

June 1, 2018
Chris Witulski
Director
Besser Museum For Northeast Michigan
491 Johnson Street
Alpena, Mi. 49707

Dear Chris;

Subject: Transfer of ownership of herbarium

For approximately the last ten years Besser Museum has displayed my collection of tree leaves and cones. It has been my pleasure to share this collection with the community and visitors to the Museum and many good comments have been received on it. Please be assured that it is my desire for the community to continue to have access to this collection as it is an aid to those studying tree identification as well others.

The collection has taken me to many areas of the United States and visits to numerous botanical gardens and arboretums. I have spent untold hours studying the species in order to make positive identifications. Also, please be assured that each specimen is mounted on acid free backing for preservation purposes. And the leaves have been fully dried and then mounted in picture frames for protection since they are extremely fragile and brittle in this state. I mention this for future plans that may result in a change of the way the collection is displayed.

I understand that the Museum is undergoing changes in plans for displays of collections as well as space allowed. During our discussions it only seems logical that the Museum take ownership of this Herbarium. I am writing this letter as an offer to sell this Herbarium, as is, to the Museum. I am requesting a token \$7,500.00 as compensation. I realize this amount in no way covers the cost I have incurred but this token amount will help to defray a portion of that cost.

There is one other consideration that I am requesting. If possible, I would like my name to remain on the collection as it represents my long history of involvement in forestry in this area.

Please consider this offer and thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted:

Richard L. Stringer

Registered Forester

10621 Carriveau Road

Ossineke, Mi. 49766

