

THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

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Ham Lake Fire
Annual Membership
Meeting and Banquet
Woodline Sawmills
2007 Minnesota Legislature

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ON THE COVER

The Ham Lake Fire burned more than 75,000 acres in Minnesota and Ontario during May. Photo by Sam Alvar.

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Thanks to the Public Relations Committee and the hard work of the office staff for another successful Annual Meeting. This year's meeting was held at Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge in conjunction with the board of

President's Column



The weather was a bit questionable, but everything went without a hitch. Attendance was up from last year; hopefully

we can keep this event growing.

The work of the Governor's Task Force is complete and hopefully the long-term recommendations will be carried out to the benefit of our industry.

By now most of you should have completed Logsafe and MLEP classes for the spring. Thanks again to Dave Chura and Ed LaFavor. After attending MLEP's truck driver workshop with Pam DeGrote from MnDOT, I discovered quite a few deficiencies in my record keeping. Thanks to help from MLEP staff, I have been able to bring my company into compliance. I highly recommend this class to anyone with one or more trucks.

Remember to work safely this summer and keep Sept. 14 and 15 on your calendar for the North Star Expo.

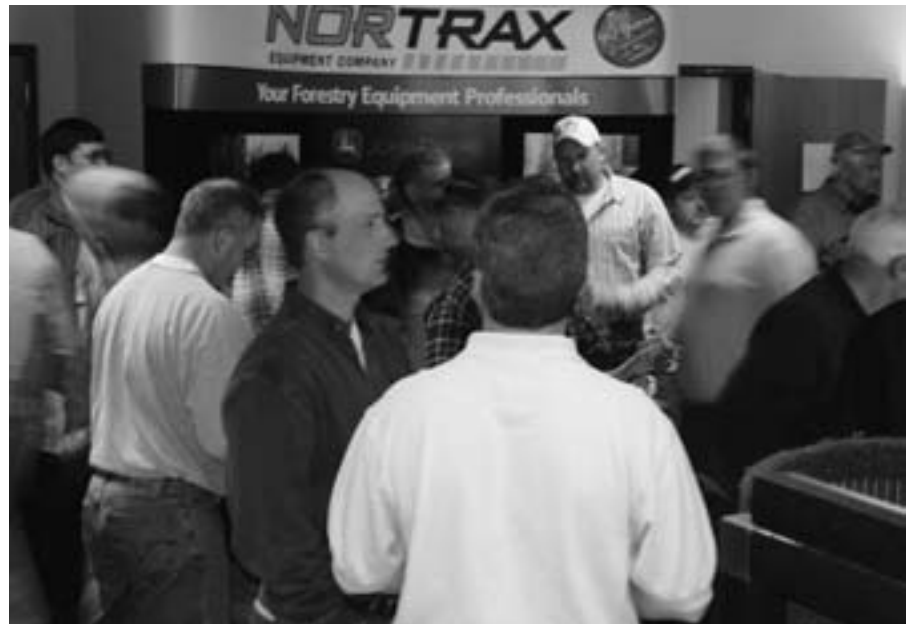
Thomas C. Meke

directors meeting and the Golf and Fishing Outings.

2007 Logger Conferences

Once again, the month of April provided logging business owners and their employees the chance to attend valuable training sessions in the form of the combined MLEP and Logsafe Logger Conferences in Tower and Bemidji. Among the topics loggers had the chance to learn about were "SFI Guideline Training," "Big Changes for Big

Rigs and Other Big Machinery," and the Minnesota Logger Education Program. The Logger not only provided the chance for loggers to complete 16 hours worth of training over two days, but also the chance to see other loggers and visit with industry vendors. Preparations are already underway for the 2008 Logger Conferences.



At the Bemidji Logger Conference, logger Scott Pittack talks with Jay Eystad of Lumbermen's Alliance. Nineteen different vendors supported the conferences by having booths at the two conferences.



At the Tower Logger Conference, attendees started the first day with presentations on the current state of the timber industry, given by Terry Weber of Minnesota Forest Industries. In addition, Calder Hibbard of Forest Resources Council briefed loggers on the Governor's Task Force.

This year's TPA Annual Meeting at Ruttger's Sugar Lake Lodge was a big success. Attendance was up for every event. It was the place to be on June 7 and 8. The anglers entered in the fishing outing boated a number of walleyes over 20 inches, with the largest measuring 27 inches. Golfers enjoyed a sunny afternoon, if not their own talents on the course. Sunshine bathed the

Executive Vice President's Column



The course until the last hole when an early summer storm blew through. The Annual Meeting included presentations by DNR Forestry Director Dave Epperly and DNR fire boss Olin Phillips. Olin's presentation covered this year's Ham Lake and last year's Cavity Lake fires. The dramatic photos in his presentation kept everyone glued to the screen. Dick Rossman gave members a preview of the new Biomass Guidelines. We finished off the morning with a presentation by Minn. Commissioner of Revenue Ward Einess. While no one asked Einess, the state's tax man, a question during the meeting, I noticed that he had a pretty good line of people talking to him when he finished. Apparently no one wanted to talk about their taxes in public.

The evening banquet included a special video presentation by U.S. Senator Norm Coleman and a stirring presentation by Twin Cities media personality Mike Max. Max kept everyone on the edge of their seats as he wove stories together to describe the five things that successful people do.

If you missed this great event this year be sure to mark your calendars when next year's dates are announced.



The state Legislature adjourned on May 21. We saw record increases in state forest management and timber sales

programs. This should bode well for DNR programs and timber sales for the next two years. We had a number of other successes large and small which are detailed in an article in this month's *Timber Bulletin*.

Still unanswered is whether or not there will be a special session to deal with the vetoed tax bill. Since we had five provisions of benefit to our industry in the bill I'm cautiously optimistic that there might be a special session. These provisions ranged from removing the sales tax on replacement tires for logging equipment to improvements in the tax treatment of forestlands.

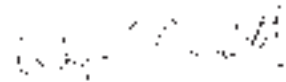
We owe thanks to many legislators this year. Senator Saxhaug and Representative Dill shepherded the appropriations issues; Senator Bakk, the powerful Tax Committee Chair, had our back on every issue; freshman Representative Tom Anzelc worked tirelessly on truck weights; freshman Senator Mary Olson led on the logging sales tax issue; Senator Skoe worked hard on tax and transportation issues; Representative Solberg, chair of the influential Ways and Means Committee, helped guide our initiatives and many other legislators also pitched in on our behalf.

We worked in a bipartisan way on our issues and, interestingly, received support from downstate and the metro area on several of them.



The thing that always makes me proud of our organization at the Annual Meeting is our safety contest. In the logging division this year we had 27 members, with over 168,000 hours worked, who were winners – which means they had no accidents in the preceding year. Of these 27 winners, 19 were repeat winners, many of them for multiple years. Both Dukek Logging and Doug Foster Logging have been repeat winners since 1987 – amazing. In the trucking division we had 22 winners with over 191,000 hours worked. Eighteen of these were repeat winners, with Lundberg Forest Products' accident-free string going back to 1988. The sawmill division showed 10 winners with over 248,000 hours worked. Five of these were repeat winners, with DeMenge Sawmill's streak going back to 1999.

While the TPA Safety Contest recognizes "winners," everyone is a winner with safety. Keep up the great work!



Annual Membership Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting

by Ray Higgins

TPA saw a change at the top of its organizational structure, with Warren Johnson of Warren Johnson Logging, Inc. stepping down from his position as first vice president on the executive committee. Johnson will continue to serve on the board of directors. Kit Hasbargan of Hasbargan Logging was elected to take his spot on the executive committee, and becomes secretary/treasurer. Mike Rieger (Rieger Logging and Trucking) becomes first vice president, and Mike Warren (M and R Chips) was named second vice president.

Five were elected to join TPA's board of directors: Clinton Cook (Greg Cook Logging), Kevin Knaeble (Knaeble Timber), Dan Lundberg (Lundberg Forest Products), John Cloutier (Verso Paper), and Nate Heibel (Boise).

Annual Report of Association Activities

TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt delivered his annual report to the members and highlighted the issues TPA worked on at the legislature this year. Among the issues addressed during the 2007 session were:

- \$13.9 million for forestry programs and activities
- Timber sale relief
- Timber sale security
- Renewal of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act
- Truck Weights
- Information Sharing

A complete rundown on these issues and what was decided during the session, as well as how they affect our industry is included elsewhere in this issue of the *Bulletin*.

Brandt also outlined some of the other TPA activities of the past year, including:

- Participation in Governor's Task Forces on the Competitiveness of Minnesota's Primary Forest Products Industry
- Communication with county,



DNR Forestry Director Dave Epperly answers questions about new legislation pertaining to timber sale relief and sale security.

state, and federal agencies in response to the industry downturn

- The North Star Expo
- Skilled Driver Workshops

This year's membership meeting also included several invited guests who shared information of interest to TPA members. DNR Director of Forestry Dave Epperly kicked off the morning by running down details of the timber relief legislation passed in May, and answering questions from members. Epperly said that as of



Department of Revenue Commissioner Ward Einess talks to TPA members about current tax law as it pertains to the logging industry. Einess said he hopes to turn the areas where loggers can receive tax refunds into upfront tax exemptions.

June 6, 35 permits had been forfeited, totaling 30,400 cords. In addition, the Division of Forestry has received application under the legislation's "keep and harvest" provision for 19 permits, totaling 18,450 as of June 6.

Epperly said while there is a cap of 7,500 cords that each logger can forfeit, there's no cap on the number of cords for the "keep and harvest" provision.

Timber sale relief is available on those permits purchased between June 1, 2004, and March 31, 2006. Epperly was asked by a TPA member how the dates for this window were determined, and he said these dates were selected based on when stumpage prices were at their peak.

Epperly also pledged to get the sales forfeited under the legislation back on the market as quickly as possible, before January 2008.

The deadline for applying for timber sale relief is July 9. Complete details of the program appear elsewhere in this issue of the *Timber Bulletin*.

Epperly was followed by the DNR's Olin Philips, who showed members pictures of the Cavity Lake and Ham Lake fires near the BWCA, and gave details of their scope, how and why they got so large, and the fires' ramifications.



Sen. Tom Saxhaug (DFL-Grand Rapids) addresses the TPA board of directors meeting about the recent legislative session and what the future might hold for loggers at the Capitol.

The DNR's Dick Rossman presented the latest on the new Biomass Harvesting Guidelines and what they'll mean for loggers in the future. The final report of the guidelines committee had just been approved by the Forest Resources Council, so this was the first discussion on the new guidelines.

Finally, Minnesota Revenue Commissioner Ward Einess talked about current tax policies and how they affect loggers and small mills. Einess talked about the governor's veto of the tax bill during this year's legislative session and said he was "profoundly disappointed we couldn't get that tax bill into law."

Einess also said he's looking for ways to help make tax laws easier on those in the timber industry. He

said he will strive to turn the provisions eligible for tax refunds into upfront exemptions so that loggers don't have the out-of-pocket expense of paying the tax in the first place. "If I'm still revenue commissioner in two or three years," Einess told TPA members, "and we're still doing refunds, I have failed as a commissioner, because you should be getting the upfront exemptions."

On Friday, TPA's board of directors met and heard from state Sen. Tom Saxhaug (DFL-Grand Rapids) on the recently completed legislative session, which included legislation favorable to loggers. Sen. Saxhaug said he's hopeful more legislation can be passed, including increased truck weights, during the 2008 session.



Transportation committee Chair Wayne Skoe reports to TPA members on activities of the committee over the past year. Those activities include meeting with MnDOT on spring load restrictions and meeting with MnDOT and the State Patrol about various enforcement and safety issues.



TPA Past President and nominating committee chair Dale Erickson informs TPA members about recommendations for new members of the TPA board of directors.

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Mike Max's appearance was sponsored by Minnesota Forest Industries

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The chainsaw was donated by Minnesota Forest Industries

2007 TPA Golf and Fishing Outing

The weather didn't look like it would cooperate, but in the end, the wind and rain held off until the evening, allowing anglers and golfers to hit the water and hit the links. This year's events saw more participants in both golf and fishing than ever before.

The fishing event was held on Sugar Lake, and anglers were impressed with the size of the walleyes they caught. Awards went to the angler with the longest fish and the angler with the shortest fish. Since it was a catch-and-release event, fish were measured in the boat and anglers reported their lengths at the end of the day.

The Conservation Award (smallest fish of the day) went to Joanne Hufnagle (Page & Hill Forest Products) who landed a 7-half inch perch.

The Big Walter Award (Largest fish) went to Chuck Hughes (Boise Cascade) for a walleye measuring 27 inches.

In golf, the Caddyshacker Award – for the team that had the most fun and the highest score – went to the foursome of Pete Aube, Brian Bignall, Brian Smith, and Mark Johnson, all of Potlatch.


The Foot Wedge Award – for the team with the best score – went to the team of Mike Rieger (Rieger Logging & Trucking), John Rolle (John Rolle Logging), Ryan Milette (Road Machinery & Supplies), and Dave Hensel (UPM Blandin).

(photos on next page)


Early Loggers in Minnesota

by J. C. Ryan


VOL. I




VOL. III



VOL. II



VOL. IV



First hand recollections by storyteller "Buzz" Ryan of the loggers, loaders, swimmers, wood butchers and bull cooks who ruled the woods in the heyday of the pioneer lumberjacks—with dozens of historical photographs.

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Kristen Titus of Nortrax, along with Bob Cook, drove the beer cart around the golf course, providing refreshments to the golfers. Nortrax sponsored the beer cart, providing the refreshments free of charge to all participants.



Left to right: Joe Dukek (Dukek Logging), Dave Amundson (LUA), Larry Dukek (Dukek Logging), and Katie Kueber (Two Inlets Mill) peruse maps of Sugar Lake before heading onto the water to figure out where to find the biggest fish.



Scott Pittack (right) backs his boat out of the dock as he heads onto Sugar Lake for the TPA fishing event. He was joined in his boat by Tom McCabe, Sr. and Scott's wife, Lisa. Following them onto the water in the boat at left are Kit Hasbargan, Jake Hasbargan, and Ed Hedstrom.



The foursome of (left to right) Ryan Milette (Road Machinery and Supplies), Dave Hensel (UPM Blandin), Mike Rieger (Rieger Logging and Trucking) and John Rolle (John Rolle Logging) celebrate making a putt on their way to posting the lowest score of the day for the second straight year.



The only eagle of the day at Ruttger's was spotted flying overhead.

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Annual Meeting Banquet



Banquet-goers watch the videotaped message of Sen. Norm Coleman. The senator is holding up the 2005 *Timber Bulletin* with his picture on the cover. Sen. Coleman has the magazine framed and on the wall of his Capitol Hill office in Washington, D.C.

by Ray Higgins

The 2007 TPA Annual Meeting Banquet provided an opportunity for attendees to hear from Sen. Norm Coleman. Unable to attend because of a vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate, Sen. Coleman recorded a videotape message, stressing the importance of our industry to the economy of both our state and our nation. Sen. Coleman talked about helping the Superior and Chippewa national forests get the resources they need to properly manage their

forests, and also talked about his support for the forest legacy program.

"Our state's economy remains strong because it's diversified," Sen. Coleman said. "We have high-tech, we have medical devices, and all the financial services you can imagine, but you take away the farming, take away the mining and timber – our basic industries – and the whole thing would collapse. They are the foundation upon which everything else is built.

"You can count on me to be in there fighting for the infrastructure and the access you need to succeed and thrive."

In talking about the importance of forest legacy, Sen. Coleman said, "We are preserving these lands for both the aesthetic and the economic benefit they bring to our region. Without providing for both, we will have neither."

The keynote speaker was Mike Max, a long-time sportscaster on WCCO Radio and WCCO-TV in the Twin Cities. Max gave an inspirational presentation, filled with compelling stories about the many dynamic figures he's met in 20 years in broadcasting. Max's address was titled "Five Reasons People Succeed," and included

anecdotes about Bud Grant, Tony Dungy, Michael Jordan, Bobby Knight, and Jesse Ventura.

According to Max, the Five Reasons People Succeed are:

- They overcome adversity
- They focus on what they can control through attitude and effort
- They deal with their own fear of failure
- They surround themselves with good people and they head in the same direction
- They work hard

In making his points, Max also used examples of the current state of the timber industry, making his presentation particularly relevant to banquet attendees.

"Mike Max was outstanding," said TPA executive committee member Mike Warren. "His message applies to everyone, especially those in the logging industry who've been dealing with the hard times of the past year."

Also, winners of the TPA Safety Contest were recognized for having no lost-time accidents from April 2006 through March of this year.

Logging Division

- C.O. Johnson Logging Inc., Blackduck
- Dean & Bob Walsh Logging Inc., Park Rapids
- Doug Foster Logging, Ely
- Dukek Logging Inc., Bagley
- Erickson Timber Products Inc., Baudette
- Geerdes Logging, Northome
- Gerald K. Smith, Bagley
- Great Northern Logging Inc., Pierz
- Greg Cook Logging, Inc., Bigfork
- House Logging, Ray
- Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
- Killmer Bros. Inc., Big Falls
- Kimball's Logging Inc., Park Rapids
- Lundberg Forest Products Inc., Solway
- M & R Chips Inc., Grand Rapids
- McCabe Forest Products, Duluth
- Northwoods Chipping Inc., Int'l Falls
- Page & Hill Forest Products, Big Falls
- Palmer Logging, Barnum



Twin Cities sportscaster Mike Max shares his "Five Reasons People Succeed" at the Annual Meeting banquet.



TPA board member Jerry DeMenge and TPA president Tom McCabe socialize before the Annual Meeting Banquet.



Clint Cook of Greg Cook Logging holds up the two safety awards won by his company, one each in the logging and trucking divisions.

- Rajala Mill Co., Bigfork
- RBC Ent/Manners Logging, Park Rapids
- Ron Beckman Timber Harvesting LLC, McGregor
- Root River Hardwoods, Inc., Preston
- Shuster Logging, Gheen
- Skoe Lumber & Timber, Inc., Northome
- Third Generation Logging Company, Bigfork
- Weijo Logging, Ely

Trucking Division

- C.O. Johnson Logging Inc., Blackduck



Bruce Bergstrom of Bergstrom Wood Products won the grand door prize, a Stihl MS260 chainsaw, donated by Minnesota Forest Industries.

- Dean & Bob Walsh Logging Inc., Park Rapids
- DeMenge Trucking & Forest Products, McGregor
- Dick Walsh Forest Products LLP, Park Rapids
- Dukek Logging Inc., Bagley
- Erickson Timber Products, Inc., Baudette
- Gerald K. Smith, Bagley
- Greg Cook Logging, Inc., Bigfork
- James Kennedy Trucking Inc., Littlefork
- Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
- Kimball's Logging Inc., Park Rapids
- Lake Nebagamon Trucking Corp., Lake Nebagamon, Wis.
- Lundberg Forest Products Inc., Solway
- M & R Chips, Inc., Grand Rapids
- McCabe Forest Products, Duluth
- Norman Johnson Trucking Inc., Baudette
- Northwoods Chipping Inc., Int'l Falls
- Page & Hill Forest Products, Big Falls
- Palmer Logging, Barnum
- RBC Ent./Manners Logging, Park Rapids
- Root River Hardwoods Inc., Preston
- Thomas Long & Son Trucking, Orr

Sawmill Division

- Bass Lake Mill LLP, Sandstone
- Cass Forest Products, Cass Lake
- DeMenge Sawmill, McGregor
- Erickson Timber Products, Inc., Baudette

- House Logging, Ray
- Johnson Logging Inc., Cannon Falls
- Land O Lakes Wood Preserving Co., Tenstrike
- Rajala Mill Co., Bigfork
- Root River Hardwoods, Inc., Preston
- Two Inlets Mill – Sawmill Crew, Park Rapids

Special recognition went to Doug Foster Logging of Ely and Dukek Logging of Bagley as repeat winners in the logging division since 1987. Lundberg Forest Products of Solway was also recognized as a repeat winner in the trucking division since 1988.

In the drawing for cash awards from among those recognized in the safety contest, \$500 awards went to DeMenge Sawmill (McGregor), Cass Forest Products (Cass Lake), and Two Inlets Mill (Park Rapids). \$250 awards went to Dean & Bob Walsh Logging, Inc. (Park Rapids) and John M. Johnson (Lake Nebagamon, Wis.).

Woodline Sawmills



Katie Baxter in the wood yard at Woodline Sawmill in Onamia.

by Ray Higgins

In business, it's important to know how to adjust and adapt. At Woodline Sawmill in Onamia, adjusting and adapting has been crucial to success.

Take mill general manager Katie Baxter. At just 24 years of age, she never envisioned herself running a sawmill in Central Minnesota.

"I was high-heels and black suits," Baxter says, wearing a t-shirt, blue jeans, a ball cap, and protective goggles. "I wanted big Fortune 500 corporations with a great position. I wanted that big city lifestyle."

That's not the way it worked out. Her father, Chuck, purchased the mill 10 years ago. Katie started working here in 2003, and wound up running the place.

"I was going to college in Brainerd for business management," she says. "Summer came and I was looking for a job. My dad started having me do landscape sales here. And I worked on that for a while; by the end of the summer, I realized I liked what I was doing and I didn't feel like I was gaining the knowledge I wanted to in a tech school for my business management degree, and I felt I'd

gain more experience doing this, so I didn't return back to school, and I moved down here. Within about a year and a half after I started, we had some management changes, and some people left, and I just moved up. I wasn't really ready for it, but I just took it on."

What Baxter took on was a mill that mainly makes components for pallets. Woodline uses mixed hardwoods (birch, maple, ash, red

oak, and white oak) to make the stringers and deck boards that form pallets.

"We have the capability to make the pallets," she says, "but we don't very often. It's a real competitive market, and if we start selling against my lumber customers.

"We do make some pallets for a couple of companies in northern Minnesota, and every once in a while we'll have a customer call us and need a supplement, so we'll nail some pallets for them. But we don't do it very often."

The stringers and deck boards end up at manufacturers throughout the upper Midwest, including Illinois, Michigan, and Missouri. Roughly three-fourths of the wood used in the mill is purchased from loggers. For the rest, Woodline buys some stumpage and subcontracts out the harvesting. And, the company does own two logging operations, one conventional and one cut-to-length.

"The conventional was kind of a mishap," Baxter says. "We had helped a company a while back getting the equipment. And with the market downturn, it was making it very hard for that company to run the equipment. So



Woodline's yard is filled with dense hardwoods.



Scott Heyer stacks completed stringers.



Jerry Streng loads finished goods in Woodline's yard to be shipped to customers.

we ended up getting the equipment back with the intention of putting it in the woods. The cut-to-length system we saw as an opportunity to get into logging, and we purchased that prior to getting the conventional crew. So we bought the cut-to-length system from a dealer

"We're still getting started on the harvesting side," she says. "The conventional crew hasn't gone out since we've had it, we haven't put it in the woods. A lot of it this year was market related. We didn't want to cut too much stumpage because we didn't have the markets for the aspen, so we just cut back and let the other guys do the work.

And with the pricing, we had so much coming in we didn't have to cut as much."

Although the company is getting into the harvesting business, buying the wood from loggers is still a big part of Woodline's business, with several built-in advantages.

"When its our own wood," Baxter says, "we take in our own bolts – our aspen bolts – and we merchandise the grade logs. But we have to find a market for the aspen and basswood. It's easier to let the logger handle that part of it."

Getting into the harvesting side of the business is just one of several

ways the company has had to adapt. Another is the move into biomass. Woodline also sells a byproduct that starts as a chip, then is ground, dried, and shipped to the Central Minnesota Ethanol Co-op in Little Falls.

"That's been developing over the course of the last three years," Baxter says. "We've been working on the project and now in the last nine months, it's really been starting to take off. It's really a good use of byproducts. A lot of people sell for landscape, which is great. Landscape mulch is a strong market, it's got good money in it, but it's inconsistent. It's not year round."

Woodline will occasionally fill orders for landscape chips. They also get some requests for bedding for cows and horses. With all of that, the mill doesn't waste any wood, a fact Baxter is proud of.

"There's not one ounce of product that gets wasted out of here," she says. "From the time it comes out of the woods to the time it's finished, every piece of wood that comes in here is utilized. There's no waste."

Not bad for a business that originally had a completely different purpose. The Baxters are from Roseau, home of Polaris Industries, and Chuck Baxter was an executive in engineering. The Onamia facility had made crate components for Polaris and Arctic Cat snowmobiles and when the mill began to struggle and was in danger of going out of business, Baxter stepped in and bought the place.



Raw timber is debarked and cut to length before it heads into the mill for finishing.



The drier behind Woodline dries chips and residue to be used for biomass. The material is stored under the white dome until it's ready to be shipped.

But one year later, the place had a major fire and had to be rebuilt. At about the same time, Polaris began to transition away from wood crates, so Baxter rebuilt the mill to manufacture pallet components. Talk about a lesson in having to adapt.

"This is basically a completely different type of mill than the one we had," says Katie Baxter.

It's one of four facilities the Baxters are involved in. Plants in Eveleth and Superior are called Woodline Manufacturing, where they make drawer fronts, cabinet fronts, bed frames, molding, trim, and other finished products. They also are shareholders in a plant in Ironwood, Mich.

Chuck Baxter is heavily involved. He's retired from Polaris and still lives in Roseau. Woodline is now his full-time job. He's president of

the company and travels to Onamia most weeks to keep an eye on things.

This mill runs Monday through Thursday, nine hours each day.

They used to run 10-hour days, but found the mill is actually more productive running four nines. One more lesson learned, one more way this business has had to adapt.

"It's tough work," she says. They get worn out and it's amazing how that one hour makes a difference between a nine and a ten."

So Baxter's decision to stay close to home has been a good one. She can get back to Roseau when necessary, and she's not far from the weekend races – she drives in snowmobile snowcross competitions in the winter and in ATV motocross races in the summer. Big city corporate America can wait.

"That kind of work is in a big company is so consistent," she says. It's the same thing all the time, very repetitious. Here, every morning when I come in it's something different. There's no routine to my job, whatsoever. And that's the way I like it."

Skilled Driver Workshop Comes to Grand Rapids in October



The DOT Audit – How to Prepare and What to Expect" is the topic of the next Skilled Driver Workshop on Oct. 10 in Grand Rapids. Cosponsored by TPA and MLEP, this workshop is led by Pamela DeGrote (above), a MnDOT Transportation Program Specialist, and provides a complete review of applicable Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. Workshops were held on this topic in Duluth and International Falls in April and were well-attended and extremely informative. Topics to be covered include inspection selection; driver qualifications; drug and alcohol use, testing, and programs; hours of service; inspection; service and maintenance; hazardous materials; and more. Space is limited for October's workshop. Contact the MLEP office to register.

2007 Minnesota Legislature

The 2007 session of the Minnesota Legislature was highly productive for TPA members and the forestry community. Major funding increases were passed for forestry and timber sale programs. The legislature also extended the sunset on the Sustainable Forest Resources Act, which includes the programs of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, for another 10 years, and preserved forest road exemptions in the Wetlands Conservation Act.

The Legislature also passed major energy legislation mandating an increase in the use of “renewable” power and establishing targets for reductions in greenhouse gases. The impacts of these policy changes will be felt for years to come.

Following is a summary of the

major issues the Legislature dealt with that impact TPA members. If you have questions about these or other issues please contact the TPA office.

Timber Sale Relief

All permits issued between June 1, 2004, and April 1, 2006, are eligible where no harvesting, road building or other on-the-ground activities have begun and permittee is not in default or trespass status. A maximum of 7,500 cords may be returned. Partial permits may not be returned to meet the 7,500 cord maximum.

Permittees have the following two options:

1. Permittees will receive a payment equal to the lesser of \$2,250 or 60% of the 15% down payment for each sale forfeited within 60

days from the day following enactment (May 9) of this provision.

2. Permittees may receive a payment of 60% of the 15% down payment for each eligible permit that the permittee commits to cut and close by earlier of June 30, 2010, or the expiration of the permit. Permittees will have 60 days from the day following enactment (May 9) of this provision to commit to this provision.

Note: there is some difference of opinion as to whether option two would result in a net reduction of the total stumpage cost or if the down payment refund would be settled up as cut timber is paid for during the course of the sale.

Following is the language passed for this provision:

Sec. 158. RELIEF PAYMENTS FOR TIMBER SALE PERMITS.

125.28 (a) Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 90.161, 90.173, 90.211, or other law

125.29 to the contrary, the commissioner of natural resources shall provide payment to permittees

125.30 with eligible permits subject to the following limits and conditions:

125.31 (1) permittees will receive a payment equal to the lesser of \$2,250 or 60 percent of

125.32 the 15 percent down payment required under Minnesota Statutes, section 90.14, for each

125.33 eligible permit forfeited within 60 days following the effective date of this section; or

125.34 (2) permittees will receive a payment equal to 60 percent of the 15 percent down

125.35 payment required under Minnesota Statutes, section 90.14, for each eligible permit the

126.1 permittee commits to cut and close by the earlier of June 30,

2010, or when the permit expires. This commitment

Forestry Issues

Appropriations

Following is a summary of new funding provided. This is in addition to “base” levels of funding for ongoing programs.

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Gov</u>	<u>House</u>	<u>Senate</u>	<u>Final</u>
<u>General Fund:</u>				
Private Landowner Assistance	3 mil	0	3 mil	2 mil
Sustainable Forest Resource Act Reauthorization	1.56mil	1.56mil	1.56mil	1.56 mil
MFRC Forest Land Base Study	200k	0	200k	40k
MFRC Research Adv Comm	200k	0	200k	200k
NRRI Forest Productivity Coop	0	0	200k	200k
<u>Forest Management Investment Account:</u>				
Additional Staff for Timber Sales	1.5mil	1.5mil	1.5mil	1.5mil
Thinning & Productivity	2mil	2mil	2mil	2mil
Forest Road Maintenance	2.2mil	2.2mil	2.2mil	2.2mil
ECS Implementation	1.2mil	1.2mil	1.2mil	1.2mil
Invasive Species on State Land	700k	700k	700k	700k
Accelerate Forest Inventory on State Forestland	800k	800k	800k	800k
Timber Sale Relief Payments	0	NA	NA	1.5mil

These items total \$13.9 million in increased funding for various forestry programs and activities for the next biennium.

must be made within 60 days following the effective date of

126.3 this section. Payment must be returned to the state for each permit for which the permittee

126.4 fails to fulfill the commitment under this clause.

126.5 (b) Payments under paragraph (a) shall be mailed to permittees by August 31, 2007.

126.6 (c) An "eligible permit" means a state timber permit:

126.7 (1) that was issued on or after June 1, 2004, but before April 1, 2006; and

126.8 (2) for which there has been no harvesting, road building, or other on-the-ground

126.9 actions taken.

126.10 (d) Permittees in default or trespass status are not eligible for payments under this

126.11 section. A permittee may forfeit any number of complete permits, not to exceed 7,500

126.12 cords in total. Partial permits may not be forfeited to meet the 7,500-cord maximum.

126.13 (e) The commissioner shall reoffer the forfeited sales no later than January 31, 2008.

126.14 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Timber Sale Security

Legislation was passed that allows for changing security on timber sales. The language allows a permit holder to convert a "bonded" sale by providing the DNR with a payment of 15% of the appraised value of the sale plus 8% interest on the appraised value of the sale from the date of purchase to the date of release of the band. This provision is effective the day following enactment (May 9).

Following is the language passed for this provision:

Sec. 76 Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 90.161, is amended by adding a subdivision

67.2 to read:

67.3 Subd. 4. **Change of security.** Prior to any harvest activity, or activities incidental

67.4 to the preparation for harvest, a purchaser having posted a

bond for 100 percent of the

67.5 purchase price of a sale may request the release of the bond and the commissioner shall

67.6 grant the release upon cash payment to the commissioner of

67.7 15 percent of the appraised value of the sale, plus eight

67.8 percent interest on the appraised value of the sale from the

67.9 date of purchase to the date of release.

67.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Sustainable Forest Resources Act (MN Forest Resources Council)

The Sustainable Forest Resources Act, whose programs are managed by the MN Forest Resources Council, was extended for 10 years. Without subsequent legislative action it will "sunset" on June 30, 2017.

Wetlands – Forestry Exemptions

Language that would have restricted the forest roads exemption in current law was defeated.

Wetlands – Other

The Board of Water and Soil Resources (BOWSR) is directed to promulgate rules for Wetland Conservation Act exemptions. BOWSR was already in the process of doing this as a follow up to the 2006 stakeholder process.

None of the changes to "de minimus" exemptions were made that impact forested areas. Tighter de minimus restrictions were adopted for the 11 county metropolitan area.

Timber Purchase Grant

Legislation to provide \$4 million to Iron Range Resources to purchase biomass was introduced but never heard.

Economic Impact Statement

Legislation that would require an economic impact statement if state forestlands are withdrawn from management was introduced. The DNR sent a letter to the authors stating that they would conduct the requested analysis for any future decisions. The bill was withdrawn

by its Senate author and did not progress in the House.

Tax Issues

The Omnibus Tax Bill, which was vetoed by Governor Pawlenty, contained the following provisions:

1) Conversion of the rebate on the sales tax on capital equipment to an upfront exemption. This provision would only apply to the forest products industry

2) Increase in the minimum payments to private forest landowners enrolled in the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act from \$1.50 per acre to \$5 per acre

3) Establishment of new 2b forestland tax classification for landowners with up to 1,920 acres who have a forest management plan. The tax rate for this new classification would be reduced from the current 1% to .55%

4) Elimination of the sales tax on replacement tires for logging equipment

5) Acceleration of the phase-in of 100% sales weighting for the corporate franchise tax. Under provisions in the bill the phase-in would be completed in 2011 vs. current law which would accomplish this by 2014.

Transportation Issues

Truck Weights for Finished Forest Products

A provision to allow hauling finished forest products (paper, pulp, oriented strand board, laminated strand lumber, hardboard, treated lumber, untreated lumber and barrel staves) with the same requirements as are currently in law (an additional 10,000 pounds with a sixth axle and other requirements) for unfinished forest products was included in the Omnibus Transportation Policy Conference Report. The conference report was not acted upon prior to adjournment.

Truck Corridor

A provision to make the truck corridor from Grand Rapids to Duluth operational, which was provisionally enacted in 2006, was included in the Omnibus Transportation Policy Conference

Report. The conference report was not acted upon prior to adjournment.

Transportation Funding

The Omnibus Transportation Finance Conference Report included an additional \$1.8 billion in funding. This would have been financed by: increasing the fuel tax by \$0.05 per gallon with an additional \$0.025 per gallon phased in; increases in license tab fees; a one-half percent metro sales tax for transit and other provisions. This legislation was vetoed by the governor. An attempt to override the veto in the House of Representatives was not successful.

Railroad Information

Legislation requiring railroads to provide information on their rates, infrastructure and performance to the MN DOT was introduced but not heard.

Energy Issues

Renewable Energy

The law establishes a renewable energy standard for all electric utilities in the state. All utilities, except Xcel Energy, must supply 25% of their energy from renewable sources by 2025. Xcel Energy must achieve 30% by 2020, with 25% specifically from wind energy. The Public Utilities Commission may modify or delay implementation of the standard for a utility if it determines that it is in the public interest to do so. Criteria for the determination includes: the impact of implementing the standard on customer utility costs, including economic and competitive pressure; impact on the reliability of the electric system; and technical advances or concerns. The commission may modify or delay implementation for any of the above reasons only if it determines that the impact is "significant."

Climate Change/Omnibus Energy

We were successful in amending the building certification provision to include Green Globes along with LEED. The provision (Conference Committee Report, SF 145, Article 2, Section

5, Subd. 1f) requires that utilities include in their Conservation Improvement Plans programs that facilitate professional engineering verification to qualify a building as Energy Star-labeled, LEED certified, or Green Globes-certified. It establishes a state goal to achieve certification of 1,000 commercial buildings as Energy Star-labeled, and 100 commercial buildings as LEED-certified or Green Globes-certified by Dec. 31, 2010.

Article 5 establishes a greenhouse gas reduction goal of 80% by 2050, with interim goals of 15% by 2015 and 30% by 2025 from 2005 levels. It requires a stakeholder process to develop a comprehensive climate change action plan for consideration by the Legislature in February, 2008. (A stakeholder group established by the governor is already underway.) The most contentious issue was a provision in the original House bill that required any new power plant to offset 100% of new carbon dioxide emissions, which would be effective until a state cap and trade system is on place. The final version includes an offset provision, but the effective date is Aug. 1, 2009. It will not go into effect if the legislature adopts a comprehensive greenhouse gas reduction plan (no specific reference to cap and trade). The offset provision also will not apply to power plant proposals currently being reviewed by the Public Utilities Commission. There are specific exemptions for a new steel plant and an iron nugget plant in Northern Minnesota.

There is also an exemption off-ramp for projects that the PUC determines are essential to ensure the long-term reliability of Minnesota's electric system, to allow electric service for increased industrial demand (language which we were successful in obtaining) or to avoid placing a substantial financial burden on Minnesota ratepayers. The bill also requires an assessment of Minnesota's baseload electric power needs through 2025 in light of the passage of the renewable energy standard and projected

savings from the energy efficiency provisions of the bill.

Other Issues

Information Sharing

The Department of Labor and Industry had decided that they would no longer provide information on loggers who had completed the *LogSafe* training program. MLEP had been coordinating this information along with its training data to certifying organizations and public agencies. We were successful in obtaining the language that follows. Enactment of this provision will prevent loggers from having to provide this information multiple times to multiple public land owners/managers, individual private landowners and to certifying organizations.

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 13.7931, is amended by adding a

32.30 subdivision to read:

32.31 Subd. 5. Data from safety and education programs for loggers. The following

32.32 data collected from persons who attend safety and education programs or seminars for

33.1 loggers established or approved by the commissioner under section 176.130, subdivision

33.2 11, is public data:

33.3 (1) the names of the individuals attending the program or seminar;

33.4 (2) the names of each attendee's employer;

33.5 (3) the city where the employer is located;

33.6 (4) the date the program or seminar was held; and

33.7 (5) a description of the seminar or program.

IRR Forest

Language was included in the Omnibus Tax Bill to allow Iron Range Resources to purchase forestland for a newly established Iron Range Memorial Forest. The Omnibus Tax Bill was vetoed by Governor Pawlenty.



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry
Timber Sales Unit
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4044

May 15, 2007

NOTICE OF TIMBER SALE RELIEF PAYMENTS

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

Laws of Minnesota 2007 to be codified in Minnesota Statutes, and other applicable law, require the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to provide payment to permit holders under the terms outlined here. \$1.5 million has been appropriated for payments, available beginning July 1, 2007, and is *not* a refund of any proceeds from the initial sale down payment.

1. Eligibility

- a. Any State timber auction permit purchased between June 1, 2004, and April 1, 2006, inclusive, and
- b. No harvesting, road, or landing construction has occurred, and
- c. A written request must be received **before** July 9, 2007.

Permit holders in default or trespass status are not eligible. Permits canceled or forfeited prior to May 9, 2007, are not eligible. Permit holders may elect not to participate by simply not requesting a relief payment.

2. Relief Payments

- a. Relief Payment Formula. Relief payments are calculated and based on 60 percent of the down payment (DP) of the permit. The down payment is equivalent to 15 percent of the appraised value (AV).
 $DP = 15 \text{ percent } AV$
 $Relief \text{ Payment} = .60 (.15 AV)$. Or simplifying, 9 percent AV.
- b. Payments shall be approved by the Timber Sales Program supervisor.
- c. All payments shall be mailed out by August 31, 2007.

- 3. Relief Payment Requirements for Unsecured Permits:** To receive a timber relief payment, a permit holder must elect **either** of the following:

Immediate Forfeiture. If a permit holder requests in writing to forfeit an eligible permit, the permit holder will receive a payment equal to the lesser of \$2,250 or 9 percent of the appraised value of the permit forfeited. A permit holder may forfeit any number of complete permits up to 7,500 cords. Example: Permit holder has four

State auction permits of 2,000 cords each. Up to three complete permits are eligible. The total is 6,000 cords. Since adding the fourth permit exceeds the 7,500 cord cap, the fourth permit is ineligible.

Keep and Harvest. The permit holder makes a request in writing to keep and harvest the permit. The permit holder must sign the Timber Relief Payment Agreement which is available at the DNR area office.

- i. By signing the Agreement, the permit holder agrees to complete harvest of all timber sold on the permit by the permit expiration date, or June 30, 2010, whichever is sooner.
 - ii. If the permit holder fails to complete cutting the timber by the Agreement deadline, the Agreement is in default and the permit holder is required to pay back the relief payment within 30 days.
 - iii. If the permit holder defaults on the Agreement by June 30, 2010 but before the permit expiration date, the permit holder may still harvest up to the expiration date, under the original terms and conditions of the permit. The full amount of the relief payment must be remitted within 30 days.
4. **Requests:** Requests for relief payments must be made in writing, including an authorized signature, and be received by the St Paul Timber Sale Unit or local DNR Area Forestry office, **before** July 9, 2007. Requests involving multiple permits must state which option is being elected for each permit.
5. **Timber From Forfeited Permits** shall be reoffered at auction, either in total or in any combination with other blocks, by January 31, 2008.



Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry
Timber Sales Unit
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4044

May 20, 2007

**New Provision For Removing Timber Sale Security
on State Auction Permits**

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

New laws of Minnesota 2007 to be codified in MS §90.161 (d), and other applicable law, allow the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources to release the bond of any 100 percent secured timber sale permit where no activities have occurred.

- ✓ **Eligibility**
 - Any form of security that covers 100 percent of the auction *sale value* is eligible.
 - There are no restrictions on purchase date or deadline for the request.
 - Permit holders must have an approved purchaser registration form on file.
 - Permits with a signed deferred cash payment agreement OR a cutting block payment agreement are not eligible. However, permit holders may provide full security and, thereby, become eligible for release under the new law.
 - Permits with any harvest activity or road or landing construction are not eligible.
 - Permit holders in default or trespass status are not eligible.

- ✓ **Down Payment** Down payment must accompany the written request for releasing sale security. The down payment equals 15 percent of the appraised value. For permits purchased after August 31, 2006, payment for the combined value of both the bid guarantee and down payment must accompany the request. Refer to your State Permit to Cut Timber for the respective values.

- ✓ **Interest on Appraised Value** Once the security is released, 8 percent per annum simple interest will be charged on the appraised value of the sale from the date of sale purchase to the date the written request is received in the St. Paul Timber Sales Unit. An invoice for the interest will be sent to the permit holder and must be paid within 30 days.

- ✓ **Permit Terms and Conditions** This provision does not affect any other term or condition of the permit.

- ✓ **Once the Interest Payment Is Received**, the permit may be eligible for a 2007 timber relief payment if the permit meets all other requirements.

PROCEDURES

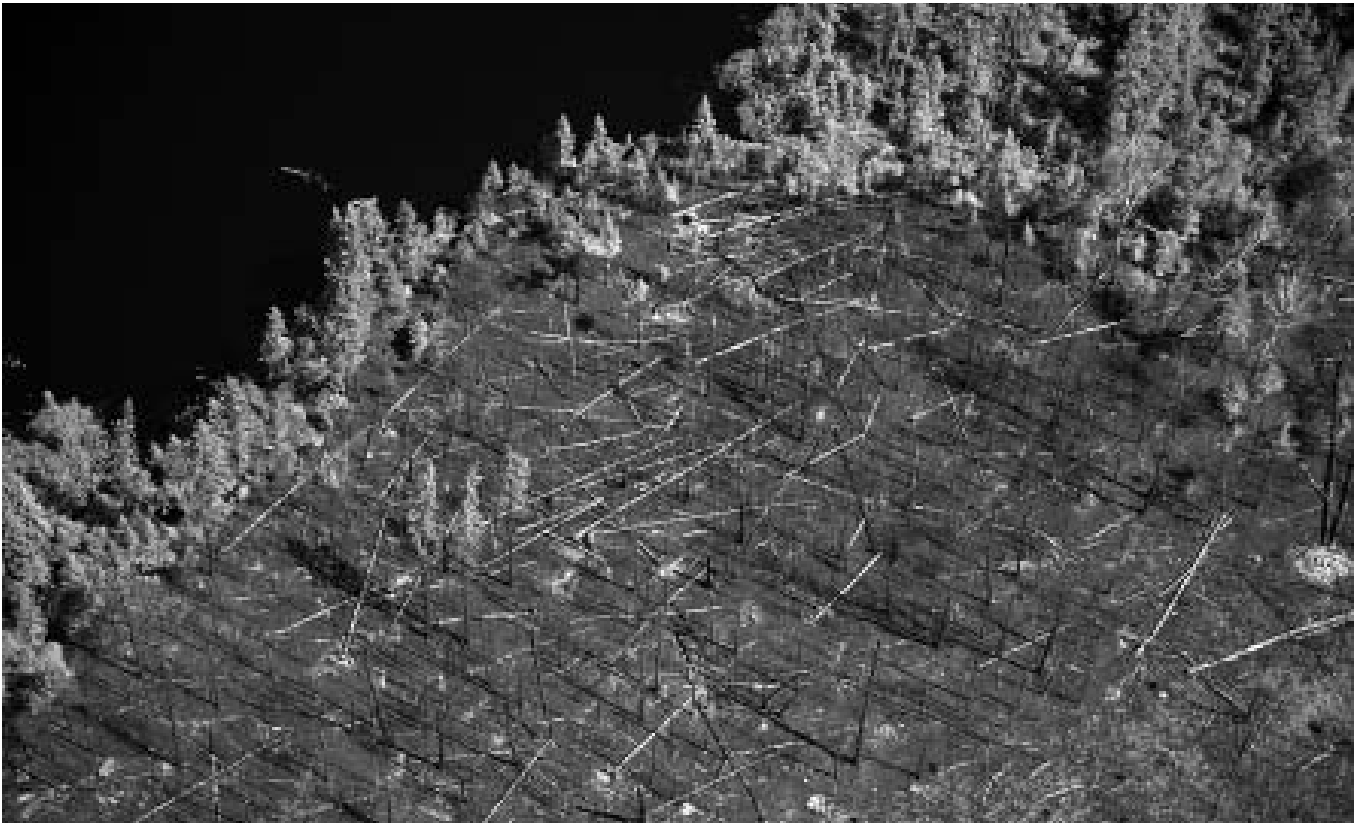
1. Written requests should be sent directly to the St. Paul Timber Sales Unit *with the permit down payment*, (and bid guarantee if applicable). In the request, include permit number(s), authorized signature and state that no activity has occurred on the sale.
2. Send requests to Division of Forestry, Timber Sales Unit, 500 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155-4044.
3. Sale security will be released as soon as possible but within five to ten days of receipt in St. Paul.
4. A copy of the Notice to Release Security will be sent to the surety company with a copy to the permit holder.
5. Permits that have 100 percent cash bond do not need to send a payment with their request. Payment will be deducted from the cash bond.
6. An invoice will be sent to the permit holder for the interest penalty and must be paid within 30 days.
7. Before the permit holder can begin sale activity, full or partial security must be provided.

Ham Lake Fire

On the heels of last year's Cavity Lake Fire, another major wildfire struck the Superior National Forest in April. Ignited at a campsite on May 5, the Ham Lake Fire burned more than 75,000 acres, with 36,000 acres in the US and the balance in Canada. An estimated 140 structures were burned, as the fire caused the evacuation of the Gunflint Trail corridor. The U.S. Forest Service says it cost more than \$10 million to contain. Duluth photographer Sam Alvar visited the fire in early June and provided the following photographs.



Charred roots are now visible on the trees after the fire.



An aerial view of an area where the fire came through a blowdown area.



Before the fire came through this area, trees used to shade this trout stream.



All that remains of this lakefront house are the foundation, fireplace, and air conditioning unit.

Bergstrom Wood Products Honored



Bergstrom Wood Products was honored by the International Falls Chamber of Commerce as Large Business of the Year. The award is given annually to a successful business with 16 or more employees that contributes to the area's economic growth and prosperity. The award was presented at the International Falls Chamber Dinner in May. From left to right: Dena Bergstrom, Gary Bergstrom, Tootie Bergstrom (wife of the late Oscar Bergstrom, the company's founder), Marilyn Bergstrom and Rod Bergstrom.

On the Markets

The *Timber Bulletin* publishes information regarding results of recent timber sales and other market indicators, as well as other market-related news items.

Recent Timber Sales

Average prices, as reported by each agency

Beltrami County

April 12 – Sealed Bid

Species	Bid Price
Aspen pulpwood	\$27.01
Balsam pulpwood	\$28.02
Hardwood pulpwood	\$17.88

Beltrami County

April 19 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen pulpwood	\$32.10
Balsam pulpwood	\$24.67
Hardwood pulpwood	\$17.84

Clearwater County

April 19 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen pulp	\$28.00
Aspen P&B	\$31.46
Jack Pine P&B	\$26.82
Basswood P&B	\$ 8.21

St. Louis County

April 19 – Oral Auction and sealed bids

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen pulpwood	\$26.44
Birch pulpwood	\$10.71
Balsam pulpwood	\$18.30

Note: This sale included 7 tracts sold through sealed bid and 8 at oral auction. The average price per cord of Aspen in the sealed bid auction was \$27.09 and \$25.82 during the oral auction.

Cass County

April 26 – Oral Auction and sealed bids

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$26.07
Birch	\$15.92
Maple	\$12.18

Note: This sale included 47 tracts, 17 of which were sold via sealed bids, and the rest at oral auction. Cass County did not provide the breakdown of prices in the oral auction vs. sealed bids.

Koochiching County

May 2 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen P&B	\$27.51
Balsam P&B	\$15.31
Balm P&B	\$24.91
Spruce P&B	\$21.18

The county sale summary says the “aspen pulp/bolts” includes some balm.

DNR – Aitkin Area*

May 14 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen species	\$27.26

Aitkin County

May 14 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen P&B	\$30.35
Paper Birch P&B	\$12.01
Maple P&B	\$10.11

Hubbard County

May 15 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen mixed	\$35.38
Jack Pine mixed	\$44.78
Birch Pulp	\$ 9.34

St. Louis County

May 17 – Sealed Bids

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen pulpwood	\$31.31
Birch pulpwood	\$11.71
Balsam pulpwood	\$19.86
Black Spruce pulpwood	\$30.25

DNR – Park Rapids Area*

May 22 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Trembling Aspen	\$32.60

DNR – Blackduck Area*

May 23 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$26.67

This average is for “trembling aspen” and “aspen species” combined.

Itasca County

May 24 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$27.23
Jack Pine	\$40.42
Red Pine	\$59.53
Balsam	\$26.41
Paper Birch	\$ 7.64

DNR – Littlefork Area*

May 30 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$30.95

This average is for “trembling aspen” and “aspen species” combined.

DNR – Warroad Area*

May 31 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$20.31

This average is for “trembling aspen” and “aspen species” combined.

DNR – Hibbing Area*

June 1 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$23.06

This average is for “trembling aspen” and “aspen species” combined.

DNR – Orr & Tower Areas*

June 5 – Oral Auction

Species	Avg. Price
Aspen	\$22.05

This average is for “trembling aspen” and “aspen species” combined.

* The DNR does not calculate price per cord on individual auctions. Price per cord information on these sales is done by TPA staff.

LOGGERS OF THE PAST . . .

"Women in the Camps"

by J. C. Ryan

This story is reprinted from an earlier *Timber Bulletin*—one of the first of "Buzz" Ryan's ever-popular contributions to these pages. The *Bulletin* will continue to reprint selected stories from the memories he recorded for us.—*Editor*



Whenever I appear as a speaker before a group of historians or when discussing early logging camps with our present-day young people, I am often asked,

"Were there any women in the camps?" During the very early days of logging in Minnesota when camps were many miles back in the woods away from any

settlement of any kind, I do not learn of any women being in camp. The early camps were crude and in the bunkhouses all men slept in one large room. There was no place for women. However, as logging progressed, sometimes a camp foreman would build a small cabin near the camp and have his wife with him all during the winter.

One place where women might be found was in the small jobber or "gyppo" camps where whole family groups might take their wives along with them and build "snacks" or cabins adjoining the camps for the families to live in. Quite often in the smaller gyppo camps a man and wife team was engaged as cooks, with the wife doing the cooking and the man the "cooker" or vice versa. I know of many cases like this.

In some small camps the foreman would have his wife and other women doing the cooking. In this type of camp there would probably be only around 25 to 30 lumberjacks. This type of camp, as a rule, was confined to pulpwood and tie and cedar products.

Most of these camps that had women cooks were during the later days of logging, when transportation was greatly improved, as no one wanted a woman

Henry "Hank" Marshall, an early camp foreman who took his wife to camp each winter.



Small jobber or "gyppo" camps, both about 1910 near Park Rapids above and near Blackduck below, with wife and husband doing the cooking.



way back in the woods. The larger camps with a hundred or more men seldom had a woman in the kitchen. However, there were some exceptions to this.

I recall the Lahti Brothers camps that had two hundred men where Mrs. Frank Lahti, the wife of one of the brothers, was the head cook. She cooked in these large camps several winters and was known as a very good cook. These camps were filled about 100 percent with Finn lumberjacks and she knew how to cook the type of food they liked. The Lahti Brothers never had trouble keeping their camps full of "jacks" when Mrs. Lahti was cooking.

Lahti camps were among the few that served real butter, as the Finns liked and used a lot of butter with their meals. However, Mrs. Lahti always had trouble keeping male help in the kitchen and often had several women assistants.

I recall a number of women who worked with their husbands in the camps. One of these teams was Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plank of Berndt, who worked in several camps of the American Cedar Company in the Orth and General area during 1917 to 1919.

During the First World War, when men were hard to find, women were hired to cook in a number of camps. I recall a Mr. and Mrs. Dammers of Bagley, who cooked several years for the Blakely Brothers, and also a Mr. and Mrs. Babey, who cooked several years for Blakely in the Mopain area.

I also recall the Hubbards, who worked as a man-and-woman team for Jim Reid near Effie in 1919. Mrs. Fred Lagerose of Northome cooked for many years for the A. L. Johnson Co. and other small camps in the Northome area. Another outstanding woman cook was Mrs. Hubbard of Kelliher, who cooked for the National Pole and Lumber Co. Another outstanding woman cook was Mrs. Hubbard of Kelliher, who cooked for the National Pole and Lumber Co. I also recall several other man-and-wife teams in a number of small gyp-camps near Margie.

However, there were very few women in the camps other than in the kitchen. Some of our better logging camp foremen took their wives to the woods with them each year. As mentioned, they would build a small cabin adjoining the camp for the wives. One of these was Jack Daley, a foreman for the combined Weyerhaeuser Companies of Cloquet that logged off most of the Cloquet River watershed. Jack was a long, lanky Irishman and his wife, just the opposite; she was about five feet, ten inches and weighed about 200 pounds. Wherever he ran camp she was with him, and Molly Daley was as much a part of the camp as he was. She knew more lumberjacks and more about logging than most camp foremen. Their camps were known as Jack and Molly Daley's camps. I knew her very well and knew that her influence had a lot to do with Jack Daley



These women were just visiting a small camp north of Duluth in 1917.



The daughter of 'walking boss' W. P. Campbell was with her at Camp 26 of Cloquet Lumber Co. in 1920 operating the motor car to haul mail. There were no women in the camp crew near Kelliher in 1914 (below).





A few Igloos having dinner with the cook and foreman at a small Oliver Mining Co. logging camp near Brimmon in 1912.



Husband and wife did the cooking at this small jobber camp near Big Falls in 1925. There was a lot of equipment to be repaired at the blacksmith shop below near Ahley about 1908.



being one of the best foremen along the Cloquet River. In later years they lived at Shields, where they looked after supplies for the camps and he worked on the Cloquet fire patrol for many years.

Tom Henderson of Pine City was another foreman who took his wife to the woods with him each winter and lived in quarters near the camp. She was with him at Camp 114, a large 200-man operation west of Mogan Camp in 1924 and again near Cascade in 1928-29.

John Stojako of the Oliver Timber Company had his wife with him at the headquarters camp near Brimmon for a number of years. Henry Marshall had his wife with him a number of years while running camp near Taft for the Northern Lumber Company.

I also recall Hulis Peabody, an independent jobber who worked for several logging companies north of Duluth having his wife with him each winter also.

These foremen's wives who went to the woods with their husbands were but very few when compared to the large number of camps in northern Minnesota's pine region. However, I am sure that these foremen's wives shared responsibility in keeping the camps running smoothly. Most of these foremen's wives did not eat with the crew but made their own meals in their cabin and probably did not see their husbands from early morning until night. The foreman, as a rule, ate with the crew, probably eating with his wife at the cabin only on Sundays.

As for women working in the camps other than in the kitchen and doing men's work, I know of no cases in the large camps. However, there is a chance that they may have done some light jobs in the small camps.

On the Virginia and Rainy Lake operations north of Virginia, there was a cook in what was known as the "horse camp" who no one knew for certain to be a man or woman. When in camp he dressed as a man, but in town he dressed as a woman. It was never known just what he or she was.

I recall one small gypso camp that had a woman clerk and timber checker. This was the Pete Peterson camp on Bear River west of Littlefork in 1919. She would check the "piece makers" in the woods and did the clerking. This was only a small 25 man camp. No doubt there were other women helping their husbands with the clerking, timekeeping and office work in the smaller camps and I remember a number of these.

However, women in the camps during the days of pine logging would have to be considered quite rare. But it was no doubt the influence of those women who did go to the woods that made the accomplishments of some of our greatest camp foremen, notwithstanding in bringing our vast virgin pine stands to market.

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For more information: MN Timber Producers Association
218-722-5013



Tom McCabe Named SFI Logger of the Year

Tom McCabe, Jr. was named 2007 Logger of the Year by the Minnesota Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Program Implementation Committee. This achievement recognizes exemplary work in timber harvest and management in Minnesota's forests.

By receiving this award, McCabe Forest Products is recognized for its adherence to safe and professional operation in addition to its commitment to ethical, environmentally sensitive, and aesthetically appropriate harvesting practices.



Tom McCabe, Jr. (left) receives the SFI Logger of the Year Award from SFI Implementation Committee member Tim O'Hara at the Bemidji Logger Conference in April.

"Tom has shown leadership in this state, and is a very valuable asset to the forest products industry in Minnesota," said SFI® Implementation Committee Chair and Boise forester Terry Worthman.

McCabe is currently TPA president. He is also one of 30 loggers in Minnesota that have been recognized by Gov. Pawlenty for achieving Minnesota Master Logger Certification Status. McCabe has also served as chair for the Minnesota Logger Education Program, served on a committee that has developed biomass harvest guidelines and has conducted timber harvests in cooperation with the University of Minnesota research projects.

Minnesota Logger Education Program Executive Director Dave Chura stated "Tom is a conscientious logger who is

dedicated to the practice of good forest management. He works closely with private landowners to ensure their forest management objectives are met."

The SFI Implementation Committee represents the SFI Program that guides forest management activities of forest products companies in Minnesota. The objective of the award is to

recognize the performance of outstanding independent logging contractors, as well as to increase the visibility of competent professional logging contractors within the forestry community in Minnesota.

McCabe was nominated for this award by Louisiana Pacific and the Two Harbors Chamber of Commerce.

Classifieds

As a service, the Timber Bulletin offers free classified ads of up to 85 words to all MTPA members and associate members.

USED EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

FOR SALE

CABLE SKIDDERS

1970 JD 440A.....10,500
 1969 TF C4.....P.O.R.
 TJ 240.....P.O.R.
 TJ 350.....P.O.R.
GRAPPLE SKIDDERS
 1991 TJ 450B, Cummins eng...18,000
 1987 JD 548D.....23,000
 1996 JD 548G.....45,000
 1998 JD 648GII, single func.,
 rebuilt trans.....P.O.R.

2000 JD 648GIII, D.F.....P.O.R.
 2000 JD 748GIII, D.F.....P.O.R.
 1980 TF C6, with 23.1x26 tires..9,000

CRAWLERS

1997 D5MLGP.....P.O.R.
 1975 450C, 6-way blade.....12,500
 1977 D6D LGP.....27,000
 1987 D4H LGP, 6-way blade,
 encl. cab.....27,000

KNUCKLE BOOM LOADERS

Barko 160, on truck
 w/ slasher.....17,000
 2000 170A Serco on S.P. Carrier
 w/60" HanFab slasher.....69,000
 1987 Prentice 210C 6 cyl.
 JD slasher package.....27,000
 1987 XL 175 Husky,
 mounted on truck.....17,500

EXCAVATORS

1996 Yanmar B6U mini
 excavator.....13,750
 1999 Fiat Allis FX 140,
 low hrs., aux. hydr.....P.O.R.

WHEEL LOADERS

410 JD backhoe, cab.....13,000
 410B JD rubber tired 4x4, cab ..P.O.R.
 1981 JD 644C.....25,000

TRUCKS

1978 GMC 2-ton w/hydr. hoist,
 flatbed dump..... 4,500

DELIMBERS

1984 JD 690B w/boom
 delimeter.....30,000
 Siiro delimeter/slasher.....7,000

FELLER-BUNCHERS

AND SHEARS

775A Barko.....P.O.R.
 1988 910 Cat, 17" shearhead,
 rebuilt trans.....32,000
 1979 Drott 40, shearhead.....17,000
 1978 Drott 40, JD eng.....13,000
 2000 JD653G, low hrs,
 20" Warratah sawhead.....110,000

1996 JD 653E.....P.O.R.
 2004 643H, JD, 2100 hrs.,
 warranty.....135,000

1984 411B Hydro-Ax.....15,000
 1987 411B Hydro-Ax.....20,000
 1986 511B Hydro-Ax, 6 BT
 Cummins.....27,000

1994 511E Hydro-Ax, 20"
 Koehring.....57,000

1993 611E 22" sawhead.....35,000
 1997 720 Tigercat.....55,000
 1993 JD 590D w/18"

Roto saw.....27,000
 1976 JD 544B.....17,000
 1976 JD 544, 20" shear.....21,000
 1993 Risley Black Magic

w/Risley sawhead.....65,000

MISCELLANEOUS

1995 Cat 320L w/3500DM
 Denharco boom delimeter
 measuring system.....P.O.R.
 1988 534 Gradall, 8,000 lb.
 lift.....24,000
 1991 853 Bobcat, w/ forks
 and boom.....8,500
 1999 ASV Posi-track skidsteer,
 rubber tracks.....21,000
 1979 731 Bobcat skidsteer
 loader.....6,700

Cat V80D 8,000 lb. forklift.....6,500
 60" slasher w/ power unit.....14,500
 60" Siiro slasher.....8,500
 60" Lemco slasher.....8,000
 20" Koehring sawhead

to fit 643 JD.....9,000
 New 60" and 72" Hanfab
 slashers.....P.O.R.

1995 546 Valmet forwarder,
 6-wheel.....P.O.R.
 Gafner Iron Mule Prehauler...12,000

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