AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Forest History Society awards and fellowships are fully supported by endowment. The awards program enables the Society to recognize research and writing in forest and conservation history and stimulate further research into our understanding of the relationships between people and forests. High standards for selection reflect equally upon the recipient and the Society. Following is a list of the awards for 1998.

RALPH HIDY AWARD
The Hidy Award, recognizing superior scholarship published in Environmental History, is biennial in coordination with the Aldo Leopold Award, sponsored by the American Society for Environmental History. The 1998 recipient of the Hidy Award is Karl Jacoby for his July 1997 article entitled “Class and Environmental History: Lessons from ‘The War in the Adirondacks’.” Jacoby takes a fresh look at how the establishment of the Adirondack Park had differential effects on the classes. Limitations on timber and game and enclosures into private preserves led to the end of a subsistence lifestyle and dependence on a cash-based and wage-earning economy. “Imposing this modern nature onto the Adirondacks landscape came at the cost of alienating many local inhabitants from their surroundings.” The article explores the paradox of the rural population that supported the continuance of the forest under new conservation values but also reacted, sometimes violently, to the loss of access rights fostered mainly by the urban population. The author is Assistant Professor of History at Oberlin College.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN AWARD
Andrew H. Fisher was chosen to receive the Theodore C. Blegen Award for best article in a journal other than Environmental History. His article, “The 1932 Handshake Agreement: Yakima Indian Treaty Rights and Forest Service Policy in the Pacific Northwest” was published in the Summer 1997 issue of the Western Historical Quarterly. This beautifully written article shows how the Yakima Indians, of south-central Washington State, and the U.S. Forest Service worked together on a resource management problem—the harvesting of the huckleberry in Gifford Pinchot National Forest. The 1932 Handshake Agreement resulted in the informal creation of an Indian-only berry-harvesting area. This unusual story contains research challenges. The author skillfully combines archival and Yakima oral traditions. Outstanding is how the author shows the circle of respect, discussion, and positive local action that combined to find a long term solution. Not all policy is made from the top down. The article provides an excellent case study of how local forest managers can shape long term policy.

JOHN M. COLLIER JOURNALISM AWARD
The John M. Collier Award recognizes the author of the best article on forest and conservation history published in newspapers, trade press, or general circulation magazines. The 1998 recipient of the Collier Award is Les Line for his history article on the American elm entitled “The Return of an American Classic” in the September–October 1997 issue of Audubon Magazine. Mr. Line is a naturalist and was a long-time editor of Audubon. In his article, he traces the historical use of the American elm, the onset of the Dutch elm disease, and the two-decade effort at USDA to find clones tolerant to the disease. Anyone who remembers the stately elms and what a great loss our urban and community forests have suffered will appreciate this informative and well-written article.

SPECIAL GUEST
In June, Ikuo Ota, a Research Associate on the faculty of the Division of Natural Resource Economics at Kyoto University, Japan, visited the Forest History Society to conduct research on the U.S. Forest Service. He is preparing a history of the U.S. Forest Service written in Japanese for scholars and the public in Japan. It will be part of his dissertation at Kyoto University.

F. K. WEYERHAEUSER FELLOWSHIP
The F. K. Weyerhaeuser Forest History Fellowship is awarded to a Duke University student whose research is historical in nature and related to forestry, land-use, or the environment. This year’s recipient is Michael Friedly, working towards a Ph.D. in history. His proposal intends to trace the environmental and land-use history of Silicon Valley. Included in the work will be the use of forests by the native Ohlone, their impact on the forest, and the effect of Spanish explorers and Americans on the local oak and willow groves and surrounding redwood region.

ALFRED D. BELL, JR. TRAVEL GRANTS
Alfred D. Bell, Jr. Travel Grants are awarded to enable researchers to use the FHS library. Bell Fellows for last year included: Robert E. Walls, a Visiting Assistant Professor at Lafayette College, Easton, PA, conducted research on the public image of loggers in the United States. He uses an ethnographic and anthropological approach in his study, particularly the Paul Bunyan model, and the influence of that image on loggers themselves. James E. Fickle, a history professor from the University of Memphis, continued work on the history of the Society of American Foresters, especially since World War II, for several upcoming publications.

CHARLES A. WEYERHAEUSER BOOK AWARD
The Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Award for best book of forest and conservation history is biennial, granted in odd-number years. It will be awarded again in 1999.