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Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Spring 1995

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The Allegheny News

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Cover

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Chair's Corner

By Mark Vodak,
Allegheny SAF Chair

Lest everyone starts to think that, as chair, yours truly only uses this column to continually point out the Allegheny Society's wants and needs, to exhort all members to get involved, participate in SAF programs or become more active in professional issues, I thought I would take this opportunity to mention some observations from the recent Winter Meeting that hopefully indicate an encouraging "trend" in the Allegheny SAF.

First, congratulations to the Rothrock Chapter for the education and social aspects of the program. With a final head count of 250 attendees, the 1995 State College gathering ranks among the better-attended Allegheny SAF meetings (well ahead of the usual 150-200 members and guests).

Second, the interest level and enthusiasm manifested itself in many ways. Speakers and panelists were greeted with attentiveness, with questions and comments on a professional level. Six teams of students from forestry schools within the Allegheny SAF competed vigorously in the Student Bowl competition; regular members and student support groups cheered and otherwise "got into it."

Third, the banquet with the acknowledgments of the talents and contributions of members and activities capped an enjoyable social evening: **Bill Kidd's** Society Fellow Award, the Mt. Alto Forestry Student Bowl winners plaque, Reginald Forbes Art Contest winners, **Dr. John Skelly's** challenging true or false air pollution/acid rain banquet presentation, and the endless and innovative ticket sales and door prizes.

I was equally impressed in the Executive Committee Meeting with the reports of activities, and the volunteers that stepped forward to actively pursue the Awards, Forest Health & Productivity, and the PLAN Committees.

So what is this "trend" I see? **Open discussion** of evolving forestry issues, foresters **listening** to constructive criticism from professionals in social as well as other technical disciplines, **task forces** beginning to gather data on the long-range affects of timber harvesting practices in the PA and WV Divisions, **volunteers** stepping forward for active committee work, and **enthusiastic forestry students** we all can be proud to have in the Society.

I'll close with another challenge. Let's make sure the trend continues. Step forward and meet at least one challenge this year... pay your professional rent. ♠

Members and Views



Forestry students (L-R) **Brian Stone**, **Richard Nichols III**, and **Jamey Schwartz**, winners of the 1995 Allegheny SAF Student Bowl competition, accept the engraved trophy plaque from Coordinator, **Kim Steiner**.

Mt. Alto Students Win 1995 Quiz Bowl

By *Kim Steiner*

The Eight Annual Student Quiz Bowl was held February 11, 1995 at the Winter Meeting of the Allegheny SAF in State College, PA. Contestants were cheered on by enthusiastic members and student supporters. Congratulations to the Mont Alto Team of **Richard Nichols III**, **Jamey Schwartz**, and **Brian Stone** for defeating the Glenville State College team of **Jayson Cain**, **Dave Duffield**, and **Stacey Jiles** in the final round of play. The Mont Alto students and coach **Craig Houghton** took the engraved trophy plaque back to campus!

Other team entries included Alleghany Community College (**David Driver**, **Bill Junkins**, **Jeremy Williams**), Pennsylvania College of Technology (**Michael Bonfardine**, **John Garner**, **Paul Van Auken**), Penn State University (**Sarah Greene**, **Matt Keefer**, **Dave Nelson**), and West Virginia University (**Robert Doyle**, **Michael Glover**, **Matthew Malone**).

Thanks to **Jack Winieski**, **Tim Kaden**, and **Ron Sheay** for officiating this year's event -- witnessed by **Bill Banzhaf** of the National Office for the first time. Thanks also to all 18 student participants who took time away from busy class schedules to attend. ♠



1995 Reginald Forbes Art Contest Winners

By *Joe Harding*

A total of 15 pieces of art were entered in the 1995 "Reginald Forbes Art Contest" held in conjunction with the Winter SAF Meeting in State College, PA. Entries are classed as either Professional or Amateur, and then as Flat Art, Sculpture, or Three-Dimensional Art. Winners were:

Professional Flat Art

1st Place, **Janice McConnell**, watercolor: "October."

2nd Place, **Jim Himmel** and **Scott Mattern**, "Reforestation Project Sign."

There were no other Professional entries.

Amateur Flat Art

1st Place, **Keith Horn**, watercolor: "Old Logging Railroad Bridge."

2nd Place, **Keith Horn**, pencil: "Old Growth Forest."

3rd Place, (tie between) **John Kundt**, drawing: "Red-headed Woodpeckers" and **Bob Shipman**, stained glass: "Turkey Tracks."

Amateur 3-D

1st Place, **John Perry**, woodworking: "Leaf Clock."

There were no other Amateur entries.

A special thanks to **John Perry**, who donated his "Leaf Clock" to be raffled off for the Foresters Fund.

The Reginald D. Forbes Art Competition was established within the Allegheny SAF in February of 1974, and has been held annually: 1) to foster the arts among the members of SAF and their immediate families, and 2) to commemorate the pioneering efforts of Forester Reginald Forbes to arouse the artistic talents and interests of foresters. ♠

Pinchot Chapter Reviews History and Issues

By Mark Deibler & Mike Lester

Twenty-two members of the Pinchot Chapter SAF met at Grey Towers in Milford, PA in December to hear guest speaker **Jim Nelson**. Jim began with a brief history of the evolution of logging and forestry practices in Pennsylvania followed by an analysis of what today's public and forest landowners expect from their forest. He finished with a look at forest aesthetics.

Tony Santoli brought the members up-to-date on the recent outbreaks of native insects and anthracnose in the region and gave a summary of a study which evaluated the affect of these outbreaks on sugar maple stands. **Don Oaks** suggested that the study results be put in the Sugar Maple Digest.

Don then gave a brief update on activities of the Forester Licensing and Registration Committee of the PA Division. Members of the Committee met with the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association (HELMA) and discussed opposing views on the PA-SAF Division initiative for the licensing & registration of foresters in the State.

Bob Labar discussed some of the languages in the tree harvesting ordinances being proposed and adopted by local governmental bodies in Pennsylvania; one recent ordinance requires that no tops of trees be left in a flood plain after a timber harvest. The members agreed to be alert to the initiation of ordinances in connection with local harvesting problems and report them to the PA-SAF Committee through the arranged clearing house (717) 432-3646 (**Jack Winieski**) or (717) 776-5915 (**Wilbur Wolf**).

A letter will be sent to the National Office relating the consensus of the Chapter that: the video conference presentation of continuing forestry education subjects is an excellent idea, but the present fee schedule for participation is excessive. ♠

Councilman's Corner



What's Happening At Council

By Dwight Fielder,
SAF District VII Council Representative

At the February 5, 1995 SAF Council meeting, a great deal of discussion was devoted to the recommendations of the Volunteer Organizational Structure (VOS) Task Force.

One group of VOS Task Force recommendations addressed improving assistance to local SAF unit operational structures by minimizing state and chapter bylaw requirements, providing local administrative support, and developing a closer liaison relationship between Council, state, chapter, and student units. This group of recommendations would also address the House of Society Delegates (HSD) structure, and its ability to continue to provide grass roots input to Council.

Council will seek feedback from appropriate sections of the membership before making final decisions on the recommendations by December 1995.

Council also discussed a group of decisions affecting the length of office for the SAF president and vice president, and discussed the addition of the Forest Science and Technology Board chair to Council as a voting member. These recommendations will eventually require a full member

referendum since they will require a change in the SAF Constitution.

Following is a brief synopsis of other actions taken by Council on February 5, 1995:

- Accepted staff's recommendation to authorize the establishment of an ad hoc committee to explore the feasibility of the U.S. hosting the World Forestry Congress in 2002.
- Accepted the final report of the Study Group on Forest Management Certification Programs (Green Certification); conclusions will be published in the April JOF.
- Empowered the SAF President to appoint a subcommittee of Council to develop alternative approaches to promoting diversity within SAF. As the policy board of SAF, Council must take ultimate responsibility for providing direction on this issue.
- Accepted staff's recommendation that SAF, at the national level, closely monitor the issue of high-grading hardwood forests in light of on-going forest health studies in New York, and those being initiated in Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.
- Empowered the SAF President to appoint a task force to develop plans for SAF's Centennial celebration and annual convention.
- Authorized the Executive Vice President to alert state and multi-state societies that the Society is close to the five percent limit on Fellows and ask that restraint be used in submitting candidates in 1995.

The next Council meeting is June 4-5, 1995 in Lakewood, Colorado. Please contact me with your thoughts on the above or other issues of concern — (703) 235-2725 daytime, or by mail at P.O. Box #4203, Upper Marlboro, MD 20775. ♠

SAF Certified Forester Program: Progress Report

By P. Gregory Smith, National SAF Science & Education Director

The SAF Certified Forester Program is underway, and by all accounts, is exceeding expectations in its early stages! Approximately 20 new Certified Foresters (CFs) are being approved each week (150 so far), and I am pleased to report many comments from CFs in the field who are experiencing favorable responses to certification from the public. The SAF Council established the CF Program to do just that - publicly recognize, serve, and support forestry professionals.

Participation in the CF Program is voluntary, nongovernmental, and — for anti-trust reasons — open both to qualified SAF members and nonmembers. Eligibility for SAF

Certification requires that standards be met in four categories:

Academic Preparation — A first professional degree (bachelor's or higher) in forestry, or completion of a closely-related degree and course work.

Professional Experience — Five years of professional experience in forest resources administration, management, education, or research.

Standards of Professional Practice — Awareness of state/federal legislation guiding management of forest practices, and adhering to personal guidelines for conducting professional practices.

Continuing Education — Completion of 60 hours of professional development in forestry for recertification (every three years).

Certification is not meant to substitute for the existing registration or licensing of foresters in the 14 states that have such legislation; it is meant to complement those programs. Over 20% of our CFs reside in states which have registration or licensing legislation.

To request a complete application package (application and brochure) for Certified Forester in the SAF Program, call the national office at 301-897-8720 ext. 122. ♣



WV at Oglebay

By David Lilly

The WVSAF held its Winter Meeting, January 13-14, 1995 at Oglebay Park in Wheeling, WV. An audience of 50+ members and guests listened and watched as fellow members presented their work/travel experiences in many foreign countries.

Dr. Harry Wiant, Jr., let visiting University of Melbourne Professor Dr. Ray D. Spencer speak to forest mensuration in Australia; Dr. Mary Ann Fajvan presented a well illustrated discussion of silviculture (and culture) in Western Saoma and New Zealand; Dr. Ed Michaels followed Mary Ann's experience with the interesting account of the introduced European red and fallow deer problem and solution in New Zealand — a thriving industry had developed using domesticated herds of the deer to produce exportable venison to Europe, and dried, non-calcified red deer antlers and body parts to the orient.

Jack Sturgill and Robert Forney, with the help of home-made videos, took the audience through the vast Siberian wilderness and their experiences with the individuals and systems controlling the forest resources. Dr. Steve Hollenhorst ended the technical part of the program by leading a discussion attempting to reach a more productive approach to "Common Ground on Forestry Issues."

An evening session of story-tellers led by Dr. Joseph Hutchinson of WVU brought out some revealing accounts of fictional and real characters.

Following a short business meeting, WV Chair David Lilly praised the membership on their active participation in the Division's projects; recognized Bill Kidd, Jr. as a recently elected Fellow in the Society; and Roger Sherman on being awarded the National SAF John E. Beale Memorial Award for his "outstanding continuous efforts in promoting forestry through voluntary service to the Society."

The meeting was concluded with the introduction of new officers: Dan Parker, Chair; Barbara Breshock, Chair-elect; and James Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer. ♣

As of March 1995, the National SAF Office — with oversight by the eight volunteer members of the Certification Review Board — have approved the CF applications of ten members of the Allegheny SAF.

Pennsylvania Division:

William M. Barcheski, Jr., CF
 Dana T. Dowling, CF
 Robert J. Labar, CF
 Michael B. Lester, CF
 Roy A. Siefert, CF
 Jim Soltis, CF
 Jack Winieski, CF
 Wilbur E. Wolf, Jr., CF

Penn Gas & Water Co.
 Northern Timberlands, Inc.
 Self-Employed Consultant
 Procter & Gamble Co.
 PA Bureau of Forestry
 Northern Timberlands, Inc.
 Self-Employed Consultant
 Self-Employed Consultant

New Jersey Division:

Eric J. Kurtz, CF

NJ Div. of Parks & Forestry

Maryland/Delaware Division:

Lawrence P. Walton, CF

Chesapeake Forest Products



Green Forestry Terminology

By Harry V. Wiant, Jr.

It is apparent that much of the terminology used by foresters, felling trees, clearcutting, etc., is offensive to our "green" friends. True, they read newspapers, love books, live in wooden

houses, and admire beautiful wood furniture, but they try to forget that trees were sacrificed to provide such necessities (or luxuries, if you remember we could live in caves and carve messages on slabs of granite). In my continual effort to accommodate their refined sensitivities, I suggest the following changes:

Use **Biomass Reorientation** instead of **Felling Trees**. That has a nice ring to it, sounds more ecologically correct, and is certainly more sophisticated.

Species Revitalization can replace **Thinnings**. Who could object to gentle foresters striving to provide more meaningful existence to trees in the forest?

Ecosystem Adjustment would be much more acceptable than **Logging**. Foresters, at rare intervals, help Mother Nature provide a healthy and sustainable (now there is a real "in-word"!) ecosystem.

Climatic Stabilization can

substitute for **Lumber Production**. We do this to store cellulose and keep carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, and incidentally build homes.

Logging Roads become **Ecosystem Access Corridors**.

I noted the other day that a brand of the neatly packaged, easy-to-burn "artificial" logs sold in the grocery store says, "No trees were cut to produce these logs. Only sawdust, a waste product, was used." OK, put a message on lumber, "No trees were cut to produce this lumber. The boards fell out while producing sawdust to make composite fireplace logs."

This is just a start. If we put our heads together, we can do what foresters have always done and yet gain the respect of the new-age, pro-forest, pro-animal (excepting human, of course) greens. Maybe, if we mind our manners, we'll be invited to the winter solstice celebration to commemorate the successful effort to save a sub-, sub-species of the lower Sahara tsetse fly. ♠

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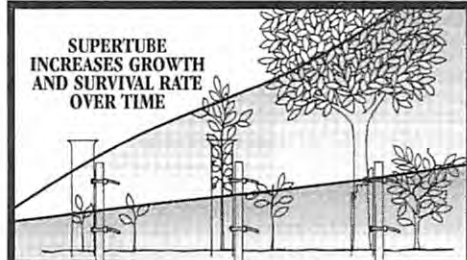
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Bill Ackrom, Assistant District Forester of the Elk State Forest in Emporium, PA, is recovering at home after recent surgery. Bill, past editor of *The Allegheny News*, is planning to retire on March 31, 1995 to do some traveling. It would be nice for him to hear from SAF friends:

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DuBois, PA 15801-9323

New Business Helps to Locate Plant Materials

By Cinda Baley

Contract planters, municipal foresters, park and other "green industry" professionals, landscape architects and designers — even growers and garden centers — often experience frustration in locating wholesale lots of planting stock. Now, that frustration, the lost time, and the sometimes having to accept less desirable plant substitutes to complete a planting can nearly be eliminated.

Horticulturist Cinda Baley, owner and operator of EquiSystem Landscape Appraisals, Inc. of Harrisburg, has developed a databank of over 3,800 available taxa of tree, shrub, perennial, wetland and native species at over 140 nurseries in PA, NJ, MD, DE, OH, and VA. Databank searches for plants of a specific species and cultivar, size, root packages like B&B or container, form, etc. result in a customized report of nursery availability and listed wholesale cost.

One of the unique features of the system is that every search provides the mileage between the nursery and the seeker or job site. It is up to the buyer to contact and contract with the nurseries which list the plants.

For more information about this business service, contact Cinda Baley (717) 540-1400. ♠

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Penn Tech Receives PA Game Commission Award

By Don Nibert



Dennis Dusza, PA Game Commission Land Management Officer, presents award to **Don Nibert**, and **Colin Williamson**, Assistant Dean Natural Resources Management/Transportation Technology.

Pennsylvania College of Technology (Penn Tech) recently received the Pennsylvania Game Commission "Working Together for Wildlife Award" in recognition of their work in assisting the Commission in many wildlife projects. **Don Nibert**, Assistant Professor of Forest Technology, accepted the award, a limited edition print of "Winter Birds" by Stephen Leed. The print will be placed on exhibit in the entrance foyer at the Earth Science Center of Penn Tech.

These projects were used by the students as part of their hands-on training in the Wildlife Management Course of the Forest Technician program. Projects were completed on State Game Lands #252 and #317 of the PA Game Commission. ♠



John Schall, Forest Technology student from Apollo, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania, examines a live trap in a cottontail rabbit population study at the Penn Tech Earth Science Center Campus. Rabbits are trapped, tagged, and released to determine the size of the over wintering population. This study revealed a population of one rabbit per acre. ♠



Mike Shipman (l) from Jersey Shore, PA, and **Sam Roberts** (r) from Titusville, PA, construct porcupine brush cribs. The students are enrolled in Don Nibert's Wildlife Management class at Penn Tech. The cribs attract young game and bait fish by providing protection in the interior of the crib. The four gable ends on the exterior provide ambush cover for largemouth bass or other predatory fish. The cribs will be installed in ponds constructed at State Game Land #317 near Laurelton, PA. ♠

Danger Signals for Private Land Foresters

*From the Memory of Duane L. Green**

If You Find Yourself:

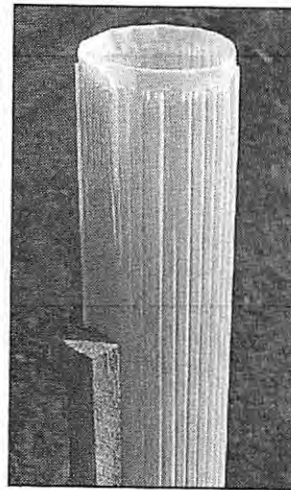
- Getting to the office at 8:00 am daily... that's a danger signal!
- Opening the mail, looking at phone messages, and wondering which one to tackle first... that's a danger signal!
- Sharing last evening's experiences, or reading the morning paper for everyone to hear ... that's a danger signal!
- Leaving town, not exactly sure of which way you're going until you get to the doughnut shop... that's a danger signal!
- Arriving at a clients property having forgotten the case folder, maps, or aerials... that's a danger signal!
- Drinking coffee with the same landowner once or twice a week... that's a danger signal!
- Doing more and more "eyeball windshield" surveys, or skipping a few plots... that's a danger signal!
- Noticing that your management plans and prescription are all looking similar... that's a danger signal!
- Warm and comfortable more often than cold and wet... that's a danger signal!
- Getting home at 5:00 pm every evening... that's a problem!

And Remember: "A cold, wet day in the woods is preferable to a warm, dry day in the office!" ♠

*Owner, Green Line Consultants, West Chester, PA. Duane believes "Danger Signals" was first written by Karl Tennant, an early Missouri, Service Forester.

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The Allegheny SAF

By Ellen Manno, Steve Jones,

The 1995 Allegheny Society Winter Meeting, hosted by the Rothrock Chapter, **Bob Laubach**, Chair, was held in State College February 8-10. Nearly 250 individuals participated—ranging from students to long-time leaders and contributors to the forestry profession.



Bob Laubach

Collectively we paused to reflect on the practice of forestry—on our past, our future, and specifically on the concerns that private landowners, the public, and resources professionals have about what we do and how we do it.

Jim Nelson gave us an historical view of the practice of forestry in Pennsylvania. In terms of scientific forest management it is actually a fairly short history, with much of today's "conventional wisdom" stemming from research in the 1940s and 1950s. **Ralph Nyland's** presentation on New York's timber harvesting assessment told us about a piece of today's research: what are the current harvesting practices on private forest lands in New York and what are the long-term effects of those practices on future timber production? **Fred Cabbage** itemized, categorized, and summarized forest practice programs, and **Roger Sedjo** made the point that what we do locally and regionally can, and will, have a global effect.

A private landowner (**Al Maass**), an environmentalist (**Paul Wiegman**, Western PA Conservancy), a self-employed timber harvester (**Gary Rossman**), and a sociologist (**Al Luloff**, Penn State) shared their perspectives on the forestry profession. Woven throughout the panel members' remarks was the message that individually and collectively foresters must be better communicators. We must do better at understanding and considering viewpoints different from our own, and at articulating our own viewpoints in terms that others can understand. We are expected not only to be technical experts but to have basic skills for working with individuals, groups, and institutions.

A second panel of three foresters (**John Skovran**, Procter and Gamble; **Mark Webb**, ACF; and **Mark Deibler**, PA DER Bureau of Forestry) responded to these comments. Skovran stressed the need for foresters to build public trust. He suggested that our actions and behaviors will determine whether the public allows us to practice forestry flexibly or by adherence to strict regulations. He observed that



Ralph Nyland, SUNY-CESF

industry leaders recognized this reality when they adopted the American Forest and Paper Association's Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Webb highlighted the absolute necessity for *listening* to forest landowners. We must be careful not to process their objectives through the biases of our professional filters. He also urged foresters to become the strongest advocates and staunchest defenders of responsible forestry—



Jim Zacaek votes for his favorites in the "Reginald Forbes Art Contest".

Winter Meeting

and Jim Finley

professional forestry without self-discipline will not work. Deibler added a new twist to the epidemic of high-grading that characterizes too many harvests; he called it "deceptive thinning." It is bad enough when high-grading occurs, but who are we deceiving when foresters either condone it, or worse, practice it?



Fred Cabbage, NC State

Bill Banzhaf spoke about changes that lie ahead. If SAF is to be effective in this climate of change, the profession must tackle four issues head on: (1) take a hard look at the foundation of our profession, which is defined by good science and exemplary education, (2) overcome the adversarial nature of our debates with diverse interest groups, stressing mutual respect and increased



Bob Shipman (l) presents SAF Fellow Certificate to Bill Kidd, Jr. at banquet.

sensitivity to different viewpoints, (3) encourage and promote cultural diversity within our ranks, recognizing shifting national demographics and the strength we gain from a broader experience base, and (4) continue

adopting SAF's new land ethic, the very soul of our profession.

Awards banquet speaker **John Skelly** delivered an entertaining as well as thought-provoking lesson in distinguishing science from balderdash.



Left to right: John Skovran, Mark Deibler, and Mark Webb.



Left to right: Al Luloff, Al Maass, Gary Rossman, and Paul Wiegman.

Other banquet highlights included honoring newly elected fellow **Bill Kidd** and the winning Student Quiz Bowl team from Penn State Mont Alto.

Raffles, door prizes, exhibits, and the Reginald Forbes Art Contest rounded out the two-day gathering. But the main ingredient of success was the people. Thank you to all who helped with the arrangements, to all the speakers, and to all who attended. ♠

Thank You!

Thank you to the following door prize and raffle item donors and exhibitors for supporting the Allegheny SAF.

Door Prize and Raffle Item Donors:

American Coding & Marking Ink, Co.
North Plainfield, NJ
Appleton Papers, Inc., Spring Mill
Roaring Spring, PA
Better Forest Tree Seeds
Petersburg, PA
Catawissa Lumber and Specialty Co.
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SAF National Office
Bethesda, MD
Spectra Wood
State College, PA
The Tree Company
Catonsville, MD
Tree Pro
West Lafayette, IN
John Wiley & Sons
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Ed Palpant (l), Better Forest Tree Seeds, chats with Alex Day as Jim Pflieger thinks about a purchase(?).

Exhibitors:

Better Forest Tree Seeds Petersburg, PA	Penn State School of Forest Resources University Park, PA
Conservation Officers of Pennsylvania Deer and Forest Management Committee	Pennsylvania Tree Farm Program
Plateau Chapter, Allegheny SAF Island Press Washington, DC	Penn State Urban and Community Forestry Program University Park, PA
Penn State SAF Student Chapter University Park, PA	John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New York, NY

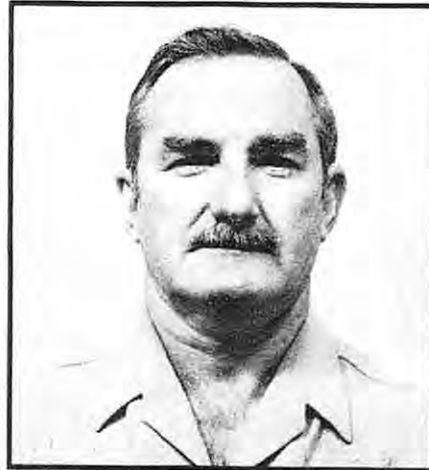


Bob Hansen (r) receives Tree Pro tree shelter as a door prize.

FAX to a Forester: "Uncle Dick, How Can We Save The Rainforest?"

By Dick Pellek

We sometimes overlook the amount of interest being focused in American schools on forests in other countries. The following account, by FAX, is the reply to several questions FAXed to me in Kenya from my niece Danielle in Stanhope, New Jersey. Her class project in 1993 was to consult an expert regarding an important environmental issue. Her Uncle Dick was a forester, but he was working in Kenya. So middle-schooler Danielle did what comes naturally in this modern world, she sent a FAX. These were her 10 questions (slightly edited) and Uncle Dick's responses:



Uncle Dick Pellek



Niece Danielle Pellek

Dear Uncle Dick,

We have a class assignment and I have been instructed to contact an expert in the field. My assignment is about tropical forests and I chose you. Please answer the 10 questions I have listed.

Dear Danielle,

The assignment you have given me is a tall order because the answers you seek are debatable issues. Different people have different views, but here are mine.

Q. What is agroforestry?

A. Agroforestry is the science and practice of land use whereby perennial plants such as trees and shrubs are purposely incorporated into farming systems in order to derive products and environmental services, in a sustainable manner. Such products and services may include: timber, fuel, fodder, thatch, poles, fruit, bark, medicines, drink, erosion control, shade, mulch, protection from the wind and excessive sunlight, marking of property, etc.

Q. What is the best way to save the rain forest?

A. The best way to save the rain forest and other forests around the world is to promote policies and employ management systems which recognize

and valorize all of the goods and services which forests provide to individual nations and to the world, at large. There are very few places in the world where true rain forests exist, but they can best be preserved by using them in a sustainable manner in order to capture their many values, such as sources and sinks of oxygen and biological diversity; as primary producers of timber, fibers, medicines, watershed protection, shelter, wildlife, cultural and aesthetic values.

Q. Where is it appropriate to use agroforestry?

A. Agroforestry is appropriately used on private land, whether owned, leased or rented: to provide goods and services needed by the tiller of the land; and which can enhance the farming system in a sustainable way.

Q. What is the greatest problem facing rain forests? And what about deforestation?

A. Many experts believe that the clearing of rain forests and other tropical forests to convert the land to agricultural use is the greatest problem. Such a practice is called deforestation. Cutting timber for industrial or commercial purposes seldom leads to outright deforestation because trees are renewable resources which can yield again and again. Foresters manage

forests to provide the things we have always taken for granted, and just as long as we do not take out of the forest more timber, medicines, water and wildlife than the forests regenerate, we can expect to have forests forever. That is no easy trick because there are many people and governments who put their own short-term interests over long-term environmental considerations.

Q. How do you think we should conserve the rain forest and its resources?

A. We should conserve the rain forests by using them. A forest that has renewable values is one that stand the best chance of getting the necessary investment in protection, conservation and management by the very people that depend most on the forest. Preservation is not the same as conservation, and forest preserves usually have limited management objectives.

Q. Who has the most influence on the way rain forests are used?

A. The people who live in and around rain forests are the ones who have the most direct influence on the health of the forests. Governments which set policies about where people live and where they can travel also have a great influence. Both groups can be positive forces, but they can also be negative forces if they don't take actions which

Fax to a Forester

(continued from page 11)

will insure the sustainability of rain forest ecosystems.

Q. What are the root causes of deforestation, and how can deforestation be prevented?

A. Since many of the same problems exist for other forests, many but not all of the solutions are also the same. Land hunger is the root cause of decimation of tropical forests, and many governments are not able to stem the tide of population growth or prevent landless people from exploiting tropical forests. In industrial countries there are many commercial forests which are managed for multiple purposes. Since serious investments are made in them, commercial forests are not usually threatened by wholesale deforestation or piecemeal decimation by trespassers.

Q. Who should be responsible for saving rain forests?

A. Governments have to take charge of their own destinies by the wise use of their natural resources, which may include rain forests. Forests and watersheds found within forests are national assets which must be conserved and shared by and for the citizens of every nation. Conservation means saving. It does not mean never spending. We conserve radio batteries by using them for only as long as we need them. Preservation of the batteries means we never turn the radio on. Therefore, preservation is applicable to forests only when they have special values which are recognized and honored by all, such as national parks.

Q. Should we enforce conservation by passing laws to prevent illegal activities and to protect endangered species?

A. There are already many laws on the books in tropical countries which prohibit logging or restrict products such as illegal drugs, ivory, endangered wildlife and plant species. Some of the laws go too far because they discourage deforestation or the cultivation of the plants that produce useful drugs. If a landowner is told he cannot harvest and

sell his teak, chances are he will abandon growing teak in favor of something that is not illegal. On the other hand, elephants and rhinos are poached because they have moderate value in their tusks and horns, but a live black rhino (from a private ranch) recently sold for \$50,000. The Rain Forest Alliance has one possible solution: they put a "seal of approval" on tropical timber which has been harvested in a responsible way, and comes from forests which are managed for sustainable use. Countries which import tropical timber should insist on such a seal of their approval, and should discourage the imports of forest products which are not managed in a sustainable way.

Q. Should people be prosecuted to discourage them from contributing to deforestation?

A. Education, not prosecution, is the best solution to the problem of deforestation. Individuals who are powerful enough to cause large scale deforestation are also influential enough to get away with it through bribery or influence peddling; or are rich enough to buy the land outright and deal with the environmentalists on their own terms. Poor, landless people who seek forest land to grow crops or to exploit its resources seldom have the financial resources to pay large fines. And time in jail for them would only mean a burden on the governments that prosecute them. Individual landowners who practice deforestation are presumably within the law. In many countries, however, there are vast tracts of land that are legally recognized as community property, and they are often the best examples of mismanagement. Peoples who exploit such community lands are not subject to prosecution, but are good subjects for education. ♠

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New Jersey Pinelands Update

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The Pinelands Forestry Review Committee (PFRC) made up of **John Stokes** from the Pinelands, **Lester Alpaugh** from the NJ Bureau of Forest Management, and **Robert Williams**, consulting Forester, has completed its first presentation to Pinelands Commissioners. On December 16, 1994, the three presented their recommendations to the Pinelands Commission, and Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) Policy and Implementation Committees. The Pinelands committee approved all the recommendations.

The mission of PFRC is to improve the Pinelands forestry program. Their method is to spell out what they want to accomplish, draft recommendations to get them there, and present the recommendations to interest groups.

The result of the process was 24 well honed recommendations, seven of which address Pinelands forestry standards, eight address municipal permitting procedure, four address application requirements, and the remaining five, miscellaneous items.

Additional requirements have to be worked out, but the next recommendations will be written in regulatory language and presented to the entire Commission.

You may recall the changes to the forestry program from the last comprehensive review of the CMP were published in the Register. The Commission voted not to adopt those changes, preferring to wait for what comes from the review committee.

Keep your ears to the ground for the announcement of the meeting of foresters and cultural resource professionals. ♠

Questions or Comments: Call Craig Kane of the SAF Pinelands Action Team at (609) 453-8696.



1995 National Forest Policy Priorities for SAF

By Cam Carte, SAF Congressional Affairs Liaison

A new day is dawning for American politics, forest policy issues and for the SAF Forest Policy Department. The 104th U.S. Congress is open for business, and SAF is ready to interact with Congress as never before in our role as the premier professional society for forestry. However, you the membership are THE MOST IMPORTANT COMPONENT of our 1995 legislative awareness initiative.

Eleven of the 94 new Members of Congress are from the area covered by the Allegheny SAF; in the House — Maryland: Ehrlich (R); New Jersey: LoBianco (R), Martini (R), and Frelinghuysen (R); Pennsylvania: Fattah (D), Fox (R), Doyle (D), Mascara (D), and English (R). In the Senate, one new Member from Pennsylvania has won a seat — Rick Santorum (R). There exists a golden opportunity for the Allegheny SAF to educate eleven new legislators about forest science and the issues pertinent to professional forestry. The question is two-fold — Do you want to capitalize on the opportunity? And furthermore, do you possess the tools to do so?

The PLAN — Policy-Legislative Action Network — is a tool to do so. However, we need motivated SAF members interested in having a voice on Capitol Hill to join. Are you a PLAN Activist? If not, call me to learn more, (301) 897-8720, ext. 116.

A plethora of natural resources issues exist that are germane to professional forestry. However, not unlike most entities, the SAF Forest Policy Department has limited access to resources, especially time. Accordingly, we have prioritized five issues that broadly affect professional forestry on which to focus our attention: (1) the 1996 Federal Budget, (2) the Clean Water Act reauthorization, (3) the Endangered Species Act reauthorization, (4) the 1995 Farm Bill (this includes forestry incentive programs, conservation programs and McIntire-Stennis funding for forestry research at Land Grant institutions), and (5) Private Property Rights. However, this does not mean that we will not endeavor to keep on top of other present and emerging forestry issues, and participate in the debate of these issues. We have done so in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

The two issues that have moved the most swiftly in the 104th Congress are the 1996 Budget and private property rights. Since January 4, SAF Forest Policy Department staff have attended ten Congressional hearings and meetings focused on various aspects of the 1996 Federal Budget, and agency revisions regarding the 1995 federal budget. The Republicans are tightening the fiscal belt. Little is sacred. Many forestry related programs are likely to feed on a lean diet. "Pork" is not part of the menu. The Balanced Budget Amendment narrowly missed passage in the Senate after an overwhelming affirmative vote in the House. You will see this issue again, and its potential implications for forestry are enormous. Stay tuned.

The private property rights bill that has garnished the most expeditious movement through the Congress is H.R. 925 - The Private Property Protection Act of 1995. The bill was originally authored as Title IX of

H.R. 9 - The Job Creation and Wage Enhancement Act of 1995. This controversial portion of the Republican "Contract With America," introduced by Rep. Canady (R-FL) was debated "on the floor" March 3. As of the writing of this column, the outcome of the debate and presumed vote was uncertain. The bill contains a provision that would require the federal government to provide financial compensation to private landowners if federal regulation caused a ten percent or greater diminution in the fair market value of the property in question.

SAF does not yet have a position on private property rights. SAF Council is painfully aware of the importance of this issue to the SAF membership and pursuant to this reality, President **Bill Siegel** has appointed a SAF Council subcommittee to address the issue in detail. If you have an opinion on this issue, and I know you do, pro or con, write President Siegel, your District VII Councilman **Dwight Fielder**, or Forest Policy Director **Larry Hill**. They each can be reached by sending your responses to the SAF National Office in Bethesda, MD.

Your comments on forest policy issues are always welcome. You can correspond with us by mail at Society of American Foresters, 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814-2198, by FAX at (301) 897-3690, or by phone at (301) 897-8720, ext. 116.

Until next time, think TREES! ΔΔΔ

NHLA Hardwood Research Award

By Dan A. Meyer

The National Hardwood Lumber Association has reinstated their Annual Hardwood Research Award and increased it to \$2,000. This prestigious award recognizes scientists who contribute significantly to the understanding of hardwood silviculture and management, or technologically advance the efficient processing and utilization of our hardwood resource. It has not been awarded since 1991.

For more information, call Dan Meyer, (901) 377-1818. Δ

Mr. Siegel Goes to Washington

By Tim Farnham

SAF President **William C. Siegel**, a respected national authority on forestry taxation and estate planning was invited by the Taxation Staff of the House Ways and Means Committee to testify on January 25, 1995 in support of the proposed bill H.R. 9, entitled the Job Creation and Wage Enhancement Act. The House Committee for Ways and Means primary function is the authorizing of tax legislation.

H.R. 9, sponsored by Committee chair Bill Archer (R-TX), contains several proposals to encourage savings, investment, and entrepreneurship, including two key capital gains incentives for forestry investments: (1) a 50 percent capital gains deduction, irrespective of the nature of the investment; and (2) indexing of capital gains basis to eliminate inflationary gains. The original version of the "Contract with America" inspired bill is being partially re-written, and "markup" (amending the bill in a committee meeting) of the bill is expected around mid-March. The Senate is likely to water down any proposed legislation that substantially cuts taxes. The portion of any tax legislation, including H.R. 9, that is likely to become a point of contention is the indexing of capital gains to reflect inflationary gains — SAF supports the indexing of capital gains to provide an adjustment for the effects of inflation on timber investments.

Siegel opened his testimony by pointing to the importance of encouraging investments in forestry activities, especially at this time of increasing pressure on private lands to produce more of the nation's timber. "The rise in demand for forest products and the curtailment of harvesting on public forests has placed a heavy burden on the private woodlands," stated Siegel. "There is a growing reliance on forests established and maintained by direct private investment."


Siegel went on to comment that because investments in private forest management are unique in their risk from natural disasters and their low degree of liquidity throughout a long investment cycle, federal tax policies should be implemented which treat forestry investments fairly in comparison to other capital ventures. In addition, they should encourage the application of sound, professionally prescribed forest management practices on private woodlands.



SAF President **Bill Siegel** testifying before the House Ways and Means Committee, accompanied by SAF Legislative Affairs Liaison **Cam Carte** (in background).

The forestry community was well represented at the House Ways and Means hearing. Joining Siegel on the forestry panel before the committee were **Bartow Shaw** of the American Forest & Paper Association, **Doug Stinson** of the American Tree Farm System, and **Bill Stuckey**, former member of Congress and representing the Forest Farmers Association.

President Siegel's testimony before the 104th Congress, only 21 days into the new Congress, is indicative of the revitalized sense of urgency with which the SAF membership, and the SAF National Office is treating forest policy and legislative issues. For a copy of SAF's testimony presented before the House Ways and Means Committee, contact **Cynthia Stiffler** in SAF's Forest Policy Department, (301) 897-8720, ext. 114. Δ



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Forestry Issues Book Reviews

By Linda Gribko, Assistant Professor of Forest Management, WVU

Sustainable Forestry: Philosophy, Science, and Economics. Chris Maser, 1994, 373 p., \$39.95 (paperback). St. Lucie Press, 100 E. Linton Blvd., Suite 403-B, Delray Beach, FL 33483.

Maser, now an international consultant in forest ecology and sustainable forestry, spent over 10 years as an ecologist with the USDI Bureau of Land Management in western Oregon. This book is an outgrowth of his frustrations with federal land management agencies, the conflicts between forest managers and environmentalists, and what he considers the unwise and biologically unsound emphasis of forest management on short-term economic expediency.

The author begins by urging the reader to see the forest as more than the trees and to realize that we are incapable at this time, of understanding all the complexities of forested ecosystems. He fears that we are risking long-term forest productivity by cutting on short rotations and replacing native forests with plantations. Much of the first half of the book is devoted to building a case against continued implementation of sustained yield forestry practices. Specifically, Maser objects to the questionable assumption that the land will retain its productive capacity through time. He is particularly concerned about soil degradation and uses examples from the Pacific Northwest, Europe, and elsewhere to support his contentions.

Maser offers sustainable forestry as a viable alternative to sustained yield and defines it as:

"... producing industrio-economic outputs as the land gives us the ecological capability of the forest to do so in perpetuity. This in turn necessitates balancing the socio-economic product withdrawals with bio-economic reinvestments in the health of the forest. It means maximizing first and foremost the health of the forest and harvesting all products and amenities within the forest's sustainable capacity."

He offers specific management strategies, including some creative cutting schemes, and explains the concept of adaptive ecosystem management. However, this is not a "how do I do it?" cookbook for forest managers. Rather, it is a call for balanced long-term planning based on all available information with a goal of whole-forest, not just timber, management. It is long on philosophy and somewhat short on practical examples and case studies. This makes for a good introductory book for those unfamiliar with sustainable forestry concepts, but it may be somewhat tedious for those with more background.



Environmental Overkill: Whatever Happened to Common Sense? Dixie Lee Ray, 1993, 260 p., \$12.00 (paperback). Harper Collins Pub., Inc., 10 East 53rd St., NY, NY 10022.

Ray, former governor of the state of Washington, set out to write a book that "sets the record straight" on all manner of environmental issues. She begins with a very brief synopsis of the agreements reached at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. This is followed by chapters organized under such headings as: "The Air Above US," "About Food, People, and Animals," "This Land is Our Land,"

"Rules and More Rules," and "Communications, Education, and Politics." Each chapter is devoted to a specific environmental issue; global warming, ozone depletion, urban air pollution, human population, endangered species conservation, wetlands protection, forest management, private property rights, government land ownership, and federal regulations are each addressed in a dozen pages or less. The basic theses throughout are, first, that we lack the scientific knowledge to make rational judgments concerning these issues and, second, that the media, environmental lobbyists, and liberal politicians use unfounded environmental scares to manipulate the public.

This very popular book (it spent time on the bestsellers list) is a quick read as it skims the surface of so many topics. Unfortunately, the author tends to simplify very complex issues by painting each with a broad brush. In addition, questionable statements are used throughout to uphold the author's point of view. For example, in the chapter entitled "Of Forests—Public and Private," Ray compares an 'old untouched' forest and one that has been 'newly planted:'

"Both have approximately the same complex of tree species and varied undergrowth, and the same wildlife, birds, and insects inhabit both. The main difference in animals is that the elk prefer the young growth."

This is contrary to decades of scientific study and what any forester, logger, biologist, or ecologist would tell you from field observations. The point the author was trying to make was that whether a native old-growth forest is more valuable than a plantation depends on an individual's objectives for the forest. This is certainly a valid observation; it is unfortunate that misinformation was used to support it.

Ray's book is interesting in that it is a good example of the "us against them" mentality that Maser criticizes in his book. It is an extreme reaction to all environmentalists and all environmental issues with little room left for a middle ground or consensus-building. Δ

Coming Events

April

- 7 **Arbor Day in MD** — lead the way with an SAF sponsored activity.
- 9 **Arbor Day in WV** — involve as many SAF members as possible.
- 30 **Arbor Day in DE, NJ, & PA** — last minute contacts with schools/communities... do it!

May

- 17-20 **23rd Annual Hardwood Symposium**, High Hampton Inn, Cashiers, NC. "Following Profitability from the Woods through Rough Dimension." (901) 377-1818; FAX 382-6419.

June

- 9-10 **Western MD Loggers/Forestry Field Day and Equipment Show**, Garrett County Fairgrounds, McHenry, MD. Evenings: Butch Glotfelty (301) 334-4439, Pete Miller (301) 895-5369.
- 25-28 **NE Forest Soils Conference**, Stockton State College, NJ. Seth Gladstone (609) 561-3223.

August

- 20-24 **87th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Institute of Forestry**, Halifax, NS. "Integrated Resource Management Results in Action." Barb Thompson, (902) 424-8636 or FAX 424-7735.

September

- 20-22 **NJ SAF Division hosts the Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting**, Atlantic City, NJ. "The New Jersey Pinelands: Enjoy the Experience!" My Pinelands, Myth, Mystery, & Magic; Heritage & Folklore; Fire Ecology; BMPs; Atlantic White Cedar Research; Wilderness in NJ?; Team Forestry; Forestry Aquifers.

October/November

- 28-1 **National SAF Convention**, Portland, ME. Mark your calendar NOW!

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