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25 YEARS OF *WOOD AND FIBER SCIENCE*—WITH CAROL OVENS

The present issue of *Wood and Fiber Science* is the first of Volume No. 25, marking an anniversary that is good cause for celebration. Now would seem to be a good time to reflect on the history of this journal, and to thank the many people who have made it possible to have a thriving publication for all these years. It is a time to thank the many authors who have chosen *Wood and Fiber Science* for the publication of their research, to thank the hundreds of reviewers who have given time and thought to helping authors and the editor, to thank the editors who have in turn taken on responsibility for publication, and to thank the staff at Allen Press who have consistently produced a technically excellent journal for our readers. Of all the participants, the one person whose name has appeared on every single issue of *Wood and Fiber Science* ever since it started 25 years ago as *Wood and Fiber*, and who has played an important and vital role in producing what will soon be 100 issues, is our Editorial Assistant, Carol Ovens.

Carol Ovens is literally the magic force behind the scenes. Most of us, myself included, have never met her in person, although it is she who guides each raw manuscript received from the editor through a process of refinement that ultimately leads to the published journal. Along the way, manuscripts get copy-edited, instructions are sent to the printer, galley proofs are checked, queries settled with authors and the editor, an issue is laid out, and page proofs in turn are checked. In other words, Carol Ov-

ens' endeavors provide a vital link in the publication process. Her now considerable experience represents an invaluable asset that even editors, who know her work best, may not be able to fully appreciate.

Carol Ovens is a graduate of Simmons College in Boston, has done graduate work at Bryn Mawr College, and holds an M.A. from the University of Chicago. Throughout her professional career she has "made with the words," to quote loosely from the Broadway play "Light up the Sky," in one way or another. She has been Editor and Teacher for English Study Groups, and Writer for Pacific Northwest Underwriter; she has taught English at the University of Washington; and she has been Editorial Assistant for several journals, although for none as long as for *Wood and Fiber Science*. In 1971, she became Washington Sea Grant Information Specialist at the University of Washington, a part-time position she holds to the present. In this position she has authored a number of publications as well as television documentaries. We have indeed been fortunate in having such a talented person for our Editorial Assistant.

Surely I am far from alone when I express my deepest appreciation to Carol Ovens for a job well and faithfully done. Congratulations, Carol, on this happy anniversary, and many happy returns!

ARNO P. SCHNIEWIND