

# WOOD AND FIBER SCIENCE

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## A WISH LIST

*Wood and Fiber Science* was first published as *Wood and Fiber* in 1969, and thus the current volume is the twenty-third in the series. It may be appropriate for me as incoming editor of *Wood and Fiber Science* to reflect briefly on the past and then look ahead to the future of our journal. Major credit for establishing and shaping *Wood and Fiber* has to go to Benjamin A. Jayne, who was President of the Society when the journal began, and who served as its editor for the first three years. Being a member of the Executive Board during those years, I can recall the excitement over this undertaking, and also the great worry over the necessary financial requirements. The finances eventually became more stable, and Ben Jayne's vision proved to be far-reaching, since *Wood and Fiber Science* of today is not substantially different from the early issues with regard to the purely technical content. What is different is that much of the news and Society information that formed a significant part of the early volumes now appears in the SWST Newsletter, which began on an irregular basis in 1971. Following Ben Jayne, Robert W. Meyer served as editor for seven years, followed by E. A. McGinnes (2 years), Wayne K. Murphey (4 years), Bruce Cutter (3 years), and Thomas Elder, who nominally served for three years but will continue to be looking after all manuscripts received prior to December 31, 1990.

As I am about to try to follow in the footsteps of my distinguished predecessors, I would like to present the members of SWST and the readers of *Wood and Fiber Science* with a wish list. I do this in the belief that this journal has to be a collaborative effort of many people, in which the editor can only function as the organizer. Volume 22 of *Wood and Fiber Science*, for instance, contained 35 technical articles, which meant that at least 70 referees had to be approached for reviews. Together with the authors of the articles, this means that well over 100 people were involved with the contents of just that one volume.

What I therefore do wish for is that prospective authors submit manuscripts that have been prepared only after reading the instructions listed under "Information for Authors" on the inside back cover. I wish for reviewers who will accept the challenge of review and can prepare a conscientious evaluation in a reasonable length of time. I wish for book reviews that are constructive and timely, and I wish for editorials dealing with professional or technical issues in our field. I wish for letters to the editor that are informative or stimulating. Finally, I wish for an active editorial board that will give me some guidance on how this journal can best serve the membership. In short, I wish for multifaceted communication that goes out to the readers of *Wood and Fiber Science* for the ultimate benefit of the profession.

Arno P. Schniewind