



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018

Production, education and marketing of quality roundwood products

President's Message

Deep snow and difficult working conditions have somehow prioritized my need for indoor projects lately! I know many other members are anxiously awaiting the coming of spring as well. The 30th annual IRA meeting is quickly approaching, definitely a telltale sign of spring as most years there are usually robins on the Hilton's lawn. I am looking forward to hearing our great lineup of speakers this year and hope everyone attending gains some insight and leaves with a sense of pride for the industry.

There will be an superb assortment of food, beverage, and vendors in store for the Social March 15th. Having the social amongst the vendors the night before the meeting should set the stage for why we're involved. Let's not forget that this is an anniversary year and much of the focus will be on the friendships and camaraderie we have as supporters and members. It's a celebration of how we started, what we've learned, the issues we've dealt with and the battles ahead.

If you are looking to get more involved with issues and future direction of the IRA, then you're in luck. A couple board positions are up for grabs this year. We will be taking nominations throughout the meeting and encourage anyone to get involved in these positions. Ronda Taggart has termed out, and I have finished out Mark Blatte's term.

Change is always present, and this year we have some big shoes to fill...after 22 years of leadership and dedication as Executive Administrator, Karen Kovatch has chosen to pursue other interests as well.

Along with change comes opportunity.

—Kalvin Kovatch, President

30th Annual IRA Meeting Events

Hilton Garden Inn | Missoula, MT

- ❖ 14th Annual Social | Thursday, March 15th
6pm ~ North Rotunda
- ❖ 30th Annual Meeting | Friday, March 16th
8am Registration ~ Salon A & B
- ❖ Lunch | Friday, March 16th
12pm ~ Salon C
See menu on page 4.

Register today for this anniversary meeting. Reconnect with old friends and meet new roundwood contacts.

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IRA Director Meeting

December 12th 2017

Location of meeting: Teleconference

In attendance: Directors Calvin Kovatch, Rock Reman, Clint Weis, Willow Wehr, Dallin Brooks, and Ronda Taggart as well as Executive Administrator, Karen Kovatch.

Called to order: 9:00am.

Old business:

Talked about Annual Meeting including the menu for social. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres and a no host bar. We need to have an audit performed as Treasurer, Ronda Taggart is at the end of her second three year term. Rock suggested getting a group photo for the 30th anniversary. Karen will need vendor forms and speaker forms for the newsletter. Dallin gave USFS study update – WWPI is involved – they are working on final quote and Forest Service pays 50%.

New Business:

At the 2018 meeting Ronda, Kal, and possibly Caleb will need replacements on the board. Karen is going to be done as well so we will need a new non director position. Talked about possibly dissolving

the IRA and what entity we would merge with. There are not many groups like us. Dallin will do a strategic planning survey at the 30th annual meeting round table discussion.
Meeting adjourned.

-Clint Weis, Secretary

Directors Wanted

The IRA will be filling at least two and maybe three director positions on the Board at the Annual Meeting. Treasurer Ronda Taggart is done after serving two three year terms. Calvin Kovatch has finished out the term vacated by Mark Blattie.



The IRA needs you!

Contact any Board member if you'd like to run for the Board and we'll make certain you are nominated.

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30th Annual Meeting

The 2018 IRA Annual Meeting will be on Friday, March 16th 2018 in Missoula, Montana. Registration begins at 8 am and the meeting will start promptly at 9 am.

Location: The meeting will once again be held at The Hilton Garden Inn, 3720 North Reserve Street. Exit 101 off I-90. (406) 532-5300
www.missoula.gardeninn.com

Lodging: Reserve your room at the Hilton by March 5th, 2018 and receive the IRA rate of \$114 plus tax. Call: (406) 532-5300 and reference Intermountain Roundwood Association when making reservations. Or use group code IRA03 at www.missoula.HGI.com

Lunch: The noon meal will be available on the 16th for \$15. Please fill out the attached form so we know how many to count on for lunch.

Meeting Registration Fee: IRA members do not pay a registration fee. Cost for non-members is \$15 per person.

Speakers

Terry Claver is the founder of the IRA. He will reflect on the beginnings of the IRA and how the Association helped him navigate the industry and the regulatory changes at that time.

Patrick Rappold will present on roundwood guard rails testing. While studies try to address the perceived lack of market issue for small diameter timber any work toward promoting roundwood is positive for the industry. This promises to be entertaining as well as informative.

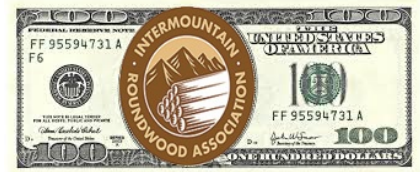
George Haynes will discuss the agricultural outlook for 2018 and examine the impact of lower agricultural prices and very dry (drought) conditions on the financial position of farmers and ranchers in the past year and explore financial expectations for 2018 and beyond.

IRA Social: Plan to meet at 6 pm Thursday, March 15th in the North Rotunda at the Hilton Garden Inn for an informal social with beverages available for purchase and heavy hors d' oeuvres provided. Plan on making it a meal! **Please RSVP on Meeting Registration form for Social!**

New for 2018: Vendors will be encouraged to set up during the Social on the evening of March 15th in addition to during the meeting!

Great Givaway:

The IRA will be giving away five \$100 IRA Bucks[®] as the large door prize. This prize



will be payable to the IRA member of the winners choice. Meeting participants 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! Make sure you are a paid IRA member so the winner can use the IRA Bucks[®] at your business or organization.

Sponsors

Your business or organization can sponsor the 30th Annual Meeting or the 14th Annual Social at the Hilton. The Social was started 14 years ago in memory of former Secretary, Joanna Dixon of Dixon & Dixon, Inc. in White Sulphur Springs, MT who suggested we open up the director dinner the night before the meeting to the membership.

Sponsorship of the Social, meeting breaks and meeting lunch are available. See the tentative schedule on page 4 for available spots. Fill out the registration form you received in the mail or the one on page 5 of this issue of the newsletter.

We'll see you in Missoula on March 15th!

30th Annual IRA Tentative Meeting Agenda

Friday, March 16th 2018 ❖ Hilton Garden Inn ❖ Missoula, Montana

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

8:00am	<i>Registration- North Rotunda</i>	Ronda Taggart, Treasurer
9:00	<i>Welcome & Introductions-Salons A & B</i>	Kalvin Kovatch, President
9:30	<i>30 Years of Roundwood</i>	Terry Claver, IRA Founder
10:00	<i>Break</i>	Sponsored By: Your Business Here
10:15	<i>Agricultural Outlook for 2018</i>	George Hayes, Montana State University
10:45	<i>Break</i>	Sponsored By: Your Business Here
11:00	<i>Testing Ponderosa Pine Guardrail</i>	Patrick Rappold, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
12:00PM	<i>Deli Wrap Buffet Lunch- Salon C</i>	Sponsored By: Your Business Here
1:00	<i>Roundwood Roundtable</i>	Dallin Brooks, Western Wood Preservers Institute
1:30	<i>Election of Officers</i>	Kalvin Kovatch, President
2:00	<i>Tour of Diversified Plastics</i>	3721 Grant Creek Rd, Missoula, MT 59808

Tour directions from Hilton:

Diversified Plastics is a 3 minute walk from the East entrance of the Hilton Garden Inn.

Following the Tour the IRA Board of Directors will conduct a quarterly meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

LUNCH MENU

SOUTHWESTERN CHICKEN WRAP

Sliced Chilled Grilled Chicken Breast, Leaf Lettuce, Tomato, Avocado, Pepper Jack Cheese, and Chipotle-Corn Aioli

VIRGINIA SLICED HAM WRAP with Cheddar Cheese, Leaf Lettuce, Tomato, and Mayonnaise



ROAST BEEF WRAP

with Smoked Gouda Cheese, Leaf Lettuce, Tomato, Shaved Red Onion and a Dijon-Parmesan Spread

30th Annual Meeting Registration

Yes, I (we) will be attending the IRA Annual Meeting on Friday, March 16, 2018.
(Reserve your room by March 5th!)

Yes, I (we) will be attending the IRA Social on Thursday, March 15, 2018
_____ # attending

No, I (we) will not be attending this year.

Yes, I (we) will be having lunch at the Annual Meeting on Friday, March 16th. Please reserve _____ meals at \$15 per person.

Lunch (es) x	\$15	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> IRA Dues for 2018	\$100	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member registration fee	\$ 15	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> 2018 Business Directory Ads	\$140	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting Sponsor	\$100	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendor Table Top Display	\$50	_____
	TOTAL	_____

Please return form and payment (sorry no credit cards) to:

Intermountain Roundwood Association
Ronda Taggart, Treasurer
1727 US Hwy 93 S
Hamilton, MT 59840

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

New member: Complete remainder of this form.
 Current Member: Make changes as noted.
 Current Member: No changes this year.

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____

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.

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

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

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 will follow the tour after the 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. 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) 677-2300	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

INTERMOUNTAIN ROUNDWOOD ASSOCIATION

2017 Members

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Allweather Wood, LLC	Lonza Wood Protection	Roundwood West Corporation
Baker Timber Products, Inc.	Marks-Miller Post & Pole, Inc.	Stephen T. Smith Consulting
BJ Timber Consulting	Missoula Saws, Inc.	Terry M. Claver
Bouma Post Yards	Montana Manufacturing	Thunderbolt Wood Treating
Darrell Miller	Morgan Timber Products	Troy Corporation
Eagle Stud Mill	Panhandle Forest Products	United Wood Products, Inc.
Forest Business Network, LLC	Parma Post & Pole, Inc.	Viance, LLC
Forest Products Distributers, Inc.	Pfendler Post & Pole, Inc.	Western Wood Preservers Institute
Hamilton Hinge Company	Pickaroon Timber Products, Inc.	Whispering Pines Pole Company, LLC
Hills Products Group	Poles, Inc.	Wheeler Lumber, LLC
Jasper Enterprises, Inc.	Porterbilt Company, Inc.	Windmill Ventures, LLC
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