

PRESIDENT's MESSAGE by Angelle van Kleef

Forest Management Plan and Best Management Practice

In 2003 we had our woodlot marked for logging. We had asked a forester to come out and walk with us through our woodlot. He told us about species that were growing there and pointed out trees that could be logged. Within a week he had returned a list of trees that could be harvested and how much money those would approximately be worth. Also included was a list of recommended loggers that we could approach who could give us a quote. It turned out that the price of timber had come down quite a bit over the past year and we decided not to continue with harvesting.

In early spring of 2010 we walked through our woodlot with another forester and this time with a very different objective. Over the past 10 years we have learned about typical Norfolk County habitats and we wanted to find out what species grow in our particular woodlot. We determined that we have two types of woodlot habitat. The majority is upland sandy well drained gently rolling forest with mainly black oak trees. Another 15% is sandy moderately drained forest. This is a much wetter area with different species of trees and shrubs. We also found deer beds in the snow, on a place on top of a hill where 4 deer gather to sleep.

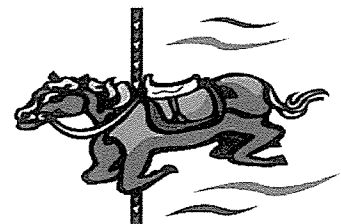
This October we proceeded with our Forest Management Plan. This time we had a logger with good reputation come out to take a look at our standing timber. We carried our old list of trees to be harvested along to find out if he would come up with similar recommendations. On the contrary, this time we got a very different and much appreciated advice. The advice included removing some big dead trees as well as damaged smaller trees. It turned out that our forest had been thoroughly logged between 25 and 30 years ago. After that nothing had happened to improve the health of the forest. Apart from some big black oaks and white pine trees there was young healthy re-growth. Our forest needs to be cleaned up and opened up to help these young trees grow more vigorously. This time we have a better understanding of the potential of our forest and what we can achieve by allowing it to grow healthy.

Best Management Practice

Just by looking and asking we realized that we needed tools to manage our woodlot, improve our woodlot's health and protect wildlife habitat. It turns out that a book in the Best management Practice was written about this topic in 1992. Also in the Best Management Practices series appeared Woodlot Management in 2007. You will read how we continue in a future newsletter.

THANK YOU!

***Thank you to everyone who volunteered
at the Norfolk County Fair this year! We
appreciate your help and time.***



UPCOMING EVENT

Saturday November 20th, 2010

TIME: 1:00 PM

MONROE LANDON WOODS ~ Nature Conservancy of Canada

Fall Walk in the woods reflecting upon the past forest management within this significant woodland and what the future holds for the property.

Guest Speakers: Rick Lambert – private forestry consultant
Wendy Cridland – Nature Conservancy of Canada

Wendy will provide an overview of the importance of this property to NCC and will review the conservation objectives being developed for this significant woodland. Rick will take us on a walking tour of the property – providing insight into his personal experience with the past management of this property in partnership with the Landon family – both in his capacity as an employee of the Ministry of Natural Resources and subsequently as a forest consultant.

Directions: Travelling either east from Delhi or west from Simcoe on County Rd 1 (McDowell Rd) or for the Charlotteville folks the “9th” turn south onto Charlotteville East Quarter Line to Char Rd 7 or the Concession 7 – turn west and all parties will park along concession road adjacent to the Nature Conservancy sign.

Please dress for the weather.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS EVENT CONTACT: Wendy Cridland – 519-586-7773 x 202

NWOA Directors – 2010

** year indicates the term the year expires at the AGM, the (number) indicates the number of terms served*

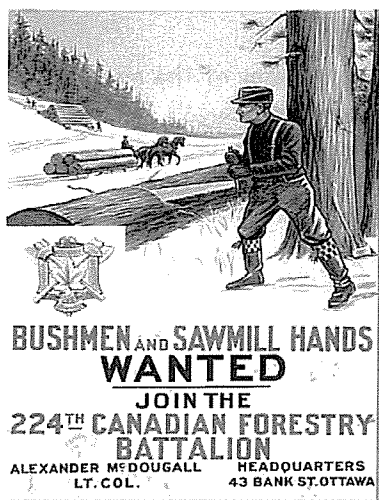
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✓ *Amadeo*

Reflecting on the importance of our forest resources during World War II



Canadian Forestry Corps – World War I



Over 75,000 Canadians that served in WWI never got to France. They either joined late in the war and did not get over in a reinforcing draft before 11 Nov 18, or remained in the UK with the various depot battalions, HQs and units such as UK-based companies of the CFC.

Forest products had been a staple Canadian industry throughout the 19th Century. At times some 65 percent of Canadian exports had been in the form of squared timber and sawn lumber, directed both to British and American markets.

The First World War strained shipping space. France and Britain sought to reduce timber imports by tapping their own forests. However, logging skills were more easily available in Canada. In February 1916 the British government requested that a forestry battalion be raised in Canada for overseas service.

The Dominion acted quickly; 1,600 men were recruited in six weeks; \$250,000 was spent on logging & milling equipment. The 224th Canadian Forestry Battalion, as the new unit was designated, was sent overseas in several drafts. The first sawn lumber was produced in England on May 13th, 1916.

Three more forestry battalions were raised, but this form of organization proved unwieldy. Ultimately the Canadian Forestry Corps was broken down into 101 companies operating in Great Britain and France. The foresters numbered some 22,000. Attached personnel (Canadian Army Service Corps, Canadian Army Medical Corps, Chinese labourers, employed prisoners of war) brought the total corps strength to approximately 31,000.

Only four Forestry battalions would have nominal (embarkation/sailing) rolls. The 224th sailed in April 1916; the 238th in September 1916; the 242nd in November 1916; and the 230th in January 1917. These were all broken up and the men dispersed into the numbered companies of the Canadian Forestry Corps.

The men lived in comfortable camps - at least by military standards. Cookhouses, barracks, and mess halls were light, spacious, well-heated, and dry - the last-named quality gained by liberal use of sawdust. Playing fields were laid out and regular "sports days" held to maintain morale. The heart of each camp was the mill, complete with a steam engine of some 180 horsepower, fired by wood chips and powering several types of saws. Nearby were the stables housing the many horses that patiently plodded through the woods, hauling immense logs to the mill.

Forestry work was hazardous at any time, even if it did not expose the men to enemy fire. The dangers of logging and the strenuous work were occasionally supplemented by unusual discomforts. One company reported that its operations were halted when a felled tree was discovered to be housing four nests of bees!

LEST WE FORGET

Many Canadians who would otherwise have been ineligible for military duty, owing to age or physical problems, served in the forestry units. Although well away from the front, they sometimes experienced German air raids. During the enemy's spring offensive of 1918, several companies were issued firearms in case of a breakthrough. In mid-May companies were ordered to devote two half-days a week and three hours each Sunday to drill and weapons training. Later, some 500 corps personnel were transferred out as infantry replacements.

The Canadian Forestry Corps had particularly close associations with the Ottawa Valley. Many of the men came from that region; three of the corps' five senior officers (Major-General Alexander McDougall, Brigadier-General John White, Colonel Gerald White) had been valley timber merchants and contractors before the war. Corps operations were compared favourably to the best mills in the Ottawa area.

Unspectacular though they were, the achievements of the Canadian Forestry Corps were important. Through them, the British armies in France became self-sufficient in timber; more than 100 airfield sites were cleared; in some instances corps troops built the air bases. Some mills reported striking results; one at La Joux near the Franco-Swiss border turned out 160,494 feet board measure of lumber in 19 hours. Throughout the war the Canadian Forestry Corps produced nearly 814,000,000 feet board measure of sawn wood plus 1,114,000 tons of other wood products. (A board foot measure consists of a piece of wood 12 inches by 12 inches by one inch. A Canadian Wood Council estimate is that some 14,000 board feet of wood goes into the construction of an average three-bedroom house. The La Joux mill thus cut enough wood in a day to build eleven houses; total wartime output would have built more than 58,140 such homes.) Above all else, the corps' operations freed trans-Atlantic shipping space for other purposes - food, shells, reinforcements.



WORLD WAR II

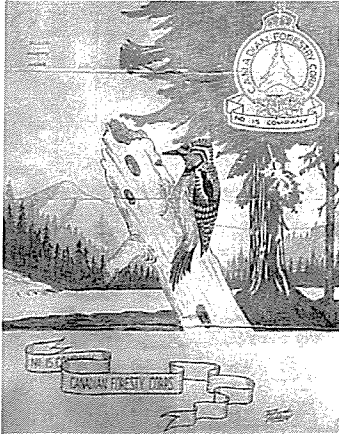
Author: Gordon Rainey

During World War Two, the fabric of No. 2 Company of the Canadian Forestry Corps drew heavily on the English-speaking sons of Argenteuil, leveraging their skills with the axe and the crosscut saw, honed on the family bush farms of their native county. No. 16 Company was formed around their French-speaking "bucheron" counterparts.

The war created a crisis in wood supply for the United Kingdom. Pre-war domestic production covered only a small fraction of the timber needed to support the war effort. In addition to civilian requirements, it was estimated that every soldier needed five trees: one for living quarters, messing, and recreation; one for crates to ship food, ammunition, tanks, and so on; and three for explosives, gun stocks, coffins, ships, factories, and direct or indirect support for the fighting line.

Canadians stepped up to fill this need. During 1941 and 1942, thirty companies drawn from all regions of Canada, totalling 220 officers and 6,771 regulars, were deployed to Scotland.

WORLD WAR II



This is the logo that Roger Hennessy drew for the 15th Company, CFC, at his father's request in 1941.

Each company worked in two sections, one cutting in the bush and bringing out the timber and the other sawing it into lumber at the company mill. Three-man felling crews chopped, sawed and trimmed. Hand saws and axes were the tools used. Three-man teams yarded the logs to the roadside landings, either by dragging them or using sulkies. From there the logs were hauled by lorry to the company saw mill and cut into whatever sizes and shapes were required.

Each CFC Company of about 230 men was set up as a self-contained community, including men capable of turning their hand to any task, from blacksmithing and mechanical repair to snow clearance on the highland roads. Unlike during the First World War, the Canadian Forestry Corps of the Second World War had to be

combat-ready, so time was devoted to military training, as well.

The CFC was apparently well liked in the Scottish Highlands. The men became active participants in local functions, from fundraising to staging Christmas parties for the local children. Many times, scrap wood mysteriously fell from lorries beside homes in need of fuel. A notable tribute to the CFC was paid by Laura Lady Lovat when she stated, "you Canadians may be cutting the Scots firs of the Highlands, but in Highland hearts you are planting something far more lasting".

After D-Day (June 6, 1944), the CFC delivered timber to the allied invasion forces in Europe. Due to the shortage of hold space in ships, logs were transported to the English ports of Southampton and Barry and formed into huge rafts. The Royal Engineers, originally tasked with building the rafts, relinquished the job to the more able Canadian foresters. During July and August 1944, 77 square-timber and 54 round-timber rafts were built. The huge rafts were moved with tugboats across the English Channel to the Continent in the late summer of 1944.

Following the successful allied campaign in Normandy, ten mobile CFC companies were deployed to the Continent. Ten static companies remained in Scotland to supply reinforcements when needed and to continue cutting timber. While the Canadian First Army was spearheading the liberation of Holland, the mobile CFC companies followed the allied armies from France into Belgium.

On December 16, 1944 Field Marshal von Rundstedt launched a counter-offensive with a force of twenty-four divisions and broke through the American VIII Corps along a forty mile front in the Ardennes sector of Belgium. The Battle of the Bulge, as it became known, was underway. The six CFC companies cutting timber in the Ardennes were caught in the thick of things and had to scramble. Some units had time to pull out while some were called into sporadic combat roles to help hold the front line in the fighting.

Three allied armies tangled with three German armies for over a month and a half during the Battle of the Bulge. Over a million men participated. 600,000 Americans and 55,000 British fought 500,000 Germans during one of the coldest, snowiest winters in the Ardennes. On the allied side, 20,000 troops were killed and 90,000 were wounded. On the German side: 16,000 killed and 85,000 wounded. Ultimately the Germans were routed.

After the Battle of the Bulge, the mobile CFC Companies were assigned to other timber areas in the vicinity of Brussels, Antwerp, Charleroi, Louvain and Lierre.

WORLD WAR II

In February 1945, CFC Companies 5 and 9 were sent to the Reichswald forest and, later, to the Hochwald forest, immediately following bloody battles in those areas. There they prepared lumber and timber for the Rhine crossings. CFC companies also did considerable work cutting wood for the repair of corduroy roads which had been badly cratered by enemy shelling. The companies which returned to the Ardennes forest began cutting 75-foot pilings for the bridges to be built over the Rhine. In order to cut these abnormally long lengths it was necessary to build special sawmills in the Ardennes.

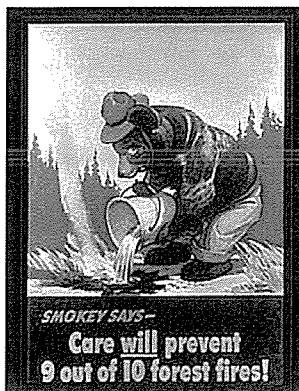
After VE Day (May 8, 1945), the CFC carried on operations in the forests at thirty-three sites, over a distance of almost 500 miles, from Bruges, Belgium to Bad Segeberge, Germany. New timber operations were started in the forests near Osnabruck, Minden, Bassum, Hanover and Hamburg while some companies remained in the Reichswald and Rhine areas. Two lumber yards were set up along the Rhine, at Pfazdorf on the west bank and Drevenack on the east bank, to store and season lumber prior to shipping. During June 1945, it was necessary to concentrate once again on piling materials, this time for the structures being erected over the Dortmund-Ems Canal and the Weser River.

The CFC was completely disbanded by November 1945, and the **"Sawdust Fusiliers"** returned to Canada. However, the mixed forests of maple, beech, spruce and white pine of their native lower Laurentians could no longer hold some of these men. Their horizons had been so expanded by their wartime experiences that the only remaining forestry challenges for them were in the giant Douglas fir stands of British Columbia.

How a little bear influenced North American woodlands during World War II



Smokey Bear came to us by necessity. At the beginning of World War II, Americans feared that an enemy attack or sabotage could destroy our forest resources at a time when wood products were greatly needed. In the spring of 1942 a Japanese submarine fired shells onto an oil field in Southern California near Los Padres National Forest. Government officials were relieved that the shelling did not start a forest fire but were determined to provide protection.



The USDA Forest Service organized the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention (CFFP) Program in 1942. It encouraged citizens nationwide to make a personal effort to prevent forest fires. It was a mobilized civilian effort in support of the war effort to protect valuable trees. Timber was a primary commodity for battleships, gunstocks, and packing crates for military transport.

Character Development ~ Walt Disney's "Bambi" character was very popular and was used on an initial anti-fire poster. The success of this poster demonstrated that an animal of the forest was the best messenger to promote the prevention of accidental forest fires. On August 2, 1944, the Forest Service and the War Advertising Council introduced a bear as their campaign symbol.



Character Development (continued)

Albert Staehle, noted illustrator of animals, worked with this description to paint the forest fire prevention bear. His art appeared in the 1945 campaign, and the advertising symbol was given the name "Smokey Bear." The bear was named "Smokey" after "Smokey" Joe Martin, who was Assistant Chief of the New York City Fire Department from 1919 to 1930.

Rudy Wendelin, an artist for the Forest Service, began producing a tremendous quantity of Smokey Bear art in various media for special events, publications, and licensed products to promote the fire prevention symbol. Long after retiring, he created the art for the Smokey Bear's 40th anniversary commemorative U.S. Postage stamp. Many within the Forest Service still acknowledges Wendelin as being the true "Smokey Bear artist."

The Ad Campaign ~ After World War II, the War Advertising Council changed its name to The Advertising Council. In the years that followed, the focus of Smokey's campaign broadened to appeal to children as well as adults. But it was not until the 1965 campaign and the work of Smokey artist Chuck Kuderna, that Smokey's image evolved into the one we know today.

The Smokey Bear concept has matured into a cottage industry of collectables & educational material on fire prevention. One of the most popular Smokey products is a set of posters known as his educational poster collection.

The Real Bear ~ Smokey's living history began early in 1950, when a burned cub survived a fire in the Lincoln National Forest near Capitan, New Mexico. Because this bear survived a terrible forest fire and won the love and imagination of the American public, many people mistakenly believe the cub was the original Smokey Bear, but in reality he did not come along until the advertising symbol was almost six years old. After being nursed back to health, Smokey came to live at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., as a living counterpart to the CFFP Program's fire prevention symbol.

Over the years, thousands of people from around the world came to see Smokey Bear at the National Zoo. A mate, Goldie, was introduced with the hope a young Smokey would continue the tradition of the famous living symbol. These efforts failed and an adopted son was sent to the zoo so the aged bear could retire on May 2, 1975. After many years of popularity, the original Smokey died in 1976. His remains were returned to Capitan and rest beneath a stone marker in Smokey Bear Historical State Park. For more than 15 years, the adopted Smokey carried on as the living symbol, but in 1990, when the second Smokey Bear died, the living symbol was laid to rest.

Smokey's Detractors ~ Smokey's task is becoming increasingly difficult. In years past, it was a challenge for his message to reach traditional visitors to the forest. Now we are faced with getting his wildfire prevention message to an increasing number of people who live in and around these areas.

But Smokey may have done too good a job. There are some who suggest that we have eliminated fire to the point that it is hurting not only forest management but is building fuels for future fire disaster. They don't want Smokey's message out anymore.

Charles Little, in an editorial called "Smokey's Revenge", states that "in many circles the bear is a pariah. Even at the National Zoo in Washington DC, which tends to be inclusive, the popular Smokey Bear exhibit was quietly dismantled in 1991 - after having featured since 1950 a bear going by this name (involving two separate animals). The point is, Smokey's ecological correctness quotient is low, as an increasing number of forest ecologists have been pointing out in recent years. We anthropomorphize at our peril."

Will the real Smokey the Bear stand up?

CREDIT: Jim Carrier writes a regular column for The Denver Post, it has since been republished in the High Country News in October 3rd, 1994.

CAPITAN, N.M. - Dear Boys and Girls: I'm writing this letter in a beautiful forest where Smokey Bear was born. I came because I'd read that he turned 50 years old in August, and I wanted to see his old stomping grounds.

You won't believe what I found.

First of all, everything is named after Smokey. I stopped at the Smokey Bear Restaurant on Smokey Bear Boulevard and ate a Smokey Bear omelette that tasted just like the ones back home they call "Denver." There must have been 10 things on the menu named "Smokey." Then I drove a block to the Smokey Bear Historical State Park next to the Smokey Bear Museum and asked directions to the Smokey Bear Ranger District where I assumed I'd find a marker.

The road was very rough, more like a riverbed without the water, and I bumped along 10 miles through the Capitan Gap to a north-facing mountain where I stopped and went for a walk. There were many pine trees, most of them over my head. A few stuck up in the wind and made soft whooshing noises. There were clumps of grass everywhere and oak brush so thick it was hard to walk.

I saw two deer bounding through the woods. I could hear different animals chattering. While sitting on a big rock in the sun, I looked up and saw three birds soaring. I'll bet they were hunting. Once I heard a loud noise and got scared because the forest ranger had told me that mountain lions were around. There are bears, too, maybe cousins of Smokey.

I was surprised to see the forest so green and healthy. For as long as I can remember, the only pictures ever shown of this famous forest were of a black wasteland with a little bear cub clinging to a charred stump - the tree where I thought Smokey was born.

But as I began reading Smokey's new biography by William Lawter Jr., I found out that Smokey wasn't really born here. He was conceived in a bureaucrat's office in Washington, D.C., and brought to life on an artist's easel.

You see, boys and girls, Aug. 9, 1944, the date we celebrate as Smokey's birthday, was the day some man in the government sent out an order for a drawing of a bear to help stop forest fires. He asked artists to draw a bear with a short nose and an "appealing, knowledgeable, quizzical" expression. He warned that it could not look like the "bear that symbolizes Russia."

The United States needed trees to build ships and airplanes for World War II. But forests were being burned by wildfires, nine out of 10 started by careless people. An advertising campaign was begun.

The government man first tried scary-looking pictures of Japanese with big teeth, and Ranger Jim, a stern-looking man who picked on Westerners just like forest rangers do today. Then he borrowed Walt Disney's Bambi, which kids loved, so deer, squirrels and beavers were auditioned before settling on Smokey drawn by artist Albert Staehle.

This was way before TV, so Smokey's voice on the radio was made by putting an announcer's head in a bucket to growl the famous Smokey line, "Only YOU can prevent forest fires."

As time went on, government men were constantly "improving" Smokey's picture. They pulled out his sharp claws. They filed off his teeth. They trimmed his hair and took the hump out of his neck. They gave him fingers because they wanted him to do things no bear could do, like hold a shovel and dump water on fires. The biggest change was when they put blue jeans on him because the government man thought he looked "naked."



In short they wanted to make him more human, a task complicated when a real bear cub, only two months old, was found during a forest fire in May 1950 in these New Mexico woods. Barely five furry pounds, the cub was whimpering for his mother. Firefighters carried him to camp where his crying kept them up all night.

Some men who had nearly died in a wildfire blowup wanted to leave him in the woods, but a game warden flew the cub to Santa Fe, where a vet nursed him, and a photographer, dabbing honey on the chin of the warden's daughter, got a picture that captured America's heart - the cub licking her face. Soon the new Smokey was living in Washington's National Zoo.

But while Smokey Bear in dungarees went on to become the second-most beloved image after Santa, Smokey the cub bit and scratched and grew into a listless, caged animal who wouldn't breed with Goldie Bear, flown in from New Mexico to be his "wife."

Smokey Bear with fingers got his own zip code, "Smokey Bear 20252," and was licensed for 160 products ranging from charcoal briquettes to bubble bath and earned the Forest Service \$250,000 a year in royalties.

Smokey Bear with claws grew old, got arthritis & finally upstaged by Ling-Ling, a panda with more photogenic eyes.

In the 1970s, Smokey was replaced by a new, frisky cub and moved into a cage that just said, "American Black Bear."

On Nov. 9, 1976, the real bear died and was put in a box with ice, shipped here to Capitan and buried quickly at night because of the smell. A nice rock and plaque were placed over him. About 26,000 people visit his grave every year.

Then they go to the museum and buy dolls and belt buckles of the imaginary bear.

Hardly anybody makes the rough trip I did to see how Smokey's forest, once black and ugly, is young and vibrant, with lots of wildlife.

No one reminds boys and girls that life comes and goes, that everything changes from year to year, just like their school pictures, and that forests "destroyed" on TV this summer will be wonderfully alive when they grow up.

Smokey in the ads still stands in the black and warns about playing with matches, a message that must be working. One thousand children a month write to him asking to become junior forest rangers. And, this year in the Rocky Mountains, 1,019 fires were started by humans, compared with 1,357 started by lightning.

In Lawter's book, Smokey Bear 20252, one of Smokey's creators said: "The biggest mistake the Forest Service ever made was the little bear. They should have realized two things. First, anything living is going to die. How would you like to be a retailer with 10,000 dolls when the bear died?

"Second, kids would go to the zoo and say, "That isn't Smokey. Where are his pants?" It was a terrible, terrible mistake. Smokey is an image. The live bear was a dumb thing all the way around."

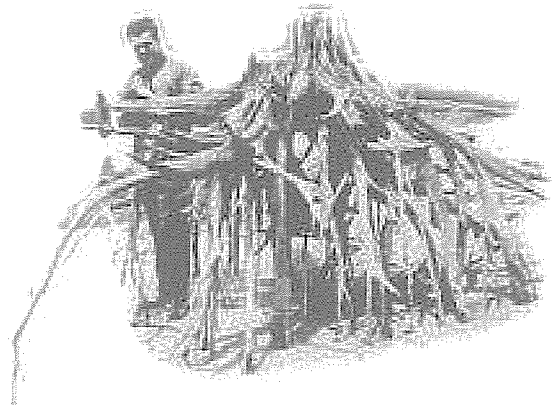
Don't Move Firewood

Buy Local!



COMMEMORATING TWO FOREST PIONEERS IN ONTARIO

Norfolk County is living testimony to two of the first Canadian foresters that practiced all the aspects of their profession, beginning more than a hundred years ago. Dr. Edmund J. Zavitz initiated the St. Williams Forestry Station in 1908 and Dr. James H. White, the first forestry graduate of a Canadian University initiated extensive tree planting trials near Turkey Point at about the same time. The work of these men guided reforestation in Southern Ontario for generations and the results are evident in every County of the Province. Provincially, as Chief Provincial Forester, Dr. Zavitz initiated greatly improved forest fire control and Dr. White led many original provincial forest resources surveys.



Few of today's practicing foresters would have met these men.

The Canadian Institute of Forestry honoured Dr. White for his work in 1946 through a commemorative plaque and cairn in the Turkey Point Forest, which was named the J.H. White Forest. Dr. Zavitz has often been called "The Father of Reforestation in Ontario" but a forest was never named after him.

At the 100th anniversary celebration of the St. Williams Nursery, keynote speaker Ken Armson noted the fact that the plaque for Dr. White had become oblivious through the development of a provincial park at the original location and also that there was no memorial for Dr. Zavitz. Members of the local Port Rowan/South Walsingham Heritage Association accepted Ken's challenge and a small committee was formed to pursue the project.

A new much more visible site in Turkey Point has now been selected for Dr. White, where his original plaque will be re-installed. Also, a site has been selected on the "Picnic Grounds" of the former St. Williams Forestry Station where a new publicly accessible memorial will be installed for Dr. Zavitz, naming the current "Nursery Tract" of the St. Williams Conservation Reserve "The Dr. Edmund J. Zavitz Forest". It will be close to the grave of Colonel Arthur Pratt, M.P.P., one of the other instigators of the Station.

The cost of the project is estimated to be in the range of \$10,000.-. To date, \$3,000.- has been collected.

Nationally, members of the Canadian forestry community and forest related businesses as well as interested citizens are invited to participate by making donations to the "Memorial Fund" c/o Port Rowan South Walsingham Heritage Association, PO Box 193, Port Rowan, ON, N0E 1M0. Charitable receipt will be issued.

If all goes as planned, the official unveiling of the memorials will be on Sunday August 14, 2011, during the "Forest Fest" to be held at the former Forestry Station, now named "The St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre". Dolf Wynia, chair of the fundraising committee at 519 875 3350 or wynia@kwic.com will be pleased to provide more details anytime if desired. Time is of the essence as, unfortunately, almost every week, there are fewer foresters that will remember these pioneers. A list of contributors will be displayed in the Forest Interpretive Centre at the Nursery, which some will remember as the "Museum" and which is now operated by the Heritage Association.



VISIT

www.forestryfarm.ca