

THE VOICE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER BULLETIN

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019

VOLUME 74

Remembering Wayne Brandt





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F or those of you that like to watch it rain, I would guess you have been one very happy person lately! Looks like we are on track to have one of the wettest falls in recent years. In Blackduck (my hometown), it looked like we were only going to get about 3 days of fall. Two inches of snow on October 8th is a bit early. Of course, it was gone right away, but it surely gives a subtle reminder of what Mother Nature has in store.

A huge thank you to the group that works on the North Star Expo. With a rainy Friday I was surprised by the numbers that showed up! Saturday's attendance was very good, in part, I am sure, to the weather as well. The event Friday night at Timberlake Lodge was very nice. Attendance was up from last year, and the food was delicious. A huge thank you to all the businesses that sponsored the Friday night hospitality event. Without these sponsors and all the folks that donate the door prizes, it would not be nearly as successful. Congratulations to Shawn Fletcher for winning the gun that was donated by Lunemann Equipment. Also, congratulations to Mark Michalek for winning the TV that was donated by TPA.

President's Column



Without a doubt, one face that was missed by all at the Expo, was Wayne Brandt. Wayne was a fierce supporter of the timber industry and without a doubt one of the best lobbyists that we will ever see at the capitol. His nearly thirty years leading TPA and MFI were filled with many, many obstacles that would have made many take the easy road and quit. I don't think anybody can debate that he had earned the respect from all the agencies that are affiliated with the timber industry. Whether or not they agreed with his stand on an issue, Wayne always held himself to the highest of standards, and for that, we are grateful. I will always remember when Wayne would have a setback on any particular issue letting the person know "We will be back!", with his signature grin. A set of shoes that will be very hard to replace. Our sincere condolences go out to Katie and the entire family.

A Thank You is also in order to Ray and Ann at the TPA office as well through this difficult time. They have both worked hard to keep the "train on the track" so to speak. Your professionalism is greatly appreciated.

That being said, I am sure that most of you are aware that the search is on for a replacement to fill Wayne's position. Dean Haley, Tom McCabe, and Josh Hull have volunteered to be on the search committee with me representing TPA. Thanks for your willingness to serve! We will join four from MFI as well to conduct interviews and such. It currently is being advertised and it is the hope of both TPA/MFI that it will be filled by late November. Any questions about the search can be directed to me at 218-835-4525.

November, undoubtedly, is the month for loggers to get equipment ready for the winter production season. As always, safety is important when cleaning up your iron and doing your preventative maintenance. Take some time to get out and enjoy all that fall has to offer as well, the trees will be there.....

Executive Committee

Kurt Benson: 218-835-4525

Rod Enberg: 218-352-6175

Corey Lovdahl: 218-244-4580

Dave Berthiaume: 218-380-9783

Kelly Kimball: 218-849-5222

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**GOT
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Big Shoes to Fill

by Ray Higgins

Wayne Brandt loved writing his Timber Bulletin column. Since I joined the association in 2005, he often said, “it’s the most read part of the Bulletin.” And I’m sure he was right. His column was filled with anecdotes from his dealings with legislators and governors; senators, representatives, and other decisionmakers in state and federal government. Wayne also shared pearls of wisdom he’d picked up along the way, often from TPA members.

Wayne loved our members. In conversations with lawmakers I often heard him talk about the concerns of “my guys.” And believe me, you were “his guys.”

One of the challenges of his job was that with spending so much time in St. Paul, he didn’t get to spend as much time in the woods as he wanted. But he definitely stayed in touch. On my third day in the job, Wayne and I left Duluth bright and early and headed for the DNR auction in Blackduck, where Wayne introduced me to a couple dozen people, all loggers.

We sat with Dale Erickson and watched the bidding, with Wayne explaining to me what was happening: who was bidding and why, depending on species mix, or where the tract was in relation to each business. When I saw Dale a couple of weeks later, he told me he was amazed at Wayne’s knowledge, that even he’d learned a couple of things from Wayne that morning.

That was one of the amazing things with Wayne: his knowledge of our industry was phenomenal; not only the politics and legalities of it—which you’d expect—but he also understood the logging and forestry parts of it, too. There were many times when I’d return to the office from my travels and tell him about a business decision a particular member had discussed with me. Wayne would often explain why that decision made sense for that particular member, based on his



Wayne Brandt talks to legislators on a tour of Brad Rootkie’s logging site in 2015.

equipment mix, markets, etc. He seemed to always know what our TPA members were up to, and how various developments in the industry would affect each one individually. He truly had the pulse of the logging community.

The trouble was, the members didn’t often get to see him in action. But many a member of TPA’s exec committee or board of directors told me that when they were around Wayne, they were impressed with his vast knowledge of every nuance of what it took to be a logger.

Wayne’s memory was incredible. Did you ever notice that Wayne rarely carried a briefcase? When he did bring one, it was a small canvas green thing that contained no more than a single, thin manila folder with the meeting agenda and not much else. That’s all he needed. Everything else—his talking points, details of both sides of the issue, and most importantly, a clear understanding of the position of his members—was in his head.

He was also an expert on the

politics of an issue: who to talk to, what to say, and how to say it. And maybe most importantly, his timing was impeccable, knowing how much time he had to make it all happen.

I had numerous opportunities to be with him when he met with various state leaders. His ease dealing with governors and senators was amazing. He was at his best during the informal moments, connecting with lawmakers on a personal level. I saw him in these quiet moments with the likes of Gov. Pawlenty, Gov. Dayton, Sen. Smith, Sen. Klobuchar, Congressman Oberstar, Congressman Nolan, and Congressman Stauber, among others.

Because of his reputation and credibility, policy makers sought his input on every piece of legislation impacting TPA members on the state and federal levels. Not most of them. All of them. And on many issues, Wayne crafted the language himself. Case in point, the 5% truck weight tolerance language earlier

this year. Wayne wrote the original legislation with Rep. Rob Ecklund's help.

There were plenty of other successes, too: The silvicultural exemption in the Wetlands Conservation Act, the 6th axle raw forest products permit law, and the 2011 lawsuit against the DNR during the state government shutdown that allowed loggers to keep operating, to name just a few.

One thing Wayne was lousy at was self-promotion. Other than the head shot that ran with his column, you rarely saw his picture in the Bulletin. That wasn't his style. He knew his job wasn't about him, it was about the members.

His knowledge of government started young: an econ major at UMD, Wayne worked on presidential campaigns in 1984 and 1988. Then he staffed Congressman Oberstar for years before going to work representing trade associations, first the Seafarers Union, then with TPA and MFI starting in 1989.

Wayne replaced Russ Allen, who'd held the job for 30+ years. Now, other than a 2-year stint to briefly assist another organization, Wayne served the forest products industry for 30 years himself. Between Russ and Wayne, that's basically two executive vice presidents in 60 years.

Earlier this year when Russ passed away, Wayne said of him, "Russ Allen was one of the finest people I've ever known. His lasting contributions provide benefits to our members and industry even today."

The same could be said of Wayne. At 61 years old, he had several good years left in him. I was looking forward to many more years of working for him.

Wayne was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in April 2018. Until his passing, the first question I was asked most often was, "How's Wayne?" It was a daunting diagnosis, but I usually included the fact that we all know Wayne's a fighter. And he proved it by

outliving the original prognosis. His work those final 17 months was up to his usual outstanding levels. Unfortunately, in the end, a miracle wasn't in the cards.

For Wayne, it was never about what was best for him. He worked every day for what was best for our members and the forest products community as a whole. He loved to tell the story about a contentious TPA meeting when a particularly controversial topic was being argued. One member spoke up and said, "I personally benefit if we decide one way. But the industry as a whole is better off if we do it the other way. So that's the way I'm going to vote." Wayne was always inspired by that member, and reminded others of that story often.

TPA has been around for 82 years and Wayne was around for 61. We're all fortunate that the two overlapped for half of Wayne's life, because both were better for it. Whoever follows him will have some big shoes to fill.



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Wayne E. Brandt 1957- 2019

Wayne E. Brandt, born in Minneapolis, Minn., on Oct. 1, 1957, died in Duluth on Sept. 12, 2019, just ahead of his 62nd birthday, after a brave battle against pancreatic cancer.

The son of Henry and Paula Brandt, Wayne was a star athlete for Willmar High School's baseball, track and football teams. He often joked that he still held the school's 100-yard dash record, because shortly after he set it, the state high school league began measuring distances in meters instead of yards. For several years after high school, Wayne played town team baseball for Willmar in the Pomme de Terre League. Wayne was also an Eagle Scout.

Wayne moved to Duluth to attend UMD, finishing in 3 years and graduating in 1979.

Wayne and his former wife, Jan Hille, raised two daughters, Alice and Eleanor. He was a devoted dad, coaching many a sports team and sharing his love of baseball, reading, and snacks. Wayne was very proud of his daughters' kindness and ambition, and was happy to see the fine women they have become.

Wayne's storied career was a mix of politics and advocacy, beginning as a campaign aide for Rep. Jim Oberstar. Wayne also worked on Walter Mondale's 1984 presidential campaign and the 1988 presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis.

Wayne's career also included positions with the Seafarers International Union and for the Iron

Mining Association of Minnesota. But what he was most known for was serving nearly 30 years as executive vice president of the Minnesota Timber Producers Association and Minnesota Forest Industries, advocating for the forest products industry in St. Paul and Washington, D.C.

Wayne served on many forest-related boards and committees, including the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, to which he was appointed by Gov. Arne Carlson.

Wayne's work ethic and memory were legendary, traits he said he learned from his father, even though he died when Wayne was 16. Wayne loved U.S. history, especially related to government. He had a John F. Kennedy campaign poster in his office, and visited capitol buildings in more than 40 states, working in a visit anytime he was close. One building was closed for the weekend when he arrived, so Wayne touched its exterior and counted it as a visit.

In recent years, Wayne and his wife, Catherine, divided time between their homes in Duluth and Sun Lakes, Ariz., frequently traveling back to Minnesota for work and to visit family and friends. Wayne served as president of his Duluth homeowners' association, Maple Crest. He maintained strong friendships, including with the Willmar Boys and the Safety Committee.

Wayne was a fan of nearly all sports teams, especially the



Minnesota Twins and Minnesota Gopher football, basketball and baseball teams. Not Gopher hockey, though; he was a UMD men's season ticket holder for several years. Wayne was a member of First Lutheran Church and Ridgeview Country Club, and was a former member of the Spirit Mountain board of directors.

Wayne is survived by his mother, Paula; his devoted wife, Catherine; daughters Alice Brandt and Eleanor Brandt (Tres Commer); stepchildren John (Amelia) Babick and Mary Babick (Mike Mostrom); grandchild Misha Mostrom; and brothers George (Roslyn) Brandt and Paul (Terri) Brandt.

He was preceded in death by his father, Henry.



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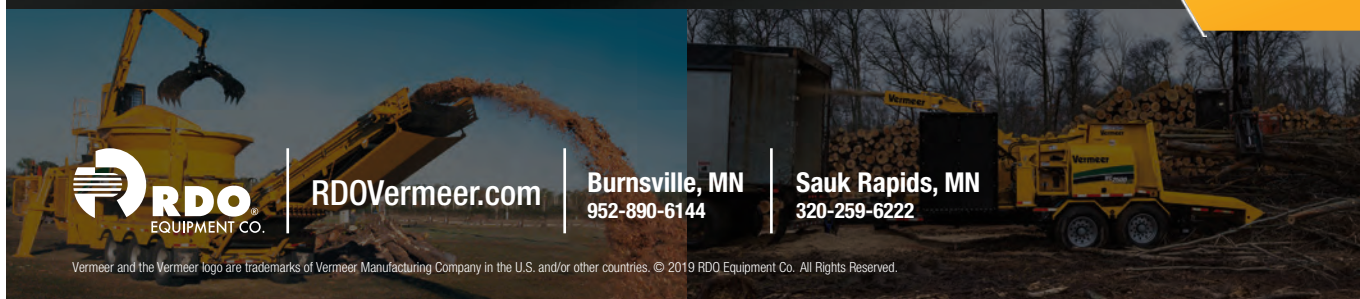
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Remembering Wayne Brandt

On the ensuing pages, we've assembled photos of Wayne over the years, as well as quotes from those who knew and worked with him.



L-R: Chad Lovdahl, Brandt, then-Lt. Governor Tina Smith, and Corey Lovdahl at the 2015 North Star Expo.

U.S. Senator Tina Smith:

Wayne Brandt was a fierce—and legendary—advocate for Minnesota's forest products industry. I knew Wayne for years, but I'll never forget, when I was running for Lt. Governor, how he picked me up outside the Blandin/UPM mill in Grand Rapids and took me for a three-day tour of Minnesota's diverse forest lands, sawmills, timber harvesting and paper mills. I learned so much from Wayne, and counted on his wisdom and insight, most recently as a member of my Senate Agriculture Working Group. From his service to Congressman Oberstar to his work in the last months of his life to move Minnesota forest products forward, he was a much loved presence, and I'll miss him very much.

Former Governor Tim Pawlenty:

Wayne was an effective advocate for an industry that is a big part of Minnesota's economy. By being a source of reliable information and insights, Wayne helped my administration make better decisions. He was straightforward and constructive - even when occasional differences arose. He will be really missed at the Capitol.



Brandt with Governor Tim Pawlenty, who had signed a proclamation regarding Forest Products Day in Minnesota in 2009.

Congressman Pete Stauber:

I had the pleasure of getting to know Wayne through his work on behalf of Minnesota's timber industry. I heavily relied on his encyclopedic knowledge of forestry to ensure I had the best information available. He served as a mentor to many and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Remembering Wayne Brandt

**Scott Pittack, Former
TPA President and logger
representative on Minnesota
Forest Resources Council:**

I was always impressed with Wayne's dedication to his job and the timber industry. He was always able to fight for the mills and the loggers in a way that benefited both. His passion and dedication for the industry was obvious while battling for life, because he continued to fight for his friends in the industry.



L-R: Minnesota House Speaker Paul Thissen, logger Scott Pittack, and Brandt at Pittack's logging job in 2013.



Brandt with Congressman Jim Oberstar.

**Connie Cummins, Superior
National Forest Supervisor:**

Wayne was a leader in promoting creative partnerships in an effort to increase restoration on the Superior National Forest through the use of timber harvest and sound stewardship practices. He kept a laser focus on the accountability of land managers to provide sustainable outputs of timber harvest with the intent of building resiliency in both our forests and our timber industry. His strong advocacy for logging and the families and communities it supported will be greatly missed.

Professor Emeritus Alan Ek, University of Minnesota Department of Forest Resources:

Wayne was the leader and a major force in addressing forestry and forest products issues in Minnesota for decades. He understood the needs of the TPA and its individual loggers and the often complex issues around conservation, timber harvesting practices, transportation and public and private forestry. Additionally, he was highly effective as an advocate in the public policy arena. As part of that advocacy, he was also leader in communications to government and the general public...efforts that made things happen! In the process, his example and thoughtful guidance taught many of us how to be more effective. In brief...I learned a lot from Wayne...and he was enormously helpful to the University's forestry program. He will be sorely missed.

Remembering Wayne Brandt



Brandt with Gov. Mark Dayton at the 2014 North Star Expo in Bemidji

State Rep. Rob Ecklund, International Falls:

I have known Wayne for about 25 years. We had a lot of similar interests, such as fishing and golfing, but what we both never lost sight of, was the benefits to society the forest products industry provided. Wayne was always focused and determined when we worked on a piece of legislation or policy that was going to be beneficial to forest products industry. His tenacity was what kept us moving forward.

Former Congressman Rick Nolan:

Wayne Brandt was the greatest champion for Minnesota's forests and timber industry since Paul Bunyan, and I treasured his friendship and wise counsel for more than half a century. His legacy stands as tall as the pines, as strong as the oaks, and as colorful and delightful as the maples in Fall.



Brandt in Washington, DC with Congressman Rick Nolan discussing legislation allowing 6-axle trucks on I-35 from Carlton to Duluth's London Road on the day the bill containing the language passed the House of Representatives in 2015.

Jim Sanders, former Superior National Forest Supervisor:

Wayne and I first got to know one another through the twists and turns of the Little Alfie Timber Sale. What I quickly came to appreciate during this debate and all the others we were challenged with over the years was Wayne's in depth knowledge of Minnesota's logging industry; from the needs of the individual loggers to the greater logging community. This knowledge was coupled with an adept political skill matched by few others. Yet behind the ardent professional we all saw was a man who cared deeply for his family. What I will always remember most about Wayne was how our conversations on the issue of the day always began and ended with a check-in of our families and what our kids were up to at the time.

Remembering Wayne Brandt

Dale Erickson, Past TPA President

Wayne was fiercely loyal to the timber industry in Minn. From the woods to the mills, he was unmatched in statute, policy, training, and safety provisions in our state, having been deeply involved in development and implementation. At the same time he was fair and open to all users of the forest. He will be greatly missed by those who worked with him.



L-R: Koochiching County Commissioner Wayne Skoe, Jay Eystad, Dale Erickson, Bill Dupont, and Brandt at the 2015 Expo reception.



Brandt stands behind Gov. Rudy Perpich as he signs the targeted industry worker's compensation fund legislation into law at the 1990 TPA Annual Meeting.

Archie Chelseth, Sappi Government Affairs Consultant:

Wayne and I were colleagues and personal friends for nearly thirty years. He was a tenacious and highly effective lobbyist for the logging community and the forest products industry over the years. Wayne loved baseball and, in baseball parlance, he hit scores of home runs and rarely struck out at the Legislature.

U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar:

Minnesota logging and timber lost a major leader and friend in Wayne Brandt. He was truly the voice and face of timber in our state. In addition to his strong work ethic and storied career in politics and advocacy, Wayne was a star athlete, history buff, and most importantly a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Wayne gave me lots of good advice over the years, as he did with Congressman Oberstar and Walter Mondale – and it was always delivered with much respect and insight. He will be sorely missed by many across our state, and my thoughts are with his wife Catherine and the entire Brandt family.

Remembering Wayne Brandt



L-R: Kurt Benson, DNR Deputy Forestry Director Craig Schmid, Kit Hasbargen, Dave Berthiaume, and Brandt discuss DNR policy at a TPA Board of Directors meeting.

Forrest Boe, DNR Forestry Director:

Wayne was a tireless advocate for Minnesota's forest industry. He was always well prepared, focused, and fully engaged in the conversation. His knowledge of the issues surrounding the industry, forestry, transportation, energy and the history of how all of those evolved and how they impact Minnesota's forests and the industry today was remarkable. I will especially miss his strategic thinking, professional approach and effective advocacy for all things Forestry in Minnesota.

Pete Aube, Chair of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, former Potlatch mill manager

Few understand Minnesota Forestry as well as Wayne Brandt.

Wayne deeply respected and effectively represented forests' important role and value, and the people that worked in and around them. It was evident his favorite among these were loggers. Wayne often told me that there is not a bad day spent in the woods, and I noticed his biggest smiles emerged when he was with loggers or spoke of their contribution. Minnesota Forestry was made better because of Wayne and we will never forget his contribution and support.



Wayne with TPA's Ray Higgins at the 2009 TPA golf outing.

Remembering Wayne Brandt

State Senator Tom Bakk:

Wayne was one of the first lobbyists I met when I came to the legislature back in the 1990's. Over my tenure he was among the most effective and respected lobbyists in the capitol building. He was a thoughtful advocate for his industry and was able to work effectively with Republicans and Democrats.



Brandt listens as Sen. Majority Leader Tom Bakk speaks at a legislative breakfast in 2011.



Brandt gives his legislative report at a 2016 TPA Board of Directors meeting.

Prof. Mike Kilgore, Head of the University of Minnesota Department of Forest Resources:

Wayne was a strong advocate for Minnesota's loggers..He understood their issues and concerns, and was able to effectively explain their positions to legislators and forest land managers. Wayne commanded a lot of respect both in the halls of the Capitol and in the forestry offices across Minnesota. I can't think of an individual who did more for the state's logging industry over the last 30 years than Wayne.

Former Senator Norm Coleman:

I had the great pleasure to know Wayne Brandt both personally and professionally. He cared deeply about his community, and was passionate about maximizing the economic opportunity created by Northern Minnesota's natural resources. He was a conservationist and an environmentalist, championing appropriately managed forest resources so that they would produce the greatest sustainable benefits. He was also a really good guy. As passionate as he was about politics—knowing how important it was to shape policy in a way that supported the men and women whose livelihood was dependent on Minnesota's forests and woodlands—he never let partisanship interfere with friendship. He had friends and admirers on both sides of the political aisle. At a time of great polarization in politics, Wayne found a way to common ground. It breaks my heart that Wayne lost his battle with cancer. I'm still fighting that battle myself. But he made an impact: on his State, his community and on the folks, like me, who were blessed to have the opportunity to know him. Rest in peace, Wayne.

Remembering Wayne Brandt

Minnesota Legislative Accomplishments During Brandt's Tenure at TPA

1990—Wetlands Conservation Act Silvicultural Exemption allowed forest roads for forestry purposes in wetlands.

1990—Loggers Targeted Industry Worker's Compensation Fund passed, creating logger's rebate program and increased safety training.

1990-1995—GEIS study and implementation; The GEIS identified and assessed the environmental, economic, and social impacts of potential increases in timber harvesting and forest management activities in Minnesota. Demonstrated Minnesota's harvest levels could be higher while still protecting the forest.

1995—Sustainable Forest Resources Act established a number of innovative programs to promote the sustained use of the state's forest resources, including creation of Forest Resources Council.

2004—Forest Management Investment Account created, providing that receipts from DNR timber sales would help fund Division of Forestry.

2004—Creation of Raw Forest Products Permit, allowing hauling increased weight of raw timber on six axles.

2008—Biodiesel Exemption, exempting in-woods logging equipment from use of biodiesel.

2011—Lawsuit against DNR over State Government Shutdown allowed continued timber harvests on state lands during shutdown.

2014—Sales tax on Capital Equipment converted the refund program to an up-front exemption.

2019—Five percent Truck Weight Tolerance codified for haulers using Raw Forest Products Permit year-round.

Ongoing—DNR and U.S. Forest Service Funding, adjustments to timber sale procedures, funding for forest roads, property tax relief, sales tax relief on capital equipment including logging equipment, various transportation provisions.



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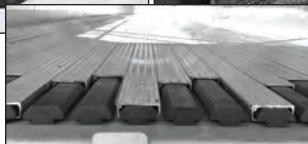
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66th North Star Expo is Big Success

Asomber mood prevailed during the 66th Annual North Star Expo with the passing of TPA Executive Vice President Wayne Brandt one day earlier. But Minnesota's largest logging equipment show turned into a tribute to Wayne's legacy, as loggers, lawmakers, agency policy makers, and other stakeholders descended on the Itasca County Fairgrounds for the 2019 version of Minnesota's Great *Logging* Get-together.

"Wayne meant so much to not only the Expo, but to everything we do every day in the woods," said Expo Committee Chair Chad Lovdahl. "I'm glad we could all be together as an industry to celebrate his accomplishments, and the Expo is a fitting place to do that."

While the weather didn't seem cooperative over the two day event with more raindrops than sunshine, Expo attendance was strong, likely a result of difficult harvesting conditions due to wet ground in the woods. That meant plenty of opportunities for loggers and vendors to talk business.

To cap off Day One of the Expo, activities moved to the evening reception at the TimberLake Lodge in Grand Rapids, featuring a cash bar and plenty of delicious "heavy" hors d'oeuvres for all of the nearly 300 who attended. Best of all, the food was free! Plus, the evening featured dozens of door prizes, including a 60-inch flat screen TV donated by TPA and a Browning 308 rifle, donated by Lunemann Equipment.

"Friday night was a lot of fun," said TPA President Kurt Benson. "The food was excellent and it was great to see so many folks from around the industry."

The Grand Rapids community rolled out the red carpet for the 66th Annual Expo, held again at the historic Itasca County Fairgrounds. In all, more than \$20 million in logging equipment was on display, including the latest and greatest in logging equipment—both

conventional and cut-to-length—as well as the trucks, trailers, firewood processors, tires, and other products that go into making a logging company function.

In addition, the Future Forest Stewards program was again held in conjunction with the Expo, with more than 200 high school students from around the region on hand to learn about job opportunities in the logging business. The students also visited an active harvest conducted by Pittack Logging just north

of Grand Rapids. Future Forest Stewards is sponsored by the Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce, the regional economic development organization APEX, Itasca Economic Development Corporation, the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, and the Applied Learning Institute, which strives to enhance technical education in northeastern Minnesota.

Here's a rundown of the events of the 66th Annual North Star Expo:



In the competition for **Best Outdoor Display** Laona Machine captured the Blue Ribbon. Metsa Machines was the runner-up, while the Pomp's Tire display was third.



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2019 Expo Coverage



2019 **Celebrity Loader Contest** Contestants (L-R): Rep. Rob Ecklund (DFL-International Falls), Bigfork teacher Stu Ostendorf, WDIO-TV reporter Emily Ness, Louisiana Pacific forester Brian Gulseth, and PotlatchDeltic forester Eric Olson. Ostendorf was attending the Expo as part of the Future Forest Stewards program and took top honors.



In this year's **Loader Contest**, Matt Lundberg (top) of Solway returned to the top of the leader board, earning the \$100 first prize. Matt had won every year from 2009 through 2017 before being unseated last year. His brother Kyle (middle) finished second, while James Hooker rounded out the top three. Matt's and Kyle's father Dan Lundberg (bottom) captured the **Masters Division**.

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2019 Expo Coverage



In the **Best Display—Large Equipment** competition, the team at Ziegler Cat won the Blue Ribbon. McCoy Equipment took second place, while Road Machinery finished third.



Claire Lucking of Pierz (above left) took home the blue ribbon in the 7-9 year old division of the 2019 Expo Coloring Contest. Addison Bradseth of Hines was second, while Henry Lecker of Shell Lake finished third in the 7-9 age class. In the 6 and under division, Claire's brother Carsean (above center) took home second place. Top honors went to Amellia Collins of Lake Nebagamon, Wisconsin. Hank Peterson of Meadowlands finished third. For the 10-12 age group, Lanney Danielson of Motley (above right) was the runner-up. Kylee Binkley of Puposky captured the blue ribbon, which Blair Mannausau of International Falls claimed third place. The top three in each category were awarded ribbons, while each winner was receiving an art kit.

2019 Expo Coverage



More than 200 high school students participated in the Future Forest Stewards at this year's Expo, which included a visit to a live harvest just north of Grand Rapids. In the top photo, logger Scott Pittack, who conducted the harvest, shows the students the head of his cut-to-length processor. Future Forest Stewards is designed to teach the importance of forest management in our state and the job opportunities in logging in our region.



In the **Best Indoor Booth** competition, Fleet Pride took top honors. LVI Supply and Digital Wood Carver rounded out the top three.

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2019 Expo Coverage



Ziegler Cat to the Rescue! Rain caused a variety of hassles at this year's Expo. When one of the best load entries got stuck in the soggy south end of the Fairgrounds, Ziegler Cat had a 535D skidder on display that they drove over to assist in pulling the truck back to the blacktop. To paraphrase the song, it's good to get a little help from your friends. Thanks Ziegler Cat!



Loren Haverinen and his son pose with the winning load of red pine in this year's **Best Load** competition, claiming the first prize of \$500. PotlatchDeltic sponsored the load. Rieger Logging's entry was second, with Fletcher Trucking and Pelland Logging tying for third.



Breakfast Goodies!

What's the favorite kind of pancakes and coffee for Expo attendees? The free kind served by the folks at McCoy Equipment and Forestry. This Expo tradition was again the perfect way to start Saturday morning at the Itasca County Fairgrounds.

In the **Guess the Weight Competition**, Shane Ziemba of Littlefork had the winning guess of 84,040, winning the \$50 prize, while Mike Leekel of Shell Lake won the **Wood ID** contest.

Next Year

TPA's Expo committee is already working on plans for next year. We look forward to seeing you September 18 and 19, 2020 at the Itasca County Fairgrounds for the 66th Annual North Star Expo!

2019 Expo Coverage



Loggers weren't the only ones checking out new machines at this year's Expo.



In anticipation of this year's chilly, damp weather, Compeer Financial was ready to help Expo attendees stay warm with a bonfire, as well as marshmallows, graham crackers, and chocolate bars for s'mores. Great idea, Compeer!





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2019 Expo Coverage

Expo Reception

After displays closed for the day on Friday, loggers and vendors re-convened at the TimberLake Lodge for a reception with a cash bar and free hors d'oeuvres. It was a chance to enjoy great people, great food and drink, and some pretty good door prizes, too!



Shawn Fletcher of Brainerd (right) won a Browning 308 rifle, donated by Erik Lunemann of Lunemann Equipment, in the door prize drawing.



The TimberLake Lodge's food was a big hit.



Ray Higgins (left) raises a glass to the memory of longtime TPA Executive Vice-President Wayne Brandt.

Thank You!

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On the Markets

The *Timber Bulletin* publishes information regarding results of a sampling of recent timber sales and other market indicators, as well as other market-related news items.

Recent Timber Sales Average prices, as reported by each agency

Agency Regular Intermediate

Aitkin County

August 21—Oral Auction

Aspen P/B	\$33.91	NA
-----------	---------	----

Mixed Hdwd		
------------	--	--

Pulp	\$14.26	NA
------	---------	----

Paper Birch		
-------------	--	--

P/B	\$14.26	NA
-----	---------	----

Red Pine P/B	\$31.58	NA
--------------	---------	----

All 20 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Cass County

August 29—Sealed Bid

Aspen	\$33.12	\$26.89
-------	---------	---------

Red Oak	\$24.84	\$30.07
---------	---------	---------

Jack Pine	NA	\$32.67
-----------	----	---------

Red Pine P/B	\$82.80	\$39.37
--------------	---------	---------

5 of the 7 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR—Park Rapids Area

September 10—Oral Auction

Trembling		
-----------	--	--

Aspen (PB)	\$36.52	\$24.58
------------	---------	---------

Aspen Species (PB)	\$41.52	\$20.45
--------------------	---------	---------

Norway Pine (WMP)	\$67.36	\$60.00
-------------------	---------	---------

Norway Pine (WST)	\$92.86	NA
-------------------	---------	----

All 20 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR—Little Falls Area

September 12—Oral Auction

Trembling		
-----------	--	--

Aspen (PW)	\$16.36	\$18.92
------------	---------	---------

Aspen Species (PW)	NA	\$18.76
--------------------	----	---------

Norway Pine (PB)	\$ 8.50	\$14.62
------------------	---------	---------

Oak Species (PB)	\$20.90	\$19.50
------------------	---------	---------

10 of the 26 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

DNR—Little Falls Area—Camp Ripley

September 5—Oral Auction

Aspen Species (PB)	\$16.50	NA
--------------------	---------	----

Norway Pine (PB)	\$13.20	NA
------------------	---------	----

3 of the 5 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Cass County

September 26—Sealed Bid

Aspen	\$39.90	\$37.65
-------	---------	---------

Red Oak	\$40.26	\$39.37
---------	---------	---------

Birch	\$18.14	\$30.35
-------	---------	---------

4 of the 6 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Crow Wing County

September 27—Oral Auction

Aspen	\$30.30	NA
-------	---------	----

Oak	\$17.22	NA
-----	---------	----

Mixed Hdwd	\$10.04	NA
------------	---------	----

Maple	\$12.00	NA
-------	---------	----

Birch	\$17.53	NA
-------	---------	----

16 of the 23 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Becker County

October 4—Oral Auction

Aspen	\$34.66	NA
-------	---------	----

Birch	\$17.46	NA
-------	---------	----

Jack Pine	\$17.63	NA
-----------	---------	----



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All 10 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

Hubbard County

October 7—Oral Auction

Aspen Pulp	\$32.41	NA
Aspen Mixed	\$34.50	NA
Birch Pulp	\$11.13	NA
N. Pine Pulp	\$14.41	NA

8 of the 9 tracts offered during the sale were purchased.

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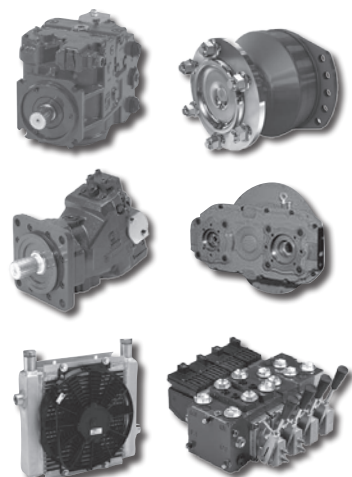
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Int'l Falls Mayor Anderson, 1942-2019

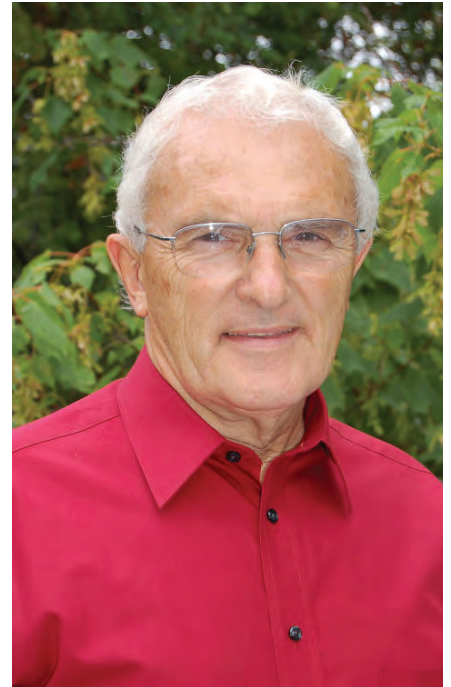
Bob Anderson, staunch timber industry advocate, both as mayor of International Falls and as long-time employee at the Boise's mill in International Falls, died in September. He was 77.

Anderson retired from Boise in 2011 after 51 years there, most recently as public affairs manager. His political career included stints on the Falls city council in the late 1960s, as Mayor in the early 1980s, and another stint as Mayor from 2012 until his death.

Anderson also served in several other positions of regional and statewide importance, including as president of the League of Minnesota Cities, chair of the State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, chair of the Falls Airport Commission for 40 years, and chair of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.

In an interview earlier this year, Anderson summarized his years of service by saying, "I love my city, having been born and raised here. I enjoy governance and helping others. My service to the city over the past 50 years has been a joy. My hope is that I have helped to make the city better in some small way because of my gift of time and my relationships with many of the business and political leaders throughout the state of Minnesota."

Anderson is survived by his wife Carol of 59 years; children, Robin (DeAnne), Cheri, and Rick (Tanya); grandchildren, Nick (Jahnai), Erik, Jenna (Andy), Sydney and Emilee; and great-granddaughter, Brynlee. He is also survived by brother, Don Jr.; sisters, Charlene (Kevin) and Arden; and nieces, nephews and cousins.



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JATCO Named Regional Logging Company of the Year

The Forest Resources Association (FRA) and STIHL Incorporated honored JATCO, Inc. of Duluth, MN as the Lake States Region Outstanding Logger at FRA's Lake States Region (LSR) Annual Meeting on October 8 in Duluth.

FRA LSR Chairman Matt Carothers along with Rick Horton of the Minnesota Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee presented Jeremy Stecker of JATCO a plaque, a STIHL chainsaw gift certificate, and a \$250 check from STIHL.

Immediately upon receiving the check, Stecker announced that he would donate the award to Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare in St. Paul, MN.

Jeremy Stecker, along with his father Tom, started JATCO in 1999. In accepting the Outstanding Logger award, Jeremy thanked his family, as well as the many public land managers for their efforts in managing the forests.

"I'm honored to receive this award, and I'm very grateful for being recognized as the Lake States Region Outstanding Logger", said Stecker.

Tim O'Hara, FRA's Director of Government Affairs and Lake States Region Manager, said "JATCO is well-deserving of the National Outstanding Logger of the Year recognition. Jeremy Stecker has a passion for logging and doing logging right. He harvests a logging site following the state's forest management guidelines. This was evident after I visited a site he was operating."

In April 2019, JATCO was recognized as the Minnesota Logger of the Year by the MN Sustainable Forest Initiative Implementation Committee.

The Forest Resources Association (FRA) represents the interests of nearly 300 organizations and businesses in the forest products industry. FRA members include forest landowners, suppliers, consuming mills, associated businesses, and state forestry associations.



Jeremy Stecker (2nd from left), owner of JATCO, INC. of Duluth, MN along with Judy Stecker (mother), Ellie Stecker (wife), Arlene Johnson (grandmother), Wally Johnson (grandfather), and Tom Stecker (father) proudly display the FRA Lake States Region Outstanding Logger plaque. Tom and Jeremy started JATCO in 1999. STIHL additionally recognized JATCO for receiving the award and provided a check for \$250.00 and new chainsaw to JATCO, Inc.

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Jacobs: Don't base forest-management views on headlines alone

When DNR wildlife managers voiced concerns about the outcome of the 2018 Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis to the media, retired Aitkin County Land Commissioner Mark Jacobs wrote the following opinion piece. It originally appeared in the Duluth News-Tribune and is re-printed here with Mark's permission.

After reading recent media reports regarding the disagreement between the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources forestry and wildlife staff over the recent Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis, I'm concerned about the "interpretation" of some that the forests are being overharvested.

I would like to offer my perspective as a longtime public forest manager in Minnesota. I think that focusing on the planned timber harvest level is misguided; the focus should be on how that harvest plan is implemented on the ground.

Over the past decade at the statewide level, more timber volume in Minnesota has been lost to a natural death (old age, insects, or disease) each year than is harvested for timber. The DNR's Sustainable Timber Harvest Analysis was applied to about half of the DNR's forestlands; the other half is reserved from timber harvest. The timber volume proposed to be harvested impacts about 1% of its forest ownership each year.

I'm a longtime member of the Forest Stewards Guild, whose tagline is, "Putting the forest first." Responsible forestry puts the forest first to ensure long-term societal benefits from our forests. Responsible forestry addresses the "why/what/where/when" in forest planning and implementation; that leads to a desired future forest.

Responsible forestry practices have clear forest-management objectives that meet the



requirements to perpetuate each forest type. Tree species are matched to ecologically appropriate sites. There are efforts to restore underrepresented forest types (like white pine). Responsible forestry employs both economic and biological harvest rotations across forests to provide a variety of forest values, from quality wood products to cavity trees for wildlife. Responsible forestry articulates the desired future forest in long-range plans and monitors how planned activities will move toward achieving that goal.

If you're concerned about Minnesota DNR forest management, become familiar and involved with

its planning process. DNR officials develop several plans, including long-range plans that outline the desired future forest and short-term plans that list specific areas to be considered for harvest. These plans are developed with input from all DNR divisions and stakeholders.

Forest certification audit reports are report cards for responsible forestry. State-managed forests in Minnesota are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. These organizations have developed globally recognized standards for responsible forestry and annually audit their clients to verify compliance with the standards. You can view Minnesota DNR forest plans and certification audit reports on the DNR website.

Responsibly managed forests provide numerous forest values, including clean water, native wildlife habitat, a stable supply of timber, and the storage of carbon. We can't have every forest value on every forest acre, but by putting the forest first and responsibly managing our millions of forested acres, we can have these and other values across the forested landscape.

We should make sure Minnesota's forests are managed responsibly by staying informed and involved, and we should avoid jumping to conclusions based on headlines.



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Touring Unsold Chippewa NF Timber



In September, Carl Bleiler of Greg Cook Logging (left) and Mike Rieger of Rieger Logging were among those visiting the Muskrat timber sale on the Chippewa National Forest to share with Forest staff why the sale received no bids during the last auction. The group included mill procurement foresters, with Forest Supervisor Darla Lenz and Leah Rathbun from the regional Forest Service office in Milwaukee among those participating from the Chippewa. The group later visited the Days High sale which also went unsold, discussing issues like sale design, logger production costs, seasons of operability, wood quality, distance to the mill, and other factors that led the tracts to go unsold.

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LOGGERS OF THE PAST . . .

Time in the Woods

by J. C. Ryan

This story is reprinted from an earlier *Timber Bulletin*—one of the first of “Buzz” Ryan’s ever-popular contributions to these pages. The *Bulletin* will continue to reprint selected stories from the memories he recorded for us.—*Editor*



When the average Minnesota lumberjack arrived in camp, his entire worldly possessions were carried over his shoulder in a white grain sack known by the lumberjacks as a “turkey.” About a four-foot rope tied around the top and to one of the lower corners served as the carrying strap or harness. The heavy white muslin grain bag used by Dakota farmers was the most popular – but if one was not available a common burlap “gunnysack” would serve the purpose.

Inside the sack you would find a suit of underwear – probably wool, a pair of wool socks, a blue denim shirt in summer or a plaid wool shirt in winter, possibly an extra pair of trousers, a straight razor, a razor strop, a not-too-clean piece of roller towel and a red or blue handkerchief.

If he was arriving at a river-driving camp, he probably had a pair of Jefferson calked driving shoes, thrown over his shoulder with the laces tied together, and if in winter his turkey may have held an extra pair of lumberjack rubbers or Stags (old rubbers with the tops cut off).

This was all the average lumberjack owned – but the clothing would all be in good shape, as no worn-out clothing would be carried. Most of the jacks did not carry a needle and thread and bought new clothes when anything became worn or ragged.

The lumberjack himself would be well clothed with a good grade wool shirt, jacket and trousers. If it was winter he probably had a pair of Soo, MacMillon or Malone all-wool trousers, a pair of Ball Band lumbermen’s rubbers, a good pair of horsehide mitts and liners.

Now there were some exceptions to this. If the man was a four-horse teamster he probably had an ankle-length sheepskin coat, a pair of four-buckle, felt-top overshoes and a pair of felt shoes and possibly a pair of fur-covered driving mitts. Most four-horse teamsters carried their own coats, mitts and footwear, as these items usually were not carried in stock in the wanigan.

If a lumberjack came in to camp on his own, he was taken at once to the bunk-

house, where he hung up his turkey in the bunk assigned to him by the bullcook. But if he was hired by an employment agency and his railroad fare advanced, his turkey was tagged with his name and turned in to the camp clerk, who held it for a day or two until the man had worked enough to cover the advanced fare and any other expenses.



Dinner out near Skibo about 1910 and (right) an early Minnesota lumberjack.





In the early days of logging, most trees were felled with axes. These two jacks are working on a large white pine.



Above: Cars being loaded with a horse jammer near Northome in 1916. Below: A logging camp near Northome in 1911. Building with open doors is blacksmith shop. Foreman's light sleigh is in foreground.



There were two things that were “a must” as far as a lumberjack was concerned: a good pocket knife and a good watch. The knife he might keep for a number of years if not lost, but the watch was sometimes left in town as security for a loan for a last few drinks or for fare back to camp. Now, not all lumberjacks hocked their watches – probably only a small percentage – but all of them did carry a good timepiece.

Most lumberjacks had no real use for a watch. In winter they worked from daylight until dark, awakened by the bullcook’s “Rollout!” and in bed at night when the bullcook turned out the lights. It was mealtime when the cook blew the horn. Summer months were the same, except they would go to work when the foreman kicked the bunkhouse door open and quit for the day when he said, “Let’s go boys.”

There were few jobs in the camps where knowing the time of day was of much importance. Cooks, bullcooks, night watchmen, and probably anyone who worked through the night, such as water-tank crews and later railroad crews did need watches.

However, the jacks liked to own a good watch and most of them did. They carried them in the small watch pocket of their trousers and usually with a leather strap from the watch ring to their belt or suspenders. When they looked at their watch, it was always pulled from the pocket by the strap.

The only times a jack carried his watch in his shirt pocket would be when he was in town or when he was on a drive and working in water up to his waist most of the time.

Most jacks preferred an open-face watch and in the number 16 size, usually with a gold case, although some preferred a silver one. While there were a number of brands, Elgin, Hamilton and Illinois and Hamden seemed to be most popular, and most were the 15-jewel type. Railroad men usually had a little better 21-jewel watch.

A few of the early camp foremen could not read or write and I knew one by the name of Alex Monroe who could not read a watch but always carried one. On a day when the sun was out he could tell you within a few minutes what time of day it was. When asked how he managed not knowing what time it was, he said he always got our logs cut, skidded and hauled to the landing well before break-up – and neither he nor any of the crew was ever late for a meal.

A lumberjack felt lost without a good knife in his pocket – but no long-blade hunting knives that hung from the belt were allowed. They were considered a weapon, not a necessity. Most of the knives were the bone-handle, two-blade type (one large, one small blade) and were usually carried in a hip pocket.

A lumberjack would use his knife to whittle a toothpick from a pine twig, remove a sliver from his finger, cut a piece of plug tobacco, make a wooden button to replace a lost one on his trousers, cut his fingernails and toenails, make a shoelace from a piece of leather, make a wooden stopper for his kerosene bottle – and many other uses.

You may wonder how these knives and watches were acquired. No peddlers of any kind were allowed in camp – with the exception of the watch and pocket knife salesmen, usually the same persons but in a few cases separate.

In the northern Minnesota camps there were three or four companies that sent watch salesmen to the camps on regular schedules, about two or three times a winter. These salesmen not only sold watches, but took them in to be repaired, and if a jack's watch was not running right a salesman might make a trade, taking the old watch as part payment on a new or repaired one.

When a watch was sold to a jack, the logging company would authorize the camp clerk to issue a credit for the man if he had any money coming.

In the western part of the pine region, the camps were served by a Bemidji company that worked all the camps along the M. & I. Railroad and in the Bemidji area, as well as camps out of Deer River along the M. & R. Railroad.

The salesmen would arrive in camp carrying a large packsack or in some cases hauling a toboggan loaded with packsacks. They would spend an evening in each camp, then move along to the next, sometimes riding with the walking boss when he made his trips, or riding with the tote teamsters or on the railroad logging trains. All the company employees made a special effort to help the "watch man."

In the area along the Alger Line northeast from Knife River and in the camps along the Brooks-Scanlon and the main line of Duluth and Iron Range Railroad, the Roland Easterly Co. of Duluth had a man make the camps at regular intervals.

The Marshall Wells Co. of Duluth had a knife salesman make these camps once or twice a year, while in the area further west the knives were sold by the watch salesmen.

These salesmen were high class, reliable men working for good dealers, who had been approved by the loggers. No fast dealing salesmen were allowed in camp, and a good watch man was always welcome.

The lumberjacks depended on their pocket knives for countless jobs and on their watches to tell them how long it took a load a sleigh, how long it took for a trip from woods to landing and to help their stomachs tell them when it was time to eat as they harvested our vast virgin pine stands.



Kitchen crew in Crookston Lumber Co. camp west of Northome in 1924. Notice the clean aprons and long dinner horn.



Above: Helping to start a loaded sleigh with a pinch bar near Skibo about 1908. Below: A nice load of logs – with the whole crew in the picture.





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