

ANNUAL REPORT 2000

From the Chairman

William D. Baughman



As I reflect on the activities of the Forest History Society during the last year, I am struck by the progress we have made. Our long range planning process has continued to develop with full input and participation by our Board members. I am very pleased and gratified not only to have individuals of the quality of those on our Board, but also to observe their effort and personal dedication to our objectives. FHS is also blessed with an extremely skilled, experienced and very dedicated staff. They are small in number, but not in accomplishments. I'm always pleased that individuals I refer to the FHS Staff for help and assistance go out of their way to comment on both the quality and friendliness of the personnel they contact in Durham.

Our membership is strong and growing and we all need to take a measure of pride in that fact, its not the norm for most associations and societies today. Many are struggling to keep their organizations viable and financially sound. We owe a great deal of our success in this area to Steve's personal contacts and his follow-up.

We have increased contributions and pledges to endowment for archives and publications by more than \$2 million over the last year thanks to contributions supporting the Alvin J. Huss Archives and the Lynn Weyerhaeuser Day Publications Program in Forest History. Appreciation is due all of the FHS membership for their support of our efforts to digitize the FHS historic photograph collection. Soon, these

photographs will be searchable on the Society's web site and the effort is expected to eventually lead to a national, perhaps international, forestry photo index.

We are also actively pursuing other options to increase the endowment to support these and other FHS activities. Each year, the Society leverages individual contributions several fold to extend your investment in preserving forest history. We hope that each member feels that they receive benefits far above their annual contribution. Let's try to keep our focus and our energy level high and make this year as successful as the last.