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FHABC AGM 2003 REPORT

The FHABC's 2003 AGM was held on October 4th at the BC Forest Discovery Centre just north of Duncan. This was our third visit to the BCFDC, the other AGMs there were in 1983 and 1993. While purely coincidental, we have managed to meet in Duncan on each decadal anniversary of our first AGM.

The main items of business concerned our Honours and Awards Night held on April 12, the oral history project, publications, displays, encouragement of forest history study at UBC, membership and finances.

Mike Apsey updated us on the activities of the Forest History Society in Canada and discussion ensued regarding a forestry archives and forestry education. Following the business meeting, Rick Duckles, the Manager/Curator of the BCFDC, described the centre's operations and challenges to us. FHABC members enjoyed a catered lunch and then toured the grounds and exhibits.



Recycled paper

The current Executive members of the FHABC are

Geoff Bate
2278 Cooperidge Drive
Central Saanich BC V8M 1N2
gbate@telus.net

Michael Meagher
666 Jones Terrace
Victoria BC V8Z 2L7
mmeagher@pfc.forestry.ca

George Brandak
5551 Clearwater Drive
Richmond BC V7C 3B4
gbrandak@interchange.ubc.ca

Edo Nyland, Treasurer
8793 Forest Park Drive
Sidney BC V8L 4E8
edonon@islandnet.com

Stan Chester, President
5686 Keith Road
West Vancouver BC V7W 2N5
stanchester@shaw.ca

John Parminter, Newsletter Editor
3 – 130 Niagara Street
Victoria BC V8V 1E9
jvparminter@telus.net

Allan Klenman
407 - 3260 Quadra Street
Victoria BC V8X 1G2

Art Walker
564 Oliver Street
Victoria BC V8S 4W3
alwalker@telus.net

Members are encouraged to contact any member of the Executive regarding the FHABC's aims and objectives, current activities and potential projects.



UPCOMING PUBLICATION

Edited by the *Vancouver Sun's* Shelley Fralic and written by *Sun* reporter Lori Culbert and *Province* reporter Charles Anderson, "Wildfire: British Columbia burns" (Greystone Books, 144 pages, \$34.95) will also be available in both DVD and VHS video format.

The authors collected, refined and updated news reports from the summer and added perspective to the wildfires of 2003. The book contains 132 full-colour photographs and the text describes the devastation, the bravery of responding firefighters and the grit displayed by the people of Kamloops, Kelowna, Cranbrook and vicinities.

"Wildfire: British Columbia burns" is available for order online at http://www.canada.com/vancouver/vancouver_sun/ and will be in bookstores on December 1. Part of the proceeds from sales will be donated to the Red Cross B.C. Forest Fire Response Fund.

LEMON LOOKOUT LIVES AGAIN

Abandoned for the last twenty-eight years, Lemon Lookout has been vandalized and left to the elements 975 m above the valley floor of B.C.'s West Kootenays. Winter winds howl through the broken windows and snow blows through the open doorway. In all seasons busy packrats run in and out. But this three-storey building, 7 km south of Slocan City, is now being completely renovated. Timothy Thickett and Stuart MacCuaig, two property owners in the valley, have successfully applied to Land and Water B.C. Inc. for a license of occupation, enabling them to preserve this heritage lookout tower.

Thickett and MacCuaig are restoring the observation floor to its former operating condition. But instead of a resident lookout person, day visitors will play at spotting and plotting the (hopefully) imaginary "smokes." They'll also view an extensive display of photographs and text about the area's flora and fauna, logging and reforestation techniques used over the past eight decades, and the history of lookouts.

Then there is the view itself: to the north and west the pristine Slocan Lake, long and narrow, nuzzles the plunging shoreline of the majestic Valhalla Wilderness Park; to the east stretch the mountains and glaciers of famed Kokanee Provincial Park; and to the south the valley spreads out to its widest inviting the viewer to "read" its history. Comfortably ensconced in the tower hundreds of metres above the valley bottom, one can see where the Japanese internment camps were located at Lemon Creek during the Second World War. Or follow the route of the meandering Slocan River, and see the full extent of the former railway (now a hiking trail) that transported tonnes of silver and lead scratched and gouged out of these very mountains.

All of this will be available for free to the tower's third-floor visitors. A fee-based shuttle service will offer rides from the highway up to the lookout tower but one needn't take it. Hikers and bikers who want to work up an appetite can hike for free up the 7 km of service road that winds over Thickett's, MacCuaig's and Crown land. Along the way they'll encounter three rest areas equipped with an outhouse, picnic table and benches. They'll see many professionally-produced signs drawing their attention to specific landforms and vegetation. These interpretive signs are being generously funded by Slocan Forest Products. It was the timber from this area that gave rise to Ike Barber's first mill in Slocan and enabled the company to grow into the present-day forestry giant.

The private sector conservation efforts of Thickett and MacCuaig will save the history inherent in this fire lookout. However, something has to pay for this preservation so a rental unit has been located in the first and second floors. This is something completely new in Canada. Nowhere else in this country can you stay overnight on the top of a mountain in a fire lookout. Thickett and MacCuaig describe their rental suite as "civilized accommodation in the wilderness."

The United States Forest Service has been offering such rentals since 1979. Today there are forty decommissioned lookouts enrolled in the rental program in the U.S. Pacific Northwest. The most popular locations frequently rent out completely on the first day that reservations are accepted for the season.

Who wouldn't want to wake up to a 780 square kilometre view of lakes, rivers, valleys, glaciers and mountains?

"The setting has a lot going for it," says MacCuaig, "we're certainly not going to have any trouble attracting overnight guests, but we've run into difficulties in restoring the observation floor."

Locating artefacts particular to lookout towers is the problem. Thickett and MacCuaig are appealing to the forestry community for help in tracking down and obtaining key display items. "We need to find an Osborne fire finder. It was, and still is, essential to any operating lookout tower," says MacCuaig.

The first model, in use between 1915 and 1933, featured a sliding and rotating tube similar to a marksman's spotting scope to obtain an azimuth and vertical angle bearing on a fire. An improved version came out in 1934 and featured a front peep sight and rear cross hairs. "We'd like to display both models," MacCuaig says; "we want visitors to experience, hands on, the life of a lookout."

Another essential display item is the little glass-legged stool that was present in every lookout tower. "We could make one," MacCuaig says, "but we'd much rather have one that was actually used in a tower." Short, and barely big enough to stand on, the stool featured a glass insulator (the kind used on power lines) on each of its four legs. Standing on this low-tech device kept the lookout staff from being electrocuted during thunderstorms.

"We'd like to have an authentic 'go-to-hell' rope too," says MacCuaig. "This rope ran from the lookout cab through a hole in the wall to the telephone fuse box outside. When your hair stood on end, and your skin tingled, you'd know a zinger was about to strike. You'd jump on your stool and yank the go-to-hell rope disconnecting you from the outside world and, specifically, from the electricity-conducting telephone wire."

Thickett and MacCuaig are also looking for clear photographs of other B.C. lookouts and lookout staff, as well as interesting stories in writing from current and retired staff.

If you can help locate fire lookout items, or if you have material you could donate, please contact Stuart MacCuaig at slocany@yahoo.com or

Tim Thickett
PO Box 54
Slocan BC V0G 2C0



B.C. FOREST SERVICE RANGER SCHOOL GRADUATES
by Geoff Bate

This is the fourth in a series that identifies the graduates of the Forest Service Ranger School. The first classes from 1946 to 1952 were listed in newsletters 67, August 2002; 69, February 2003 and 70, May 2003. The final instalment will be in the next newsletter.

Source: Forest History Association of B.C. archives.

Series 4

Advanced Class # 7: 1953 - 54

Dean: J.A. Pedley

Asst. Dean: A.H. Dixon

C. Raine	A.F. Hill	J.R. Wilson	B.G. Collins
W.A. Bell	J.R. Winslow	W.C. Lidstrom	W.G. Benwell
S.F. Fisher	J.D. Bailey	R.T. Brooks	I.B. McKaskie
K.A. Morley	M. W. Antonelli	T.J. Hamilton	D.O. DeWitt
C.C. Jupp	T.T. Briggs	J.F. Bailey	F.G. Old
B.A. Mitchell			

Advanced Class # 8: 1955 - 56

Dean: A.H. Dixon

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

G.G. McKinnon	D.M. Flynn	J.B. Webster	J.H. Carradice
T.J. Mastin	A.R. Pement	A. Mackie	G.F. Bodman
R.A. Hamblin	P. Bell	D. Clay	W. Petty
J.B. Cawston	D. Burbidge	D.J. Wittner	F.M. Baker
L.D.D. Ormond	F. Pearce	O.J. Andersen	S.H. Thorton
S. Hollingshead			

Series 5

Advanced Class # 9: 1956 - 57

Dean: A.H. Dixon

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

H.E. Atkinson	W.G. Potter	H.D. Hamilton	P. Griffiths
F. Russell	S. Olson	S.J. Sykes	R.M. Hawkins
M.E. Monteith	R.K. Berard	L.J. Ashton	J. Antonenko
D.E. Gill	R.R. Keefe	J. Horne	J.T. Schmidt
W. Howard	G.D. Bertram	K. Rohn	O.E. Brown
R. McDaniel	H. Norbirg	R. Braathen	E.J. McArthur
E.E. Pement	H.A. Janning	W.H. Smith	W.S. Carr
D.N. Crosby	T.G. Waller		

Advanced Class # 10: 1958 - 59

Dean: A.H. Dixon

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

R.H. Weinard	W.E. Brash	O.J. Gorley	C.F. Simmons
D.J. Morris	G.N. Adams	S.E. Angerson	R. W. Donnelly
C.D. Dobbin	V.D. Craig	C.N. Bellmond	G.E. Magee
K. W. Magee	J. Flint	M. Hannah	G.B. Allin
R.W. Thomas	T. Brooks	L.O. Hamman	G.G. Huva
F.J. White			

Series 6

Advanced Class # 11: 1959 - 60

Dean: E. W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

M.A. McRae	A.J. Tiendl	A.H. Budden	J.E. Perdue
T.R. Gibbs	F. Swetitch	J.G. Ward	R.L. McNabb
T. Harvie	E.W. Hewitt	I.M. Loomer	J.N. Nelson
R.D. Moss	G.F. Dodd	G.M. York	R.G. Trenamen
D. Reiter	H.G. Doerksen	T.O.R. Perrson	C. Ford
E.E. Peterson			

Advanced Class # 12: 1961 - 62

Dean: E. W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

J. Wanderer	D.A. Amonson	G. Stefanac	R.L. Cawston
R.S. Marynovich	M.N. Neighbor	A.M. Gilmour	G.F. Mills
D.F. Doerksen	W.R. Perry	L.G. Espenant	D.F. Wallin
P. Gilgan	V. Barge	W.R. Anderson	H. Quast
H.B. Thompson	G.L. Benwell	V.G. Bate	J.A. Hogan

Series 7

A series of 3-month basic courses was introduced in 1962. These courses, interspersed with the advanced 9-month courses for a few years provided basic forestry courses that were felt to be beneficial to promising field staff. Students that successfully graduated from these 3-month courses were eligible for future 6-month advanced courses.

Basic Course # 1: Fall - 1962

Dean: E. W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

T.E. Bayer	R.L. Chard	J.M. Haley	G.T. Mason
I.G. Bergen	M.S. Dearing	R.P. Hatch	A.P. Mysharall
J.N. Boulton	G.M. Doi	D.F. Hendren	S.C.K. Olson
I.G. Bowie	T.A. Forden	W.H. Lang	D.G. Rankin
W.R. Cannon	R. Hack	V.N. Maskulak	D.H. Thompson

Basic Course # 2: Spring - 1963

Dean: E. W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

W.E. Blower	H.L. Elias	J.R. Koleman	R.L. Pehota
C.E. Botterill	R.T.D. Erickson	D.H. Koppe	S.J. Rankin
E.R. Braman	G.M. Gripich	C.R. Moore	F.L. Roe
D.C. Cumming	R.L. Hack	B.M. Morrison	J.K. Sloan
G.E. Duke	G.F. Hawkey	W.O. Neros	F.G. Somner

Series 8

Advanced Class # 13: 1963 - 64

Dean: E. W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

W.G. Archer	R.A. Drew	W.H. Jones	H. Osborne
M.H. Barton	N. Elder	W.D. Kalau	W.O. Pistak
J.C. Dearing	D.M. Ferrier	J.H. Little	B.A. Ross
D.E. DeHart	D.L. Garon	R.L. Lussier	K.G. Steams
V.J. Doerksen	J.F. Jaeger	J.F. Lynn	W.C. Waldron

Basic Course # 3: Fall - 1964

Dean: E.W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

N.J.L. Andersson	O.R. Erickson	W.B. Holloway	J. Menning
D. Craigdallie	F.A. Folliet	W.J. LeCleir	W.T. Norish
B.C. Davis	L.D. Haggart	M.T. Lindberg	R.J. Reeves
O.G. Doering	J.H. Hansen	C.W.M. Lister	W.T. Rhodes
P.H. Downs	D.R. Hargreaves	W.G. Macintosh	T.A. Walker

Series 9

Dean: E.W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

D.A.E. Beckett	E. Hardwick	W. Konkin	C.W. Nourse
B.L. Custance	V.H. Hernandez	H. Miscovich	O.D. Parsey
W.C. Davis	B.D. Horning	J.B. Mountain	T. Rubingh
G.W. Erickson	C.R. Johnson	C.L. Nelson	D.F. St. Amand
S.E. Hansen	W.O. Johnston	A.A. Myers	G.R. VanTine

Basic Course # 5: Fall - 1965

Dean: E.W. Robinson

Asst. Dean: A.J. Kirk

D.H. Blackstock	W. Hall	R. Keep	L.G. Russell
E.A. Bouchard	P.O. Holitzki	I.A. Morrison	F. Vicen
R.A. Campbell	O.N.M. Inglis	D.J. Neal	H.W. Wassick
E.M. Foulds	D.E. Jensen	G.M. Nichols	D.R. Wood
W.R. Gomm	A. Joyce	R.G. Pederson	J.L. Younghusband

LOGGER MATH

Teaching math in 1950: a logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is $\frac{4}{5}$ of the price. What is his profit?

Teaching math in 1960: a logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is $\frac{4}{5}$ of the price, or \$80. What is his profit?

Teaching math in 1970: a logger exchanges a set "L" of lumber for a set "M" of money. The cardinality of set "M" is 100. Each element is worth one dollar. Make 100 dots representing the elements of the set "M". The set "C," the cost of production, contains 20 fewer points than set "M". Represent the set "C" as a subset of set "M" and answer the following question: what is the cardinality of the set "P" for profits?

Teaching math in 1980: a logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. Her cost of production is \$80 and her profit is \$20. Your assignment: underline the number 20.

Teaching math in 1990: by cutting down beautiful forest trees, the logger makes \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living? Topic for class participation after answering the question: how did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down the trees? There are no wrong answers.

Teaching math in 1998: by laying off 40% of its loggers, a company improves its stock price from \$80 to \$100. How much capital gain per share does the CEO make by exercising his stock options at \$80? Assume capital gains are no longer taxed, because this encourages investment.

Teaching math in 2003: a company outsources all of its loggers. The firm saves on benefits, and when demand for its product is down, the logging work force can easily be cut back. The average logger employed by the company earned \$50,000, had three weeks vacation, a nice retirement plan, and medical insurance. The contracted logger charges \$50 an hour. Was outsourcing a good move?



This newsletter is the official organ of the Forest History Association of British Columbia. Please submit newsletter material and send changes of address to the Editor: John Parminter, # 3 – 130 Niagara Street, Victoria, BC V8V 1E9. Phone (250) 384-5642 home or (250) 356-6810 office. E-mail: jvparminter@telus.net

Membership in the association is \$10 yearly, or \$45 for five years. Please send dues to the Treasurer: Edo Nyland, 8793 Forest Park Drive, Sidney, BC V8L 4E8. Phone (250) 656-9276. E-mail: edonon@islandnet.com

The President: Stan Chester, can be reached at 5686 Keith Road, West Vancouver, BC V7W 2N5. Phone (604) 921-9880. E-mail: stanchester@shaw.ca