

The Allegheny News

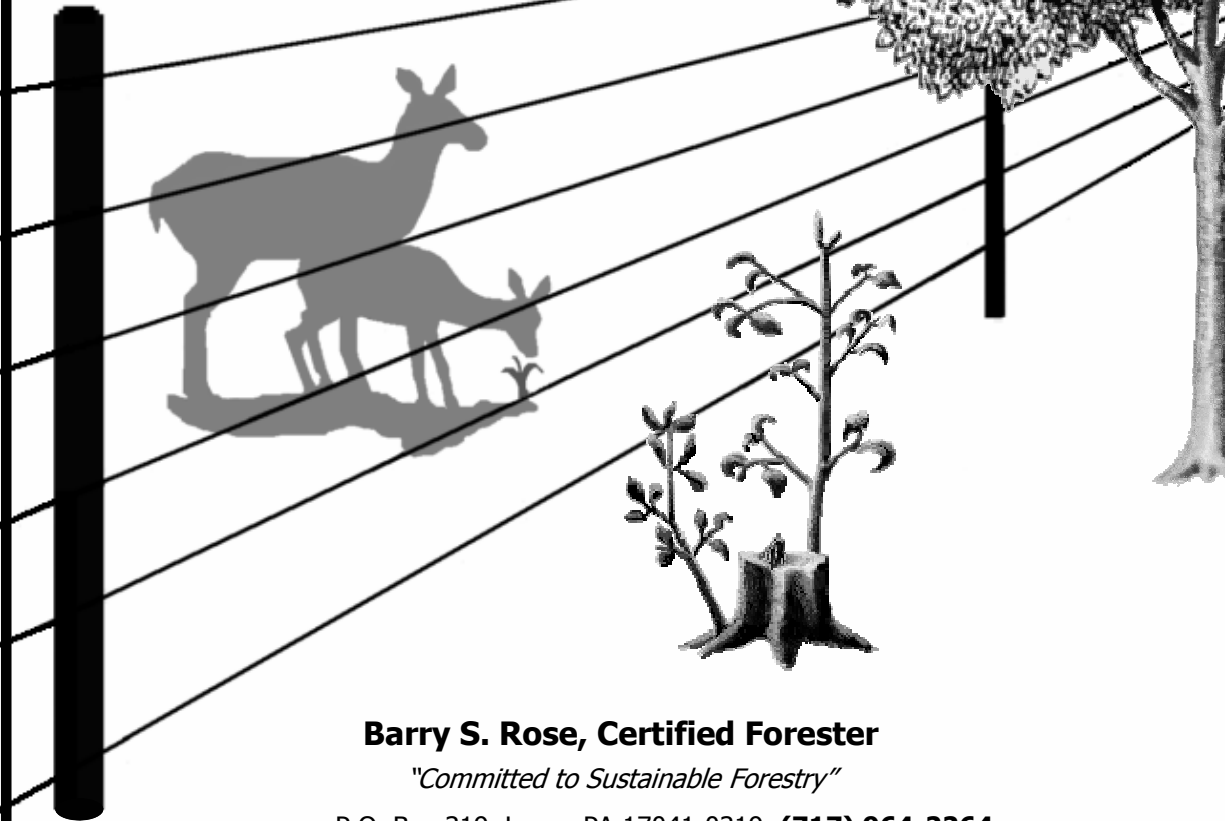


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Winter 2007-08



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The Allegheny News

Volume 16, No. 4

The Allegheny News is the official publication of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters. Published four times annually. **Deadline for articles is December 15, March 15, June 15 and September 15.** Subscription rate included in the annual Allegheny Society dues.

The mission of the SAF is to advance the science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry in America and to use the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit society.

The Allegheny News

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website www.alleghenysaf.org

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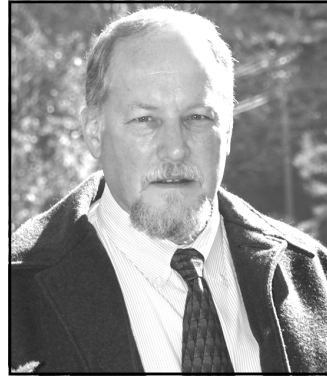
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Cover Photo

(photo courtesy of Kathleen Bobenrieth)

Howard Wurzbacher, CF sells Cecile Stelter, CF a gallon of apple cider at the Fall Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum. Proceeds from the annual cider sales are added to the Bob Bauer Scholarship Fund at PSU (see pages 8-9 and 18-19 for articles).



Chair's Corner

By Kim Steiner,
Allegheny SAF Chair

The results of our biennial election are published elsewhere in this issue, but I would like to personally congratulate our new Chair-Elect **Mary Ann Fajvan** and the other election winners. I know these people well, and I have absolute confidence that the future leadership of ANSAF is in good hands!

As you are aware, this year's election was conducted via the Web for the first time, and paper ballots were sent only to those without email addresses. The total number of votes cast for Chair-Elect was 263, of which 212 came in electronically and 51 by "snail" mail. This represents an astonishing 26% participation rate by our members in the election. For comparison, participation was 7% in 2005 and about 11% in 2003. In other words, the trial run was an overwhelming success!

I have discussed this before, but it bears repeating that we **must** find a better way of communicating electronically with our members. Of course, those who choose to not use email are entitled to receive *The Allegheny News*, ballots, and meeting announcements by regular mail. But for the majority (80%) of our members, the ease and low cost of email permits us to greatly expand member communications, and save a pile of money in the bargain. During the next year I pledge to find a way to complete and update our listing of email addresses for members. That will require about 200 personal phone calls, but I will try to find a way.

Today is December 21, and I am writing this column for the last time (no regrets about that!) as probably my last official act as Allegheny Chair. **Kurt Gottschalk** will take over leadership of ANSAF on January 1, and I look forward to serving the society for another two years as your

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 3)

Past-Chair. This has been a truly rewarding experience, and I will be forever grateful for the opportunity. It has been made infinitely easier by the ever-willing assistance provided by **Rachel Billingham, Jack Winieski, Ken Jolly**, and many others, and I cannot end without expressing my sincere gratitude for their quiet help in support of SAF. 🌲



PA SAF/PA Wildlife Society Meeting

By Howard Wurzbacher

Please excuse the repeat of this article, but I believe that all of us can benefit from the exchange of information between and among other resource management professionals.

- Howard Wurzbacher

As professionals working with common or related resources, foresters and wildlifers recognize the importance of sharing experience and cross training. In an attempt to broaden our horizons and encourage relationships with other professionals in an open forum, the **PA Wildlife Society (TWS) and the PA Division of SAF** have planned a joint meeting and conference to be held **March 21-22, 2008 at the Ramada Inn, State College, PA**. The meeting theme will be **"The Future of Penn's Woods: Integrating Wildlife and Silviculture."**

As foresters, we often discuss the reality that we are good at talking among ourselves, but are often lacking when it comes time to communicate good forestry to other audiences. The upcoming joint TWS/SAF meeting is an excellent opportunity to be proactive and network outside of our own ranks. Pennsylvania Division and Allegheny SAF members and guests are invited and encouraged to attend and participate with the meeting's activities.

The meeting format will feature a workshop including indoor and field sessions on Friday, March 21, followed by the Plenary Session, Technical Sessions, and Banquet on Saturday, March 22, 2008. The program will focus on discussion of the integration of Silviculture and wildlife habitat within the themes of connectivity, diversity, and policy.

Please mark your calendar to save the dates, and plan to attend what promises to be an exciting and interactive joint meeting. More to come, or (hwurzbache@state.pa.us). 🌲

SAF Foresters' Fund Grant Deadlines

The SAF Bylaws state the goals of the Foresters' Fund to:

- promote education to enhance public understanding of the role of professional foresters in forest resource management
- conduct forest policy activities, and
- strengthen state societies, divisions, and chapters in achieving the mission of the Society

Deadlines:

Regular grants (up to \$1,500) February 15; June 15; and September 15, 2008.

Special grants (\$1,501 - \$5,000) June 15, 2008.

If the deadline falls on a weekend or Holiday, proposals will be accepted next business day.

Local units (state societies, divisions, and chapters) are encouraged to partner with student chapters, working groups, national committees, national office, and the National Student Assembly on Foresters' Fund projects. Check the SAF Web at www.safnet.org or contact Brittany Brumby, Assistant to the CEO and Council (toll free 1-866-897-872). 🌲

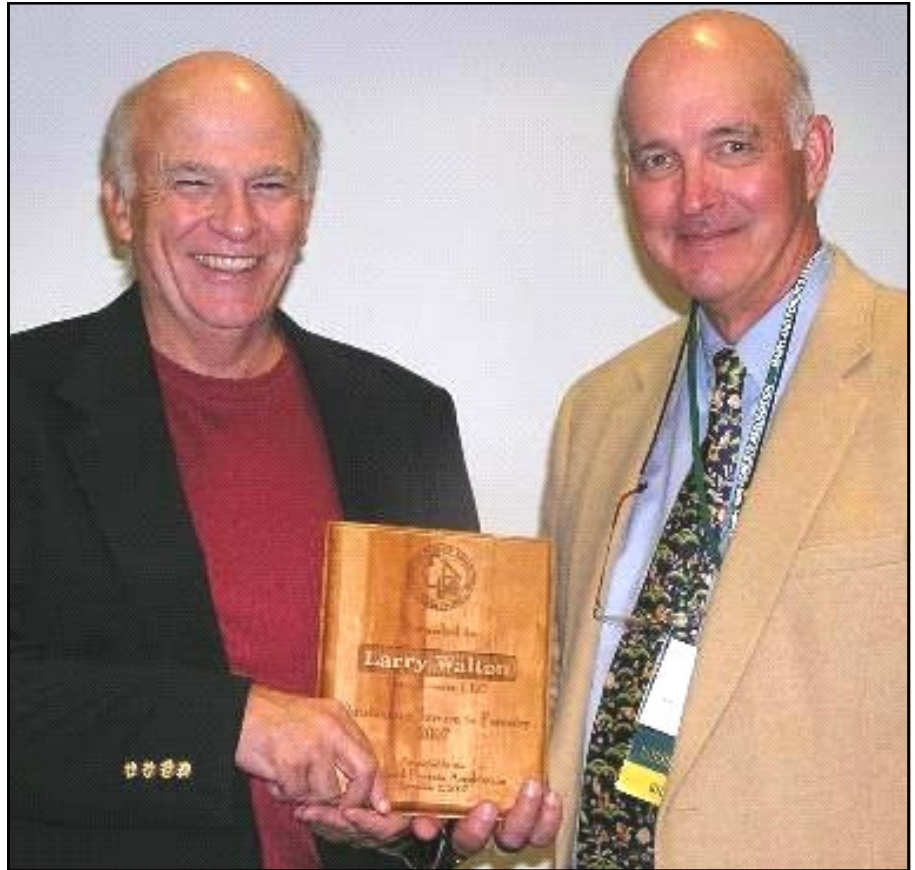
Walton Recognized for Outstanding Service to Forestry

The Maryland Forests Association (MFA) recently presented its **Outstanding Service to Forestry** award to **Larry Walton of Vision Forestry, LLC, Salisbury, MD** at its Annual Meeting in Ocean City, Maryland. Walton has spent more than three decades managing a variety of corporate, private, and public forestry operations on the East Coast. Today, Larry is co-owner of Vision Forestry LLC, whose emphasis is on meeting landowner goals through sustainable forest management, to ensure that wildlife habitat, water quality, woodland recreation, and a healthy forest economy continue on the Eastern Shore.

When Chesapeake Forest Products sold 58,000 acres of its Eastern Shore forestland in 1999, Vision Forestry evolved from the transaction. Walton participated on a committee to help The Conservation Fund develop a management plan for the 29,000 acres that came under its ownership. In the process, Walton met Neil Sampson. They partnered to create Vision Forestry, and one of their first projects was to manage The Conservation Fund's portion of the forest. This land, later donated to the state, is now part of the Chesapeake Forest.

"Walton is a long-time member of MFA, assisting often with work groups and planning of tours and workshops on the Eastern Shore. He is also a board member of the Nanticoke Watershed Alliance, a member of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and serves on the Research Advisory Committee for the Maryland Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc. If something is happening on the Shore regarding forestry, you can be sure Larry is helping," stated MFA President John Foster.

"Most of us have the same core values. What led me to a career in forestry is often the same thing that leads people into environmental work," Walton says. "It's a matter of finding shared perspectives. We can all learn a little bit from one another, if we take the time to do it." Further information about MFA and its programs can be found online at <http://www.mdforests.org> or by calling 301-895-5369. 🌲



(l-r) Larry Walton of Vision Forestry receives Outstanding Service to Forestry Award from MFA President John Foster

Cover Photo Correction

The person on the cover of the Fall 2007 Allegheny News is not Mark Chisholm, as incorrectly credited. It is **Mike Villipart**, who was also there demonstrating that day at the FREC in Jackson.

- Laura Chisholm



District VII Council Report

By Mary J. Coulombe, CF, SAF District VII Representative

December 2007

SAF Council met December 1-2, 2007 and said good-bye to retiring members and welcome to the new members (terms of service are 3 years, staggered among Districts).

Potential Sale of the Grosvenor Property, home of SAF National Office:

The major item that the Council worked on was the potential sale of the Grosvenor property, which has been the site of the SAF national headquarters since 1973.

The announcement of the potential sale of the property to the Nations Academy was made on December 7, 2007. President John McMahon, in response to a number of questions and concerns, has provided the following information:

“The Council’s decision to accept the Nation's Academy offer was not based on a hasty response to an unsolicited offer, but rather on the result of an extended discussion with the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRF) a partial owner of the property. The discussions have occurred over many months on the strategic options that would best serve the long-term needs of both SAF and RNRF. These discussions were conducted under the guidance of SAF's Officers and SAF's RNRF Coordinating Committee. SAF Council members over the past several years have been kept informed of and have been very supportive of SAF's continuing efforts to work with RNRF to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of our joint interests in the Bethesda property. We were bound by the terms of the offer to purchase, to not disclose our intent to enter into this transaction until the prospective buyers were ready to publicly identify themselves.

Throughout these discussions the Council has been very mindful of the fact that accomplishing the sale of our interest in the Bethesda property will enable us to substantially improve the long-term financial condition of SAF, and enable us to allocate increased resources to accomplishing our mission. In addition, the Council also clearly understood that our need to address many years worth of deferred maintenance on the Grosvenor Mansion would require a substantial investment of SAF's limited resources if we continued with the status quo.

It will be several more months before we know whether or not the sale of the Bethesda property will be accomplished. In the interim, we will be naming a Task Force to advise the Council on the recommended location and attributes needed in a new SAF headquarter site, and members of the NCSAF will have the opportunity to offer their advice to this Task Force.”

The Task Force has not yet been named. To guide the process of determining both the preferred site and desired attributes of a new headquarters location, Council agreed that the following Site Selection Objectives be used:

1. Accomplish long-term financial security for SAF by limiting investment and relocation expenses in a new site, thereby enabling increased investment and growth in SAF permanent funds, and utilization of the majority of SAF's annual income to accomplish its Mission.
2. Maintain and strengthen SAF's effectiveness in influencing public policy and in building effective working relationships with our principal allies and partners and other professional societies in the field of renewable natural resources management.
3. Establish a new headquarters office that provides an appropriate quality presence for SAF as our national professional society.
4. Maintain or improve accessibility to a new office site for SAF members, committees, Task Forces, and visitors.

5. Minimize turnover and disruption of staff services to SAF members in the course of relocating to a new office site.

As your District Council member, I have been informed of the discussions between SAF and RNRF since I started on Council two years ago. I have understood the need for confidentiality and the long-term financial interests in resolving the property issues. I have fully supported the decision to pursue the negotiations with Nation's Academy and RNRF. I believe strongly that if this sale goes through, it is in the best interests of our Society.

A number of members have expressed strong concerns about the abrupt notice of this sale and the concerns about where the new national office will be located. As noted above, Council felt that a task force to guide the search was the best approach and would bring member's ideas and suggestions to the table. If you have any ideas, please feel free to share them with me and I'm sure that the task force will provide opportunities for SAF members to provide input.

Given the length of this article, I will report now on only two other items from the December Council Meeting. I will report on others in future newsletters:

Continuing Forestry Education: Council supported the recommended changes in the CFE credits process and the roles of the CFE Coordinators. Changes are needed to meet requirements for ANSI certification of the program, which requires a more robust quality control process. The categories of CFE credits will be modified and the other process changes will occur. The changes will be announced in January, and Societies will need to consider them in the designation of CFE coordinators and in use of the system within their organizations.

Fellows Nomination Process: Council agreed to change the timelines for Fellows nominations and selection so that Fellows are announced and recognized in the year of their selection. Council also would like to see a special event at the annual convention to recognize the Fellows. This will be discussed with the program committees for conventions. Nominations can be made from any members to their District Fellows Committee. Our District VII Fellows Committee is developing a new timeline to receive and review nominations and make their recommendations to me March 31. The District Fellows Committee will announce the timelines to the Allegheny and National Capitol Societies very soon. 🌲

2008 Tree Farm Inspector Certification Training Session



Join the American Tree Farm System by becoming a certified volunteer Tree Farm inspector.

The Pennsylvania Tree Farm Program is proud to be providing a Tree Farm inspector certification training session on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM at the new Forest Resources Building, Room 106, University Park, PA. This session is for any forestry professional interested in being eligible to inspect and certify properties as Tree Farms. Those individuals wishing to become inspectors must attend a face to face certification training session. The training course provides CFE contact hours towards SAF Continuing Forestry Education.

Help the American Tree Farm System get more good forestry on more private acres by becoming a certified Tree Farm inspector. Prior registration is required.

Please contact Dave Jackson, Pennsylvania Tree Farm Program Inspector Training Coordinator at 814-355-4897 or via e-mail at CentreExt@psu.edu if you plan to attend. 🌲

PSU Students at Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum

By Robbie Withington

On October 11, 2007, Penn State student chapter members **Derrick Nahill, Sam Scavo, John Wakefield** and myself, driven by chapter advisor **Mike Powell**, attended the annual Roach-Bauer Forum in St. Mary's, Pa. At the forum, the topic of the night was "Pennsylvania's Changing Deer Herd."

Dr. Chris Rosenberry from the Pa Game Commission (PGC) talked about the decrease in deer numbers over the last few years throughout most of the state. He talked about how the deer heard is about where the PGC wants it, between 10 and 15 deer per square mile. He explained the different methods of deer harvest surveys and how the Game Commission manages the heard from the size of the estimated deer heard. He also mentioned the increase in deer size; the average buck being taken now is around 2.5 years old, compared to 1.5 before the antler restrictions.

Dr. David DeCalesta from the Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative talked about the impact different deer densities have on forest regeneration. He



PSU students at the Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum
Photo courtesy of Kathleen Bobenrieth

did a study comparing different densities and showed that in harvested areas the deer impact was less because of the increased browse available. He repeated the fact that deer body size and antler number has increased since antler restrictions have been implemented.

While driving to St. Mary's, we had the opportunity to view four bull elk and 12 cow elk in Benezette, the main viewing location for the elk herd in Pennsylvania. The ride back from the forum added numerous deer sightings and one bobcat. 🌲

Teller's Report

Submitted by Susan L. Stout, Chair, Allegheny SAF Teller's Committee

The combination of paper plus electronic voting seems to have increased voter participation in the Allegheny SAF election this year. We received nearly 250 ballots. Thank you to all voting members!

The officers elected to serve are: **Mary Ann Fajvan** as Chair-Elect; **Rachel Billingham** as Treasurer/Secretary; and **Brad Elison, Ned Karger, Charlie Newlon, and Steve Resh** as members of the Executive Committee.

Our thanks to Dennis Galway and Frank Hennion for their willingness to serve. 🌲

Allegheny SAF History Shorts

By Ron Sheay

Over the next few Allegheny News issues I will put in reflections of past Allegheny "Section" meetings compiled by Elwood "Slim" Moore written in 1972 on the 50th anniversary of the Allegheny SAF. Times have certainly changed from some of these early "Section" meetings as recapped (with tongue in cheek) by Mr. Moore.

Part 2 Section Meetings (continued – Part 1, p 4 Summer 2007 issue)

Turning now to more sober themes, one should note that in those early days, many back roads were still of the dirt variety, and the passage of a cavalcade of cars really put up a dust cloud. This was not too bad if you were in the first or second car, but if you were in the rear echelons, you really had to take it. On one of these occasions, when touring rough mountain country, the writer was riding in an open car piloted by a local cowboy (no forester), near the tail end. Our driver announced he was going to avoid the dust by moving up in line next to the leader. Although we all assured him that we liked dust, this character proceeded to cut in and out on twisty mountain roads passing 8 or 10 cars, each time on the abyss-side. He made it all right but his passengers were all in a state bordering on hysteria. The writer changed cars on the first stop.

One field trip, I think in 1927, we toured the Pennsylvania coalfields and at Scranton were taken down into a deep mine. This was a memorable occasion. We were herded and squeezed into a cage-like elevator used in raising and lowering the miners. I was talking to Mack Sloan when suddenly the bottom fell out from under us and we were whizzing down the shaft. I found myself grabbing Mac around the body and gasping. The next moment we coasted to an easy stop at the bottom, several hundred feet down. We staggered out of the cage, but I still remember the pleased smiles of the lift operators. Mac had been down before and was all set, but we green horns were in a state of shock.

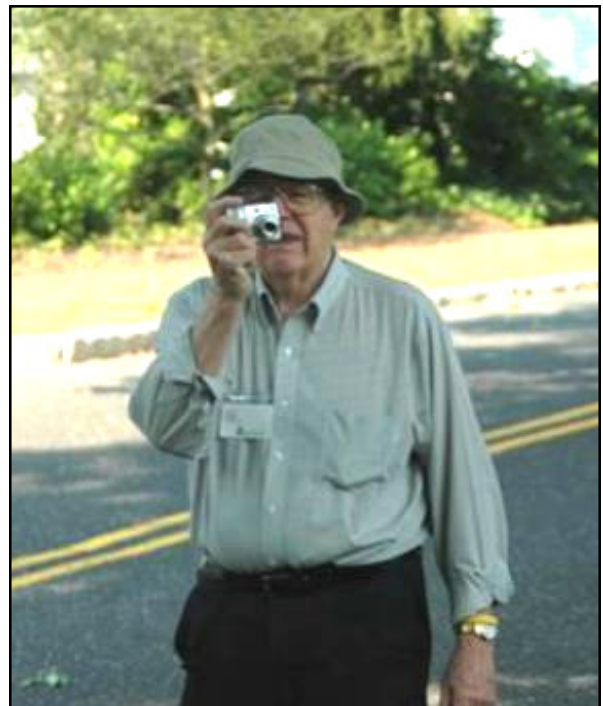
Among other trips that come to mind was one where we were being taken to see some cutting operations in rough mountain country. There were lots of mountains and the guide took us to the wrong one. Then like the King of France with his

40,000 men, he marched us down the hill and marched us up again. We saw no logging there.

On another occasion the cavalcade was speeding along in open country. Suddenly the car immediately ahead of us left the road and began mounting a steep bank on the right. We thought it was going to capsize, but just in the nick of time a man in the rear seat rose up, reached over the driver, grabbed the wheel and brought it back to the right-of-way. Everybody stopped. The driver had passed out with a heart attack. Just then a doctor appeared from nowhere. He was on horseback, and producing pills and a hypodermic needle from saddlebags, administered medications. The man who saved the car from turning over was George R. Moorhead.

One of the most interesting field trips we took was that one over the lands of the Armstrong Company in Pennsylvania where management and timber cutting was handled under the supervision of Ed Ehrhart. Here we saw the practice of deadening trees a year prior to logging to facilitate barking operations later.

(Final part to come in next newsletter) 🌲



(photo courtesy of Roger Sherman)

Deer Research Focus of Forestry Forum

By Ned Karger, Chairman, Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum Steering Committee

The latest research on Pennsylvania's changing Whitetail Deer population has produced some extremely interesting results for hunters and natural resource managers. The research findings were presented at the recent Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum by **Dr. Chris Rosenberry**, PA Game Commission Deer Management Section Supervisor, and **Dr. David deCalesta**, Certified Wildlife Biologist working for the Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative.

Dr. Rosenberry reviewed the Game Commission mission and goals for deer management including a healthy deer herd, healthy forest habitats and reduced deer-human conflicts. The Game Commission uses a wide range of data from a variety of sources as well as input from the public and Citizen Advisory Committees to monitor the management goals. Harvest data and population estimates have been validated with scientific reviews. The Game Commission has also participated in a variety of new scientific studies over the last few years which are being used to better understand predation, hunter behavior and the effects of antler restriction.

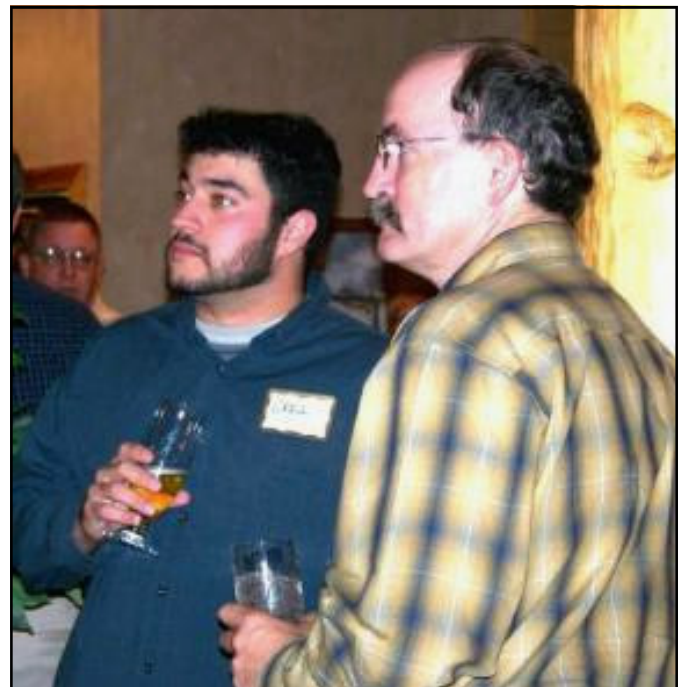
Over three thousand adult and fawn deer have been captured, collared and released in various scientific studies across Pennsylvania. Fawn mortality was tracked and found to be quite variable across the state. Predators were a major cause of fawn mortality in some areas but only a minor cause in other areas. When predation did occur, bears, coyotes and unidentifiable predators were each responsible for about one-third of the documented kills. Fawn mortality occurred mostly in the first five weeks of life and tapered off rapidly after that. Predators rarely killed adult deer with only five kills of over 300 confirmed mortalities.

Studies on hunter behavior also help the Game Commission manage the deer herd. Access and terrain were found to be the main factors affecting hunters. In the Sproul State Forest, in Centre and Clinton Co., where most of the roads are on the ridges and plateau tops, hunters rarely ventured into the steep ravines and lower slopes. This essentially creates some refuge areas where deer can go and not be heavily hunted. On the

Tuscarora State Forest, in Perry and Juniata Co., access roads are mostly in the valleys with some crossing the ridges. Hunters dispersed more evenly across the landscape in that area.

Antler restrictions were supported by 57% of hunters before they were instituted in 2002. Last year 63% of hunters surveyed supported the restrictions. Hunter success rates changed very little since 2002 with 18% of hunters harvesting a buck in 1995-96 and 17% harvesting a buck in 2005-06. Antler restrictions have allowed bucks to get older and grow larger racks by protecting the younger bucks.

Dr. David deCalesta has studied deer, deer habitat and hunting extensively on the Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative (KQDC) area since it was established in 2000. The KQDC area is 74,000 acres of forest east of the Allegheny Reservoir in McKean Co. The KQDC includes Allegheny National Forest and Bradford Watershed land as well as some large tracts of private land. The KQDC was set up as a model with the objectives of educating hunters, improving deer quality and health and reducing deer impact on seedlings, shrubs, wildflowers and habitat for other wildlife species. The KQDC has utilized the Game Commission's Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) to adjust the number of





Ned Karger (left) presents speaker Dr. David deCalesta with the coveted Biltmore stick at the Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum (photo courtesy of Kathleen Bobenrieth)

antlerless deer permits on the area. Publicity, signage and opening of gates by KQDC members helped to disperse the hunters. The KQDC holds hunter seminars, surveys hunter attitudes and collects extensive data on the area. Deer check stations collect data on sex, age, weight, and antlers as well as location, time and weather when deer are harvested. In spring, pellet counts are used to estimate over wintering populations. Vegetation measurements are taken in summer months to monitor various plant abundance and growth as well as deer feeding and browsing. Dr. deCalesta assembles all of this data and data from the US Forest Service and the other landowners. He shared many of the important findings at the Forum.

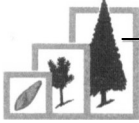
Deer density in terms of deer per square mile decreased from 2002-2006 and then increased slightly in 2007. The number of DMAP permits has been reduced as the herd has decreased. These population changes are closely correlated with measurements of deer browse on vegetation. Browsing has been reduced on all indicator species such as red maple, striped maple, hemlock and birch. The abundance and height growth as well

as the number of flowering trillium has also increased as deer populations have decreased. The amount and nutritional quality of forage available for the deer herd has increased.

Characteristics of the deer herd have changed dramatically. Most of the population decrease has been in does which has improved the buck to doe ratio. Body weights of deer measured at the check stations have increase significantly in both bucks and does. Antler measurements have also increased in both spread and number of points.

Hunter surveys have indicated support for the KQDC deer management. Hunters surveyed included many local residents but many who come to hunt on the KQDC were non-local PA residents and out of state hunters. Dr. deCalesta closed by thanking the landowner partners, volunteers, researchers, foundation supporters and hunters who have help make the KQDC a success.

Dr. Rosenberry and Dr. deCalesta were each presented with the traditional Roach Bauer Forestry Forum black cherry Biltmore stick in appreciation for their work and presentation. During the Forum \$500 was also raised through an apple cider sale with the proceeds going to the Bob Bauer Scholarship Fund at Penn State. 🌲




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A Trip to Remember

By Erin Stewart

This year, Oregon state hosted the Society of American Foresters (SAF) National Convention in Portland, and the Penn State University SAF Chapter students were given the opportunity to attend. Nine students participated, flew to Portland and attended the convention from October 23–27.

All Forestry majors, the students studied the poster boards, visited the convention exhibitors, and the many university booths explaining their under graduate and graduate program offerings. The United States Forest Service (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) were there seeking students for internships and employment. Ben Meadows and ESRI, a Geographic Information Science and Mapping Company, were among companies promoting their product lines and services. There was also a job fair held on Thursday for students seeking employment, or just to become acquainted with after-graduation opportunities.

Tuesday evening the Annual National SAF Student Quiz Bowl was held with 27 participating forestry schools, including Penn State. Four member teams competed in a single-elimination tournament. Penn State faced off against Georgia Tech and won, followed by wins over Virginia Tech, North Carolina State University, and California's Humboldt College. "It got a little heated at times but we kept our cool...", Ben Gamble commented.

In the final match for first place, Penn State beat Wisconsin University, Stevens Point to win the National Quiz Bowl!

Members of the PSU team were captain **Kim Linette**, two-time National Quiz Bowl winner; **Ben Gamble**, Allegheny Quiz Bowl winner, Mont Alto grad, graduate student, and past SAF student chapter president;

Chris Layaou, current student chapter president; and Mont Alto graduate **John Schwartz**.

Since the start of the Student Quiz Bowl, Penn State has taken the trophy twice in the past three years. Aside from receiving the trophy to take back home, the team members each received a \$25 gift certificate for the SAF store, and a book entitled Silviculture and Ecology of Western U.S. Forests. PSU received a certificate and the honor of keeping the trophy for a year.

Richard Louve, author of *Last Child in the Woods* spoke to a large audience Wednesday morning. Louve's book is based on the argument that children aren't playing outdoors anymore and America is suffering from "Nature-Deficit Disorder." "He [Louve] spoke about how every person has a special place in their childhood that they can go back to," John Schwartz recalled. "Louve took me back to the woodlot I used to play in as a child."

The alumni dinners for each university were held on Wednesday night. Penn State students, Main campus and Mont Alto campus, enjoyed a light dinner with one another at the alumni reunion.

On Thursday and Friday the students did some sight seeing, visiting Mt. Hood's famous Timberline Lodge, which was built by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) during the 1930' depression. While on their forestry adventures,



National SAF Quiz Bowl Champions from Penn State University
(photo courtesy of Joe Smith, National SAF)

students saw Douglas Fir and Ponderosa Pine on the east side of the Cascade Mountains and the Highland Desert on the west side. When viewing Mt St Helens the group saw areas that were devastated by the volcano and the sub-alpine fir that was planted in a restoration effort.

Our student chapter was recognized for placing third in the 2007 SAF "Outstanding Student Chapter" competition for activities during the academic year of 2006-07. This was our third time placing in this competition, having placed first in 2003 and second in 2004. 🌲

The forestry students planned this trip a year in advance. Through fundraising and (greatly appreciated) money awards from PSU, we were able to broaden our educational experience. The group thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the National Convention and is looking forward to attending the 2008 SAF National Convention in Reno, Nevada, in November.

Awards Deadline Alert!

The national SAF Presidential Field Forester Award deadline for nominations is **April 21, 2008**. A brief nomination statement for each candidate (a minimum of 10 years of field experience described) should be forwarded to Awards Chair **Howard Wurzbacher**. Questions? Information available at hwurzbache@state.pa.us, 814-432-3187 (office), or 814-589-7538 (home).

One member of SAF District VII (Allegheny and National Capital SAF Units) will be chosen under the new selection process: "recognizing an individual who has displayed uncommon talent, skill, and innovative methods to receive a record of excellence in the application of forest management in the field." Award winners will be recognized at the 2008 SAF National Convention in Reno, NV, November 5-7. 🌲

The next newsletter deadline is March 15, 2008

Send articles in Microsoft Word format and photos as JPG files to Allegheny News editor Jack Winieski
ansaf@verizon.net

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Visit the Allegheny SAF website  
[www.alleghenysaf.org](http://www.alleghenysaf.org)

for online newsletters, officer contact information, committees and chairs, important documents, etc.



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# **Allegheny Society of American Foresters**

## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2007**

### **Attendees:**

Allegheny Officers: K. Steiner, Chair; K. Gottschalk, V. Chair; K. Jolly, Imm Past Chair; R. Billingham, Sec/Treas; R. Seifert, Exec. Cmte Member; Division/Chapter Officers and Committee Representatives: F. Hennion, NJ Div. Chair; B. Elison, PA Div. Chair; T. Kaden; Policy/Legislative Cmte Chair; M. Kusko, Keystone Chap. Chair; M. Huneke, MD/DE Div. Chair

### **Minutes from Previous Executive Committee Meeting:**

Motion to accept by K. Jolly; second by K. Gottschalk. The minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report (R. Billingham):**

Current checking account balance: \$24,719.64. Endowment savings account balance: \$48,801.73 (\$5,862.65 of these funds are liquid). A donation is expected from the MD/DE Division from winter meeting in MD. NJ SAF noted the possibility of a deficit from this meeting. They have some people scheduled to donate funds for them to meet their bottom line. The motion to accept the reports was made by F. Hennion and seconded by T. Kaden

### **HSD Report (K. Jolly):**

Craig Volmer is the current chair of HSD. For this tax year, state/multi-state societies that accrue more than \$25K in income must file their own taxes instead of going under the umbrella of the National SAF. We may need to obtain our own tax id number and accountant. R. Billingham will look into this. There may be an insurance/liability issue in having meetings in the future. If you have an event where you are doing something that is considered a high risk activity, such as selling alcohol, hosting kids in the woods, hosting field trips, going offsite for meeting, providing transportation, etc, you are not covered by the National SAF insurance policy. We may need a separate policy. More information will be presented on this issue at future Council and HSD meetings. ANSAF will discuss this further at the winter meeting. HSD will implement a national HSD recognition award, similar to FSTB. Through this award, HSD will recognize the state societies/divisions/chapters/individuals that have advanced services to the Society or the public. C. Nelson, who had been working on SAF communications and marketing, has left national office.

### **Council Report (K. Steiner for M. Coloumbe):**

M. Coloumbe's report was published in the Allegheny News. Note that SAF membership categories were not changed, except that "Corresponding Member" was changed to "Subscriber." Fellows, honorary, and international members are all listed under "Professional." Council is recommending that the by-laws be changed to allow technicians to vote. Other changes will be clarified in the future.

### **Executive Director Report (K. Steiner for J. Winieski):**

Copies of the summer e-newsletter looked very nice. This saved ANSAF approximately \$1500. When Steiner sends out the email listserve, many addressed are returned as undeliverable. The National office is the main source for email addresses. We need to utilize the web to attempt to reach people and let them know that they need to send us their updated email addresses. It appears to take the National office a while to get the new email addresses into their system. Steiner is working with his secretary to make sure that correct email addresses he has fixed are not replaced by incorrect ones when the national list arrives. The committee may make a suggestion to National to add a colorful notice to the dues invoices indicating the need to update contact information. For the electronic national elections, National will take care of people that don't have email. J. Purdue requests that the ANSAF website be placed in a more prominent position in the Allegheny News.



## Committee Reports

**Communications:** no report

**Forest Science Coordinator (K. Gottschalk for M. Fajvan):** M. Fajvan is interested in having a science fundraiser at the winter meeting. Keystone SAF is going to meet soon regarding volunteers for the next winter meeting. R. Billingham will see if we can find someone to help her with this fundraiser. T. Kaden made a motion that the 2008 Allegheny winter meeting silent auction fundraiser proceeds go to the science fund. Second by K. Gottschalk. Motion passed.

**Membership (K. Gottschalk):** The membership purge occurred in June; 102 members were purged from ANSAF (national purge was 1483 – total membership is 13,831) ANSAF membership is currently 982.

**District VII Fellows Committee (K. Gottschalk):** This group had a rough time getting started. Some committee resignations had to be filled: three nominations were approved and forwarded on to M. Columbe for her consideration. Note the current difficulty in filling committee positions, as the geographical and gender proportion requirements can increase difficulty of finding nominees to fit the open positions. There was a small bit of controversy with National Capital SAF, as they did not feel they had time to nominate anyone, thus, they did not nominate anyone this year. Everyone should note that Fellows can be nominated at any point in the year. National Capital will put a notice in their newsletter and will continue collecting information to submit someone next year.

**National Student Council (K. Steiner):** M. Columbe needs to have a district representative for the national student council. One of these students would actually serve on the Council. K. Steiner has contacted the Allegheny schools and Ben Gamble was chosen to represent ANSAF students.

**Nominations (K. Jolly):** Many candidates came in from NJ. We can only have two members from each state. M. Vodak will not run this year. There are two nominees for chair elect, one for secretary/treasurer, and five for the executive committee. We would like more candidates for the executive committee, especially a representative from WV.

**Policy/Legislative (T. Kaden):** There is nothing new from the policy team at the national level. K. Steiner received a packet in the mail from the Union of Concerned Scientists. They have a report on global warming and its impact on the northeast. National has decided to adopt a policy statement on global climate change. K. Steiner will send this info to T. Kaden. K. Gottschalk is working on a position statement on clearcutting. This is under review by the silviculture working group. Send any feedback or suggestions to K. Gottschalk.

**Program (K. Steiner for N. Karger):** We have not yet received a volunteer to host the Winter 2011. The Pinchot chapter volunteered to host Summer 2010.

## Old Business

**Revision of Operations Manual – K. Jolly:** The manual is coming along and will be posted on the web soon. K. Steiner and K. Jolly will discuss final revisions. N. Karger has completed the Guidelines for Annual Allegheny SAF Meetings. This document will be added to the website as well.

**ANSAF Web Page and Internet Usage Survey – R. Billingham for J. Purdue:** J. Purdue has done great job with the site. He is always looking for content. The NJ newsletter is good and should be added to the website. This newsletter is sent out two times per year. All chapter newsletters should go on the website, along with meeting notices. J. Purdue will draft a charter for the webmaster – this will be a topic for the Winter business meeting.

*(continued on page 16)*

*(continued from page 15)*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**2007 ANSAF Elections/Electronic Voting (R. Billingham):** R. Billingham will certify the candidates and send nominations to National by Sept 4.

**ANSAF Archives (K. Steiner):** ASAF archives are currently housed with the PFA archives. PFA is working to move their records into the PSU archives where they will be secure but freely available. We will need to figure out what to do with our archives when they move out of their building. K. Steiner will talk to PSU archives to see if we can house our archives there. R. Seifert will check with PFA. Nothing will be done with the records without executive committee approval.

**Other Business (K. Gottschalk):** Ben Stout recently passed away. He was on faculty at Rutgers. His family set up a memorial fund via SAF that may become part of the science fund. He was a former chair of ANSAF. An article will be written on this for the Allegheny News. K. Gottschalk will forward this info on to J. Winieski.

## **DIVISION/CHAPTER REPORTS**

**Maryland/Delaware (M. Huneke):** MD celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of forestry. The Division produced "Board Feet Plaques" (77 board feet per minute every year), which were given to each member of the MD legislature. They received 5 responses, all of which were positive.

**New Jersey (F. Hennion):** The summer meeting was a struggle for attendance. The membership is currently stable. They wanted to focus this meeting on urban forestry so that many of the urban foresters that work in the state will consider membership in SAF. Asian longhorned beetle is in NJ. Sirex woodwasp is expected to come in from NY and PA. The education center is moving slowly, in order to complete it, the NJ Division will have to apply for a separate 501c3 designation. The entire project will involve several hundred thousand dollars. They are hosting an upcoming workshop in November on handheld data collectors. Several NJ members will attend the national meeting.

**Pennsylvania Division (B. Elison):** The Division will have a joint meeting next spring with the PA Wildlife Society. They are trying to generate more interest. They are still selling the Jim Nelson video.

**West Virginia:** No report.

**Keystone (M. Kusko):** They are hosting the winter meeting, which will be held Feb 13-15, 2008 at Hotel Carlisle in Carlisle, PA right off of I-81. They will keep it to the "one chain price" of \$66 for members and \$20 for students. Room costs are \$75 for a double room.

**Northern Hardwoods:** No report.

**Pinchot:** No report.

**Plateau:** No report.

**Rothrock:** No report.

**Valley Forge:** No report.

**Western Gateway:** No report.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30

# ALLEGHENY SAF 2008 WINTER MEETING

## Forestry in Changing Times - The Future is NOW -

February 13-15, 2008 • Hotel Carlisle, Carlisle, PA

### Wednesday, February 13:

12:00pm – 8:00pm Registration, Reginald Forbes Art Contest Registration  
2:00pm – 6:00pm Executive Committee Meeting  
6:00pm – 8:00pm Icebreaker Reception, Silent Auction begins

### Thursday, February 14:

8:00am – 12:00pm Registration, R. Forbes Art Contest, Silent Auction

#### Current Trends in Bioenergy/Ecosystem Services

9:00am – 9:15am Welcome and Introduction Mike Kusko, Keystone Chair  
9:15am – 9:45am Keynote: PA's Innovative Approach to Bioenergy/Ecosystem Services John Quigley, PA DCNR  
9:45am – 10:15am Carbon Credits/Trading 101, a Primer Paul Roth  
10:15am – 10:45am Break  
10:45am – 11:15am Forestry Opportunities in Cellulosic Ethanol Speaker TBA  
11:15am – 11:45am Fuels for Schools: Utilization of low value wood as renewable biofuel Speaker TBA  
11:45am – 12:00pm Lunch (included)

#### Preparing the Foresters of Tomorrow

1:00pm – 1:30pm SAF Accreditation of Technical Schools Terry Clark, SAF National Office  
1:30pm – 2:30pm Update from ANSAF Forestry Schools Reps from ANSAF Schools  
2:30pm – 3:00pm Break  
3:00pm – 4:15pm What do employers want to see in recent graduates? Breakout Session All attendees  
4:30pm Student Quiz Bowl  
6:00pm Cash Bar Opens  
7:00pm – 9:00pm Awards Banquet Buffet: Lost but Found: Search and Rescue Dogs Bob Hummer, Invited  
Alternate Subject: Telling the NPS Story through Film Anne Tubiolo, NPS, Invited

### Friday, February 15:

7:00am – 8:00am Chairman's Breakfast Speaker TBA  
8:00am – 8:30am PA Division Meeting  
8:30am – 9:00am Allegheny SAF Business Meeting  
**Exciting Developments in Bio-Control of Invasive Species**  
9:00am – 9:45am A Breakthrough in the Bio-control of Ailanthus Dr. Don Davis, PSU  
9:45am – 10:15am Break – Silent Auction Closes  
10:15am – 11:00am New Developments in Bio-Control of Mile-a-Minute in Delaware Prof. Judith Hough-Goldstein, UD  
11:00am – 11:15am Closing Comments  
11:15 am Announcement of Silent Auction Winners

**Hotel Reservations:** Call Hotel Carlisle at 1-800-692-7315. Cost is \$75 per room; 50 rooms are held under Bureau of Forestry until Jan. 14 – Detailed directions to the hotel can be found at <http://www.hotelcarlisle.com/mapanddirections.asp>

**Want to Exhibit?** Call Paul Iampietro at 717-495-3807

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| Address: _____              | Non-Member:            | \$75 x _____ | _____     |
| _____                       | Student:               | \$20 x _____ | _____     |
| Phone: _____                | Banquet:               | \$27 x _____ | _____     |
| Email: _____                | Chair's Breakfast:     | \$12 x _____ | _____     |
| _____                       | Sponsor a Student:     | \$20 x _____ | _____     |
| Dietary Restrictions: _____ | <b>Total enclosed:</b> | _____        | _____     |

Note: a late fee of \$20 will be charged if registering after February 5, 2008

**Make checks payable to Keystone SAF, and mail to Rachel Billingham, PA Bureau of Forestry, PO Box 8552, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552 (call Rachel at 717-783-0385 with any questions)**

AN



# National SAF Convention Photos

## Portland, Oregon



Photos courtesy of Frank Hennion, Joe Smith, and Jack Winieski



*It's not easy being green.*



# Robert M. Bauer Student Memorial Awards

By Ellen A. Manno, PSU, Forest Resources, Asst. Director, Special Programs

Two Penn State Forest Science students have been selected as recipients of the Bauer Student Memorial Award for the 2007-08 academic years. **Jesse Monroe** and **Jay Work**, both graduates of the Forest Technology program at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA, are currently seniors in the Forest Science baccalaureate degree program at Penn State.

Monroe is from Bloomsburg, PA. He has been an intern for the past four summers with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and hopes to pursue a career with that agency when he graduates in December 2007. He is a member of the Society of American Foresters and Xi Sigma Pi.

Work is from Perkasio, PA, and his dream job is to do research in Alaska. He enjoys hiking, mushroom hunting, and is an avid camper. He is currently looking into the option of taking additional coursework to earn an academic minor. 🌲



(l to r): Connie Bauer, Jen Bauer Tranell, and scholarship recipient Jesse Monroe  
Jay Work was not available for the photo

*The Bauer Student Memorial Award was created by family and friends of Robert W. "Bob" Bauer who died in a tragic farming accident on New Year's Eve 2002. Consideration for this award is given to students who have obtained an associate degree in a forest technician program and have enrolled in the Forest Science program at Penn State University Park. The first awards from this fund were made in the 2005-06 academic year.*

## National 4-H "Forests of Fun" Released

Each year nearly 480,000 youngsters in the U.S. enroll in 4-H projects that involve the study of trees and forests. Recently, a new set of national 4-H Forestry curriculum publications titled "Forests of Fun" has become available to them.

The "Forests of Fun" curriculum, the result of a 2-year project developed by a national "design team," is the first for 4-H Forestry since 1979. Foresters, educators, curriculum specialists, county Extension agents and volunteer leaders from around the country collaborated to create the new curriculum. It was funded by the 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System (4-HCCS), the U.S. Forest Service, and the Hardwood Forest Foundation.

The new "Forests of Fun" curriculum enables youth to gain a life-long appreciation of forests as sources of multiple benefits for society. These

publications and the supporting website provide research-based information and activities to guide volunteer leaders and stimulate youngster's natural interest in forests. The educational materials help youth encounter trees and forests in a way that makes forest attributes personal to them. A website ([www.n4hccs.org](http://www.n4hccs.org)) provides additional forestry information to support the activities and more contacts for youth that wish to investigate the "wider world of forestry." It is an excellent way for young people to contact the organizations and people that comprise the forestry sector in the U.S.

The curriculum is available from the 4-H Cooperative Curriculum System (4-HCCS) through its website or from your state 4-H office at your land-grant university. 🌲



# A Reporter's View of the Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum

By Kathleen Bobenrieth, ERA Correspondent

The Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum, sponsored by the Allegheny Society of American Foresters, was held at the Red Fern near St. Marys, PA. This forum is held annually in memory of Bob Bauer, a PA Game Commission forester who was tragically killed on December 31, 2002. Fifty gallons of cider were sold at \$10 each to benefit the Bob Bauer Scholarship Fund.

The topic of the program was "Pennsylvania's Changing Deer Herd: Recent Research and Monitoring", which was an update on recent white-tailed deer research and monitoring in PA. Two speakers provided lectures on the subject: Dr. Christopher Rosenberry, Deer Management Section Supervisor, PA Game Commission and Dr. David deCalesta, Certified Wildlife Biologist & Wildlife Consultant, Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative.

Dr. Rosenberry is located near Harrisburg and has been in his present position for seven years. He has been involved in deer research for about 14 years. He was interested in biology and wildlife growing up and earned a degree in zoology at North Carolina State University. He did grad work on white-tailed deer.

"To anyone who has carefully studied the situation it is evident that large parts of the range in Pennsylvania are overstocked with deer", Rosenberry stated. In the 1920s hunters had submitted petitions to the Game Commission demanding doe hunting be stopped and encouraged landowners to post their lands with signs proclaiming No Doe Hunting.

The Agency Mission: To manage all wild birds, mammals and their habitats for current and future generations. Wildlife habitat and people must be connected when making deer management decisions. Future implementations of deer management decisions must be connected.

The deer management goals are: manage deer for healthy deer, manage deer for forest habitat, and manage deer for reduced deer-human conflicts.

Deer management measures deer health/reproduction, forest habitat health/regeneration, deer/human conflicts/registration data. Samples



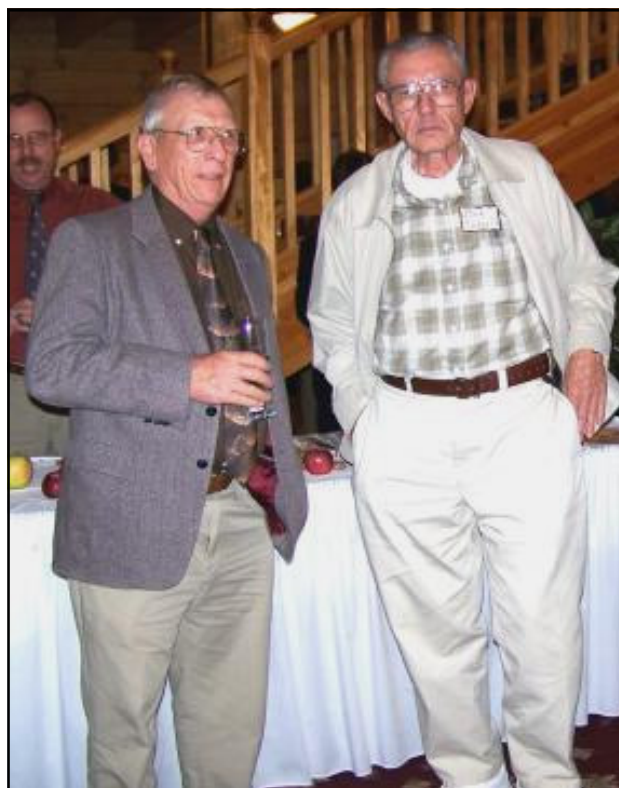
Kathleen Bobenrieth

were collected from across the State by the US Forest Service, PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources and Penn State University.

The Game Commission goes across the State to provide data on 30,000 deer harvests per year and then compares the data with the hunters' report cards. The numbers come in very close.

Dr. David deCalesta received a PH degree in Wildlife Ecology from Colorado State University, did Zoology research at Oregon State for the Dept. of Wildlife Ecology working mostly with deer. He worked at the Forest Service Science Lab in Warren for ten years on a research project - deer density and impact. He retired in 2001 and is a Wildlife Consultant (mostly deer). He is an analyst manager for Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative, which is a 74,000 acre plot in the Allegheny Forest in northwest PA. - McKean County.

Dr. deCalesta related deer density from 1850



(photo courtesy of Kathleen Bobenrieth)

to 2000 in terms of deer per square mile. He noted in 1850 there were slightly less than 15 per square mile until the predators were eliminated. After 1880 there was heavy market hunting and the count was about 20 per square mile. Shortly before 1900 the State clear cut and the deer population bottomed out. From 1900 to 1930 here were 50 per square mile. The population dropped to 15 per square mile in 1943. The annual antler less season in the 1950's put the count around 30 per square mile. In 1975 there was another increase of over 50 per square mile and then with the winter die-off the count dropped to approximately 30 square mile again. In 2000 there were 30 per square mile. Deer density steadily decreased from 2002-2006 and then increased slightly in 2007. deCalesta summed up the results of the research and monitoring noting that:

- Deer density has been reduced and kept at goal level 2005-07.
- Deer impact on vegetation has been greatly reduced.
- Deer weights and antler characteristics are improved.
- Buck, doe and fawn ratios improved.
- Wildflowers, shrubs and other habitats are improving.
- Hunters keep coming to hunt; they agree with the need to reduce deer and say they will continue to hunt.

The success of the program is due to hunters harvesting deer, cooperating landowners, education efforts, involvement of volunteers – especially hunters, great road access and the PGC (PA Game Commission) innovations.

The two speakers were each presented a Biltmore Stick (made from Kane Hardwood third party, green certified black cherry) at the close of the meeting. The Biltmore Stick is an old tool, dating to around the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The tool can be used easily in the field to measure trunk diameters and heights of standing trees. The stick looks like a yard stick. It is usually a strip of wood with measurements marked to show the corresponding diameter or height. It differs from the yard stick, as the increments of the measurements decrease as the diameter or height increases.

“The tool is a very coveted gift to any speaker for two reasons: The Biltmore Stick is something that came in with (Gifford) Pinchot down in North



(photo courtesy of Kathleen Bobenrieth)

Carolina forests where he worked. He was the first to practice forestry science in that state. And secondly, it comes from a sustainable forest that is well managed by a third party person,” stated Jack Winieski, editor of *The Allegheny News*, the official publication of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters. (Pinchot was the first Chief of the U.S. Forest Service). 🌲

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## PSU "Woodsmen" Team Competitions

By Mike Powell, PSU Student Chapter Advisor

The Penn State Woodsmen team was in action this fall semester with a demonstration at the Reeds Gap State Park Fall Festival, followed by a scrimmage hosted by fellow Penn Staters Penn College in Williamsport, Pa. On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the team traveled to Lindsay, Ontario, Canada to attend the 25th Loggersports competition hosted by Sir Sandford Fleming College. As advisor of this team since 2002, we had never had a complete women's team. A full team, either male or female, consists of 6 individuals competing in 6 single events, 3 double events, and team events in which everyone participates. Our first ever women's team finished 6th out of 13 teams. To make this even more special, 4 of these ladies never competed before this fall! Our men's team finished 8th out of 29 teams which made this our best finish since the team resurrected in 2002. Our spring schedule looks like a trip to Southern Illinois for the first ever All American Collegiate Foresters Conclave and then New Hampshire for the 62nd annual Spring Log Drive competition. 🌲

Visit the Allegheny SAF website  
[www.allegheny saf.org](http://www.allegheny saf.org)

for online newsletters, officer contact information, committees and chairs, important documents, etc.

## Rothrock Chapter Gathers for Winter Meeting

By Brent Harding, Forester, PSU Forestland Mgmt.

Twenty-six Society of American Foresters, Rothrock Chapter members gathered at the Ramada Conference Center in State College, PA on December 4, 2007 for their annual Winter Meeting.

Dr. Charles Ray, Penn State Assistant Professor of Wood Products Operations, was invited to be the guest speaker to enlighten the attendees on Pennsylvania's potential to be on the forefront of LUW (low-use wood) utilization as a fuel stock. Dr. Ray stated that "Taken together, the net impact of the increasing low-use wood resource with decreasing use of this resource by the traditional wood products industry indicate a continued increase in the Pennsylvania forest inventory of low-use wood relative to merchantable timber." An outlet for this increasing inventory of Pennsylvania low-use wood could be renewable, relatively carbon neutral woody biomass energy.

The current buzz of biomass is not new to the University; the Penn State School of Forest Resources has been researching biomass since the late 1970s. The School along with the Penn State Biomass Energy Center continues to pursue the conversion of biomass into energy.


In addition to being informed by Dr. Ray, the membership was also introduced to the new **Rothrock Chapter officers** for the 01/2008 to 12/2009 term. They are **Robert Merrill** (Chairperson), **Jonathan Wirth** (Past Chairperson), **Brent Harding** (Chairperson Elect), **Randy White** (Secretary-Treasurer), **Sanford Smith** (Executive Committee), **Andy Blazewicz** (Executive Committee), **Roy Bucher** (Executive Committee) and **Michael Powell** (Ex Officio Executive Committee). A business meeting followed with a brief presentation on current membership demographics, which initiated a group discussion.

The Rothrock Chapter is committed to the advancement of science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry in America, and especially within the Pennsylvania Counties of Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Snyder and Union. 🌲

## Finley and Kays Receive Awards

Allegheny Society of American Foresters members **Jim Finley** (Pennsylvania) and **Jonathan Kays** (Maryland) recently received the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers "Ribbon Award." The award recognizes individuals who have "...produced outstanding

educational materials."


In connection with Adam Downing, Finley's and Kays' efforts resulted in the production of the publication entitled [The Woods in Your Backyard: Learning to Create & Enhance Natural Areas Around Your Home.](#) 

## PA SAF Division Elects

The SAF Pennsylvania Division elected new officers for 2008 and 2009. Thanks to those who have stepped forward to lead. We also extend thanks to **Brad Elison** for his four years of service to the Division as Chair and Chair-Elect. There were 66 ballots cast with no write in votes being received.

**Chair: Howard Wurzbacher CF** - Howard received a BS in Forest Science from Penn State University in 1979. Since May of 2003, he has been employed by the Pennsylvania Game Commission as the Regional Forester in the PGC's Northwest Region. Howard has served SAF on a variety of committees and positions at the chapter level, and is presently Awards Chair of the Allegheny SAF. He is a Certified Forester; and a member of SAF since 1992.

**Chair-Elect: Doug D'Amore** - Doug has an Associates Degree in Forest Technology from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, (New York State Ranger School) and a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry from the University of Michigan. He has been employed by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry for the last 21 years, and is currently serving as District Forester on the Sproul State Forest. He has been a member of SAF since 1984, and Secretary/Treasurer of the PA SAF Division since 1994.

**Secretary/Treasurer: Thad Taylor CF** - Thad's a Certified Forester, graduated from Penn State in 1997 with a BS in Forest Science and graduated from Texas A&M in 2000 with an MBA. He's a senior loan officer, forest products lender, AgChoice Farm Credit. He's a director with the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, a member of the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association and the Penn York Lumberman's Club. He is an SAF member since 1995. 

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## Emerald Ash Borer Found in Pennsylvania

By Stephen Miller, Allegheny National Forest

### Please Don't Move Firewood Onto the Allegheny National Forest!

Visitors to the Allegheny National Forest (NF) are reminded to leave firewood at home. Emerald ash borer, a small, green beetle introduced from Asia, which kills ash trees, has been discovered in Pennsylvania. This destructive forest insect, although a weak flyer, has been moving by leaps and bounds across the country because campers are moving firewood in which the insect is hiding. Buy or collect your firewood once you reach your campsite. Pack hotdogs - not firewood!



Employees of the Allegheny NF are particularly concerned now that the dangerous beetle has been discovered north of Pittsburgh and in eastern Ohio. "We have huge number of visitors from the Pittsburgh area and Ohio, and we don't want any campers to bring firewood from home to the Allegheny NF. Campers can help protect the forest by not moving firewood," said Steve Miller, Public Services Staff Officer for the Allegheny NF.

Four states, (Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and lower Michigan) have bans on the movement of firewood out of those states because of the danger of moving a dangerous insect to another state. A ban means it is illegal to transport wood. An individual knowingly moving firewood from these four states can be fined or sentenced to jail. Fines can reach \$4,000. You cannot move wood out of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, or Michigan to Pennsylvania. We all need to follow the rules to protect the forests we love.

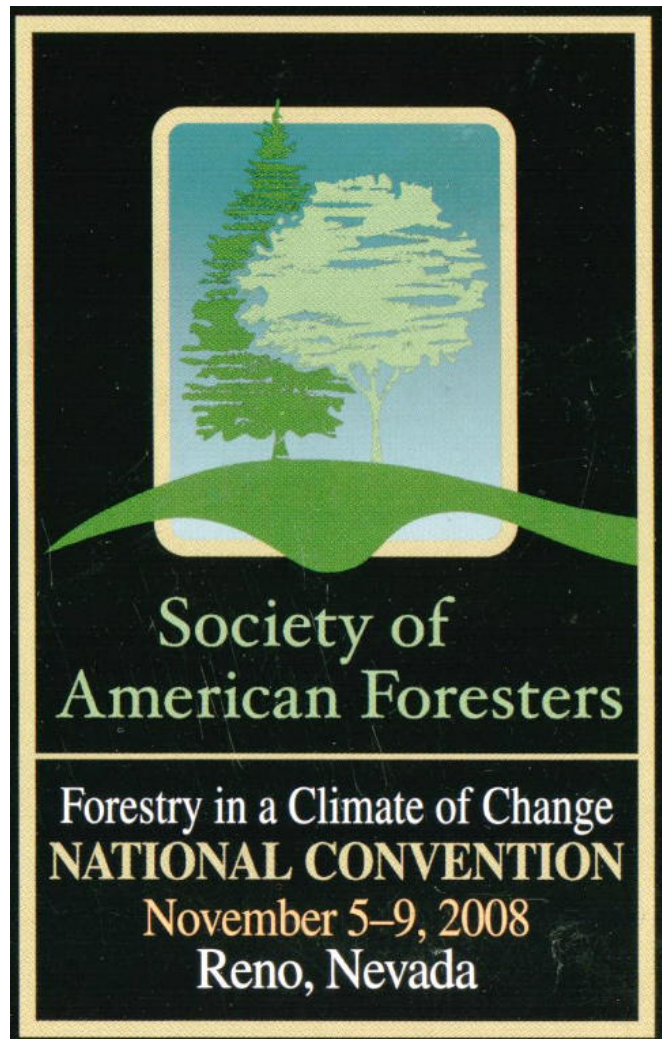
- Leave your firewood at home
- Collect or buy firewood once you get to the Allegheny National Forest
- Burn all firewood before you leave your campsite, and put the fire out

Additional information is available online from the Allegheny National Forest website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/allegheny/>. 🌲

## Penn State Receives Outstanding Student Chapter Award

Each year at its National Convention, the Society of American Foresters honors several student chapter members with Outstanding Student Chapter Awards. These awards are based on several criteria, including service to society, service to the forestry school, service to the community, and involvement with other Natural Resource organizations.

At the 2007 National SAF Convention in October held in Portland, Oregon, Allegheny SAF Student Chapter from Penn State University received third place in the Student Chapter Website Award. This particular award is based on website design, content and management. Congratulations, Penn State! 🌲



# Silviculture News

By Mary Ann Fajvan,  
ANSAF Forest Science Coordinator

## Gypsy Moth Management: A Review

Recent ground and aerial surveys in Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia recorded increases in gypsy moth defoliation and egg mass counts in all states. Some of the increases can be attributed to dry conditions, which contributed to the decline of the predator fungus *Entomophaga maimaiga*. Silvicultural guidelines (Gottschalk 1993), have been developed that can be applied to reduce losses from defoliation. Determining the appropriate treatment first requires stand examination of current overstory and understory conditions so that future growth and regeneration can be estimated. The percentage of stand basal area of all preferred food species is calculated, and the amount of refuges for larvae, and habitat conditions for small mammal predators are all used to determine stand susceptibility.

In infested areas, gypsy moth egg masses must be sampled to determine potential population levels. Because egg masses are evident in infested areas for 7 to 8 months, managers have sufficient time to plan and implement one of several common sampling strategies. The number of egg masses per acre is then calculated and used to predict defoliation potential and determine treatment. For example, 1,200 – 1,400 egg masses per acre would result in about 50-60% defoliation.

Silvicultural treatments focus on either reducing stand susceptibility (probability of defoliation) or reducing vulnerability by strengthening the stand against mortality and encouraging growth after defoliation. Obviously, site, stand and insect conditions dictate the best approach to meet management objectives. Treatments for decreasing susceptibility eliminate gypsy moth hosts, and increase diversity of age classes, structures and species. Strengthening the stand against mortality involves removal of high-risk trees and reducing the habitat of secondary organisms that invade the defoliation-stressed trees and kill them. Treatments to improve tree growth and vigor are critical to reducing both susceptibility and vulnerability.

The guidelines for minimizing gypsy moth



The amount of basal area of preferred host species is directly related to the likelihood of gypsy moth defoliation (photo by Kurt Gottschalk)

impacts are organized into 3 decision charts that correspond to existing stand and insect populations. Three categories of defoliation imminence are used: 1) defoliation not imminent within 1 to 3 years, 2) defoliation imminent within 1 to 3 years or currently occurring, and 3) defoliation has occurred, wait 1 to 3 years for mortality to occur. The prescriptions do not recommend conducting intermediate treatments such as thinning, during, and immediately before gypsy moth outbreaks; there is uncertainty about which trees will die and the need for some recovery time from treatment. Stands should be examined for salvage treatment 1 to 3 years after defoliation. Spraying with biological or chemical insecticides is an option for protecting stands with desirable features (e.g., aesthetics, high-value mature timber, mast production) where mortality would significantly reduce stand value.

Silvicultural treatments cannot prevent gypsy moth outbreaks, only lessen their effects. Treatments are usually conducted at little or no cost to the landowner and may be a preferable, ecological option to using chemical insecticides.

For more information and a copy of the published guidelines contact either: Mary Ann Fajvan ([mfajvan@fs.fed.us](mailto:mfajvan@fs.fed.us)) or, Kurt Gottschalk ([kgottschalk@fs.fed.us](mailto:kgottschalk@fs.fed.us)) 🌲

### Reference:

Gottschalk, Kurt W. 1993. Silvicultural guidelines for forest stands threatened by the gypsy moth. Gen. Tech. Rep. NE-171. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station. 49 p. (Available on CD or at [www.treearch.fs.fed.us](http://www.treearch.fs.fed.us))



## Coming Events

### February 2008

13-15 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting, "Forestry in Changing Times – The Future is NOW" at the Hotel Carlisle in Mechanicsburg, PA. Registration Rachel Billingham at 717-783-0385; room reservations call Hotel Carlisle 1-800-692-7315. **See page 15 for complete schedule and registration form**

19-20 "Prescribed Fire: Moving Forward in Pennsylvania," at Penn State Conference Center, Presidents Hall. PA Prescribed Fire Council, Tara Claghorn at 814-237-2190 or [taraclaghorn@yahoo.com](mailto:taraclaghorn@yahoo.com)

### March

10 Hardwood Lumber Grading, HNLA lumber grades – hands on. PSU, Mike Powell at 814-863-1113 or [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu)

15 **Deadline for articles and photos** for Spring 2008 issue of *The Allegheny News*

### April

14-16 Hardwood Log Grading, classroom discussion and extensive hands-on grading of logs. PSU, Mike Powell at 814-863-1113 or [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu)

### June

15 **Deadline for articles and photos** for Summer 2008 issue of *The Allegheny News*

### Future Allegheny SAF Meetings

Winter 2008: Keystone Chapter  
Summer 2008: Western Gateway Chapter  
Winter 2009: Rothrock Chapter

### Future SAF National Conventions

2008: Reno, Nevada  
November 5-7  
2009: Orlando, Florida  
September 30 - October 4

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### Student Quiz Bowl

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# Allegheny Society of American Foresters

## Officers

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| <b>Chairman</b><br>Kim C. Steiner<br>104 Ferguson Building<br>Penn State University<br>University Park, PA 16802<br>(o) 814-865-9351<br>kcs@psu.edu | <b>Chairman-Elect</b><br>Kurt Gottschalk<br>180 Canfield Street<br>Morgantown, WV 26505<br>(o) 724-627-4161<br>(h) 724-627-4161<br>(f) 724-627-8540<br>kwgottschalk@greenepa.net | <b>Secretary/Treasurer</b><br>Rachel R. Billingham<br>95 Black Walnut Drive<br>Etters, PA 17319<br>(o) 717-783-0385<br>(h) 717-932-4802<br>(f) 717-783-5109<br>rbillingha@state.pa.us | <b>Past Chairman</b><br>Kenneth W. Jolly<br>6 Landings Court<br>Annapolis, MD 21403<br>(o) 410-260-8502<br>(h) 410-263-1989<br>(f) 410-260-8596<br>kjolly@dnr.state.md.us |
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## Executive Committee

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|                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     |
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## Chapter Chairs

|                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                         |
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