

The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Spring 1999

TREES—THE RENEWABLE RESOURCE

Professional
Management of Pine
and Hardwood Forests
in Pennsylvania, Maryland,
Delaware and Virginia
for Quality
Paper Manufacture.



THE SIGN OF GOOD FORESTRY

The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.

Spring Grove, Pennsylvania • Telephone (717) 225-4711

This issue of The Allegheny News is printed on paper donated by The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.

The Allegheny News

Volume 8, No. 1

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.

P.O. Box 699 • Dillsburg, PA 17019-0699

Editor: Jack Winieski

Layout: Catherine Winieski Carter

Table of Contents

Chairman's Corner	1
Harold W. Geiger, 1923-1999	2
Linda Carnell Named Employee of Year	2
Allegheny SAF "Golden Members"	2
1998 WV Forestry Hall of Fame Inductees	2
MD's "1998 Logger of the Year"	3
National ACF Meeting Hosted by PA	3
Habitat for Humanity Video Available	4
PCPF Meets 40% of Funding Challenge	4
Members of SAF Remembered	4
Forestry in the 21st Century	5
Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting Highlights	6
Wiant's Hypotheses Re: Winter Meeting	7
WVU Wins 1999 Student Quiz Bowl	7
77th Annual SAF Business Meeting Minutes	8
1998 Allegheny SAF Treasurer's Report	9
Robert L. Sherman Named SAF Fellow	9
1998 Allegheny SAF Awards	10
The Year of the SIP Drought	11
Allegheny Winter Meeting Photos	12-13
Cochran Fund Accepting Proposals	14
Leslie Equipment Partners with Glenville State	14
1999 Reginald Forbes Art Contest	15
Fedkiw Summarizes Land Management	15
Life is Good in New Jersey!	15
A New Angle on Worms.	16-19
A Walk in the Forests	20-22
The Wiant Philosophical Summary	22
Nothing New Under the Canopy	23
Coming Events	24
Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs	24
Allegheny SAF Chairs, Executive Committee and Division Chairs	Inside Back Cover

Cover Photo

The cover photo, article (pages 16-19) and text photos are printed with kind permission of the authors, Steve and Carol Mortensen, and Kathleen Welfen, editor of The Minnesota Volunteer, published bi-monthly by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.



Chairman's Corner

By Mark R. Webb
Allegheny SAF Chair

Welcome to spring and this edition of *The Allegheny News!*

A big thanks to the West Virginia Division for hosting this winter's meeting at Coolfont Resort. Also thanks to each of you that attended. As always it was a great meeting with lots of good fellowship.

Congratulations to **John Benton, Ken Kane, and Roger Sherman** on earning their respective awards. The Allegheny SAF is blessed with many dedicated members, and these three certainly are good examples of all that is good within our society and our profession.

While most all is good within our society, we are faced with a financial challenge. We are currently spending more than we take in and obviously this can not continue. The Executive Committee will be meeting April 13, 1999 in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania area to budget for the rest of this year and develop a plan to put us in a sound financial position once again (any suggestions, contact me or any member of the committee – the back page of this newsletter has our numbers). In the meantime, we have received significant contributions from some of the chapters and divisions.

The year 1999 is shaping up to be a year of exciting events and planning. In anticipation of SAF's 100th anniversary, we have been challenged by the national office to become involved with Habitat for Humanity. Your Executive Committee has taken the challenge in the name of the membership and in turn asks each of the seven units and forestry school student bodies to become involved at a level comfortable with the manpower and connections available.

Another Centennial initiative is in the area of Archival grants from national. Thanks to the work done by Ron Sheay during Tim Kaden's leadership, the Allegheny has a current history in print, our need is to have someone of us to step forward and volunteer to do something more permanent with our important records.

I hope this spring is a memorable one for each of you. As we once again witness the miracle of spring, may our hearts, minds, and spirits be renewed thereby enabling each of us to continue to be the best managers of our forest resource values.

See you along the way! ▲

Members and Views

Harold W. Geiger 1923 – 1999

Harold W. Geiger of Spring Grove, Pennsylvania died February 5, 1999 at his residence. He retired from the Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company in 1986 as General Manager of the Pulp Wood Company where he had been a Director since 1968. He received his BS in Forestry from Penn State University

In 1994 "Hal," as he was referred to among friends and fellow foresters, became a golden member of the Society of American Foresters (SAF), denoting 50 years of membership in the professional society. He was elected Chairman of the five-state Allegheny SAF in 1965 and served as a member and chair of many technical committees over the years. In 1984 he was nominated and elected as a Fellow in the National SAF, an honor reserved for less than five percent of the national 18,000 membership.

Locally he was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Spring Grove, where he served as Sunday School Superintendent and teacher and was lay president of the church council. Other activities included Boy Scoutmaster for Troop 30, Past Chair of Keystone Chapter, Soil Conservation Service, Spring Grove Borough Treasurer, Chair of the Borough Planning and Shade Tree Commissions, General Chair of the Spring Grove Bicentennial Committee in 1982 and Chair of the Building Fund for the Glatfelter Memorial Library. ▲

Contact Allegheny
News Editor Jack
Winieski by e-mail:
ansaf@paonline.com

Next newsletter
deadline is
June 15, 1998

Linda Carnell is Named 1998 WVDOF Employee of the Year

Charleston, WV (February, 25, 1999) - The West Virginia Division of Forestry (WVDOF) has chosen **Linda Carnell**, Forest Products Utilization Forester from the eastern panhandle (District 2) as the agency's 1998 Employee of the Year. Acting State Forester **Ralph Glover, Jr.** commented, "We have a lot of great employees, but Linda really stands out, due in great part to her wide range of official and volunteer activities."

Linda received a BS in Forest Management from WV University in 1968 and accepted a position as Forest Products Utilization and Marketing Forester with DOF. **Philip Wygal**, nominating District Forester adds, "It is hard to put into words how dynamic, creative, and enterprising Linda is; and how she helps and teaches people – a lot of people."

During the period 1997-98, she taught or assisted 36 classes involving over 1170 participants in subjects such as Best Management Practices, logger certification, first aid, and environmental education. Besides serving on many planning and resource utilization committees, Linda works as an facilitator with Project Learning Tree (PLT), is a certified instructor and an instructor-trainer mentor with the American Red Cross, and after being active in 4-H programs for 15 years, she has recently been appointed to the National 4-H Forestry Invitational Meeting Committee.

Carnell is a Benwood, WV native and currently lives in Mineral County with husband Todd and 23-month old daughter Clarissa. ▲



Allegheny SAF 50-Year "Golden Members"

Clifford B. Carts, Coudersport, PA
Charles R. Hall, Horner, WV
Howard B. Kriebel, Medford, NJ
John A. Marra, St. Albans, WV
Volkmar U. Megnin, Seneca, PA

Charles S. Merroth, Warren, PA
Orange L. Mulhollen, Ebensburg, PA
Robert H. Rumpf, Carlisle, PA
William M. Stiteler, Indiana, PA

1998 WV AG & Forestry Hall of Fame Inductees

During the 1998 selection year, the field of forestry was fortunate in having six professionals inducted into the West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame at Jackson's Mill, WV. The new inductees include **Bill Gillespie**, **Jim Kochenderfer**, **John Raine**, **Henry Sipe**, **George Trimble, Jr.**, and **Harry Wiant**. We congratulate these deserving recipients. ▲

1999 National ACF Meeting Hosted by PA

Warren, PA - The Pennsylvania Chapter of The Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF), will be hosting the 1999 National Meeting on June 27-30, 1999 at Peek 'n Peak Resort in Clymer, New York. The theme of this year's meeting will be "Challenges of Managing Quality Allegheny Hardwoods." Participants will learn of the history of the area, and benefits and management challenges that foresters face working in the Allegheny Plateau.

The ACF is a national, nonprofit organization, founded in 1948, to advance the professionalism, ethics, and interests of professional foresters whose primary work is consulting to the public. ACF is the only national association for consulting foresters. Currently there are 543 members practicing in 38 states and one Canadian province.

On June 28, the technical session will begin with a keynote address from U.S. Congressman John Peterson (R -PA) who is a local private forest landowner. Retired State forester **Jim Nelson** will present a program on the history of forestry in Pennsylvania. Current PA State Forester, **Dr. James Grace** will give his views on the present and future outlook of Pennsylvania's forests.

A panel discussion containing private and public foresters and local politicians will discuss specific challenges such as political climate, regeneration and wildlife management. Concurrent breakout sessions will be held on topics such as personal motivation, ethics workshop, health and nutrition and computer software.

An all day field trip on the following day will visit two privately owned timber properties within the scenic Allegheny National Forest which have been managed for decades by ACF members. A "companion tour" to the historic Chautauqua Institution is also planned this day. On the morning of June 30, the ACF Business Meeting will be held along with the evening Awards Banquet. ▲



Phil MacDonald (center) with wife Lois and son Phil, Jr. receives the MFA "1998 Logger of the Year" plaque and chainsaw from (L-R) Todd Berman, and Mike Nelson

MD Forests Association Presents "1998 Logger of the Year"

Grantsville, MD - The Maryland Forests Association (MFA) has recognized Master Logger **Phil MacDonald, Sr.**, owner and operator of Timber Harvest, Inc., of Cordova, as the "1998 Logger of the Year." At the Association's Annual Awards Banquet held in Solomons, MacDonald was presented the award by **Todd Berman**, Chair of MFA's Award Committee and forester with the Chesapeake Forest Products Company.

In addition to the engraved plaque, Macdonald was presented a Poulan chainsaw by **Mike Nelson**, representing Poulan distributor J.P. Fuller, Inc., Glen Burnie. In accepting the award, he acknowledged the support of his safety conscious and efficient crew and the support of his wife Lois and son Phil Jr. for their continual support and help with the business.

Fred Johnson of Johnson Logging Co., Easton and **Jim Klunk** of Klunk Forestry Services, Inc., Queenstown, nominated MacDonald because of the quality aspects of his logging operations and long time loyalty and trustworthiness; "Timber Harvest, Inc. have exhibited a concerted effort in applying Best Management Practices (BMP's), enforcing safety, and improving overall logging quality." Timber Harvest, Inc. has been in business for 14 years, but the family has been in logging for many years. This is a family business with Phil being active in the management and operations on site.

Crew members recognized as vital to success include, **Phil, Jr., John Elben, Stu Dawson, Steve Baker, Doug Benner, Tom Foxwell, and Lois**, who controls the books and business records. Phil's contract hauler is **George Evans**. ▲

For registration and lodging information for national ACF meeting, contact: **Mark Webb**, 11021 Route #6, Union City, PA 16438, (814) 663-5393; FAX (814) 663-4008 or the ACF National Office at 732 N. Washington St., Suite 4-A, Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 548-0990, FAX (703) 548-6395; acf@jgc.apc.org
Visit the National ACF websit at www.acf-foresters.com

Habitat for Humanity Video Available for SAF Promotion

By Jack Winieski, Editor

Jointly produced by the Michigan SAF and a professional movie-making company, a 13-minute video makes the professional and personal connection between forests and foresters and the homes we live in, *Forests: Providing Habitat for All*. It's a wonderful video to share with the public, and for local Allegheny SAF units to use internally to inspire members to become involved in helping to build the 100-home goal by year 2000 set by SAF to celebrate our Centennial. I have a copy of the video and can attest to the quality of the filming and the message – you can borrow this copy (717-432-3646) but I think each Allegheny unit committed to become involved in meeting our goal should get a copy.

By partnering with the Habitat for Humanity (HFH) project to reduce homelessness, SAF hopes to connect forestry and forest products to everyone's daily lives. Helping HFH build the 100 homes provides the opportunity to: inform the public about forestry and forest management, demonstrate the importance of conservation ethic, sustainability, professional foresters, and forest products, and allow SAF members to work as a team, become involved in the local community, and work with other natural resource professionals and local community movers.

The video is applicable to any SAF state society or chapter and can be used as a communication tool to promote Habitat projects, or a fundraiser for state societies wanting to get started on a Habitat project in their area. Nationally SAF has participated in the building of six homes, and has started on two others.

To order a copy, send \$10 to:

Bill Sterrett

Manton Field Office

521 N. Michigan

Manton, MI 49663

or call Bill at (616) 824-9080. ▲

PCPF meets 40% of Funding Challenge – Four Months to Go!

By Robert J. LaBar, PCPF President

At the end of two months, the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters (PCPF) has received pledges of just over \$4,000 to be applied towards the \$10,000 matching gift offer from an anonymous donor. The offer to match contributions on a dollar-for-dollar basis remains open until June 30, 1999, with the proceeds to be applied towards efforts to obtain the licensing and registration of foresters in Pennsylvania.

PCPF is registered with the IRS as a 501C6 entity and was organized from among professional practitioners from the private consulting forester sector, small business entrepreneurs, the utility and coal company sectors, academia, and government. PCPF has and will address issues affecting the science-based management of forest resource values in the state.

Position statements taken, both positive and negative, and referred to appropriate and responsible individuals and bodies politic to date include: *The "Green Certification" of State Forest Lands*, *American Forest & Paper Association's "Sustainable Forestry Initiative in Pennsylvania, Supporting Scientific Management of the Allegheny National Forest, and In Support of Forester Licensing*.

Presently a proposed position statement is in draft to address the reorganization of the PA Bureau of Forestry; recognizing the existing organization and two generations of professional resource managers as having been in no small part responsible, over a forest generation equal to that of the Bureau, for the national recognition of PA as a leader in the stewardship of its forest resource values. PCPF acknowledges the prerogative of the executive branch of government to make necessary changes but is concerned that experienced, professionally trained foresters and other resource managers continue in technical decision-making positions.

Individuals wishing to contribute to the immediate issue of Forester Licensing being pursued by Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters can, of course join PCPF, and/or send non-deductible contributions to: PCPF Treasurer, c/o 311 Second Street, Pine Grove, PA 17963. Take some time and visit the PCPF website at <http://www.pcpf.org> ▲



Members of SAF Remembered

In reverence to recently deceased members of the Allegheny SAF, a moment of silence was observed during the recognition and awards ceremony at the recently held Winter Meeting. Those members memorialized were:

John C. Bennett - Galena, MD	Member 23 years
Weston J. Donehower - Wilmington, DE	Member 65 years
Harold W. Geiger - Spring Grove, PA	Member 54 years
Carl H. Peterson - New Wilmington, PA	Member 44 years
F. Henry Sipe - Rehoboth Beach, DE	Member 70 years
Sterling R. Wagner - Pocono Lake, PA	Member 71 years

A FREE instruction booklet for the SAF Certified Forester Program is available from the National Office at (301) 897-8720, ext. 122

Forestry in the 21st Century

By Timothy Kaden, District VII SAF Council Candidate

There are less than 250 days left in this Century, as I trust my thoughts to paper. According to some, the world will come to an end at the stroke of midnight December 31, 1999. Others say that the next century does not start until January 1, 2001 at 12:01 a.m. So, depending on whatever theory you subscribe to, you have approximately between 250 and 600 days to plan your celebration party!



But just in case the world does not come to an end, are we foresters ready for the 21st Century? Regardless of the increasing negative press the profession has received, the first 100 years of forestry has been exciting and we have come a long way.

One hundred years ago we were practicing protection forestry, learning about fire behavior the hard way; gradually we learned of the science of silvics and implemented silvicultural practices in interim management and reproduction harvests. Along the way hydrology effects and affects on watersheds, wildlife habitat requirements, entomology and pathology influences, forest products utilization requirements, and more recently urban forestry concerns have caused us to broaden our knowledge base.

Multiple-use, sustained yield and currently bio-diversity, ecosystem management and other concepts have emerged and caused us to continue to adapt. Forestry is as equally dynamic as the forest; our world-renowned collegiate educational system is evolving as dynamically, and along with research, helps us in meeting the increasing demands that society places on the forest resource. Our history is exemplary — and why not, we wrote it!

I see the 21st Century bringing the forestry profession ever-changing new challenges. One that jumps out at me is leadership. Will we be the leaders in the science and art of managing the nations forests, or will others claim to know better and slowly replace us? Two, has the original intent and philosophy of the National Forest system changed from the growth of timber, the protection of water resources, grazing and other uses, to that of one or more of the special interest groups? Will the current strategy of keeping the U.S. Forest Service in court continue to determine forest management in the 21st Century? Will the restricted forest policies of the National Forest Service spill over onto private forestland ownership? Three, is the Forestry curriculum at our centers of higher learning retreating from the traditional core forestry

courses or is our new age forestry curriculum right for the times we live in?

Without drawing a line in the sand, an either/or situation, it is time to be more "up front" about our ability to use the science-base and skills of our profession to make the responsible technical decisions with regard to the management of our forest resource values. We must take the lead in convincing the general public and the policy decision-makers that we are, and always have been, part of the solution — not the problem. ▲

Introducing

TREE PRO'S Miracle Tube

A seamless Tree Shelter



- Flared top.
- No assembly required.
- UV stabilized two ways.
- 100% recycled materials.
- Manufactured in the USA.
- Reusable ties are available.

Call us when you need
Weed mats, mycorrhizal and
controlled release fertilizer.

**TREE PRO's original
design is still available.**

For a free sample
800-875-8071

3180 W. 250 N. West Lafayette, IN 47905
treepro.com

77th Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting Highlights

By Barbara A. Breshock, Past Chair, WV SAF

The title, "Land Use — Past, Present and Future" translated into excellent presentations and discussions by members and guests at the Coolfont Resort and Conference Center in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia, February 16-18, 1999. Land-use changes and its effects on forest management surfaced early and often.

Keynote speaker, **William Matuszeski**, Director of the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program, put the development problem and resultant siltation into perspective early, with a description of the Bay — average depth of only 27 feet and a drainage basin of 64,000 square miles. He emphasized that there are three public misconceptions that add to the complexity of forest management in our area: 1) we don't need the Eastern forest for wood products, 2) forests are poorly managed by forest managers, based on the appearance of timber harvests, and 3) parcelization is good because it keeps forest managers from harvesting!

Bill went on to say that the conversion of the forest to urban and suburban land-development is happening because people want their own five acres of land with a stream within 20 minutes of a sports stadium. We, as forest managers, should be allied with people who want smart growth, because they want to keep the forest.

Kent Mountford, EPA Chesapeake Bay Program, presented a very impressive high-tech visual program that gave the viewers an aerial view of the Chesapeake Bay watershed from the Colonial-era clearing for agriculture, to post Civil War forest reversion, to post World War II urban expansion. It set the historical basis for the remainder of the program.

Rick Cooksey, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area Liaison to the Bay Program continued from where Kent left off to the present. He emphasized the importance of keeping larger tracts of intact forests, especially around headwaters because they protect areas of land where rain recharges groundwater. In some areas riparian forest buffers, act as our last line of



defense, filtering silt, nutrients, and chemicals in runoff from agricultural and development activities.

Michael Foreman, Virginia Department of Forestry, who has been tracking Virginia's forests with regard to population densities, found that 46 people /square mile is the threshold for social pressure on timber harvesting. When social pressure precludes harvesting forested areas, current levels of consumption meet or exceed current growth. "This suggests that to sustain current consumption levels on a long-term basis, either the 'suitable rural forestland' base needs to be protected or expanded, or its productivity increased, or a combination of both."

Jim Woehr, Senior Scientist with The Wildlife Management Institute, discussed the effect of fragmentation on wildlife habitat. As managers we need to decide at what scale should we measure fragmentation, and for what species. Fragmentation for neotropical migrants is different from fragmentation for grizzly bears. In this mid-Atlantic area as a whole, grassland bird species and short distance migrants are doing poorly; forest interior dwelling species are doing best. In the Appalachians, fragmentation is not a problem for songbirds. We need to convince people that a managed forest is a healthier forest.

John Pasquantino is an attorney working for the USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area. John stated that tax laws vary throughout the region, and that better tax incentives would help to promote forest management. He discussed estate taxes in the context

of forest land transfers to heirs; without planning, heirs may be forced to sell the land to meet tax obligations. Various trust arrangements were presented which could help insure that the forest land could remain intact after an owner's death.

Lester A. DeCoster of The DeCoster Group, Inc., spoke to the marketing of forestry. He suggests that foresters need to learn to market information and services to all sizes of forest ownerships. "If we do not, we will be relevant to fewer and fewer people and have diminishing opportunities for growth, because the center of gravity of forest ownerships is sinking down and toward smaller sizes." The take-home message here is, in order to manage our relationships with forests and with people, we must organize, be deliberate, build learning into our systems, be prepared for change, keep at it, and use the best professional advice we can find.

Harry Wiant's personal hypotheses relative to the meeting follows this article as does the victorious West Virginia University forestry student team win of the 1999 Student Quiz Bowl (Go Mountaineers! at the National competition at Portland, Oregon and bring home another national championship).

The Allegheny awards banquet honored members **John Benton**, *Forester of the Year*; **Ken Kane**, *Outstanding Service to Forestry*; and **Roger Sherman**, being nominated and elected by his peers to a *National Fellow in the Society*. Banquet speaker, **Anne Heissenbuttel** serves on the staff of Congresswoman **Helen Chenoweth** and brought us up to date on forestry issues at the national level.

The West Virginia Division will receive, through National SAF, \$2,000 from the Chesapeake Bay Program to apply towards the expenses of meeting arrangements and speakers. This arrangement is part of an agreement in which SAF units agree to devote a 1999 technical meeting to the subject of the affects of local parcelization and fragmentation of forest land on forest management. ▲

A Hypotheses Regarding the 1999 Allegheny SAF Meeting

["Land Use - Past, Present and Future"]

By Dr. Harry V. Wiant, Jr.

- There is a 95% probability that those against folks having houses on 5-acre lots already have their own house on a 5-acre lot.
- Those who think population has destroyed our environment would have loved the ice age.
- Larger forests lend themselves to good forest management unless they belong to the government
- The better the science, the less the interest to so-called environmentalists.
- Words ending in "ion" (fragmentation, parcelization, etc.) are bad for our forest even if we are now sure what they mean.
- The more centralized the planning, the greater the threat to individual freedom. ▲

New Dictionary of Forestry

An essential reference to 4,500 terms used today in the broad field of forest science, management, and conservation, published by the SAF in September 1998 and edited by John A. Helms, is now available. It is a revision of the 1971 Terminology of Forest Science, Technology, Practice, and Products, edited by F.C. Ford-Robertson. Changes in forest practices have modified the use of existing terms and introduced new terms, which prompted the revision.

The 6" x 9" hardcover edition is available for \$50 (\$45 for SAF members) plus \$5 shipping and handling per copy. Order your copy online at www.safnet.org/market/store/htm, or mail check, money order or credit card # and expiration date plus SAF member ID# and signature to SAF Sales, 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814, or phone 301-897-8720 ext. 106. ▲



Chair Steve Resh presents the engraved plaque to the WVU winners, (L-R) Sam Fisher, Dawn Meyers and Julie Swisher

WV Wins 1999 Allegheny SAF Student Quiz Bowl

By Steven Resh, Professor of Forestry, Allegany College of Maryland

If it wasn't the biggest student quiz bowl in the history of the Allegheny Society, it was close! If it wasn't the most exciting student quiz bowl, it was close! Teams of students from six colleges participated in the 1999 Forestry Student Quiz Bowl before a packed house of members. I'm sure some members in the crowd went back to their rooms wondering how they could have forgotten so much from their college years.

The 12th annual quiz bowl competition took place at the 77th Annual Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting held at the Coolfont Resort in Berkeley Springs, WV.

The first round had the Pennsylvania College of Technology team of **Kelli Andrews**, **Susan Guinter** and **Matt Hofman** matched against the Penn State Mont Alto team of **Staci Grimes**, **Larie McGinnis** and **Doug Konkle**. At the end of the standard 20-minute round, the score was tied. A three question overtime periods saw Penn Tech pull out the victory.

In round two Allegany College of Maryland sent **Tom Sadorf**, **Josh Roland** and **Shawn Siefers** to the table to battle a Rutgers University contingent comprised of **Steve Kallesser**, **Rich Ochs**, and **Ross Karr**. Allegany moved out to a large lead early in the round but Rutgers was closing fast when time ran out.

The third heat had defending 1998 Allegheny Champions, Penn State pitted against defending 1998 national champions, West Virginia University. The blue and white was represented by **Leland Swoger**, **Jason Rihn** and **Brett Smiley**, while the Mountaineers sent **Dawn Meyers**, **Julie Swisher** and **Sam Fisher** to the buzzers. WVU moved on to the next round. In the semi-finals, Allegany drew a bye, so WVU had to go against Penn Tech College. The gold and black of WVU moved into the championship round with the win.

Allegany College held their own in the finals, but in the end WVU proved themselves to be the champions of not only the US, but the hotly contested Allegheny Society as well. The foresters from WVU will be supported by our society to the tune of \$500 to help with expenses to attend the national competition which will be held in Portland, Oregon in September 1999.

Steve Resh, who chaired the Student Quiz bowl committee for the past two years wishes to thank the three very capable judges who kept things moving very nicely this year: **Jack Winieski**, **Tim Kaden**, and **Ron Sheay**. Resh also reported that **Craig Houghton**, of Penn State Mont Alto agreed to assume the chair position of the Quiz Bowl Committee for the next two years. ▲

77th Annual Business Meeting

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

February 17, 1999 at the Coolfont Conference Center in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Chair Mark Webb.

1998 Secretary's Report was accepted as published by majority voice vote.

1998 Treasurer's Report was presented by Jack Winieski for Treasurer Susan Lacy. It was accepted after a discussion relating to an apparent cash flow problem and perhaps other increases in operating expenses. The Executive Committee will review financial matters in conjunction with other items at a meeting April 13, 1999 somewhere in the Harrisburg, PA area.

Membership: report by Chair-Elect Mike Lester: Efforts are being made to maintain existing membership of 1,155(+/-) through individual, personal efforts. The National Office in conjunction with the "100 Years and Still Growing" project has proposed a membership goal of 1,214 members for the Allegheny SAF in 1999, an net increase of 77 members. Recruiters can win prizes by enlisting members; recruit 5 or more members or 10 student members and win a chance at a raffle for FREE registration and airfare to SAF's 2000 convention in Washington, DC!

Awards/Recognition: Nine 50-year Allegheny SAF members will receive certificates this year. Certificates not accepted in person at the banquet will be presented to recipients by local SAF units at a SAF function or other appropriate occasion. Members for both the 1998 "Allegheny Forester of the Year" and the "Outstanding Service to Forestry" awards have been selected by the Awards Committee and will be also be presented at the banquet.

Tim Kaden will be running for the District VII Councilman's position in the 1999 Fall election. The position represents both the Allegheny SAF and the National Capital SAF on the SAF Council and is a three year position. Members were encouraged to vote, and reminded that, when casting their ballot, failure to fill in the voting space is a "no" vote. The Allegheny has a shameful record when it comes to voting!

Fall 1999 Election: The Allegheny SAF will be electing a Vice-Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, and four (4) at-large Executive Committee members. Tim Kaden heads the Nominating Committee as Past Chair and will prepare a slate by October 1, 1999. Contact Tim if you are interested in serving in any of the above offices or any of the Chairs listed on the last page in any copies of The Allegheny News. But VOTE!

Leadership Training: Ken Jolly has been selected to attend the National SAF Leadership Training Academy in May 1999. The 1999 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting to be held in Hagerstown, MD on September 30 and October 1, 1999 will feature a mini-leadership academy as part of the program so mark your calendars now to take advantage of this opportunity – preparation to better fit us to step forward and take SAF positions and be effective leaders!

National SAF Centennial Celebration: Jim Coufal, SAF Vice-President is Chair of the SAF Centennial Celebration and invites individual members and local units to participate. A "Centennial Guide" is being updated as ideas pour in from state societies. Local units are encouraged to partner with local groups and initiate programs highlighting our forest resource values and professional forestry's contribution to society. Call C.J. Hall, Centennial Assistant, (301) 897-8720 x 155 or e-mail hallcj@sasfnet.org with questions or inquire about a Centennial Guidebook and updates. Archival grants are also available in connection with centennial activities – Jennifer Plyler at extension 117.

Habitat for Humanity: National HFH packets were distributed to the four Division Chairs, along with the names and phone numbers of local HFH contacts in each Division and Chapter area. After discussion relative to the merits of the program and an explanation by Winieski how the revolving mortgage fund works, it was agreed that the Allegheny would participate and Allegheny Division Chairs or appointed Ad hoc committee chairs would report on contacts made and progress at the Summer Executive Committee Meeting in Hagerstown, MD, Sept. 30, 1999. Local initiation and contact is to stimulate action!

Forester Fund Grants: The Executive Committee approved submission of a NJ Division application to the Forester's Fund to support an advanced Project Learning Tree (PLT) training module for teachers in 1999. The PA Division was approved to submit application for a Forester's Fund grant to create a video in conjunction with Lock Haven University in PA, based on Jim Nelson's existing slide show and text of the historic use of Pennsylvania's forests (original black and white glass lantern slides). Copies of the video, with SAF logo and credits would then be used in conjunction with the SAF Centennial Celebration.

Student Monitoring Program: Mixed reports of activity within the Allegheny SAF units followed with discussion and suggested use of e-mail and the internet to contact the electronically-oriented student bodies.

Allegheny SAF Meeting Dates: The following meeting dates were agreed upon by representatives of the divisions and chapters after suggestions by Program Chair, Doug Ostergard:

<u>Winter</u>			<u>Summer</u>		
2000	PA Plateau Chapter Titusville, PA 'Selling Resource Management To Non-industrial Private Forest Landowners'	2/23 - 25	1999	MD/DE Division Hagerstown, MD "Forest Certification"	9/30 - 10/1
2001	New Jersey Division		2000	NO MEETING SO THAT MORE MAY ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN DC!	
2002	MD/DE Division		2001	PA Western Gateway Chapter	7/11-13
			2002	PA Keystone Chapter	Harrisburg, PA area

Meeting Adjourned 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Jack Winieski (for Secretary)

Treasurer's Report

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

Prepared February 6, 1999

Submitted by: Susan Lacy

Beginning Balance of Checking Account on January 1, 1998	\$4,074.78
Beginning Balance of Savings Account on January 1, 1998	<u>1,914.54</u>
Total Beginning Balance	<u>\$5,989.32</u>

INCOME:

Dues from National Office	\$11,822.80
Forester Fund Contributions	614.00
Exec Director Expense Contributions	500.00
Interest on Savings Account	33.47
Forester Fund Project (NJ)	10,000.00
Checks not cashed in 1997 and 1998	153.50
Transfer funds from Endowment Acct	<u>1,950.00</u>
Total 1998 Income	<u>\$25,073.77</u>

TOTAL INCOME \$31,063.09

EXPENSES:

Dues Reimbursement to Divisions and Chapters	\$4,615.05
Newsletter	5,911.27
Executive Director Stipend	3,300.00
Executive Director Expenses	1,590.00
HSD Assessment	396.78
Forester Fund Project (NJ)	10,000.00
Forester Fund Contributions	614.00
Student Travel	900.00
Framing	13.56
Art Awards	140.00
Award Committee Expenses	145.59
SAF Stationary	380.84
Engraving	32.00
Bank Service Charges	60.00
Check printing Fee	<u>15.98</u>
Total 1998 Expenses	<u>\$28,115.07</u>

TOTAL INCOME LESS EXPENSES \$ 2,948.02

Ending Balance in Checking Account on December 31, 1998	\$ 2,687.01
Ending Balance in Savings Account on December 31, 1998	<u>261.01</u>
Total Ending Balance	<u>\$ 2,948.02</u>

Endowment Certificate of Deposit	\$10,000.00
Endowment Savings Account	
Beginning Balance on January 1, 1998	\$ 2,521.99
Interest on Savings Account	50.08
Interest from Certificate of Deposit	520.34
Transfer Funds to Checking Account	(1,950.00)
Ending Balance on December 31, 1998	<u>\$ 1,142.41</u>

Roger L. Sherman is 1998 SAF Fellow Recipient



Roger Sherman (R) receives his Award from Mark Webb

Roger L. Sherman was honored at the awards Banquet, having been nominated, and elected to **Fellow** status in the National Society of American Foresters (SAF). Being elected to Fellow is the highest form of recognition by one's professional peers; less than 5% of the 18,000 National SAF membership are so recognized for their contributions to the profession and to SAF.

A 27-year member of SAF, Roger is Public Affairs Forester of the Appalachian Region of Westvaco Corporation, and is located in Rupert, West Virginia. He holds a BS degree in Forestry from North Carolina State University 1972, and a Master of Forestry from Yale University 1974; served in the U.S. Army from 1966-69, and was Chief Forester for the Forest Farmers Association from 1994-97 before joining Westvaco.

Roger has been recognized in many circles for his contributions to forestry and SAF: 1986 Outstanding Service to Forestry, Allegheny SAF; the 1992 President's Service Award, WV Forestry Association; and the National SAF 1994 John A. Beale Memorial Award for, "...outstanding efforts, over a sustained period, in the promotion of forestry through volunteer service to SAF."

Professionally, Roger has contributed significantly to the creation of the popular and successful SAF Leadership Academy; initiated two discussion round tables at the Seventh American Forestry Congress; developed a master's level course in economics and forestry for public school teachers; was instrumental in initiating a group storm water discharge permit program for the WV Forest Products industry; developed and enacted logging sediment control legislation acceptable to forestry; helped organize the first National 4-H Forestry Invitational; and was instrumental in the success of the "Forester at Home" print sales project, which netted more than \$70,000 for SAF and public informational projects. ▲

1998 Allegheny SAF Awards

By Kenneth Jolly, Chair, Awards Committee

The Capen Room of the Coolfont Conference Center in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia provided a pleasant setting for the 1999 Awards Banquet of the 77th annual Meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters. After an opening by WV Immediate Past Chair **Barbara Breshock**, Allegheny Chair **Mark Webb** introduced Awards Chair, **Ken Jolly**, who graciously acknowledged the assistance of his "ghost" Committee and proceeded with the ceremony.



1998 Allegheny SAF Forester of the Year John Benton and wife Karyn proudly display his award

John E. Benton, Jr., NJ SAF, was the recipient of the 1998 Allegheny SAF Forester of the Year Award. John works with the New Jersey Forest Service (NJFS), and was recognized for his leadership and dedicated efforts in the establishment of the New Jersey Forest Resource Education Center (FREC).

Through John's efforts between 1995 and 1998, the number and types of educational programs developed and offered at the FREC site at the State Forest Tree Nursery has expanded, and visitor use by teachers, students and the general public increased from 100-200 to over 3,000 annually. And it continues to grow!

Hands-on environmental education programs may find students collecting acorns, planting tree and shrub seeds in the nursery beds - and of course weeding and thinning those beds. All in the process of learning reproductive cycles and seedling development in the "Seeds to Trees" and "Fall Forestry Festival" programs; a strong partnership has also developed between the NJ SAF and the NJ Envirothon Program for high school students.

Benton has been very successful in leveraging funds for a Stewardship Demonstration Forest through a SAF Foresters Fund Grant, which allows visitors to view forestry practices in five outdoor classrooms connected by a five-mile Project Learning Tree Trail. \$400,000 in funding was secured from the Green Acres Program has been dedicated by the NJFS to build a new FREC facility in the near future.

Without a doubt, John Benton's leadership skills have effected the quality of the infrastructure and programming of environmental education in New Jersey, and deserves the 1998 Allegheny SAF Forester of the Year Award!

Kenneth C. Kane, in the consulting forester business of Keith Horn, Inc., was honored with the 1998 Allegheny SAF Outstanding Service to Forestry Award for his continuing achievements in advancing the forestry profession, and his leadership and service to the Allegheny SAF.

Ken has applied his leadership skills in the Chairs of both the Pennsylvania SAF Division and the Northern Hardwoods SAF Chapter. He serves on several forestry issue task forces and committees in Pennsylvania State Government, providing valuable technical advice based on experience gained over many years as a consulting forester. The same skills and experience have been requested at the national level where he has testified on national forestry issues before US Senate and Congressional Sub-Committees.

One of his major contributions has been in the development of new cost-effective methods of addressing forest regeneration problems in Pennsylvania's hardwoods using a combination of herbicides and deer fencing. At present, he is responsible for the treatment of over 3,000 acres annually.

A forestry leader, truly offering his professional knowledge and skills "for the benefit of the resource and the benefit of society!" ▲



Ken Kane (L) receives his 1998 Outstanding Service to Forestry Award from Allegheny SAF Chair Mark Webb

The Year of the SIP Drought

By Lloyd R. Casey, Deputy Asst. Director, Forest Resources Management, NE Area, USFS

Many of the non-industrial private forest owners have already heard that the Stewardship Incentive Program (SIP) has not been funded for 1999. Why has Congress made this decision? The budget language indicates that they feel that the funding of such "small projects" does not seem to fit the national role and that such activity is better funded by the states.

As a consequence, the Forestry Incentive Program (FIP) is the only forestry cost/share program remaining to assist forest owners with the installation of forestry practices on the ground. FIP, however, was designed to produce timber only on "highly productive" land and does not assist those owners that want to improve non-commodity products such as clean air, clean water, wildlife habitat and aesthetics.

All is not lost however. The Internal Revenue Code contains provisions that will also assist forest owners to meet conservation objectives. The "Tax Simplification Act of 1986" provided two provisions that work together to reduce the cost of tree planting for forestry purposes — the Reforestation Tax Credit and the Reforestation Amortization. Orchard, ornamental planting, Christmas tree production, shelterbelts and other non-forestry tree planting practices are not eligible.

Reforestation Operations

The Reforestation Amortization and Tax Credit work together to reduce the cost of forest production. In order to be eligible: (1) you must be an individual landowner (trusts are not eligible), (2) available for cost up to \$10,000/year, (3) the land must be located in the United States, and (4) you must plant one acre or more.

Reforestation costs can be included for up to two years after establishment. Replanting costs for drought damage and costs for site preparation for natural regeneration are eligible. In other words, one does not have to plant trees to be eligible for these provisions if the work is done to promote natural regeneration of trees.

The Tax Credit

For reforestation expenses up to \$10,000 per year, an investment tax credit of ten percent is available. This is a reduction in tax, not a tax deduction. If one spends \$5,000 in a year, \$500 may be deducted from the amount of taxes owed. Use form #3468.

There are recapture provisions if the trees are disposed of within five years.

Reforestation Amortization

In addition to the tax credit, 95% of the reforestation costs can be amortized over an eight-year period. If \$5,000 was spent, then 95%, OR \$4,750 can be amortized in the following fashion:

- 1st year — 1/14 of \$4,750 = \$339
(half year convention)
- 2nd year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$678
- 3rd year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$679

- 4th year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$678
- 5th year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$679
- 6th year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$678
- 7th year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$676
- 8th year — 1/7 of \$4,750 = \$339
- Total Amortized = \$4,750

There are recapture provisions if the trees are disposed of within 10 years of the project's completion.

Wildlife Habitat Operations



As long as the written forest management plan states that the planting or site preparation is for natural regeneration with a profit motive, a wide range of purposes is eligible: riparian buffer establishment, erosion control, and wood production. To be eligible, harvesting must be planned in the future. Planting for wildlife would not be eligible, as no profit would be anticipated, however, planting trees with a dual purpose in mind, such as timber and wildlife would be eligible for special tax treatment.

Forest Improvement Operations

Expenses for precommercial thinning operations (timber stand improvement, TSI) can be deducted from income on an annual basis, as long as one is in the "timber growing business." Commercial thinning operations should pay for themselves or at least be done at a time when they can be done on a breakeven basis. Practices that protect the health and productivity of the forest are treated like forest improvement expenses.

In conclusion, the year of the SIP drought should not deter landowners from reforestation, TSI, and other forest improvement operations (practices done with a "profit motive") can be deducted from any income source for those in the "timber growing business."


However, for those landowners that want to enhance water quality, improve erosion control, enhance wildlife habitat, improve the visual quality of the countryside, and conserve woodlands without a profit motive in mind, they will have to do it without the assistance from the federal government. ▲

BETTER FOREST TREE SEEDS

EDGAR H. PALPANT
Consulting Forester

"If a better system is thine, impart it;
if not, make use of mine." Horace (65-8BC)

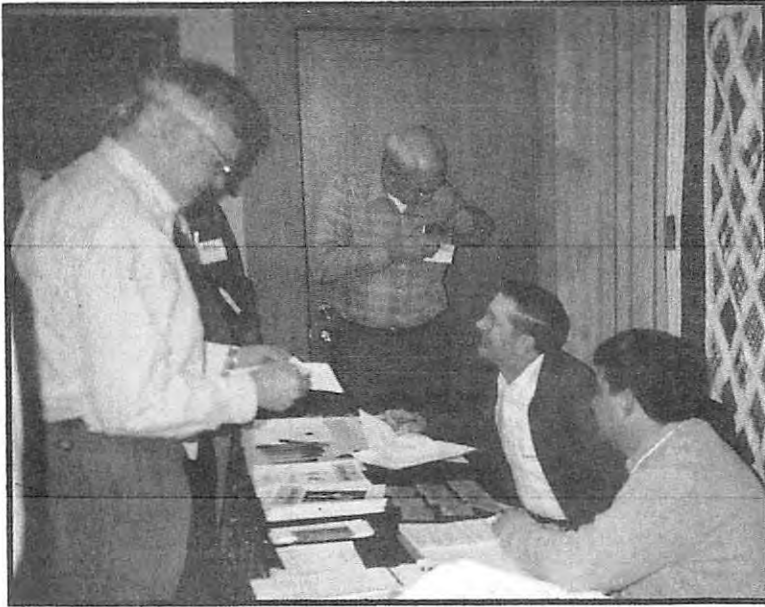
Operations:
Pal Lane
Mc Aleys Fort, PA



Mailing:
R.D. #1, Box 709
Petersburg, PA 16689
Phone: 814-667-5088
Fax: 814-667-5089

BETTER TREES - THROUGH BETTER SEED - THROUGH RESEARCH
Specializing In Christmas Tree Management

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting - West Virginia



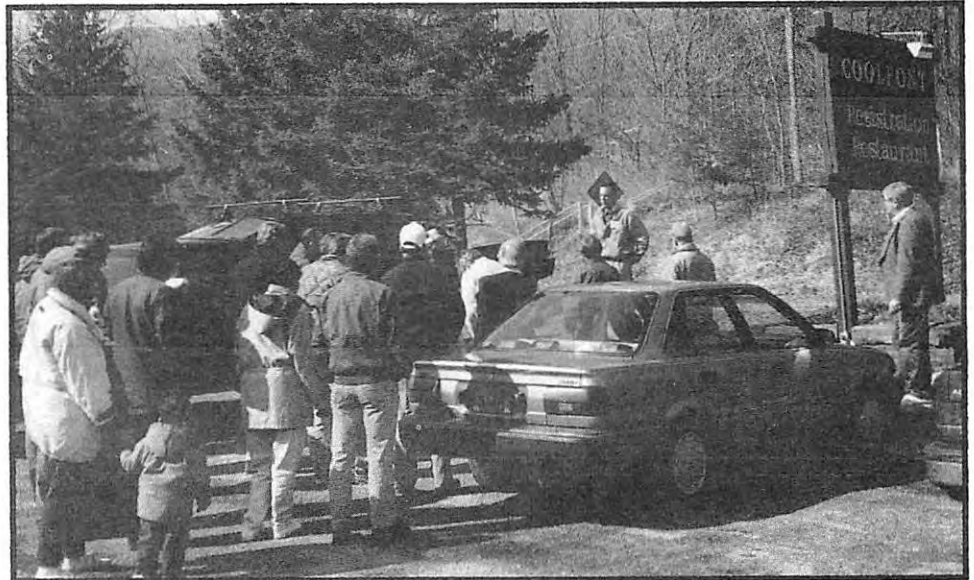
Registration with Jim Mitchell and Steve Stasny



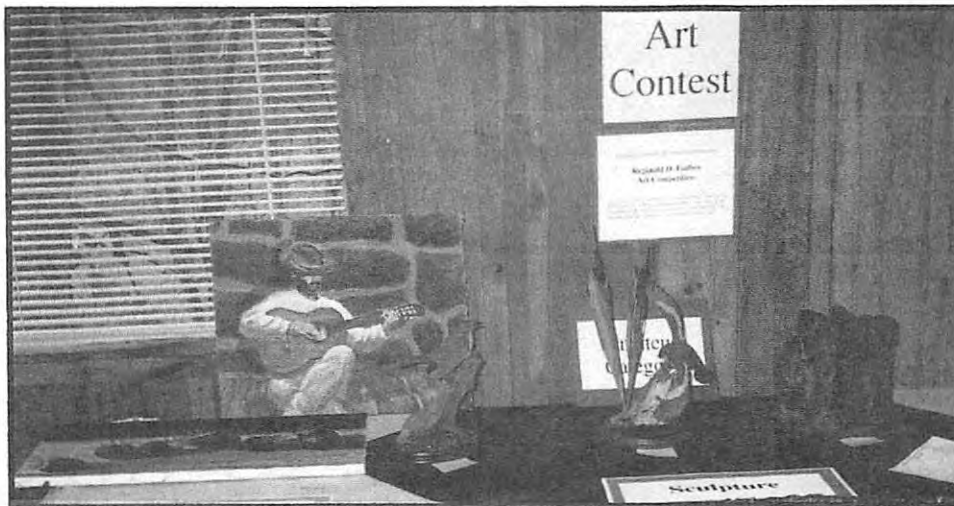
Roger Sherman [R] explains the workings of a Flood Mock-up



Banquet Speaker Ann Heissenbuttel of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Resources Sub-committee on Forests and Forest Health



SAF members and families attend a field trip of Coolfont properties with Jeff Bracken of Westvaco

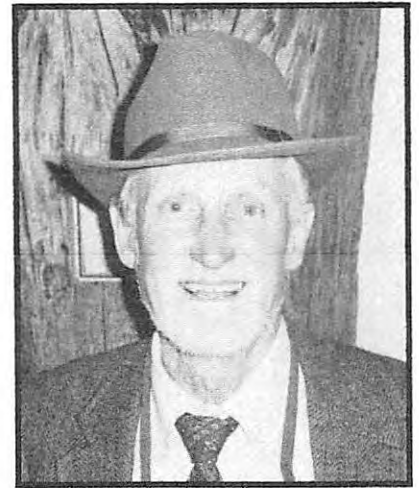


Kent Montford of EPA discusses "Land Use - Past to Present"

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting - West Virginia



A "full house" at 1999 Winter SAF Meeting!



Al Allison is just like the Energizer® Bunny™ — he keeps on going, and going, and going...



Methodist minister J. Douglas Patterson (middle), speaker at the Chair's Breakfast, is flanked by Jack Winieski (L) and Mark Webb



Harry Wiant (L) and Ken Kane discuss philosophy?



Charles Newlon, Chair of the Reginald Forbes Art Contest

WV Chair Barbara Breshock introduces the panel of speakers (below)



Cochran Fund Accepting Forestry Education Proposals

By Adam Downing, Committee Chair, Sandy Cochran Memorial Fund

The Sandy Cochran Memorial fund is seeking applications **by June 1, 1999** for the funding of educational projects that will support good forest management and the forest industry in Northwestern Pennsylvania and Southwestern New York. High priority will be given to projects directly affecting a 17-county area in the Northern Allegheny Region.

In the past, a variety of projects have been funded, including support for a Forest Landowners Conference,

materials for teaching forestry in area schools, and the development of a seminar series for practicing foresters. Requests for academic scholarships are also encouraged; students should be from Northwestern Pennsylvania or Southwestern New York.

The Cochran Fund was established in memory of Roe "Sandy" Cochran, a former Penn State Forestry Extension Agent who stressed the importance of continuing education and research-based knowledge. He worked with

everyone in the forest industry, from independent loggers and mill operators, to those involved in forestry education at the all levels; an informed public and the creation of a policy environment created by informed political leaders were included in Sandy's efforts.

Applications for funding and further information can be obtained from: The Sandy Cochran Memorial Fund, in care of, **The Forest Sciences Laboratory, PO Box 267, Irvine, PA 16329** or call **Adam Downing at 814/563-9388.** ▲

Leslie Equipment Partners With Glenville State

Leslie Equipment Company (LEC) has given a much needed boost to the Glenville State College (GSC) Forest Technology program with the loan of a new John Deere 640-G Skidder. The skidder, which retails for about \$137,000, will allow the offering of "hands on" experience in the basics of timber harvesting equipment operation to students in the forestry program, according to Division Chair, **Ed Grafton**.

Glenville State's good fortune was actually the result of forestry student **Amy Self's** discussion of the needs of the program with LEC Sales Representative, **Gary Williams**. Williams shared those needs with **John Leslie**, President of LEC, who responded positively with the equipment donation. LEC is a leader in the logging and construction equipment industry, with over 100 employees and outlets in Cowen, Elkins, and Beckley, WV.

The GSC Forest Technology program is one of only 22 recognized programs in the nation offering an



GSC Forest Technology students with Division Chair Ed Grafton, Rick Sypolt, Tom Snyder and John Deere 640 G-II

Associate Degree in Forest Technology. The program is growing and hopes to find other companies willing to partner with the loan of a loader and bulldozer. Exposure to a broader array of field equipment prepares graduating students to better understand what loggers experience in field operations.

LEC representative Williams was on hand to present the skidder keys to GSC President, **Bruce Flack**, and applauded GSC's efforts in offering its students the practical field experience

necessary to better understand the complexities and safety considerations involved in logging operations. After taking a test drive on the new skidder, Flack lauded the partnership with LEC as vital to the forestry program and expressed thanks to President John Leslie on behalf of the College and students.

For more information, please contact GSC Foundation, Inc. Executive Vice President, Ed Hamrick, (304) 462-4125. ▲

1999 Reginald Forbes Art Show and Contest

By Charlie Newton, Art Show Chair

Our congratulations to the five talented artists and their ten entries in the 1999 Reginald Forbes Art Show Contest. The artists are all from the New Jersey and Pennsylvania SAF Divisions; winners and their entries are listed below.

Interestingly, our guest breakfast speaker, the **Reverend Douglas Patterson**, pastor of the United Church of Christ of Pittsburgh, PA, mentioned during his presentation that he knew of no other professional group that holds an art contest for its membership. He was impressed and felt that this was a very fine thing to do.

The number of entries, though of high quality, was down this year. Surely there are talented artists in the West Virginia and Maryland/Delaware Divisions, don't you think? Perhaps we will find out next year. Also, for the second year since the SAF **Student Category** was created, no students entered; surely there is artistic talent among the younger set – perhaps in Cartography, or computer graphics? And the winners of the 1999 Reginald Forbes Art Contest are:

Professional Category:

Flat Art: 1st Place, "Wood Duck" by Earl Higgins; 2nd Place, "California Juniper" by Earl Higgins; 3rd Place, "Buckeye Butterfly" by Earl Higgins.

Sculpture: 1st Place, "Tlingit Raven Hat" carved from red alder by Tom Birch; 2nd Place, "North Coast motif neckerchief slide" carved from basswood by Tom Birch

Amateur Category:

Flat Art: 1st Place, "Guitar Player" by Susan Bearer; 2nd place, "Strawberries" by Susan Bearer

Sculpture: 1st Place, "Catbird on Driftwood" by Lloyd Casey; 2nd Place, "Elephant Bookends" by Bob LaBar; 3rd Place, "Redwing Blackbird and Cattails" by Lloyd Casey. ▲

John Fedkiw Summarizes USFS Land Management

Hot off the press is Dr. John Fedkiw's book, *Managing Multiple Uses on National Forests, 1905-1995: A 90-year Learning Experience and It isn't Finished Yet*, officially introduced at an afternoon coffee and book-signing event held on February 23, 1999 at the Cafeteria of the Sidney R. Yates Federal Building in Washington, DC. The event was hosted by the Chief Michael Dombeck and the USFS Office of Communication.

Dr. Fedkiw shares his experience of 50 years as a natural resource teacher, professional, and policy advisor in his detailed account of the evolution of management on National Forest System Lands. The book addresses conflicts openly, reports accomplishments factually, and opens the door to new learning and management experiences. John honored the Allegheny SAF with an advance preview of his comprehensive effort at the 1997 Annual Meeting in Matamoras, PA.

Written requests for a copy of this USDA publication should be addressed to the USDA Forest Service, Office of Communications, 14th & Independence SW, PO Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. ▲

Donald Floyd Promotes Forests of Discord in Congressional Testimony

By Jennifer Plyler, National SAF Communications Manager

In conjunction with SAF's release of the executive summary of *Forest of Discord: Options for Governing our National Forests and Federal Lands*, Donald Floyd, chair of the SAF Proposed Public Land Management Legislation Task Force testified Tuesday, March 16, 1999 before the House Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health. Floyd presented key findings of the Task Force and also offered comments on a report released by the Committee of Scientists, a USDA appointed committee that has studied Forest Service planning regulations. A complete copy of Floyd's testimony is on the SAF website (www.safnet.org). ▲

Life is Good in New Jersey!



NJ Service Foresters (L-R) Don Calderon, George Pierson, Sonny Porcella and Ron Sheay

Recently, five retired New Jersey Service Foresters met for lunch and considered who contributed most to the management of private woodlands in New Jersey during their tenures. Five, you say? Someone, **Gordon Bamford**, had to take the picture, while **Don Calderon, George Pierson, Sonny Porcella and Ron Sheay** put on the grin! ▲

A New Angle on Worms

By Steve and Carol Mortensen*

Worms in your garden or on the end of a fishing line can do good things, but some worm species in hardwood forests are another story.

What's long and lean, known to anglers young and old, and smiled upon by gardeners and farmers everywhere? The lowly earthworm, of course! With all the accolades, one might assume that earthworms are the greatest thing going, but researchers working in north-central Minnesota are discovering that this is not always the case. In fact, it appears that earthworms are rapidly altering the character of some of our forests, especially high-quality northern hardwood stands dominated by sugar maple and basswood, by consuming the leaf litter and duff (partly decomposed plant material) on the forest floor. The deep, cushiony layer of decaying plant material is important to many of the animal and plant species characteristic of this habitat, including many of the spring wildflowers that rich hardwood forests are noted for.

As it turns out, all of the earthworms found in northern Minnesota are exotics of European origin. "Hey, now wait a minute," you say. "My grandpa took me out to dig fishing worms when I was just a little kid, and he dug worms with my dad when he was a kid too. Worms have always been here."

Well, not quite. The question as to whether native species of earthworms were ever found in Minnesota is one that even the experts can't answer with certainty. We do know that if native earthworms were present in Minnesota, they were extirpated during the last period of glaciation that ended about 12,000 years ago.

Earthworms native to this continent can be found beyond the limit of the last glaciers in the central and southern United States. However, these native species colonize new areas very slowly, and experts believe that even thousands of years is not enough time for them to have reached this far north.

At least five species of nonnative earthworms are known to live in northern Minnesota. Some species have probably been in the United States for hundreds of years, arriving with the early European settlers, hitching a ride in the soil around the roots of fruit trees and other plants brought from Europe. Some also arrived in the mix of gravel, stones, and soil that was used as ballast in sailing ships.

Some of these species have been here so long that we can't study their impact on our forests. Because they

and the Department of Natural Resources sampled forests where the duff had disappeared. They commonly found 300 to 400 worms (a mixture of species) per square meter; some counts were more than 700.

To begin to understand the changes brought about by earthworms and why they are cause for concern, you need to know something about the life history of earthworms, a little soil science, a little chemistry, and a good bit of forest ecology.

Lowly Life

Terrestrial earthworms are most active in the spring and fall, and are more-or-less dormant during the summer and winter when temperatures and soil moisture are unsuitable for



Maple-Basswood forest floor — lacking worm infestation

tend to live in the upper foot or so of soil and don't seem to occur in large numbers, their effect on soils, plants, and animals is probably similar to that of native soil invertebrates.

The large, deep-burrowing night crawler, *Lumbricus terrestris*, seems to be responsible for most of the changes we are now seeing in some forests. Where large numbers of night crawlers thrive, they have almost completely consumed or incorporated the duff into the mineral soil.

Last summer, researchers from Furman University, Chippewa National Forest, Leech Lake Indian Reservation,

earthworm activity.

Earthworms have both male and female sexual organs. Typically, individuals mate by exchanging sperm, which they store in a casing produced by the clitellum, the thickened "collar" found on mature worms. The worm sheds the casing, which becomes a cocoon and after several weeks, produces one to six baby worms, depending on the species. Under suitable conditions, worms produce new cocoons every few weeks. The new worms will "hatch" only when soil moisture and temperature are suitable.

Researchers have identified the consumption and accelerated incorporation of litter and duff into mineral soil by exotic earthworms in both northern and southern Minnesota, as well as in Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, and parts of Canada. We suspect the real problem with earthworms started some 20 to 25 years ago when large earthworms, particularly *L. terrestris*, which can reach a length of 10 inches, became popular as fishing bait. In 1980, for example, 500 million night crawlers were imported from Canada, where they are commercially harvested, for sale to anglers in the United States.

Undoubtedly, some of these bait worms escaped, and anglers released

changes in maple-basswood forests because "they are able to successfully exploit the virtually untapped food resources contained in the duff and litter on the forest floor, accelerating the conversion of these materials into organic soils." Dennis Linden, U.S. Department of Agriculture soil scientist, says that earthworms probably prefer the basic pH environment created by maple and basswood leaves, as opposed to coniferous forests that become more acidic.

Ordinarily a tree leaf that falls to the ground in a deciduous forest takes three to five years to decompose and be incorporated into the soil, depending on the tree species and

First Signs

In northern Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers first noticed this phenomenon of "disappearing duff" in the mid-1980's at Lum Lake in the Marcell Experimental Forest. Another study in the University of Minnesota's Cloquet Experimental Forest documented the effects of earthworm infestation on the soil of an aspen forest over a period of 14 years. Though researchers viewed these first findings with great curiosity, they did not see them as anything more than small, isolated incidents.

In the early 1990's, when scientists started to map the ecological zones of Chippewa National Forest, they began to realize the possible ramifications for maple-basswood forests. David Shadis, a landscape ecologist with Chippewa National Forest, and others noticed large areas of exposed forest soils in habitats that should have had thick layers of duff and litter. Says Shadis, "We are only beginning to document all the short- or long-term effects of earthworm infestation, but the impacts appear to be significant in northern hard-wood systems."

DNR ecologist John

Almendinger is also examining changes that occur in forests due to earthworms and the loss of the duff layer. A preliminary study of worm-infested forests on the Ottetail Peninsula of Leech Lake suggests that earthworms can have a profound effect on herbaceous plants. Study plots in areas with little or no evidence of exotic earthworms contained 50 species

of plants. Plots in similar areas with high numbers of earthworms contained only half as many plant species, and some of those remaining plants were reduced in numbers.

This is not to say that earthworms adversely affect all plant species. Some plant species tolerate a broad range of habitat conditions and do not seem to be either harmed or benefited by the changes. Some plants even seem to thrive in worm-infested forests, but many are species not usually associated with high-quality maple-basswood forest.

Though this was a small study, it



Maple-Basswood forest floor — with high worm infestation

some on shore. This theory correlates well with where we have found earthworm-damaged forests: radiating out from lakes, boat landings, resorts, and other places where people fish. Many of us have at sometime released our worms back "into the wild."

So why is the night crawler getting most of the blame when other species of exotic earthworms are also present? According to Robert Wolff, a biologist working with the Leech Lake Reservation, Chippewa National Forest, and DNR to study exotic earthworm infestations, these large earthworms appear to be working most of the

other factors. In forests infested with night crawlers, this process can take as little as four weeks.

Deciduous trees depend on the gradual release of the nutrients contained in the leaves they shed each fall. By accelerating the breakdown of plant material, earthworms change the way nutrients are cycled back to the plants. They might also create conditions favorable to weedy or exotic plant species such as common buckthorn or garlic-mustard, increase soil erosion, and contribute to the leaching of nitrogen into lakes and streams.

(Continued from page 17)

gives some indication of the changes that could be in store for plants in deciduous forests with earthworms. It appears that in areas long-infested by worms, ground vegetation eventually increases, but it is far less diverse and contains more sedges and grasses that it did before. The duff does not return, because high numbers of earthworms in the soil continue to rapidly consume the leaves.

Decomposers Disappear

Loss of the duff layer not only seems to reduce the diversity and abundance of many plants, but also could harm the community of decomposers, especially bacteria and fungi, which rely on the duff layer as a main source of food.

Additionally, most plants in these communities, from trees on down to the smallest herbs, probably depend on associations with various mycorrhizal fungi for part of their nutrition. Threads of these fungi act as extensions for the plants' root systems and greatly increase their ability to extract nutrients from the soil. Found predominantly in the litter and duff, miles of mycorrhizal filaments occupy a square meter. This delicate mesh might actually form a connecting network among plants. Forest productivity could well suffer as a result of worm-induced changes in the mycorrhizal associations. Soil scientists expect further study to reveal how complex and far-reaching the effects of exotic earthworm infestations might be.

Among the plants that could be negatively affected by earthworm infestation of hardwood forests are several ferns of the genus *Botrychium*. The DNR lists nine ferns of this group as endangered, threatened, or of special concern. More than half of these are found in high-quality northern hardwood forests, the very type of forest being altered by exotic worms.

Although not the rarest of these ferns, the goblin fern (*Botrychium mormo*) has received the most publicity in recent years. This yellow-green denizen of the duff was discovered in 1975 on the Ottertail Peninsula, a botanically rich area on the north side of Leech Lake.

It was officially described and named by *botrychium* experts Herb and Florence Wagner in 1981.

Not a great deal is known about the life history of this plant. It apparently does not need to rely on photosynthesis, because it sometimes grows under the litter. It has shallow roots without hairs and is suspected to be dependent on mycorrhizae. Once the duff layer disappears, so does this mysterious little plant.

Found only in the western Great Lakes states, the goblin fern was thought to be rare in Minnesota and found only in high-quality maple-basswood forests. Eventually, however, it was also found to occasionally occur in timber stands labeled as aspen but containing a sugar maple component. This led to controversy concerning the effects of timber harvest on goblin fern habitat. As researchers conducted more plant survey work, they found new fern locations, thus leading land managers to wonder if timber harvest could continue in some of these areas, provided the plants were protected or set-aside areas established.

However, as researchers studied the effects of timber harvesting, they realized the goblin fern populations could be facing a new threat; declines due to the effects of exotic earthworms on their habitat. Although small populations of this plant have been found elsewhere in Minnesota,

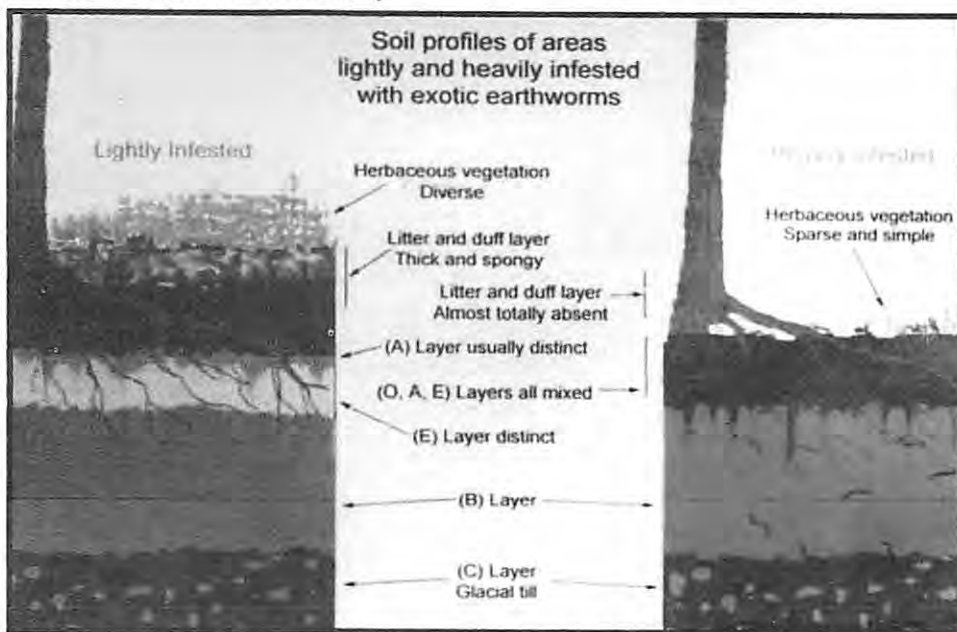
Wisconsin, and Michigan, the hot spot for the species is still Ottertail Peninsula, with an estimated 50 to 75 percent of the world's known population of the species.

In 1995, a large concentration of goblin ferns was discovered on tribal land there. Further inventory in 1996 revealed this to be the largest concentration of the plants found so far, with almost 500 above-ground fern stems counted in an area of less than one acre. In 1997, exotic earthworms infested part of the concentration, and goblin ferns declined by 75 percent. It is unlikely that any of the ferns will survive for more than a few years after worm invasion.

This spread of earthworms puts sensitive species habitat management in a whole new light. Timber harvests can sometimes be designed to reduce the effects on sensitive species, but we don't know how to prevent or control exotic worm infestations. For now we can only recommend that anglers not release their leftover worms into the wild, possibly starting new infestations.

What About Wildlife?

If exotic earthworms can affect forest vegetation, it follows that wildlife might also be affected. What will happen to species such as the blue-spotted salamander, spring peeper, wood frog, or tiger snail when the leaf litter and duff they depend on for cover and food disappears? What about



Soil Profiler shows (L) Light exotic worm infestation and (R) Heavy exotic worm infestation

interior forest birds such as thrushes and ovenbirds that nest or feed on the ground? Some of these species are already suspected to be declining.

The history of the introduction of exotic species has been a sad one, often with disastrous consequences for our native species and habitats. Some researchers estimate 40 to 50 percent of all species extinctions in recent times can be linked to the introduction of exotic species.

What will the spread of exotic earthworms mean for Minnesota's forests? It appears that earthworm infestation damages some types of deciduous forest more than others.

Prospects for control or eradication of earthworms are uncertain. Several pesticides kill earthworms, but they also kill most native forest invertebrates and amphibians, and would be impractical to use on a large scale. Biological control is a possibility but so far little work has been done to identify potential agents.

So put on your hiking boots and find a maple-basswood forest. Go for a walk through the woods and notice what's under your feet. Do you see a thick, spongy layer of duff and leaf litter or bare soil? The latter condition could describe the future of many of Minnesota's deciduous forests. All those night crawlers we set free are coming back to haunt us. ▲

** Steve and Carol Mortensen work for the Leech Lake Indian Reservation, Division of Resources Management in Cass Lake. Steve is a fish and wildlife biologist and Carol is a botanist. They became involved with exotic earthworms when worms began invading goblin fern monitoring plots on tribal land.*



SAF NATIONAL CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 11-15
PORTLAND, OREGON

Philadelphia Inquirer Features Allegheny SAF Meeting

By Terry Hoffman, Chair, Valley Forge SAF Chapter

A feature article on the front page of the February 10, 1999 issue of the Philadelphia Inquirer, covered the need for good land use planning in Pennsylvania Towns. The lead paragraph stated, "For three hours, scientists and planners at the summer meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters talked about ways to keep development from ruining open land."

The article went on to quote several of the speakers with complimentary editorial sections on how to limit uncontrolled growth and also included a summary of open space initiatives in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. It is a debate in which we, as foresters, need to become more engaged. We have much to offer in the way of knowledge and experience in understanding natural relationships that can assist the many competing interests. ▲

Valley Forge Chapter Hears of Fairmount Park Restoration

By Terry Hoffman, Chair, Valley Forge SAF Chapter

Rich Widmann, Valley Forge SAF member, hosted the February 3, 1999 meeting at the Philadelphia Canoe Club house at the confluence of Wissahickon Creek and the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia – a beautiful location where it is hard to believe you are in the city. Prior to the formal meeting, Rich led a short hike to show several stream bank stabilization projects that the club had completed with funding assistance from the Philadelphia Urban Resources Partnership and the Fairmount Park Commission (FPC). **Nancy Goldenberg**, Program Administrator for the Natural Lands Restoration and Environmental Education Program, FPC, was the speaker for the evening.

Fairmount Park, consists of seven units totaling 8,900 acres (one-tenth the land area of Philadelphia) with 61% in natural forests and wetlands. These natural "islands" within one of America's most populous cities have been deteriorating for decades due to the urban pressures of storm water run-off, pollution, exotic vegetation invasion and soil compaction from intensive recreational use. To reverse this trend, the William Penn Foundation gave an unprecedented five-year, \$26.6 million grant to restore the natural areas while building a constituency for their protection through environmental education and community involvement. Consequently, the three main areas of focus are natural lands restoration, environmental education and stewardship.

Thousands of native trees, shrubs and grasses are being planted, while bioengineering methods will reduce the effects of urban water run-off that has badly damaged streams. The Park Commission is also building and will operate six environmental education centers focusing on watersheds. With thousands of volunteers, the City of Philadelphia is striving to recreate an outstanding system of natural parks for recreational use.

During the business meeting of the Chapter, members agreed to donate \$25 to help support the local 4-H Forestry contest. **Duane Green** announced that two teachers, and soon a third, have been selected to attend the one week Teachers Forestry Camp, sponsored by The Pennsylvania College of Technology and SAF, in Williamsport, PA in June. **Charlie Newlon** passed out draft copies of the Valley Forge Chapter Speakers Bureau listing for other members to sign up. This is the first step in having members becoming active in speaking about forestry to local service clubs and organizations.

The next chapter meeting will be Thursday, April 8, 1999, at the Tyler Arboretum. ▲

A Walk in the Forests

By Gordon White*

From: geedub@juno.com (Gordon White)
To: ansaf@paonline.com
Subject: The Allegheny News
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 1998 11:51 AM

Jack:

Thank you for your Allegheny News! I enjoy reading news of your area and the activities of fellow foresters. You are fortunate to have contributors like Harry Wiant.

Perhaps the attached may be of interest and possible inclusion in some future issue. This was published in the Southeastern Forester with the challenge for others to write similar article. Response to date has been favorable with only one negative – the writer objected to my inclusion of the Nature Conservancy along with the other main line environmental groups. Cheers! Gordon White

This 28th anniversary of Earth Day and two recent pieces of mail that crossed my desk made this forester reflect on my 50-year walk in the forests. The first article was a Forest History Today publication whose cover showed a woman “operating” a firefinder at Devil’s Head Fire Lookout, Pike National Forest in Colorado. The second item, a newsletter from the Institute of Forest Genetics with Forest Tree Genome Research Updates. How far we have come – from firefinder to genome! The past one half century of my professional career, which spans nearly one half of the century of the professional Society of American Foresters, has been a rewarding walk in the forests.

My career began as firefinder on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington state. No longer do we use firefinders to locate fires and I doubt that many present day forestry graduates know what a firefinder is and what an important role it played in quickly locating fires and reducing forest loss to devastating wild forest fires.

The next career move was as a choker setter on a high lead logging system in the Coastal Range of Oregon. At the time I thought I was logging virgin timber, but a recent reading indicated that many of the tracts I was logging had been harvested in the mid 1800’s. I also learned that the system on which I worked was among the last of the large cable logging systems that clearcut a radius of one half mile. We no longer harvest such large areas and foresters no longer spend early careers in the woods. I recently returned to areas I logged in the 1950’s and found vibrant healthy forest and wildlife communities.

The Tillimook Burn, twice the acreage and six and on half times the timber volume downed by the Mt. St. Helen’s eruption, was still much in evidence in the 1950’s. I played a small part in the restoration of the vibrant forests that exist today by salvaging burned timber, dropping “lightning rod snags” and planting thousands of seedling trees.

“The Tillimook Burn is a success story, begun years before ‘ecology’ and ‘environment’ came into everyday vocabularies and were everyone’s concern. I doubt that it all could occur today. There are too many hang-ups, too many rules and regulations, too much political wrestling by opportunists, and a me-first attitude ranging from environmental impact statements to sign-carrying protesters”
(Tillimook Burn Country - A Pictorial History By Ellis Lucia)

Today, fires are located using aircraft or space age satellite equipment. Rather than laboriously locating witness trees to find out where we are on the landscape, we use satellites to precisely pin point our location. Computers go into the woods and electronically transmit important information to those who need it to manage our forest resources. We have genetic resources at our disposal to improve our forest ecosystems. My 1980 Random House College Dictionary doesn’t even contain the word ‘genome’. We really have come a long way !! Except in one very critical and important respect.

Our profession has neglected to, as Harry Wiant has pointed out, “Stand

Up for Forestry.” We have let the nonprofessionals convince the public that our forests must be protected from foresters. We now wear the black rather than the white hats that was the common concept of a forestry professional early in my career. The self-anointed and self-proclaimed environmental activists, many lacking formal education in resource management, have declared war on responsible resource management.

As I look back over nearly one hundred years of our profession and my modest one half century contribution, I see many good things accomplished by thousands of dedicated foresters. Not the least of these are the many vibrant ecosystems that have resulted from our efforts to apply sound scientific forest management prescriptions to once devastated and barren landscapes. Despite what our critics say, forest management to meet commodity needs has given the public increased forest acreage, improved watersheds, reduced soil erosion, reestablished a diversity of flora and fauna, created boundless recreational opportunities and aesthetically pleasing landscapes. In fact, the public demand to use these ecosystems for a myriad of purposes attest to our success in revitalizing and restoring our forest landscapes! With responsible legislation and dedicated professionalism WE have restored the landscapes and ecosystems!! Not the Sierra Club! Not Greenpeace! Not the Nature Conservancy! Or the other plethora of other activists groups! To their credit, many of these groups did energize public awareness for the continued need for responsible resource

(Continued on page 22)



A PROBLEM

(no tree regeneration)



A SOLUTION

(herbicide spraying)



A BEGINNING TO...

(controlling understory and establishing tree regeneration)



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

BARRY S. ROSE

Consulting Forester



Licensed & Insured Pesticide Applicator
P.O. Box 319, Lawn, PA 17041-0319
Phone/Fax: (717) 964-2264 evenings

(Continued from page 20)

management, professional resource legislation and overall environmental concern.

Today however, these groups offer a litany of gloom and doom to enlist thousands of lay people whose modest membership fees make them feel good about supporting environmental causes. In my opinion, the leadership of these groups do a disservice to their membership, society and to our resources. Current emphasis on emotional solutions to complex natural resource management will leave a sad legacy of unmanaged, diseased, and overcrowded forests of lesser biodiversity for future generations. Our profession, by contrast, offers green landscapes to meet the multiple needs of society! These landscapes cleanse the air by reducing carbon in the atmosphere, watersheds that provide clean water, shrubs, trees, wildflowers and other plants that provide food and shelter to a multitude of wildlife, wood to build our homes and fiber to produce paper that has made possible an information

explosion unparalleled in human history. Our legacy will be one of green productive landscapes!

Despite our impressive gains, there is much to be done. We have been challenged to "Stand Up for Forestry!" and we should accept this challenge.

I find it unconscionable that 91 million acres (65%) of our 140 million acres of public forest land are placed off limits to scientific forest management. We are denied the use of harvesting system tools that would enable us to improve the many multiple benefits possible from our forests. Tree improvement research, costing millions of public funds, goes unused when selection or seed tree harvest is mandated. Genetically improved planting stock provides the same ecological benefits in a greater abundance in a shorter period of time than nature! This denial of the best forest management that does not allow our forests and our profession to be all they can be, and will short change future generations. The lack of best forest management, stems from the 'green'

community's political pressure for single-use or non-use set asides. The leadership of these groups continue to create a perception in the public mind that forestry professionals are destroying the forest biodiversity... the evidence does not support this perception!

We, as a profession, must accept some responsibility for this state of affairs – we have been too busy growing the forest landscapes that now must be protected from foresters! It is time for the profession and the public to "Stand Up for Forestry!" My 50-year walk in the forests has been a challenging and rewarding walk and, given the opportunity to do it again, I wouldn't hesitate a minute! ▲

**Gordon White, 74, of Huntsville, AL. While camping alone in the forests of Michigan where he once worked, he died as a result of a tree falling on his camper during a severe thunderstorm. He retired from a varied forestry career, devoting retirement years to educating students, teachers and the public concerning the role of forestry and forest management. White was a 48-year member and Fellow in SAF.*

The Wiant Philosophical Summary

By Dr. Harry V. Wiant, Jr.

The philosophy I espouse, and the one that I'm convinced is shared by a majority of foresters in SAF is, briefly:

1. We love the forest but do not worship the forest. There is a world of difference.
2. We believe management of nature is not just an option but a necessity for human survival.
3. We believe biodiversity is a good thing but does not always over-ride other considerations (that's why we use hoes in our vegetable gardens).
4. We believe large segments of the environmental community have moved from legitimate concerns for clean air and water to eco-nonsense which threatens our economic prosperity and basic freedoms.
5. We believe forest management must be science based, and, like medicine, incrementally improved as new facts are learned.
6. We believe the biocentric philosophy undergirding much of the environmental movement today depreciates human beings and could have devastating consequences to our society.

One of my thoughtful critics, not implying that most are not, wrote saying the environmentalists would welcome SAF trying to stand up to them, since they outnumber us so. Recent data indicates that critic is correct, together, they are an eco-goliath. I suggest SAF has three little stones; TRUTH, SCIENCE, AND ECONOMICS. ▲

Musser Forests

Northern-Grown Tree Seedlings



Pine: Austrian, Balkan, Japanese Black, Lodgepole, Mugho, Ponderosa, Red, White, Virginia

Spruce: Black Hills, Blue, Norway, Serbian, White

Fir: Balsam, Canaan, Concolor, Douglas, Fraser

Hemlock: Canadian

Birch: Allegheny, Black, European, Japanese, River

Dogwoods: Chinese, Gray, Silky, White

Locust: Black, Bristly, Honey

Maples: Norway, Red, Silver, Sugar

Oaks: Black, Bur, English, Pin, Scarlet, Sawtooth, Red, White

Button Bush, Catalpa, Crabapple, Hackberry, Hawthorne, Larch

Write, phone or fax for our wholesale list.

Dept. 85-D **MUSSER FORESTS, INC.**
PO Box 340 • Indiana, PA 15701
(412) 465-5685 • FAX (412) 465-9893

Nothing New Under the Canopy

By Jim Coufal, 1999 President, The Society of American Foresters* (presented at 1998 SAF Convention in Traverse City, Michigan)

"The forest takes its importance less from the individual trees which help to form it than from the qualities which belong to it as a whole." (Quote 1)

This is my quick look at where forestry is, how it got there, and where it should be going. How does it square with your interpretation?

1. Forestry got its start in real or perceived "wood famines," At the same time there were those interested in managing and protecting the wider forest resource. This is witnessed by the place of managing for water in the US Forest Service Organic Act and for protecting watersheds in the Adirondack Park Forest Preserve creation.
2. Forestry has been the only profession with the interest, education, and experience to grow wood and fiber as a crop of the land. This sets us apart from other natural resource professions.
3. Forestry has long recognized the need to protect, preserve, and manage forests for a wide variety of goods and services. This led to the espousal of "multiple-use, sustained-yield" philosophies, just as ambiguous in their understanding and application as are "ecosystem management" and "sustainable forestry" of today.

"Forestry is more than trees. It encompasses soil, water, climatic, biological, and other influences. The expression of its realization is in productive forests and protected watersheds, well managed range for game and domestic stock, safeguarded outstanding scenic and recreational values, and utilization of complex of interlocked resources under coordinated plans to accomplish these results." (Quote 2)

4. A variety of circumstances caused forestry, even though it honestly espoused multiple-use, to focus on timber management. Our language of today shows this: many foresters speak of "forest management" when they really mean "timber management," others speak of forest land as "not managed" when they really mean "not cut."
5. Foresters have long worried about the "image" of forestry, and have made many efforts to "educate" the public in the hope they would take an interest in forestry.
6. Now we find that the people have taken a real interest in the land, even as they are less connected to it and less aware of its role as a source of commodities that they were in past. However, they are more interested in the forest than they are in forestry. Forests are icons in American culture, and the parallel is not with corn or wheat as crops of the land, but with the family farm as an American treasure of value and one to be saved.
7. As well as their traditional managers and producers, foresters are now being called upon to be curators of the rare, the fragile, the beautiful; to be to be facilitators of social conflict management; and to be rooted in a local forest community while keeping that community in a more holistic context.
8. Social pressures, often started by environmentalists and

the science of ecology, are pushing foresters to take a more landscape or ecosystem approach to management than has been standard in the past. This recognizes that what makes forestry unique is that it understands and manages forests as complete systems rather than single components that occur in forests. We'll learn by muddling through, just as we have learned in the past.

"If foresters are to have a responsible role in the face of unpredictable change, I think we must move up in our goals and accept responsibility to be environmental managers rather than simply tree-growers or land managers." (Quote 3)

9. Common wisdom says that forestry is at a crossroad of choice. We can choose to focus on timber and fiber production where other values are "accommodated" (if not seen as constraints on timber production), or we can seek ways to make such commodity production first among equals as we manage total forest ecosystems. "first among equals" is clear oxymoronic. Can it be one, or is there another choice? Do we have to think linearly, in an "either/or" mode, or can we have "both/and?"

But are we really at a crossroad of choice? The first quote is from Gifford Pinchot, 1900; the second from R.Y. Stuart, Chief of the USFS, in 1932; the third from John Zivnuska, Dean of the forestry program at the University of California Berkeley, 1966.

10. While we must play the strongest role in defining our profession, my good friend John Helms points out that forestry is an international endeavor; there are other players in the game. Perhaps the most we can do is define forestry and the SAF in the US, but undoubtedly, our leadership will influence forestry throughout the world.

Yes, we have a variety of choices to be made, all built upon a proud history and an ever more important future. The fundamental question is, "What are the likely consequences of a given choice, for forestry, for society, and of course for the SAF? For my part, as we traverse this decision-tree, I hope to stimulate internal dialogue on our choices, meet with any and all groups with an interest in forests and forestry, build on the principles of the Seventh American Forest Congress, encourage a centennial celebration of our history and use it to inform and learn from the public about forestry, and conduct a successful Centennial Campaign Fund Drive to put SAF on a solid footing for the next 100 years.

Many of us like to say that forestry is a young profession. It seems reasonable that the life expectancy of a profession is longer than that of an individual member of the profession. I see us as going through a prolonged puberty, a time of carbonating hormones and wondering what we want to be when we grow up (there are so many opportunities!). It's a great time to be a forester. I can't help but paraphrase a beloved American philosopher, Radar O'Reilly (of MASH fame); "If this is what it's like in our puberty, I can't wait to reach our adultery!" ▲

Coming Events

April

- 7 Arbor Day in MD
 9 Arbor Day in WV
 23 National Arbor Day Celebration
 (SAF information packet, contact CJ Hall
 301-897-8720 x 155 or hallcj@safnet.org)
 30 Arbor Day in DE, NJ, & PA

May

- 1-5 1999 SAF Leadership Academy, Potosi, MO,
 Mike Murphy 301-897-8720, x 123
 10-13 1999 Kiln Drying Short Course for industry.
 University Park, PA. Roy Adams at
 814-863-2976
 15 Log-A-Load for Kids Charity Shoot,
 Warrior's Mark Shooting Preserve,
 Huntingdon PA, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Pat Sherren at
 814-632-5406 or Bob Long at 814-674-8661
 21 Manufacturers Association 1999 Timber &
 Forest Products Exposition, Harrisburg Farm
 Show, PA. Bill McGrath 609-646-3800

June

- 11-12 1999 Western Field Day & Equipment Show,
 Garrett county Fairgrounds in McHenry, MD
 Karin Miller 301/895-5369
 15 Deadline for articles and pictures for the
 Summer 1999 issue of *The Allegheny News*.
 27-30 Association of Consulting Foresters of
 America 1999 National Meeting, Clymer, NY,
 "Challenges of Managing Quality Allegheny
 Hardwoods" Mark Webb 814-663-5393 or
 ACF National office 703-548-0990

September

- 11-15 SAF National Convention, Portland, Oregon
 Convention Center. "Pioneering New Trails"
 Local info, Lori Razor at 503-224-8046.
www.forestry.org/convention/convention.html;
 National Information Diana Perl 301-897-8720
 x111; www.safnet.org/conv/main.html
 15 Deadline for articles and pictures for the
 Fall 1999 issue of *The Allegheny News*.
 30

- Oct 1 The Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting
 Hagerstown, MD, mark your calendar now,
 "Forest Certification" a review and update

February 2000

- 23-25 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting, Titusville,
 PA. Selling Resource Management to
 Non-Industrial Private Forest Landowners

Future National SAF Conventions

- September 11-15, 1999 Portland, Oregon
 November 16-21, 2000 Washington, DC

Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs

Auditing*

Ronald J. Sheay
 1628 Prospect Street
 Trenton, NJ 08638
 (h) 609-771-8301

Awards*

Kenneth W. Jolly
 1398 Primrose Road
 Annapolis, MD 21403
 (o) 301-464-3065

Communications*

Charles J. Newlon
 2 Irving Lane
 Wallingford, PA 19086
 (o) 302-739-5195, Tuesdays
 (h) 610-872-6019

Continuing Forestry Education Coordinator*

Mark Vodak
 PO Box 231 Cook College
 Rutgers University
 New Brunswick, NJ 08903
 (o) 732-932-8243
 (h) 609-758-9449
 (f) 732-932-3222
vodak@aesop.rutgers.edu

Forest Health and Productivity (ad hoc)

Kurt W. Gottschalk
 USDA Forest Service Lab
 180 Canfield Street
 Morgantown, WV 26505
 (o) 304-285-1598
 (h) 412-627-4161

Forest History (ad hoc)

Ronald J. Sheay
 1628 Prospect Street
 Trenton, NJ 08638
 (h) 609-771-8301

Foresters Fund (ad hoc)

Mike Brown
 PO Box 273
 Clayton, DE 19938
 (o) 302-739-4811
 (h) 302-653-4218

Forest Science Coordinator*

Mary Ann Fajvan
 Div. of Forestry WVU
 PO Box 6125
 Morgantown, WV 26506
 (o) 304-293-3411
 (h) 304-892-4515

Membership*

Mike Lester
 RRI, Box 268
 Springville, PA 18844
 (o) 717-833-3194
 (h) 717-965-2752

Nominations*

Timothy A. Kaden
 724 Green Winged Trail
 Camden, NJ 19934
 (o) 302-739-3423
 (h) 302-697-7066
 (f) 302-739-3817
tkaden@state.de.us

Policy & Legislative (PLAN)*

Timothy A. Kaden
 724 Green Winged Trail
 Camden, DE 19934
 (o) 302-739-4811
 (h) 302-697-7066

Program*

Douglas Ostergard
 PO Box 284
 South Main Street
 Pleasantville, PA
 (o) 814-589-7143
 (h) 814-589-714
 (f) 814-484-7563

Student Coordinating (ad hoc)

Kim C. Steiner
 Forest Resources Lab
 Penn State University
 University Park, PA 16802
 (o) 814-865-9351
 (h) 814-234-8754

Student Quiz Bowl

Craig Houghton
 Penn State Mt. Alto
 Campus Drive
 Mt. Alto, PA 17237
 (o) 717-749-6239
 (h) 717-532-3019

Tellers*

Kenneth W. Jolly
 1398 Primrose Road
 Annapolis, MD 21403
 (o) 301-464-3065
 (h) 410-626-2845

*Standing Committees

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

Officers

Chairman
Mark R. Webb
11021 US Route 6
Union City, PA 16438
(o) 814-663-5393
(f) 814-663-4008

Chairman-Elect
Michael B. Lester
RR 1, Box 268
Springville, PA 18844
(o) 717-833-3194
(h) 717-965-2752
(f) 717-833-6180
mclester7@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Susan E. Lacy
1713 Kings Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320
(o) 610-975-4134
(h) 610-383-7144
(f) 610-975-4200

Past Chairman
Timothy A. Kaden
724 Green Winged Trail
Camden, DE 19934
(o) 302-739-3423
(h) 302-697-7066
(f) 302-739-3817
tkaden@state.de.us

Executive Committee

Kurt W. Gottschalk
USFS Science Lab
180 Canfield Street
Morgantown, WV 26505
(o) 304-285-1598
(h) 412-627-4161
(f) 304-285-1505

Kenneth W. Jolly
1398 Primrose Road
Annapolis, MD 21403
(o) 301-464-3065
(h) 410-626-2845
(f) 301-464-0462

Kenneth C. Kane
103 Tionesta Avenue
Kane, PA 16735-1236
(o) 814-837-9391
(h) 814-837-8357

Susan Stout
19 Park Street
North Warren, PA 16365
(o) 814-563-1040
(h) 814-726-2023
(f) 814-563-1048

Executive Director

Jack Winieski
PO Box 699
Dillsburg, PA 17019-0699
(o) 717-432-3646; (h) 717-432-3646
(f) 717-432-3646
ansaf@paonline.com

Council Representative

John Heissenbittel
American Forest & Paper Association
1111 19th Street NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(o) 202-463-2470; (h) 703-329-7889
(f) 202-463-2708
john_heissenbittel@afandpa.org

Division Chairs

Maryland/Delaware
Jack L. Perdue
5112 Main Street
Grasonville, MD 21638
(o) 410-260-8505
(f) 410-260-8595
jperdue@dnr.state.md.us

New Jersey
William F. Brash, Jr.
5 Wildwood Way
Freehold, NJ 07728
(o) 609-586-9603
(h) 908-462-0675

Pennsylvania
Robert J. LaBar
3070 Hemlock Farms
802 Mustang Court
Hawley, PA 18428
(o) 717-775-9741
(f) 717-775-9043
r.labar@worldnet.att.net

West Virginia
Barbara Breshock
General Delivery
MacArthur, WV 25873
(o) 304-256-6775
(h) 304-934-6777
(f) 304-256-6770

Chapter Chairs

Keystone
Charles R. Brown
RD 6, Box 6179
Orchard Road
Spring Grove, PA 17362
(o) 717-225-4711
(h) 717-225-1461

Northern Hardwood
Ned Karger
305 Kinzua Avenue
Kane, PA 16735
(o) 814-837-6941, ext. 21
(h) 814-837-6819

Pinchot
Paul Kowalczyk
RD 2, Box 44
Hawley, PA 18428
(o) 717-226-9488
(h) 717-226-9488

Plateau
Christopher Nowak
Forestry Sciences Laboratory
PO Box 928
Warren, PA 16365
(o) 814-563-1040
(h) 814-726-1574

Rothrock
Gary N. Rutherford
5545 State Route 103 South
McVeytown, PA 17051
(o) 814-643-2340
(h) 717-899-7281
(f) 814-643-6304

Valley Forge
Terry Hoffman
14 Killdeer Lane
Downingtown, PA 19335
(o) 610-975-4143
(h) 610-458-0480

(f) 610-975-4177
thoffinan@nena.org
Western Gateway
Gary Sheridan
RD 1, Box 138-B
Acme, PA 15610
(o) 724-834-6500, ext. 152