

West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters

April 2014 Newsletter



Winter Meeting a Success.....



Terry Jones of the WVDNR addresses WV Division SAF members regarding early successional habitat development activities at the Burnsville Wildlife Management Area.

The WV Division of the Allegheny SAF held their annual Winter Meeting on March 31 and April 1, 2014 in Braxton County with almost 70 members attending. The theme for the meeting was **Rehabilitation and Restoration: Management Options for West Virginia Forests**. The meeting began with a half-day field tour of early successional habitat development activities on the Burnsville Wildlife Management Area, led by WVDNR employees Terry Jones and Burnard Gibson. The indoor sessions were held at the Days Hotel in Flatwoods. Josh Fershee of the WVU College of Law spoke on **“Roosevelt’s Legacy: Law and Policy Implications for Natural Gas Production”** following the social hour and banquet. The WV SAF Executive Committee met later that evening. Tuesday started with a business meeting, with 50-year

SAF member, Joe Tekel's, presentation about the National Fire Policy and Roger Sherman's report on the Old Forester Print. Members of the Student Chapter made a presentation about their participation in the national convention and thanked the Division for their support. Newly elected Vice-Chair, Dr. Jamie Schuler, moderated a session he characterized as State Updates on "cooperation and collaboration" by WV State Forester, Randy Dye, WV Forestry Association Executive Director, Frank Stewart, Monongahela National Forest Supervisor, Clyde Thompson and Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist, Kevin Wickey. **Rehabilitation and Restoration: Management Options for West Virginia Forests** was the theme for the later presentations. Dr. Jamie Schuler, Professor of Silviculture at WVU gave a presentation on the **"The ABCs of Stocking"**. Dr. Sheldon Owen of the WVU Extension Service spoke on **"Bats of West Virginia"** following the luncheon. **"Rehabilitation of Degraded Hardwood Stands"** was the topic presented by Dr. Jeff Stringer of the University of Kentucky Extension Service. Dr. Tom Schuler, Project Leader/Research Forester for the USDA Forest Service presented **"Long-term Results of Diameter-limit Harvesting on the Fernow"**. Dr. Sheldon Owen presented for the second time --- **"Wildlife and Restoration"**. Todd Miller, Director of Aquatic Restoration at the Canaan Valley Institute discussed **"Wetland Restoration and Mitigation"** and Dr. Jeff Skousen finished the day with a presentation entitled **"Mine Land Reclamation"**.



Fifty year SAF member, Joe Tekel, addresses the group about his concerns regarding the National Fire Policy, members of the WVU Student Chapter discuss their activities and Dr. Jeff Stringer of the University Extension Service discusses Rehabilitation of Degraded Hardwood Stands.

New Leaders.....



At the business meeting of the Winter Meeting – Dave McGill passed the gavel to Vice-Chair Jamie Schuler in the absence of the new Chair Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy.

- Chair – Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy
- Vice-Chair – Jamie Schuler
- Past Chair – Dave McGill
- Secretary/Treasurer – Charles Copeland
- Communications Chair – Barb McWhorter
- At-large board member – Jim Hays
- At-large board member – Rick Sypolt
- At-large board member – Todd Lotter
- At-large board member - John Pomp

AWARDS

WV SAF Extends Our Congratulations to.....



The Operations Group of the Brooks Run Mining Company poses as this year's recipients of the WV SAF 2013 Surface Mine Reforestation Award

Upcoming Woodland Tours

WHAT: WV Woodland Owners Association Educational Tours

WHEN/WHERE: Saturday, May 10, 2014 – Roger Phillips Property, Harrison County – 10AM-1PM
Saturday, May 24, 2014 – Pending, Randolph County – 10AM-1PM
Saturday, June 14, 2014 – Andy Leginzie Property, Hardy County – 10AM-1PM
Saturday, July 19, 2014 – Jim/Jeff Kochenderfer Property, Tucker County-10AM-1PM
Saturday, September 29, 2014 – Chuck Brammer Property, Nicholas County – 10AM-1PM

CONTACT: Dan Magill - 304-293-9419 (dmagill@wvu.edu) or <http://www.woaofwv.org>

Christmas Tree Growing Workshop/Publication

A series of free workshops sponsored by the WV Department of Agriculture, the WVU Forestry Extension Service and the WV Christmas Tree Growers Association have been offered throughout the state at operating Christmas tree farms. The workshops covered the basics of growing high quality trees, financial analysis and wreath production. It is hoped that the grant used to provide these workshops will be continued. Currently a workshop is tentatively being planned for the Christmas tree farm owned by Art Yagel in Nicholas County. Workshops are typically held on Saturday afternoons starting at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in participating, contact Ed Grafton at 304-765-3014 for more detailed information. Organizers also hope to be able to produce a Christmas tree publication if funding is available.

A new look for WV Division members.....

All dues-paying WV SAF members have a new nametag, like the one shown. New nametags, with the lettering laser-engraved into cherry wood, were made by Mike Pizzino of Almost Heaven Woodcraft, LLC, Beverly, WV. Many who attended the Winter Meeting picked up their new name tag at the registration desk. Come to the Summer Meeting to get yours or contact Charles Copeland.



And for those of you who might be interested in having Mike create something for you, Mike can do any design that can be electronically submitted. The design can be sized to fit on wood, glass or other hard surface. One of a kind momentos to large order items (such as our nametags) can be produced. Contact Mike for specifics and prices. <http://www.almostheavenwoodcraft.com/>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Summer 2014 Meeting of the Allegheny SAF - hosted by the WV Division
September 8-10, 2014
Cacapon Resort State Park
Berkeley Springs, WV

The Planning Committee is still looking for ideas for meeting topics, speakers, entertainment! If you have ideas, please contact Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy (mthomasvangundy@fs.fed.us)

2014 SAF National Convention & IUFRO World Congress
October 5-11, 2014
Salt Lake Palace
Salt Lake City, Utah

2015 SAF National Convention
Baton Rouge Convention Center
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
November 3-7, 2015



As the new Communications Chair, I welcome any input you can provide regarding content suggestions, upcoming events, awards, obituaries, etc. Thank you --- Barb McWhorter (Barbara.McWhorter@wv.usda.gov)