

## The Fixmer Award: Citation for Distinguished Service 2000 Of An Individual Paul Brenner

Paul Brenner, a native of Milwaukee, enlisted in the Navy after graduation from West Milwaukee High School. After his discharge in 1947, Paul secured a job with the Wisconsin Conservation Department (now the Department of Natural Resources) at its Trout Lake nursery. He has lived in the Boulder Junction area ever since. During the late 1950s, while surveying a boundary line, he found a stamp hammer and became interested in logging history. When he retired in 1974, Paul began researching the regions lumbering history in earnest.

His interest in local lumbering history led Paul to become a life member of the Boulder Junction Historical Society, the Presque Isle Historical Society, the Forest History Association of Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin State Historical Society. He has been a member of the latter for over twenty years.

From his collection of logging and lumbering photographs, he selected thirty-five that he had made into postcards and donated them to the Boulder Junction Public Library for resale. Paul also donated flowers and produce from his garden to the Boulder Junction Public Library and proceeds from their sales underwrote the cost of publishing the book *Boulder Junction: The Early Years: 1880 - 1950*. Paul provided many photos for the book and wrote the chapters on early logging and railroads. Along with Homer Sykes and Bill Robinson, Paul made a video of the early logging days. Paul's special area of research over the last ten years, however, has been stamp/end marks. So far, he has cataloged 8,000 to 10,000 marks.

Paul often shares his knowledge of lumbering history with school children, church and community service groups, and historical societies. Many of you probably remember the interesting presentation, "The Transition From Logging Camp To Resort," that he gave at our twenty-second annual meeting at Woodruff in 1997.

Finally, Paul has shared his knowledge and photos with other researchers, who like him have an interest in the lumber era.

For his many and varied contributions to the preservation of forest history, it is a pleasure to present this year's Fixmer Award (the Wisconsin Forest History Association Distinguished Service Award to an Individual) to Paul Brenner.

