



# NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

## President's Message

I am hopeful that you are all as busy as possible this summer. This time of year the days go by fast and the work seems to pile up at an even greater pace. I finally found a few minutes to write the message for the next newsletter...on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

While we all have our objections to policy and the administration of our country, (often regardless of who is in power) I am reminded on the 4<sup>th</sup> that we still live in the best country in the world. Blessed by opportunity and relative peace, we truly live in a bubble.



Our "problems" are not third world problems. I know I speak for myself when I say that I often take my life for granted. I went to our city park today where everyone was enjoying the day away from work and struggling to decide what to eat next. Later, I actually watched a hot dog eating contest on T.V. I don't know what is more sad, the contest or the fact that I watched.

While we definitely live in a country of excess and comfort, our fortune simply needs to be recognized and appreciated. I am not an apologist for success because I know the hard work that goes into the dream we all share.

So the next time you are too busy in the postyard, or a back saving machine goes down, or you cry at the sight of your tax liability, remember that these are 1<sup>st</sup> world problems and that you will go to sleep under the protection of a great country.

Oh and by the way....61 hot dogs in ten minutes won the contest. I knew you would be disappointed if I left the results out of the newsletter.

I wish you all great success this summer in all your endeavors.

—Steve Tyser, President

Save the date!

### Fall Directors Meeting



Seeley Lake, Montana  
October, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014

#### Tentative Schedule

- Dinner on Thursday night...no hot dogs!
- Meeting Friday morning, tours to follow.

## IRA Directors Meeting

June 17, 2014

Board Meeting via Tele Conference

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

Absent Board Members: Ronda Taggart

Meeting called to order by President, Steve Tyser 10:07AM.

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

Treasurers Report: By Kal Kovatch

First Interstate Checking:	\$7146.96
Vanguard Savings:	<u>\$4381.77</u>
Total	\$11,528.73

Treasurer's report accepted by Dave Archer and seconded by Jody Parker.

### Old Business:

Website Recap: Karen has completed the website transfer and suggested the following changes to the domain names:

*round-wood.org* Let go.

*intermountainroundwoodassociation.org* Let go.

*roundwoodassociation.org* Keep. (Associated with email address.)

*intermountainroundwood.org* Keep. (Website address.)

Rock Reman approved keeping the last two listed and Jody Parker gave a second to approve.

Filing cabinet: Karen has ordered it.

Reimbursement for speakers: Steve Tyser is trying to get a hold of speakers to let them know there is some funding available if need be.

### New Business:

Annual Meeting Date: March 13<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Missoula Montana.

On the schedule for next meeting: Topics and ideas for door gifts and speakers.

Scholarship: Steve Tyser asked for feedback on the Scholarship program. It was unanimous to do it again, with the same amount. Rock Reman motioned first and Jody Parker seconded it to keep it the same.



New Director Note: Christian Pfendler 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 June. 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 scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014 and will be hosted by Karen and Kal Kovatch in Seeley Lake Montana. As a reminder to the IRA members you can attend the Board meetings.

Meeting Adjourned 10:27am

Minutes by,

—Dave Archer, Secretary

# New Director Note

Christian Pfendler is the Vice President and Co-owner of Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc. in Drummond, MT. He is the second generation at the helm. His father, Leo, is a charter member of the IRA and started the family business in 1985.

Christian graduated from Helena College in 2002 with a certificate in Metals Technology. He migrated to Billings after graduation to work as a machinist at a company that deals with repairing mining & hydraulic equipment from all over the world. He met and married his wife Dorene while in Billings.



In 2011, Christian moved his family to the Drummond area to take up the reins at the family business upon his father's retirement. He runs the day to day operations of the business while his wife, Dorene does all of the company's books.

Christian and his wife have 4 kids. They enjoy watching them at sporting events and school functions, and hunting and 4-wheeling together as a family. They are ankle deep in learning the difference in lifestyle between working for a company vs. owning one – and they can tell you the payoff at the end of the day is worth it! 🏡

## Fall Directors Meeting

The IRA Board of Directors will meet this fall in early October in Seeley Lake, Montana. Karen and Kalvin Kovatch of Roundwood West Corporation will host the meeting on Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Kal will give a tour of the postyard which will be preceded by a frenzy of cleaning! There are quite a few changes in the operation since the last time the IRA had a yard tour at RWC.

Also scheduled is a tour of a local switch plate manufacturer. Rocky Mountain Switchplates make beautiful wood switchplate covers from aspen, oak, juniper, fir and pine.

Seeley's Western Larch should be starting to turn gold and all IRA members are welcome. There are a couple of options for accommodations.

First, is the *Seeley Lake Motor Lodge* on the North end of Seeley Lake. They also own the *Wilderness Gateway Inn* on the South end of town. The only way to book a room is to call 406-677-2335. Rates run from \$85 to \$95 for the Lodge and for \$80 to \$90 for the Wilderness Gateway Inn location.

Second, is the highly recommend *The Lodges on Seeley Lake*. Cabins start at \$159 on one of the most scenic beaches in Seeley. You can enjoy the view from the fire ring and tour the lake on complimentary boats. Call Kerry or Brian at 1 (800) 900-9016.

Hope to see you in Seeley!

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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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 **October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014** in Seeley Lake, MT. 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](mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org)

## IRA Websites

Log on at:  
[www.intermountainroundwood.org](http://www.intermountainroundwood.org)  
[www.facebook.com/RoundwoodAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/RoundwoodAssociation)  
Email: [info@roundwoodassociation.org](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:lodgepole@wyoming.com">lodgepole@wyoming.com</a>
Jody Parker, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	<a href="mailto:jodyp@hillspg.com">jodyp@hillspg.com</a>
Dave Archer, Secretary	(307) 684-1402	<a href="mailto:dave@hansonlogproducts.com">dave@hansonlogproducts.com</a>
Kalvin Kovatch, Treasurer	(406) 677-2300	<a href="mailto:roundwoodwest@blackfoot.net">roundwoodwest@blackfoot.net</a>
Ronda Taggart	(406) 363-1456	<a href="mailto:ronda@porterbiltlog.com">ronda@porterbiltlog.com</a>
Rock Reman	(605) 269-2233	<a href="mailto:rockr@hillspg.com">rockr@hillspg.com</a>
Christian Pfendler	(406) 288-3817	<a href="mailto:pfendlerpp@gmail.com">pfendlerpp@gmail.com</a>

### Newsletter, Advertisements & IRA Website

Karen Kovatch, Editor	(406) 677-2932	<a href="mailto:info@roundwoodassociation.org">info@roundwoodassociation.org</a>
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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](mailto: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](http://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

Official Use Only: Web  List

# *INTERMOUNTAIN ROUNDWOOD ASSOCIATION*

## *2014 Members*

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Arch Wood Protection	Missoula Saws, Inc.	Texas Post & Pole, Inc.
Baker Timber Products, Inc.	Multifab, Inc.	Thunderbolt Wood Treating
BJ Timber Consulting	Osmose, Inc.	USFS, Seeley Lake Ranger District
Bouma Post Yards	Panhandle Forest Products	Viance, LLC
Eagle Stud Mill, Inc.	Parma Post & Pole, Inc.	Vintage Woods
Forest Business Network, LLC	Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc.	Western Wood Preservers
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Gebhardt Post Plant & Sawmill	Poles, Inc.	Wheeler Lumber, LLC
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Hanson Log Products	Ranch Service & Supply Co.	Windmill Ventures, LLC
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