



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

President's Message

Spring has sprung here on the high plains in Wyoming, so I must assume that it already has mostly everywhere else as well. Now spring here means that we have a few sixties mixed with the same old snow squalls on the off days but we do our best to focus on the new.

Speaking of focusing on the new, I was so glad to see some new faces at the annual meeting. I spoke with several folks who hadn't been in a while and some who visited for the first time. I have to give some special kudos to our new Texas member. Yes, Texas! Jeff Corbett came to visit all the way from Coldsprings, Texas. Now that's a haul and I hope he appreciated the meeting half as much as we appreciate his interest in the IRA.

Another new member, yet not a new face was Bill Cathey of Windmill Ventures in Miles City, MT. Many of you will remember Bill from his years with Missoula Saws. Since I barely said hello at the meeting I called Bill to check in, he is doing well sawing material in Miles City and was more than gracious in accepting my apology for the brief hello at the meeting. I hope he is in a small minority of those I may have spent too little time with.

New members, vendors and new faces always give the board a spark that we are offering a true value to our members. However, sparks always come from somewhere and I know that they come from the "old standbys" that are ever present in March at our meetings. The staunch veterans at the vendor tables and the loyal sponsors are the bed of coals that we expect to see year after year. And

while we may expect you, I want you to know (and you know who you are) that you are appreciated and that terms like "old standbys" are terms of endearment in today's volatile business climate.



This poor ol' turtle on a post was shared by Dave Archer, perhaps this is Wyoming style persistence...

So I encourage all members to go into your spring with a new vigor and zest for business like our new faces and members with the steady burn of previous success and familiarity as the steady wind in your sails.

I wish you all the best through a promising year and hope that we all meet again next spring with fond thoughts of a job well done and an eagerness to do it all over again. Some call that philosophy stubborn! I prefer persistent.

—Steve Tyser, President

26th Annual IRA Meeting Minutes

Missoula, Montana on March 14th 2014. There were 45 attendees.

9:00 am Meeting opened by President Steve Tyser with welcome, attendee introductions, and thank you to the board members, vendors and supporters of the IRA.

9:30am Ben Wudtke, Forest Programs Manager with Black Hills Forest Resource Association. Presented policy for continuing forest management; Ben is one of the few that read the ream of paper the Agricultural Act of 2014 was wrote on and shared with us how this Farm Bill affects the forestry industry.

10:15 Craig Rawlings stepped up to the microphone to give us a quick overview of how important small businesses are to the economy and introduce our next speaker: Dallin Brooks, Executive Director for Western Wood Preservers Institute presented on wood durability and the state of the wood preserving industry. He gave us insight on Thermally Modified wood treatment systems.

Steve Tyser presented Darrell Miller with a plaque for his service on the Board from 2007- 2012.

11:00 Rich Lane, Log Buyer for Willis Enterprises Inc presented an introduction of Willis Enterprises of Bonner, MT known as the Bonner Chip Plant. This helped set off the afternoon tour.

11:50 New in 2014 was the Scholarship Award: There were four candidates and the 2014 recipient was Madeline Suppiger, daughter of Gary Suppiger of Panhandle Forest Products.

President Steve Tyser called for nominations for the vacant Board Position that needed to be filled. Christian Pfindler, Chelsea McIver and Steve Tyser were nominated.



IRA Members on the Chip Plant Tour

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Officer Election Results: Steve Tyser was reelected and Christian Pfindler became the new board member.

Recap of directions to Bonner chip plant for tour after the Annual Meeting.

1:20 Annual Meeting Adjourned

1:55 pm Tour begins at Bonner Chip Plant with 18 attendees.

3:10 pm Tour ends with the turning in hardhats, safety glasses and vests. For some odd reason they did not want our hearing protection back. Thank you to Rich Lane and Rob McKay, great tour!

IRA Directors Meeting

March 20, 2014

Board Meeting via Tele Conference

Present Board Members: President Steve Tyser, Executive Administrator Karen Kovatch, Kal Kovatch, Ronda Taggart, Rock Reman, Christian Pfindler, Jody Parker and Dave Archer.

Meeting called to order by President Steve Tyser 10:10AM.

Minutes continued on next page...

...Minutes Continued

Motion made by Jody Parker to approve last meetings minutes and Kal Kovatch seconded the motion.

Treasurers Report: By Kal Kovatch

First Interstate Checking: \$7136.73

Vanguard Savings: \$4381.65

Total \$11,518.38

Treasurer's report accepted by Dave Archer and seconded by Ronda Taggart.

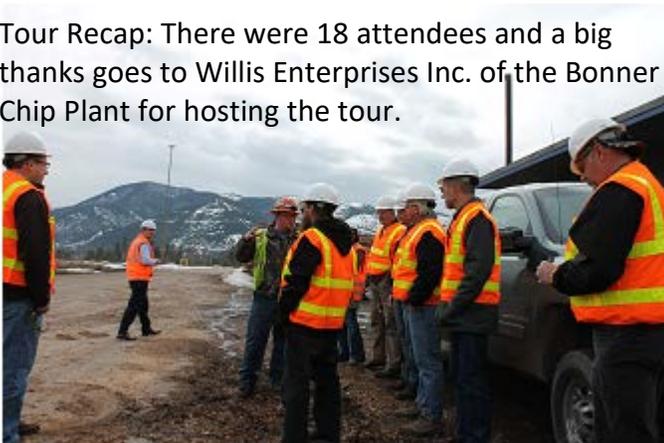
OLD BUSINESS:

Officer positions within the Board: Jody Parker motioned to leave the Board seats the same and Kal Kovatch seconded it. Steve Tyser will remain President of the IRA Board. Steve was up for reelection and was reelected at the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting Recap: Overall the meeting was a success; Steve received positive comments on speakers and their topics. The Board appreciates all the vendors and sponsors who support the IRA.

Scholarship Recap: The award was paid out to Madeline Suppiger. The Board will put this down as old business at the next meeting to help streamline the process next year and look at giving 2 awards in the event of a tie. Ronda gave some suggestions that she has seen in the past with different scholarship programs. So it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Tour Recap: There were 18 attendees and a big thanks goes to Willis Enterprises Inc. of the Bonner Chip Plant for hosting the tour.



NEW BUSINESS:

Web Site Hosting: The IRA'S current web site company is no longer going to take care of the website. So we need to look into a company to host the web site and pick and choose between 4 web domain names we currently have and purchase them. Karen will send out an email to all the Board on the 4 web domains and the cost to keep them. The Board will need to act on these emails soon because the matter needs taken care of before the next scheduled meeting. Steve will look into a company to host the IRA web site.

File Cabinet: Karen asked the Board for permission to purchase a larger file cabinet to store IRA paperwork. Jody made first motion to approve and Dave seconded.

Speaker Reimbursements: Steve suggests we look into helping fund speakers for their travel costs for participating at the Annual Meeting. Jody motioned to approve and Ronda seconded it. Steve will talk to the speakers and see how much aid is needed.

New Director Note: Christian was asked to write a new director note and get it to Karen for the next newsletter.

Newsletter Deadline: For the newsletter is end of March. Anything you would like to add to the newsletter needs to be sent into Karen by the end of the month. President message, minutes to meetings, new director's note and any article you would like to share and any pictures.

Next Board Meeting is a Teleconference call scheduled for Tuesday June 3rd 2014 at 10:00am. As a reminder to the IRA members you can attend the Board meetings 1-800-977-8002 code 8864339#.

Meeting Adjourned 10:42am
Minutes by,

—Dave Archer, Secretary

2014 IRA Scholarship

At the 26th Annual IRA Meeting in Missoula, President, Steve Tyser announced the recipient of the 2014 IRA Scholarship was Madeline Suppiger, daughter of Gary Suppiger of Panhandle Forest Products. She emailed the IRA on March 23rd,

*“Dear IRA,
Thank you so much for the scholarship. That was very generous of you. I am currently attending school at Washington University in St. Louis and am studying pre-med. I am deciding between global health and the environment and psychology for my major. Your generous contribution to my education is much appreciated. Thanks again!
Sincerely,
Maddie Suppiger”*

The IRA was pleased to have Kendal Archer (Hanson Log Products), Darby Roth (Allweather Wood) and Scott Shellberg (Allweather Wood) apply. The Directors found it difficult to choose, there was even a tie that required breaking!

Millers Retire

Despite a shop fire at the home of Darrell and Karen Miller (which almost made them skip the IRA Annual Meeting) the Millers stayed on schedule to retire. Below Gary Marks presents Darrell with a photo of their original post peeler.



Vendors & Sponsors

The IRA thanks our generous vendors and sponsors.

2014 Vendors

- Agri-Tool & Supply LLC
- Missoula Saws Inc.
- Multifab, Inc.
- Round Wood Systems

2014 Sponsors

- Break: Arch Wood Protection
- Social: Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Inc.
- Lunch: Osmose, Inc.

If you left the meeting without scoring some new hats or a coat from MultiFab, a set of hinges from Hamilton Hinge, a free nights stay courtesy of the IRA or at least a growler of your favorite beer from Missoula Saws then you home running wood or were the exception!

Almost everyone present (except for Ronda Taggart who had her beer swiped...an extensive investigation is underway) took home a door prize or two!



Jody Parker, Brad Miller, Rod Manson and Tim Casey at the popular Missoula Saws booth!

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Membership Information

Meetings

Members are encouraged to participate in the quarterly director meetings throughout the year as well as our next annual meeting tentatively scheduled for **March 13th 2015**. 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 **June 3rd 2014** via teleconference call. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact President, Steve Tyser for more information.

Advertising

Business Directory Ads:
Contact Karen Kovatch (406) 677-2932 or
info@roundwoodassociation.org

IRA Websites

Log on at:
www.intermountainroundwood.org
www.facebook.com/RoundwoodAssociation
Email: info@roundwoodassociation.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

Steve Tyser, President	(307) 742-6992	lodgepole@wyoming.com
Jody Parker, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	jodyp@hillspg.com
Dave Archer, Secretary	(307) 684-1402	dave@hansonlogproducts.com
Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer	(406) 677-2300	roundwoodwest@blackfoot.net
Ronda Taggart	(406) 363-1456	ronda@porterbiltlog.com
Rock Reman	(605) 269-2233	rockr@hillspg.com
Christian Pfendler	(406) 288-3817	pfendlerpp@gmail.com

Newsletter, Advertisements & IRA Website

Karen Kovatch, Editor	(406) 677-2932	info@roundwoodassociation.org
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2014 IRA Membership Application Form

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

Intermountain Roundwood Association

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

1 Name of Business or Organization: _____

Contact person: _____

▼ This is how your membership will be listed on the back of the newsletter and on the IRA website.

Additional contact and services information for receiving newsletter and for your personal IRA web page.

Like our Business or Organization on the IRA Facebook page.

New member: Complete remainder of this form. Current Member: Make changes as noted.

Current Member: No changes this year. **Stop here, as tempting as it might be; do not check any more boxes!** ☺

2 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, limited to 150 words. Remember to also attach one photo or logo image to accompany your business or organization description.

PRODUCT & MEMBER LOCATOR CATEGORIES

Please check boxes below for 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.

Architectural & Structures

- Architectural Products
- Engineered Structures
- Gazebos & Kiosks
- Hand or Deck Railings
- Pole Barns
- Tipi Poles & Hogan Logs

Biomass

- Biomass
- Hogfuel
- Livestock Bedding

Fencing

- Corral Rails or Panels
- Doweled Rail Fencing
- Fence Posts
- Fence Rails
- Fencing Material
- Jack Leg Fencing

Gates

- Archways
- Gates

Government & Educational

- Educational
- Government
- Research

Hardware & Equipment

- Handling Equipment
- Hardware
- Manufacturing Equipment
- Shipping & Packaging Materials

Highway Products

- Barn Poles
- Guardrail Posts

Jump Rails

- Horse Jump Rails

Landscape Products

- Landscape Products

Log Furniture & Log Home Components

- Log Components
- Log Furniture

Poles & Stakes

- Building Poles
- Tree Stakes & Crop Poles
- Utility Poles

Professional Services

- Consulting
- Forestry
- Professional Services

Treating & Milling Services

- Custom Sawing & Machining
- Treating Facility

Wood Protection

- Barrier Wrap
- Wood Preservatives

Wood, Lumber & Barkies

- Doweled Products
- Doweled Wood
- Hand-peeled Wood
- Lumber
- Machine-peeled Wood
- Treated Wood
- Unpeeled Wood
- White Wood

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Arch Wood Protection	Multifab, Inc.	Texas Post & Pole, Inc.
Baker Timber Products, Inc.	Osmose, Inc.	USFS, Seeley Lake Ranger District
BJ Timber Consulting	Panhandle Forest Products	Viance, LLC
Bouma Post Yards	Parma Post & Pole, Inc.	Vintage Woods
Eagle Stud Mill, Inc.	Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc.	Western Wood Preservers
Forest Business Network, LLC	Pickaroon Timber Products, Inc.	Institute
Forest Products Distributers, Inc.	Poles, Inc.	Wheeler Lumber, LLC
Gebhardt Post Plant & Sawmill	Porterbilt Company, Inc.	Whispering Pines Pole Company
Hamilton Hinge Company	Ranch Service & Supply Co.	Windmill Ventures, LLC
Hanson Log Products	Round Wood Systems	Woodlandia Corporation
Hills Products Group	Roundwood West Corporation	Zedco Industries Ltd.
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