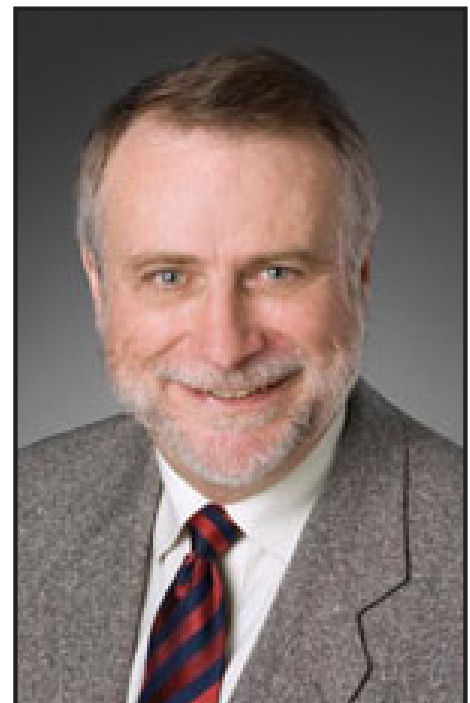
Marty has served on many teams and advisory and program committees over the years providing expert advice and coordination of program sessions. In 2003 he received the Wildland Fire Safety Award from the International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) for his research and efforts in fire behaviour and firefighter safety. In 2010, Dr. Alexander received the Canadian Forestry Achievement Award from the Canadian Institute of Forestry. Marty begins his 'second career' initially undertaking a U.S. Joint Fire Science Program sponsored project aimed at synthesizing the currently available information on crown fire behaviour in conifer forests.

Jim Farrell retired from the Canadian Forest Service in December 2010. A graduate of the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Science, Jim began his career in 1973 working for Abitibi Paper Company (later Abitibi-Consolidated) in Manitoba and Ontario, supervising forestry operations, and buying and selling logs for company mills. He also worked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources in Toronto.

Jim joined the federal public in 1983 as the senior forestry officer in Saskatchewan. He later became Director of Forestry Development for Ontario, where he was responsible for federal-provincial programs and for research and development programs in forest-landscape management, fire management, forest health and climate change.

Prior to his appointment as Assistant Deputy Minister of the CFS in March 2007, Jim was Director General of the Policy, Economics and Industry Branch, where he was responsible for domestic and international forest policy, economic analysis, industry and market access issues (including forests and climate change), overseas market development and industry research partnerships.

He resides in Ottawa with his wife, Janet. They have three children.



Jim Farrell

Retirements - Continued

Margarete Hee



Margarete Hee retired from Sustainable Resource Development on December 31, 2010 after 33.5 years of service. While going to university in the mid 1970s, Margarete worked on timber management and planting crews in the High Level, Grande Prairie and Valleyview areas, was a U of A teaching assistant, a photo analyst with Canadian Forest Service and enjoyed thinning, planting, measurement plots and a log drive while on a student work exchange in Sweden. Graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry (Honors with Distinction) from the University of Alberta, she received the Canadian Institute of Forestry Gold Medal in 1977 and later in 1999 graduated from the Alberta Advanced Forest Management Institute. With few permanent positions available in the late 70's and a desire to travel to New Zealand, Margarete initially tackled seasonal work as the crew leader supervising the Fort McMurray Junior Forest Ranger girls crew and also worked in the Cold Creek, Fox Creek and Whitecourt areas on the timber management crew.

Margarete was hired in 1978 as the first female field forester by Larry Huberdeau (whom she is still so thankful to for his support and the risk he took at the time) in the Lac La Biche Forest, working on Phase III Ground Truthing, Maintaining our Forests program, and Silviculture projects. Later

transferring to Fort McMurray in 1981 she was the Forester i/c of the Forest and Land Management Team. Returning back to Lac La Biche in the fall of 1982 to start a family, Margarete taught the newly created Forestry Crew Worker Program at Portage College as senior instructor till 1985 when she moved to Edmonton to work as a Land Use Specialist with the Operations Section, Forest Land Use Branch.

In 1988, Margarete transferred to Whitecourt with her children, where she filled a number of roles including FMA/Operations Forester, FM Team Lead, the Regional Chief Forester and Woodlands Area Senior Integrated FM/LM Planning Forester. Contributing to significant organizational and technological changes, forest management, wildlife and wildfire initiatives, she also was involved in Level 1 fire suppression (Logistics, Fire Information and Aircraft Operations). Moving to Edmonton in 2002, Margarete first took on the role as the Provincial (FM) Stewardship Forester and upon invite in 2004 by Craig Quintilio joined the Land Management Branch to be part of the Integrated Land Management Project Team and lead the Land Use Planning, Recreation and Tourism Unit engaged in numerous land management initiatives and issues management until she retired.

Margarete has been involved in a number of initiatives over the years including (to name a few) the Land Use Framework and Regional Planning Template Development, Foothills Model Forest Local Level Indicator Activity Team, Provincial/Regional FM Compliance Audit Team, Provincial/Regional Ground Rules Development and Negotiation, Access Management Planning, Provincial Herbicide Task Group, Provincial Fire Salvage Strategy, Business and Stewardship Program Review Protocol, Efficient Land Use Strategy, Recreation Strategy, Provincial Trail Mapping and Database Initiative, Guardian Program Development and Training. Margarete was also actively involved with CIF Rocky Mountain Section Council (1986 to 1992) and was chairman in 1991. She fondly remembers the advice and support provided to her by many forestry and land management professionals and colleagues, from a variety of government, industry, consultant and volunteer communities of interest.

Margarete has two grown children, Ryan who works in Slave Lake as a Silviculture Forester for West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. and Danielle who works in Grande Prairie as an Environmental Technician for Ridgeline Environment Inc.. She will be enjoying semi retirement in the Edmonton area and looks forward to working on a "new" career path and eventually some day becoming a grandmother.

Obituaries

Sam Fomuk passed away on September 30, 2010 at the age of 87. Sam's family emigrated from the Ukraine and homesteaded in the Hylo, Alberta area in 1932. Sam started his 50-year career with the Alberta Forest Service in April 1945, working the Brazeau Tower for a wage of \$3.50 per day. Over the many years, Sam worked as a radio technician and lookout man, with time spent after Brazeau at Nose Mountain, Kakwa, Wadlin and Whitesands. When Sam started, radio communication was done by telegraphy, with the operators at both ends needing to know Morse Code. Sam is fondly remembered for his knowledge of radio communications and his ability to fix and repair radio's; and his technical knowledge and proficiency with firearms and ammunition.

Don Hutchins passed away on October 27, 2010, days after his 85th birthday. Don began as a radio operator with the Alberta Forest Service in Whitecourt in 1954. He retired in 1986 as the office manager (known as forest clerk in earlier years) of the Whitecourt Forest Headquarters. Don assisted in his early years in the local and provincial training of lookout personnel in the proper use of radio communication equipment.

Bob Miyagawa was born in Mission, B.C. on November 28, 1931, and passed away on November 21, 2010 at the age of 78. Bob started in a summer position with the Alberta Forest Service, Forest Survey Branch in 1955. The crew's summer was quite eventful when at one point they were stranded in the Tony Creek area, when a severe rainstorm isolated the crew on one side of the flooding Little Smoky River, and the horses on the other. Bob obtained his Bachelors degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1958 and was hired to work in the Forest Protection planning program, working on the expansion of the lookout tower system and the initial attempt at classifying forest fuels. At the same time Bob was also involved in the development of the 5/16th log rule for Alberta. Following an education leave to obtain a major in forest fire economics, Bob was placed in charge of the research section, responsible for computerization of forest fire data, implementation of infrared scanner capabilities and fire modelling work. In 1976 Bob was also given the responsibility of coordinating the use of forest pesticides in the province. A new forest protection pest management section was established in 1980 with Bob taking the lead role. Bob retired on April 30, 1987 after 29 years with the Alberta Forest Service.

Ken Porter passed away on December 1, 2010 at the age of 68 years. He was born in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan on April 15, 1942, and attended the Winding Trail School until grade 6 after his family moved to Baptiste Lake in the Athabasca area. The remainder of his schooling was in Athabasca. Ken started with the Alberta Forest Service as a towerman in 1962, then becoming a ranger in North Vermilion in 1963. Ken graduated from the Basic Ranger Course in November 1964, while a ranger in Calling Lake. There he met his future wife, Joan Sutton. He then attended the two year Forest Technology program at NAIT, moving to Worsley after his graduation. Ken picked up family and moved further north as the Forest Protection Technician in the Footner Lake Forest in 1975. In 1979 Ken was promoted to Chief Ranger in Fort Assiniboine, and the Porter's moved one last time. Ken retired from the Alberta government in 1996, and then started a second career coordinating the Alexander First Nation fire program.

Ken was a coach and mentor to many young rangers and will be remembered for his sense of humor, high standards and his work promoting Aboriginal training and employment. Ken was also involved in key roles on many fire overhead teams over the years. Many a ranger knew spring was coming when they received the Porter Pig Spleen Forecast!

Peter Denney passed away on January 19, 2011 at the age of 66 years. Born October 16, 1944 in Calgary, Peter graduated from the second NAIT forestry class in 1968. Early in his career he worked for Mike Sauze and later purchased and operated Sauze Forestry Service, a forestry consulting company. For the last 20 years Peter was the planning manager for Sunpine, later Sundre Forest Products. Throughout his career he never lost his passion to improve forestry practices in Alberta. After over 43 years in the forestry business, Peter retired from Sundre Forest Products on December 31, 2010.

Frank Crawford passed away on January 21, 2011 at the age of 82 years. Frank was predeceased by his wife of 60 years Eileen (Toots) on October 4, 2010. Frank operated many sawmills in the Calling Lake, Whitecourt and Barrhead areas over his 50 years in the lumber business. In 1984, Frank worked with his sons Craig and Chris to start the FJ Buffalo Ranch, adjacent to his sawmill and home quarter. A separate story on the Crawford sawmills is included in this newsletter.

FHAA PHOTO CORNER
John Elliott Collection



Loading logs, Alberta Box Company, Castle District, 1957



Construction of Cline Lookout, May 1960



Clearwater Ranger Station, Clearwater Forest, late 1950s



Construction of Edwards Mill, Upper Saskatchewan, Clearwater Forest, 1959



Johnnie Morells with pack string at Corbondale Lookout, 1957



Ray Smuland, Bert Varty and Pete Comeau; building cabin, Grande Prairie Forest, late 1950s



John Hogan cooking breakfast at the Photographic Survey Corporation timber survey camp, 1951



Les Zeller, Con Dermott, Bob Vanderwell and Kevin Kuhn



Bob Steele washing dishes at the Photographic Survey Corporation timber survey camp, 1951



Weekend off, Bob Steele in centre, Photographic Survey Corporation timber survey program, 1951

TRAILS & TALES

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