



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2017

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

President's Message

Over the last 20 years I have been attending IRA meetings, and served on the Board of Directors for 12 of those years. I have had the privilege to witness some great past IRA presidents. Each of them contributed to this Association in their own unique way. Through this mentorship, I too plan on contributing in my own unique way. However just like every state championship team, national championship team or world cup team, success is not won alone. It is achieved through teamwork.

Although the Social, wonderful speakers, and gracious hospitality displayed by Missoula Saws made the 2017 meeting a success, it was what happened after the meeting that was truly inspiring and makes me proud to be a part of the

IRA team. With three newly elected board members added to the existing board, this team of individuals was able to deliver a buffet of goals for 2018! The most exciting of those goals is planning the annual meeting next year celebrating the 30th anniversary of the IRA. Mark your calendars now, because we have already booked the Hilton for March 15-16 2018 for this milestone event. If you're on the fence about joining, or are already a member, involvement in the IRA is a worthwhile investment. However, the real value of camaraderie, friendships, and ensuing healthy businesses resulting from coming to the annual meeting and getting involved with the membership is priceless! Your newly elected board along with the guidance and attention to detail given by Executive Administrator, Karen Kovatch. It is sure to be a great 2018 for the IRA.

A big thank you to Mark Blattie and Christian Pfendler for serving on the Board. In addition, a huge shout out to Steve Tyser for his leadership, dedication and humor he brought to the IRA.

—Kalvin Kovatch, President



2017 IRA Board of Directors from left: Rock Reman of Hills Products Group, Clint Weis of Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Dallin Brooks of Western Wood Preservers Institute, Willow Wehr of Whispering Pines Pole Company and Kalvin Kovatch of Roundwood West Corporation. Not pictured: Ronda Taggart of Porterbilt Company.

IRA Bucks

The IRA will be giving away "IRA Bucks" at the 30th Annual meeting as the large door prize. This prize will be payable to the IRA member of the winners choice. You could finish out an order by buying wood from another yard, pick up supplies or equipment from a vendor or obtain services from any professional service member! Also make sure you are a paid IRA member so the winner can use the Bucks at your organization.



IRA 29th Annual Meeting Minutes

Following a morning tour of Missoula Saws, Inc. the 29th Annual IRA Meeting was called to order by President, Steve Tyser in Missoula, MT at 11am on March 10th 2017.

Jeff Parrett of Wheeler Lumber gave a presentation on wood preservatives and the differences between oil and water borne chemicals. After lunch Peter Kolb, Forest Specialist at MSU Extension Forestry in Missoula talked about the changes in the forest and how it is managed. He painted an optimistic picture for small roundwood users. Finally, Tom Gorman from the University of Idaho related the successes of nondestructive strength testing for grading roundwood. Using roundwood in structural applications where engineered wood is required is now a reality.

Throughout the day, President Steve Tyser took nominations for the IRA Board of Directors. There were two Board positions to be filled, one up for reelection and four IRA members were nominated. Dallin Brooks of WWPI, Willow Wehr of Whispering Pines and Kal Kovatch of Roundwood West were voted in as the newest members of the IRA Board of Directors.

Steve Tyser was presented with a plaque for his six years on the IRA Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 3pm.

–Karen Kovatch, Executive Administrator

IRA Board of Directors Meeting

March 11th 2017 Location of meeting: Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT

In attendance:

Kal Kovatch, Rock Reman, Clint Weis, Willow Wehr, and Dallin Brooks. Executive Administrator, Karen Kovatch and guest Darrell Miller.

Called to order: 3:15pm

Elected Kal Kovatch as President. Approved first by Dallin Brooks and seconded by Willow Wehr, the newest members of the IRA Board.

Clint Weis volunteered for the secretary job and regretted it as soon as he started typing this.

Old/New Business – It basically was lumped all together.

1. Send out speaker thanks you and ask about reimbursement.
2. Briefly talked about budget and it should be better for this year because of less expenditures.
3. The financial statement which was in the Annual meeting packets was used as the Treasurer's Report. The total was \$11,658.09.
4. The meeting minutes from the last director's meeting were approved as published in the winter newsletter.
5. Set up the newsletter as an email opposed to sending out a physical copy.
 - a. Send Physical copy to district rangers.
 - b. Get up to date mailing list of members and vendors.
 - i. Possible intern for this work.
 - ii. Update website with this new information.

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Thanks to
Marks-Miller Post & Pole
for supporting the
Intermountain Roundwood Association!

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iii. Keep physical copy of newsletter for this year.

c. Add more content through guest editorials, etc.

d. Photos, letters, information, anything of interest could help newsletter have more content and help out members.

New Business

Darrell brought up decline of membership.

1. Membership is at a peak when a crisis or issue occurs.

a. Suggestions for Annual Meeting: Round table, Banquet, Social event for 30th anniversary.

b. Send out postcard

c. Plan next year's meeting as soon as possible - 3rd Friday in March.

d. More vendor involvement.

e. Social dinner in rotunda.

f. Talk to the other Roundwood manufacturers in the state and get more members.

2. IRA needs to focus on different things and change the status quo.

3. What issues face the Membership?

a. Survey after 30th anniversary banquet to get feedback from the membership.

b. Manufacturing and safety.

c. Get information for newsletter.

i. Presidents message.

ii. New board member bios.

iii. Photos or any other information.

d. Phone conference will happen sooner so we can chat about these ideas again.

i. April 4th at 9:00

Meeting adjourned around 4:30.

–Clint Weis, Secretary

IRA Special Board Meeting

IRA Special Meeting Minutes 4/4/2017

I held up the whole meeting because no one else wanted to take minutes.

9:07 Roll Call – Willow Wehr was the only director missing and he joined the call later. In attendance were directors Kal Kovatch, Rock Reman, Clint Weis, Dallin Brooks, Ronda Taggart and Executive Administrator, Karen Kovatch.

Motion to approve minutes from director's meeting following the annual meeting. 1st – Ronda 2nd – Rock.

Ronda reported the Treasurer balance of \$12,889.51 after annual meeting. There are 35 paying members currently.

Old Business

1. Do speakers need reimbursement?

a. Kal sent out thank you cards from the IRA.

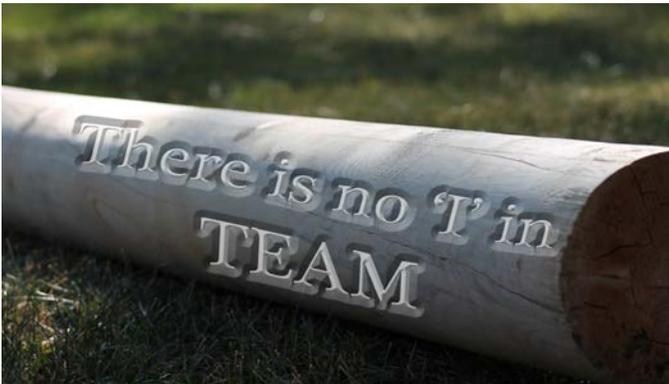
2. Newsletter will be send out address correction requested to see make sure addresses are correct.

a. We only had one Dues Notice returned – Sullivan & Mann. *Continued on page 4...*



...Continued from page 3

- b. Newsletter will include list of 2017 members.
 - c. Get bios for new members of the board of directors.
 - d. Dallin is spelled with an i and not an o.
 - e. Caleb will talk with Montana Logging Association about possible essays to include in newsletter.
 - f. Read newsletters from other organizations looking for pertinent material to add value to our newsletter.
3. Membership drive
- a. Talk to other post yards and see if they want to join.
 - b. Talk to vendors and see if they are interested as well.
 - i. Kal talked to Titan Machinery and they were very interested.
 - ii. Possible vendors include Morbark, Logmax, Hahn, Motion Industries, etc.



4. Annual meeting
- a. Do a social in the Rotunda at the hotel.
 - b. Better networking for members and vendors.
 - c. Possibly do the meeting before the social during the day.
 - d. Rock has some team building ideas because there is no I in Rock.
 - e. If we do have the meeting prior to the social. It will require the members to stay an additional day and that may be a hindrance.

- f. Dates are March 15/16 2018.
 - g. Vendors will introduce themselves.
5. Special 30th anniversary meeting stuff
- a. 30th anniversary etching or a large ticket item to celebrate.
 - b. Etched glasses, tape measures or some small item that is helpful but shows the IRA brand.
 - c. Possible IRA gift certificate of choice for any vendor. The member chooses the vendor and then the IRA will reimburse them.
 - d. Kal will contact Terry Claver and see if he wants to be a speaker at the meeting because he was the original president.
 - e. Dallin will contact Patrick Rappold as possible speaker because he is doing a study on road guardrail.
 - f. Talk about Roundwood future and possible new markets.
 - g. Darrell Miller helping Kal look into getting a tour at Diversified plastics.
6. Other new business
- a. World agricultural expo in California
 - i. We will check out but could be an option in the future.
 - b. Innovative use for Roundwood.
 - i. Apply research grants.
 - ii. University studies on strengths, uses, etc.
 - iii. Contact Edwin Burke about possible studies.
7. Next meeting will be June 1st 9:00 teleconference call. Caleb will host September meeting tentatively scheduled for September 25th 2017.
- c. Possibly check out Montana Hydraulics machine shop in Missoula.
 - d. Helmville logging project.

Motion to adjourn by Rock, seconded by Clint.

—Clint Weis, Secretary

Business Directory

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Membership Information

Meetings

Members are encouraged to participate in the quarterly director meetings throughout the year as well as our annual meeting scheduled for March 16th 2018. The next Board meeting is **Thursday June 1st 2017** via teleconference call. 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. All members are welcome and encouraged to participate. Contact President, Kalvin Kovatch 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

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

Kalvin Kovatch, President	(406) 677-2932	kalkovatch@gmail.com
Rock Reman, Vice President	(605) 269-2233	rockr@hillspg.com
Clint Weis, Secretary	(406) 933-5981	clint@marks-miller.com
Ronda Taggart, Treasurer	(406) 363-1456	ronda@porterbiltlog.com
Caleb Gardner	(406) 204-0065	cgardner@mthyd.com
Willow Wehr	(406) 544-5255	wrwehr@gmail.com
Dallin Brooks	(360) 823-3898	dallin@preservedwood.org

Newsletter, Advertisements & IRA Website

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

2017 IRA Membership Application Form



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

Intermountain Roundwood Association

Treasurer Ronda Taggart, 1727 Highway 93 South, Hamilton, MT 59840

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. 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

INTERMOUNTAIN ROUNDWOOD ASSOCIATION

2017 Members

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Allweather Wood, LLC
Baker Timber Products, Inc.
BJ Timber Consulting
Bouma Post Yards
Darrell Miller
Eagle Stud Mill
Forest Business Network, LLC
Forest Products Distributers, Inc.
Hamilton Hinge Company
Hills Products Group
Jasper Enterprises, Inc.
JH Baxter & Company
Koppers Performance Chemicals

Lodgepole Products, Inc.
Lonza Wood Protection
Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Inc.
Missoula Saws, Inc.
Montana Manufacturing
Morgan Timber Products
Panhandle Forest Products
Parma Post & Pole, Inc.
Pfundler Post & Pole, Inc.
Pickaroon Timber Products, Inc.
Poles, Inc.
Porterbilt Company, Inc.
Ranch Service & Supply Co.

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Roundwood West Corporation
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Terry M. Claver
Thunderbolt Wood Treating
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Viance, LLC
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Windmill Ventures, LLC
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IRA NEWSLETTER

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