



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

President's Message

We had a very good October IRA Board meeting in Pinedale, WY hosted by Scott and Anna Corwin. After the meeting we were able to tour their post yard. They have put together an excellent facility and we all enjoyed seeing their ideas at work. I know we all appreciated their hospitality, and their efforts in putting this meeting together.

One of the topics of our fall meeting was coming up with a theme for our annual meeting in Missoula, Montana this coming March. The title "Diversifying for the Future" was agreed upon. Although the exact content of meeting, and the speakers are yet to be determined, our plan is to try to come up with a variety of topics that would potentially benefit our membership in several different operational areas. Sharing and exploring new ideas could help us all to manage all phases of our businesses as we prepare to deal with the challenges that the future will bring.

We will keep you informed as we work out the details. In the meantime keep up the great work as we move through this fall and winter season.

—Bill Baker, President

Quote of the Quarter

"That's the thing about wood: I don't care what you do with it, you always create another by-product."

—Craig Rawlings, Director



IRA Board of Directors in Pinedale, WY. Left to right: Jody Parker, Bill Baker, Kalvin Kovatch, Scott Corwin, Craig Rawlings and Darrell Miller.

Photo by Karen Kovatch

Board Position Open

IRA members are encouraged to contact Directors Darrell Miller or Kal Kovatch who are the nominating committee for the Board of Director vacancy.

One Board position needs to be filled at the March 2011 annual meeting and two directors will be up for reelection. Directors are eligible to serve two terms. Each term is three years long.

2010 Fall IRA Board of Directors Meeting

Pinedale, Wyoming

October 8, 2010

Attendees –

Directors Bill Baker, Jody Parker, Kal Kovatch, Craig Rawlings, Scott Corwin, and Darrell Miller.

Administrator Karen Kovatch.

Open Meeting-

President Bill Baker called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM

Previous Minutes-

A motion was made by Craig Rawlings, second by Kal Kovatch to accept the minutes of the Spring board meeting that followed the 2010 annual meeting as amended. The motion was approved.

Minutes of the teleconference of June 10, 2010 were approved. Motion by Jody Parker, second by Kal Kovatch.

Treasurers Report-

Treasurer Kal Kovatch reported: balance First Interstate Bank checking account - \$3,571.18. Balance Vanguard account - \$7,075.03 . Total \$10,646.21. No outstanding debt.

Old Business

IRA Quality Post brochure-

A request by a member to offer the brochure without the IRA logo so members can put their name on them for use with their customers was discussed. It was decided that this is a brochure developed by the Association to educate the consumer and to show that the IRA and its members promote the use of good quality posts and rails, so the IRA logo will stay. Members can make their own stickers to apply to the brochure. Kal Kovatch made a motion to accept the brochure as presented and to get quotes for the printing of 10,000 copies. Scott Corwin seconded the motion and the motion carried. Darrell will contact Jim Basler to see if we owe Osmose anything for

development of the brochure and to get prices for printing.

Montana Department of Transportation treating specifications-

Jody Parker reported that inspections of treated material by MDOT inspectors using the new specifications don't seem to be a major problem with the exception of isolated incidences. Darrell Miller reported that MDOT is considering establishing inspection criteria for wood prior to treatment. Both issues will be monitored.

Stress Test Program-

The Association received a request from Ted LaDoux executive director of Western Wood Preservers Institute to help fund the updating of the stress test standards of "Minor Species". This was a follow up of the Timber Piling Council's request. Karen Kovatch sent a copy of the June minutes to Mr. LaDoux in which a motion not to offer financial support was passed. The Board agreed that this was an adequate response.

New Business

Annual Meeting-

The annual meeting dates and place have been set. The Social will be the 17th of March 2011 and the meeting on the 18th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Missoula. The meeting will be titled "Diversifying for the Future". There will be 4 speakers yet to be identified that will present topics consistent with the theme of the meeting. Multiple topic possibilities were discussed and it was agreed to pursue those on the motivational side.

Directors Craig Rawlings and Darrell Miller will be up for re-election in 2011 and Rich Lane will be termed out according to the By-Laws. Kal Kovatch and Darrell Miller were appointed as the nominating committee and will put a slate of candidates together for these positions that will be presented at the annual meeting. A request for candidates will be posted in the next newsletter.

Minutes continued on next page...

...Minutes Continued

Black Hills Region 2-

Bill Baker reported that the Senators in Region 2 have made a request to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to handle the Pine Beetle epidemic in Region 2 as a disaster and that funding to address this problem should be separate from money already appropriated in the Forest Service budget. Bill will keep the membership updated.

Audit-

Darrell Miller suggested that the "books" be audited on an annual basis as required by the By-laws. Jody Parker was appointed to oversee the audit and will ask Norm Tyser and Sherry Pfendler to do the audit at the annual meeting.

Next Meeting-

The next meeting will be via teleconference on December 2, 2010 at 9:00 AM. Bill Baker will do the necessary set up.

Adjourn-

Craig Rawlings moved and Jody Parker seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 AM.

-Darrell Miller, Director

New Contact Information

Bill Baker of Baker Timber Products new email address:
btpsawdust@gmail.com

Randy Gross (formerly employed by Copper Care Wood Products) now selling wood preservatives as Poles, Inc. New email address is:
randy@poles.com

Attention: Copper Nap Treaters

Since the Directors' meeting in WY, the IRA Board has been made aware of a couple of issues pertaining to Copper Naphthenate wood preservative. One is the RED label change process and the other is the periodic registration review that is required every 15 years.

Currently the IRA Board is working to compose a letter to comment on the periodic review process. There is always the risk of wood preservatives losing their EPA label and registration because of the expense of producing the tests similar to those required for the Copper Naphthenate Salts Registration Review.

The IRA Board is monitoring this issue. Please contact Director Scott Corwin for more information about this Review. Deadline for comments and statements to the EPA is November 29th, 2010.



Roundwood fence alongside the newly constructed Wyoming highway. Treated fence posts are holding up wire and alternating top rails. Roundwood stays are placed between each post to keep the wire up in deep, heavy snows. Photo by Craig Rawlings

Roundwood Bus Stop

By Karen Kovatch

Pinedale, WY- Not unlike any IRA member who has hosted a IRA Director meeting Scott and Anna Corwin had their postyard all slicked up and in perfect order. (Although I would guess this is pretty typical!)

We had joked with Scott that what everyone was really interested in was the 'bone yard.' That place where all the projects that don't quite turn out end up, or where your latest auction items are waiting or where Ruth makes you hide the ice fishing house before we all show up. Well, Pickaroon doesn't really have a boneyard but it does have a school bus.



The highlight of our Pickaroon tour was the logging bus: outfitted to go to the woods! Complete with wood stove, saw sharpening area, generator and kitchen table. Even the dog was ready to go logging and was accidently locked in the bus when we moved on to look at the buck notcher which Scott built and probably hoped would be the thing we remembered from our tour at Pickaroon!

Photos by Craig Rawlings and Karen Kovatch

Tour Thank You

November is American Diabetes Awareness month and according to the American Diabetes Association, one in every three children born today will face a future with diabetes if the current trends continue.

I participated in the 2010 Montana Tour de Cure bike ride on September 11th. This bike ride is a fundraiser for the American Diabetes Association. I rode 50 miles this year and met my fundraising goal thanks to many generous sponsors, many of them in the timber industry.

Here's a photo of the Seeley riders...note the roundwood fence in the background!



-With appreciation, Karen Kovatch

Karen Kovatch, Kelly Hoag and Kris Gullikson are the Seeley Lake, MT members of the Kathy's Krazy Kruizers Team.

Business Directory

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IRA 23rd Annual Meeting
"Diversifying for the Future"

October 18th 2011
Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT

Membership Information

Meetings

Members are encouraged to participate in the quarterly director meetings throughout the year as well as our annual meeting. The board conducts four meetings, usually two teleconference meetings and two physical meetings each year. Members are welcome to raise concerns and contact directors with specific issues and any questions.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be a teleconference on **Thursday, December 2nd 2010 at 9:00AM MST**. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact IRA President, Bill Baker for more information.

Advertising

Business Directory Ads:

Contact Gary Marks (406) 933-5981 or gary@marks-miller.com

IRA Website

Log on at:

www.intermountainroundwood.org

Email: info@roundwoodassocaion.org



New Members

Thank you for inquiring about the Intermountain Roundwood Association.

Our organization is a nonprofit corporation representing the economic, educational, and social interests of roundwood producers. Anyone engaged in or interested in the harvesting, manufacturing, or marketing of small roundwood and associated products is eligible for membership in our organization.

Our association has been working for a consistent and stable supply of raw materials; presenting a united voice to government agencies and congressional delegations on those issues facing our association; working with government agencies on hazardous waste disposal alternatives; working to find State and Federal loan opportunities for small businesses; locating new out of region markets for members products; providing information on State and Federal Regulations; distributing a quarterly newsletter with pertinent information; providing advice to members in their dealings with governmental regulatory and land management agencies; and educating the public on the need to thin timber stands to provide a healthy environment and prevent stand-destroying fires.

IRA Board of Directors

Bill Baker, President	(605) 348-8338	<i>NEW!!</i> btpsawdust@gmail.com
Jody Parker, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	jodyp@hillspg.com
Rich Lane, Secretary	(406) 721-2573	rlane@naturalresourcesolutions.com
Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer	(406) 677-2300	roundwoodwest@blackfoot.net
Darrell Miller	(406) 933-5981	darrell@marks-miller.com
Craig Rawlings	(406) 728-9234	crawlings@mtcdc.org
Scott Corwin	(307) 367-6267	pickarootimber@centurytel.net

Newsletter, Classified Ads & IRA Website

Karen Kovatch, Editor (406) 677-2932 info@roundwoodassociation.org

2010 IRA Membership Application Form



Please return this form and \$100 payment to: (Sorry, we do not take credit cards.)

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Intermountain Roundwood Association

Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer P.O. Box 1275, Seeley Lake, MT 59868

Name of Business or Organization: _____	Contact person: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail me a receipt.
<p>→ This is how your membership will be listed on the back of the newsletter and on the IRA website.</p>		

Additional contact and services information for receiving newsletter, your personal IRA web page and the Membership phone and address lists:

- New member:** Complete remainder of this form.
- Current Member:** No changes this year. **Stop here**, as tempting as it might be: do not check any more boxes! ☹
- Current Member:** Make changes as noted.

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: (____) _____ **Fax:** _____ **Toll Free: [Optional]** (____) _____

Email: _____ **Website:** _____

DESCRIPTION OF COMPANY for your page on the IRA website.

Email to info@roundwoodassociation.org or attach separate page. Limited to 150 words. Remember to include one photo or logo image to accompany your business or organization description. You may email photo or logo also.

PRODUCT & MEMBER LOCATOR CATEGORIES

Please choose all products you sell and processes which apply to your operation. This information will be used in the **Product/Member Locator** feature on the website. Call (406) 677-2300 or log on to our website www.intermountainroundwood.org/printableProducts.jsp for product description definitions:

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BJ Timber Consulting	Missoula Saws, Inc.	Stephen T. Smith Consulting
Blue Lake Round Stock	Montana Community Development Corporation	Sullivan & Mann Lumber Co., Inc.
Bouma Post Yards	Montana Manufacturing	T & C Fencing, Inc.
Camas Creek Enterprises, Inc.	Montana Wood Products Association	Thunderbolt Wood Treating
Copper Care Wood Preservatives	Morgan Timber Products	Timber Products Inspection
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