

Canadian Women In Timber AGM

The 22nd Annual General Meeting of Canadian Women In Timber was held in Vernon on October 1, 2011 at the Interior Logging Association office in Vernon. Board elections were held and proposed bylaw and policy changes were passed. It was also decided to raise the CWIT annual membership fee to \$25.00 beginning in January, 2012. The AGM was followed by a Board meeting with the newly elected Board members.

CWIT Board of Directors 2010 - 1011

Chair, **Alison Anderson** - Prince George BC

Vice Chair, **Vicki Smith** - Westbank BC

Secretary, **Laurie Septav** - Slocan BC

Treasurer, **Betty-Ann McDonald** - Tappen BC

Director, **Ann Polson** - Salmon Arm BC

Director, **Sandy McKellar** - Ladner BC

Director, **Marg Hagardt** - Enderby BC

Director, **Wayne Lintott** - Vernon BC

Director, **Kim Edmondson** - Savona BC

Director, **Joanne Kineshanko** - Lumby BC
Director, **Steve Baumber** - Victoria BC



Thank you to **Wayne Lintott** and the **ILA** for hosting the **Canadian Women In Timber AGM** and **Board meeting** in **Vernon**.

Chair's Report - Alison Anderson

It is fall one again and with it comes your membership renewal. Membership is incredibly important to our organization. This money goes toward very valuable forest education tools. Without this money we are unable to carry out our mandate of Forest Education. Do not feel that by paying membership dues that you are obligated to physically help. Your dues in fact help us. It would be fabulous if you could encourage others to join. The money, as I have said, goes toward the work that we do. By paying, you are assisting our efforts and I sincerely thank you for that.

Our new Splinter book "Logging with Splinter" is now available. If you would like some copies contact us through our website or email bettyann@telus.net.

Shuswap Branch - Ann Polson

At the request of Wayne Lintott, Ann and Betty-Ann travelled with the ILA Forestry van to Kidston Elementary School in Vernon in September. We presented to 152 students, plus teachers and helpers.

In October we went with the Forestry van to St. Joseph's Elementary School in Kelowna. This was the 7th year we have gone to this school with the van. We gave a lesson on tree identification and the inside and outside of the van. Grades 1, 3, and 5, totaling 91 students went through.

Betty-Ann with St. Joseph's Grade 1 class



Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities

Betty-Ann and Ann attended the "Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities - A Conversation on BC's Forests" public forum on September 14 in Salmon Arm.

It was very disappointing sitting in a room of 40 people with very little representation from industry at the Healthy Forests - Healthy Communities forum. There were more concerns expressed about environmental and recreation values than that of industry. The public needs to realize it is the industry that generates revenue that keeps the economy going, not someone hiking in the woods, or picking berries.

We encourage people to attend any meetings, forums, etc. that have to do with the forest industry, and be heard.

Healthy Forests-Healthy Communities, A Conversation on BC's Forests, is an initiative intended to capture the concerns and recommendations of experts and community members to enable informed decision-making for forest lands management in BC.

CWIT Forest Awareness Day - October 2, 2011



Shuswap Branch members, Marg, Ann and Betty-Ann, set up a display to celebrate Canadian Women In Timber's Forest Awareness Day in a local mall. Our cloth learning tree and wood pecker, bug display, pictures of classroom presentations, and CWIT information were a few of the many things on display. There were numerous hand-outs, two free draws and a guess the cones contest. We were busy most of the day, and had some interesting conversations with many people. The bug display, which we borrowed from the ILA Forestry van was very popular and drew a lot of people to the table.

Forest History Society - Ann Polson

On October 1, Betty-Ann and I attended the buffet and presentation which was a part of the Forest History Society's AGM. There were 20 people in attendance from around the Province.

After a wonderful meal, Robert Dale from Enderby, gave a very interesting presentation and slide show on the River Drives in and around the Enderby area. It was a real eye-opener to hear and see how these fearless men without equipment or safety gear managed to drive the logs down the Shuswap River.

During the first log drives in the 1900's, men worked 10-14 hours a day for \$1.25 per day. This was the only way to transport the logs. Cedar, fir, spruce and larch with lengths of 12-20 feet used for houses, and 30-60 foot lengths used for poles, were floated down the river. The 60 foot lengths would cause jamming many times during the drive. The logs had to go through rapids at Kingfisher. The water depth had to be perfect. If the water was too low the logs would wedge into the bottom, yet if too high the current would wash them in the fields. The wind sometimes would be strong enough to push the logs upriver. After the logs were driven down the river they were boomed in Enderby, or taken to Mara Lake, boomed and pulled to their destination by tugboat.

There were many great dangers, but the most dangerous was log walking. Although only one person was ever recorded drowning, the men faced risks every day.

The main tools used were the peavey, which was a long pole with a U-shaped device on the end, topped with sharp spikes, and the pike pole, a simple tool with a wooden handle 14 feet long.

The last river Drive on the Shuswap River took place in 1967.

This was such an insight of the beginning of logging in our area and the hardships and dangers men endured. I think it is important for us to be aware of the roots of the Industry, and take the time to learn and appreciate how it all began.

Trees are the most powerful concentrators of carbon on earth. To grow a pound of wood, a young tree takes in 1,466 (0.665 kilograms) of carbon dioxide and releases 1.069 pounds (0.485 kilograms) of oxygen. The carbon dioxide is stored within the cells of the tree. When a forest becomes old or overcrowded, trees stop growing and begin to decay, releasing the carbon dioxide. But when mature trees are harvested for wood products, the carbon stays locked in the wood.

Splinter Salutes

All those people who have renewed CWIT membership.

Your continuing support allows us to produce Forest Education material like our new book "Logging with Splinter"



Christmas Trees

Canadian Christmas trees provide real jobs for Canadians, from the growers to the farm hands as well as in related industries such as transportation, equipment supply and retail sales.

In Canada, there are currently 33 500 hectares (82 700 acres) of land used for growing Christmas trees. Christmas trees are grown on tree farms and except for cultivated forests, the most environmentally friendly crop around. This is because a tree is harvested only after ten years. To ensure future harvests, ninety percent of the farm must remain in trees all the time. Not only does this provide habitat for birds and other wildlife species, but it also provides lots of oxygen.

Canada was first introduced to the Christmas tree in 1781 in Sorel, Quebec, by a German immigrant, Baron Friederick von Riedesel. The Baron's tree was a balsam fir cut from the dense forest of Quebec and was decorated with myriads of white candles. The Christmas tradition that is celebrated in Canada today has borrowed many customs from many lands, but families who have come from all over the world have all adopted the Christmas tree as the symbol and centerpiece of the festive season. As it has for centuries, the evergreen still symbolizes our belief in renewed life and the hope and faith that lives in all mankind, regardless of race or creed.



Merry Christmas and Best Wishes
for a **Happy and Prosperous New Year!**

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

We are interested in what is happening in your community regarding the Forest Industry and Forest Education and welcome questions, comments or suggestions for future Leaflets.

Please email your letters or inquiries to any of the following:

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