The FHAA held its second annual general meeting on March 14, 2006 at the Best Western, Westwood Inn, Edmonton, with thirty-four members in attendance. President Arden Rytz conducted the meeting with updates being provided by Arden, Treasurer Bruce Mayer and Secretary David Holehouse. Elections were held for three of the executive positions with Arden Rytz and Cliff Henderson being re-elected and Bob Newstead replacing David Holehouse as secretary. Many thanks go out to David for his support and input to the FHAA – neither of which will be lost as David will be around to support the association (and Bob) where he can.

Those in attendance received a copy of the 2006 Lookout calendar produced by Hope and Tim Klein, and the 2006 Silvacom Historical Calendar donated by Bob Morton and Tom Grabowski of Silvacom Ltd.

Guest Speaker, Dr. Peter Murphy, gave a presentation on David Thomp-son and the Athabasca Pass and a book he is co-writing with FHAA members Bob Udell and Bob Stevenson, Hard Road to Travel.

Forestry history book hits the shelves

Hot Off the Press!! The Alberta Forest Service, 1930-2005: Protection and management of Alberta’s forests. An important contribution to the preservation of the history of the Alberta Forest Service, this book was written by four well-known and highly regarded veterans of Alberta’s forest management and fire protection community – Peter Murphy, Bob Stevenson, Steve Ferdinand and Dennis Quintilio. Publication of this remarkable work would not have been possible without the sponsorship of Sustai-nable Resource Development and the vision of Cliff Henderson.

For information contact Bruce Mayer at (780) 644-4656 or Bruce. Mayer@gov.ab.ca.
Forestry program celebrates 40 years

FIRST GRADUATING CLASS MADE UP OF 25 STUDENTS

Can you believe it – it has been 40 years since the first NAIT Forest Technology class graduated from the Forest Technology School in Hinton. A joint partnership in 1965 with the Department of Lands and Mines and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, saw the first year of a new two year forest technology training program, held in Edmonton, with the second year held in Hinton. This second year in Hinton was designed to give students every opportunity to learn and practice forestry in the new Cache Percotte school forest. Many of the graduates of this first NAIT class went on to successful careers with the Canadian Forest Service and Alberta Forest Service. The FHAA hopes to report on any anniversary celebrations that might occur – Revie, Larry, Dennis, Peter, anything for us?

FHAA PHOTO CORNER

Rypien brothers sawmill southwest of Calling Lake, 1950s.

Peter McLaren Lumber Co. log flume, Crowsnest forest, 1912

Arsenault Sawmill, High Level, 1964. Note the grain elevators

FHAA receives charity tax status

Good news - the Forest History Association of Alberta has received Charitable Tax Status. The FHAA qualified for tax-exempt status as a registered charity because it ‘advances education and benefits to the community by gathering, collecting and preserving artifacts about the history of forestry in Alberta and educating the public on their value’. Payments that do not qualify as tax-exempt are: membership fees; basic fees for admission to an event or program; or purchase price of a ticket to win a prize.

Donations will be used to complete projects such as interviewing individuals about forest history in the province; scanning, cataloging and inventorying photographs; and inventorying historical artifacts. Individuals, families or companies wishing to donate to the FHAA may do so by sending a cheque to the Treasurer, FHAA, 22 Hutchinson Place, St. Albert, Alberta T8N 6R3.