

1987		111
1/2/87	TAXES ON 120 AC - USA 4/30/86 PAYABLE TO "TOWN OF DREHMAN"	" 24.00
1/5	BURNING BARN	28 MI
1/8	TAX ON 10 AC PARCEL. STATEMENT WAS SENT TO HARVEY FOR 15 ACRES, 1986. THE DREHMAN FITS ON 5 AC, I PAY FOR 10. HENRY ANDERSON SAYS MANAGER FORGET LAW TAX WILL TAKE APPROX NOW FOR PAYMENT OF TAX NEXT JANUARY.	" 93.94
1/11	SKI DAY, WITH ABOUT 30 FROM LOCAL CCI CLUB ON HAND. VERY LITTLE SNOW THIS YEAR, BUT ENOUGH TO SKI ON ROADS	
1/17	PRUNING, COLLECTED KINDLING	28 MI
1/19	PRUNING, DISBURSED IN FIREWOOD FIREWOOD.	28 MI [35.00
1/18	RECD OF GORDON'S FOR FIREWOOD	[9385.00
1/4	BACK - EASTERN HARVESTING	37.00 [30.00

		112
2/25/87	CARL KOSTER OF WIS. CRP SDA CALLED. THAT FORECLOSED ON ENTER OF 40 ACRES TO THE EAST. WILL SELL TO ME, ASKING PRICE 95000.	28 MI
2/26	1/25/87 ABOVE.	[45.00
3/3	RECD FOR FIREWOOD - SPANISH CLUB	
3/4	TRIP WITH HENRY ANDERSON TO SURVEY POSSIBLE ACQUISITION OF 40 AC TO EAST. PERIOD FORMS PURCHASE OFFER FORMS	35 MI 9 3.00 .90
1/28	REPLANTING BY TRANSPLANT OF WINTERBARS, ROAD WORK.	28 MI
1/30	ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR LOCAL WINDA CENTER, AT DNR OFFICE.	
1/10	PLANT FRASER FIR, CUT FIREWOOD	28 MI
1/12	MAILED SECOND OFFER ON EASTERNMOST 40. EARNST MONEY	8500.00
1	PHONE	" 5.97

Pages in Kirk Dahl's logbook from 1987, which help him to remember key moments in his woodlands' history.

Logbook helps to keep woodland records

By Kirk Dahl

One of the most pleasant things about working in the woods is that a person doesn't need a username or password to do it.

Along those same lines, when it comes to keeping records for my woodland activities, I prefer the simplicity and durability of a dedicated handwritten journal. Computers and electronic data unquestionably have their place, but there is a better tool for relatively small amounts of information.

Generating an accurate and easy-to-use historical record of woodland finances and activities serves many purposes and seems indispensable.

Don't do it on the back of an envelope, but there is nothing wrong with striving to keep it simple. I try to make a very brief handwritten entry into my journal every time there is something worth documenting, for possible future reference. Everything I may need to reference is right there, recorded in one place. Expenses such as for maintenance, seedlings, fuel, legal help, education and so on are easy to find and total up for tax reporting. Similarly, all income figures such as from timber sales, land rental and CRP are easy to locate. At a glance, I can find

the cordage and proceeds for every timber sale I have had over nearly 40 years of tree farming.

For the most part, my journal makes for boring reading, but as a factual reference, it is priceless. Oftentimes I refer to it for information years after the details were forgotten. Who delivered that load of gravel for me 10 years ago? When did I last replace the tractor battery? What did I pay for that culvert? When is the farmland

lease due for renewal? And so on.

On rare occasions, important entries are made so the information does not perish. A few obscure property boundary markers were once placed, and then these monu-

ments were described in the logbook as to location and composition. My wife and I planted tree seedlings on our wedding day, and the location of those trees is spelled out with clarity. The whole family knows where to find that kind of information: right there in the logbook.

A hard copy of this information has one huge primary advantage over electronic storage. Data can be handed down in a usable format through the ages without worrying about changes in technology. Details in my journal will be effortlessly accessible into perpetuity. I also

For the most part, my journal makes for boring reading, but as a factual reference, it is priceless. Oftentimes I refer to it for information years after the details were forgotten.

-Kirk Dahl

prefer to grab the book off the shelf and chronologically thumb through a few pages for the information I need, rather than scrolling through various data files on my computer or handling a lot of loose papers.

I do maintain a separate filing system for important papers, such as logging contracts and management plans. I may allude to them in the journal, but there is no need to duplicate them there and no real need to scan them into an electronic record.

The last few pages are reserved as a phone book. As new farm-related acquaintances or businesses come into play, I enter their names and phone numbers if I expect to need that information later. The neighbors, the implement dealer, the loggers and many others are listed there. I don't alphabetize them, I just list them. Even when I forget a name, I can easily thumb through those few pages and find the name and phone number again.

A few items of phenology creep in, too. My encounter with a bear is documented, as are the dates of peak fall color and a few other notable delights of nature. It's not a diary, but those kinds of entries seem appropriate on occasion.

I fill an average of about five pages a year. I also create a summary page each year showing income and expense totals for that year.

In short, good records are worth the time spent maintaining them. Keeping them in a handy and permanent format adds to their usefulness. Beyond that, keeping the task as simple and enjoyable as possible is a worthy goal, and I have found that simple, short entries into a handwritten journal fills the bill.



Kirk Dahl owns woodlands in Eau Claire, Trempealeau and Barron counties. Dahl has been a WWOA member since 1982; he currently serves on the Publi-

cations Committee and on the WWOA Board of Directors.

Steve Barczi Forester

715-467-1010

steveb@rynishforestry.com



Aaron Kohn Forester

715-496-1805

aaronk@rynishforestry.com

Our mission is to serve private landowners in as large or small of capacity as they desire. In listening to the landowner's goals we look to apply our services of:

- **Forest Plan Writing**
(MFL and Stewardship plans)
 - **Timber Sales Administration**
 - **Timber Marking**
 - **Tree Planting**
 - **Invasive Plant Control**
 - **Installation of Deer Fencing**
- Contact Aaron for assistance in Adams, Juneau, Langlade, Marathon, Marquette and Wood counties.
- Contact Steve for assistance in Green Lake, Outagamie, Portage, Shawano, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago counties.

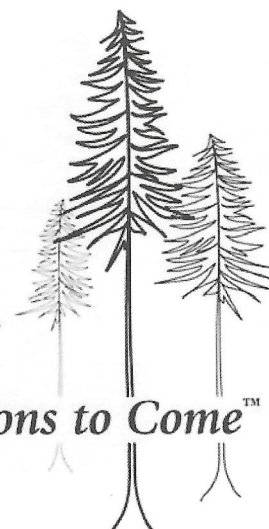
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rynishforestry/>



Biewer offers no cost services of technical forestry assistance in all aspects of timber stand management to interested landowners who participate in the...

"Biewer Tree Farm Family Program"

Protecting Generations to Come™



Biewer specializes in managing Red Pine, White Pine and Spruce timber stands and also offers top prices for quality Red Pine, White Pine and Spruce stumpage and random length logs and 100" bolts.

For more information, please call:

Will Kruse

715-428-2762 ext. 4526