

The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Winter 2000-2001

The Allegheny News

Volume 9, No. 4

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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

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Cover Photo

At the logging yard, Bureau of Forestry foresters scale logs delivered via helicopter. See article on pages 20-21 for story. Cover photo by Dick Cary.



Chairman's Corner

By Mike Lester
Allegheny SAF Chair

The National Convention in Washington, DC proved an overwhelming success. Although the meeting was expensive, the innovative program (radically fewer technical sessions, public outreach sessions, critical issues forum) was very successful. There were slightly over 1500 attendees, a most impressive celebration of our first 100 years as a Society.

I attended my third House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting, my first as Chair. HSD is made up of the Chairs of all of the State and Multi-state Societies (33 in all), as well as the National Student Chair, a Chair and Vice-Chair elected by last years' HSD. Our HSD Vice Chair this year was **Mark Webb**.

Probably the most interesting yet disturbing discussion involved SAF's current finances. As **Bill Banzhaf**, SAF Executive Vice-President put it, "We built it and they did not come." Those of you who saw the excellent movie "Field of Dreams" will recognize the derivation of that quote from the movie. Basically Bill said that SAF had built a variety of new services that members had indicated were important to them. What are those services? The most important included an enhanced policy program (led by **Michael Goergen**), the Forestry Source, the SAF Web site, the Certified Forester program, the Leadership Academy, and a communications manager (**Jennifer Plyler**). The services were not without cost. The assumption had been that foresters would see these enhanced services an excellent reason to retain their membership or join the Society. The result has not yielded a growth in membership, but a decline. I think you could successfully argue that the decline would have been greater without these enhanced services. However, the point is that a declining membership means that SAF can no longer afford to offer all of those services at their current level.

As a result, Council was faced with some difficult decisions. They needed to prioritize programs and decide what we could afford to do. The outcome was

(Continued on page 3)

Members and Views

James C. Finley Receives National SAF Technology Transfer and Extension Award

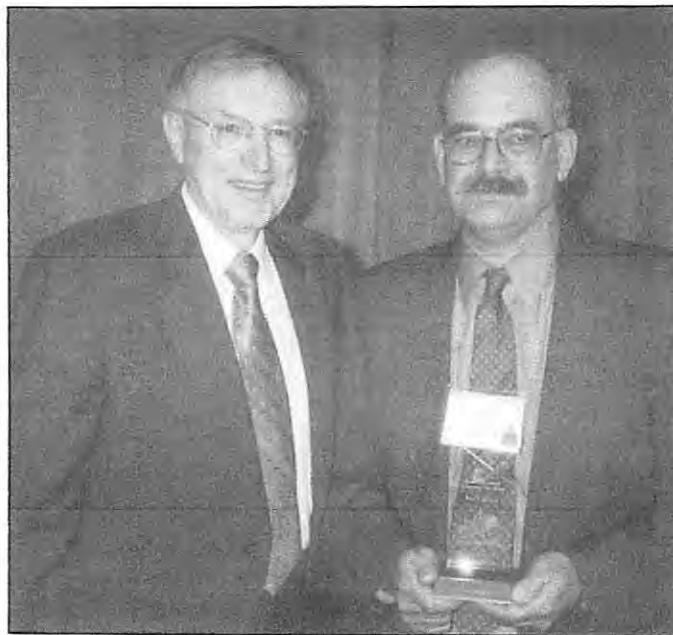
Dr. James (Jim) Finley, Associate Professor, School of Forest Resources, Penn State University, was awarded the National SAF Technology Transfer and Extension Award at the National SAF Celebration Convention in Washington DC, November 19, 2000. Presentation was made at ceremonies during the Millennium Time Capsule Brunch at the Washington Hilton. The award recognizes a member's outstanding achievements in facilitating the field application of research through technology transfer, implementation, and extension.

For more than 24 years, Finley has led many of the unique extension programs at Penn State's School of Forest Resources. The geographical and technical scope of his work transcends state and national boundaries and reflects his untiring commitment to innovative means (video and audio media) of technology transfer in times of reduced support. He has led programs ranging from ecosystem management, to green certification, to social issues affecting Pennsylvania's rural communities.

His long term engagement and support of professional forestry and extension is exhibited through participation and leadership in SAF division and chapters, the National Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals, and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. He has published numerous articles and papers in leading scientific and applied refereed professional journals. 🌲



Jim Finley and wife Linda at the SAF Awards Brunch



SAF President Fred Ebel (l) with Bob Girvin, Valley Forge Chapter

Robert I. Girvin, Jr., Presidential Field Forester

Robert (Bob) I. Girvin, Jr. received the 2000 Presidential Field Forester Award for District VII at the National SAF Centennial Celebration held November 16-20, in Washington, DC. SAF President Fred Ebel made the presentation, which recognizes individuals who have displayed uncommon talent and innovative methods achieving a record of excellence in the application of forest management. SAF Regional District VII includes about 1,700 members in the Allegheny and National Capital Societies.

Girvin has been a forester with Lapp Lumber Company for 25 years, with responsibilities of procuring timber, supervising logging crews, and grading lumber. He is a member of the PA Forest Stewardship Steering Committee, the PA Best Management Practices Task Force, and the PA Non-Point Source Liaison Workgroup (Silviculture Subgroup). He earned a BS from Rutgers University, 1973, and has been an SAF member for 13 years and is presently Secretary-Treasurer of the Valley Forge chapter.

From 1974-1983, Girvin served in the US Army Reserve, 6th Bn., 68th Armor, 157th SIB, his last rank was Captain. He has coached little league soccer, and is presently adult leader, Troop 8, Boy Scouts of America. He is an alternate on the Bart Township, Lancaster County Zoning Hearing Board. 🌲

(Continued from page 1)

to eliminate the position of Communications Manager, not replace staff attrition, and reduce some features in the Journal. There were several others, but these are the most significant.

If membership were stable or increasing, this problem would have never occurred. Thus, the solution is in our hands. We need to be more aggressive in recruiting new members. If there are foresters at your place of business, remind them of the benefits of membership. Just to refresh your memory, those benefits include the *Journal of Forestry*, the *Forestry Source*, the increasingly vital Policy department, the Website, continuing education opportunities, the Certified Forester program, and a lot of networking opportunities. This is our Society... we must make it successful.

One more Convention note, our friend and Allegheny SAF member **Jim Finley** won the national Technology Transfer award. Also, **Bob Girvin** won the Allegheny Field Forester of the Year award. Congratulations to both Jim and Bob!

I want to close with a story about the impact we can have on our communities. Recently, Keystone College honored **Tony Santoli** for his 38 years of outstanding service to Northeast Pennsylvania. I was fortunate to attend the celebration lunch given by Keystone College to honor Tony. In attendance were people from the Forest Service, Keystone College, both print and television folks, as well as a lot of people who worked both with and for Tony. Congressman **Don Sherwood** sent his regrets that he couldn't attend, but included personal congratulations for Tony's 38 years of service. Those of you who know Tony (which is probably most of you) realize what a great asset he has been to the Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry. Thankfully, this wasn't a retirement dinner, but a testimonial to how many lives Tony has touched. Moreover, it was an affirmation of the success Tony has achieved in preaching the benefits of sound forest practices. This is a model that we should all try to emulate.

Congratulations Tony.

Carpe Diem. 🌲

Westvaco Announces Promotion

Media Contact: Roger L. Sherman (304) 392-6373

Rupert, WV - Westvaco Corporation's Appalachian Forest Manager, **Trenor Hypes**, has been promoted to Appalachian Regional Manager.

Hypes received BS and MS degrees in Forestry from Virginia Tech, and joined Westvaco as a land acquisition agent at Virginia Woodlands in 1979. He has held the position of Appalachian Forest Manager since 1997. In his new assignment, Hypes will have responsibility for the management of Westvaco's Appalachian Forest and Cooperative Forest Management programs in the region.

Westvaco also announced that former Regional Manager **Wayne Barfield** will move to South Carolina in order to co-lead a newly formed Commercial Ventures Group. The new group will explore opportunities to commercialize leadership in forest technology development and implementation and unique systems for applying state-of-the-art forest management in an environmentally sensitive manner. Westvaco currently manages or participates in three subsidiary or joint venture commercial businesses, in addition to managing company forests profitably and sustainably. 🌲

WVU Students Host National Assembly and Student Bowl

The West Virginia University SAF Student Chapter hosted the National Student Assembly (NSA) and conducted the annual Student Bowl competition at the National Convention in Washington, DC. The NSA is the official meeting of SAF's student members and the Student Bowl is the annual technical competition. NSA Chair, **Brigitte Kumbier** and WVU student committees ably led both functions.

Because of their position as national student hosts, the West Virginia forestry students did not compete in the Quiz Bowl. WVU students have twice been crowned national Student Quiz Bowl champions. This year Colorado State University won the Quiz Bowl, beating Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the finals. Penn State lost to the U of W-Stevens Point in the semi-finals.

In other student happenings at the National Convention, West Virginia's Forestry Year Book won third prize in the national competition of publications; **Valerie Sauter**, Penn State Mt. Alto, was the lucky winner of a student drawing for free airfare, registration, and hotel accommodations at the 2001 SAF National Convention to be held in Denver, Colorado from September 13-17, 2001. Jack Zimma Associates, Inc., Bethesda, MD, agents for SAF life insurance programs sponsored the drawing for students attending the national meeting. 🌲

SAF's Roxane Palone is New PA Game Commissioner



Ligonier, Westmoreland County, PA – Joined by family and friends, Roxane S. Palone of Kirby, Greene County, was officially sworn-in on January 17 as a member of the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners. The ceremony took place at the Game Commission's Southwest Regional Office in Ligonier, and hosted by Harry Richards, Southwest PA Regional Director.

She fills the vacant seat for District 2, which is comprised of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Washington and Westmoreland Counties, PA.

Governor Tom Ridge nominated Palone to the Board of Game Commissioners on October 19, 1999. The Pennsylvania Senate unanimously confirmed her on November 21, 2000. "We welcome Commissioner Palone to the Pennsylvania Game Commission," said Vern Ross, Commission Executive Director. "We believe she will bring a unique perspective not only as an experienced hunter, but also as someone with a firm understanding of forestry issues and biology."

"I feel honored and privileged that Governor Ridge has chosen me for this seat, and has entrusted me with this important responsibility," said Palone, who is the first woman appointed to a full eight-year term on the Board. "Women are the fastest-growing segment of the hunting and shooting population. I hope to serve as a role model for all women who want to join in the hunting and trapping heritage, and offer my support and encouragement to them."

A native of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania and a lifelong hunting and fishing enthusiast, Palone is a Rural Development Specialist for the Economic Actions Programs with the US Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service. Prior to that, she served as a watershed specialist with the same agency and is well known as the co-editor of the publication "Chesapeake Bay Riparian Handbook". She is a recipient of the 1997 Mid-Atlantic Resource Conservation and Development Association Partnership Award.

From 1974 through 1977, Palone served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant, having served at the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Arizona, after graduating first in her class at Disbursing School, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. She received a bachelor's degree in biology, graduating cum laude, from Glenville State College, West Virginia, in 1986, and a master's degree in forest management from West Virginia University, Morgantown, in 1988.

Palone is a life member of the National Rifle Association; the Second Amendment Foundation; the Western Gateway Chapter of the Society of American Foresters; the Pennsylvania Forestry Association; the Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts; the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy, Bedford County; Greene County Chapter, Izaak Walton League; and the Waynesburg Sportsmen Association, Greene County. Palone and her husband Vincent live in Kirby, PA. 🌲

Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company Promotions

December 1, 2000 – The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company of Spring Grove, Pennsylvania announces the promotions of foresters Thomas Bosley, Thomas Wieland, and Mark Miller.

Bosley has been promoted to Vice President and General Manager. He is a 1979 graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a BS in Forest Resources Management. Joining the Glatfelter staff as a forester in 1979, he has held several positions of responsibility, his most recent being that of PA District Manager. Besides being a member of SAF, he is also Regional Coordinator for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Pennsylvania.

Wieland advances into the Pennsylvania District Manager position vacated by Bosley. He is a 1979 graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a BS Degree in Industrial Forestry Operations. He joined the Glatfelter staff in 1979 and has served as Tree Farm Family Forester, Senior Area Forester, and most recently as Forest Operations Manager. A long time member of SAF, Tom and his wife Patricia and their two children live in Thomasville, PA.

Miller advances to the position of Forest Operations Manager with responsibility for company land management, wood and chip purchases, and the purchase of standing timber in the Spring Grove area - he moves to this position from that of Glatfelter Area Forester. He holds a BS in Forestry from Penn State, 1989, and has been with the company since 1993. Mark, wife Karen, and their daughter reside in Dover, PA. 🌲

Councilman's Report

By Tim Kaden, SAF District VII Representative



A hundred years of SAF has come and gone. How quickly time flies when you're having fun, and I have to admit that for most of my 30 plus years in the profession I have had a fun time. I believe all of us share the same satisfying feeling, working within our chosen profession.

The years have been challenging. We have had to examine ever-changing management situations carefully, think creatively, and visualize outcomes in "tree generations." Our universities and colleges have adapted training with developing science; years of field experience has honed our art; we have applied our knowledge to meet society's changing needs and values; we have met our professional mission!

At the last Council meeting President Ebel asked all council members and SAF staff to make two predictions for the future. The first one was on a personal note. What life experiences do you see in the future? The second, where do you see forestry and/or the profession in 50 years? An amazing result from among all thirty plus participants - no two predictions were alike! You might want to try this at your next Division or Chapter meeting; it was quite entertaining and enlightening.

I assume by now that you have heard that the Society has a short-term cash flow that required us to secure a \$500,000 loan. Coupled with this, the national office has had to eliminate or cut back services to members. National staff has been reduced by about seven over the last year by not filling vacant positions as people moved on in their careers. The position of communications manager was eliminated with great reluctance.

Other cut backs will include the elimination of the "Focus" section in the Journal and subsidies to Leadership Academy participants. There will be an increase in Certified Forester and possibly university accreditation fees. The national office has reduced their operation budget by over \$270,000 and Council has reduced its operation and travel budget by \$31,000 - Council's cut will be diverted into the Leadership Academy program. The Council budget reduction does not affect the Allegheny or National Capitol very much because I can drive to most of our functions, but some of our western Council members that have six or more states are going to be affected.

So you asked how did we get to this point in time. A number of factors contributed. I will highlight just a few. First, membership is continuing to go down. Fewer members mean less revenue. Membership dues contribute only 35 percent to the national society budget, but when you loose over 1,000 members over the last three to four years it adds up. At one time we had 21,000 members (mid-1980's), presently we are right around the 17,000-member mark. Second, our society has been reluctant to raise dues in small increments within shorter time spans. Historically we raise dues every seven years or so with a restructuring of member categories and length of time members are in the society. That increase is normally greater than a few dollars, which upsets some members to the point of dropping membership. Third, and most recently, we conducted the Centennial Fund Campaign in association with our 100th anniversary. It was estimated that two million dollars could be raised to support member services and operations. To date just over one million dollars has been raised, some \$700,000-plus from corporations and \$300,000 from only seven percent of the membership. Ninety three percent of our membership has not made a one-time contribution of any amount.

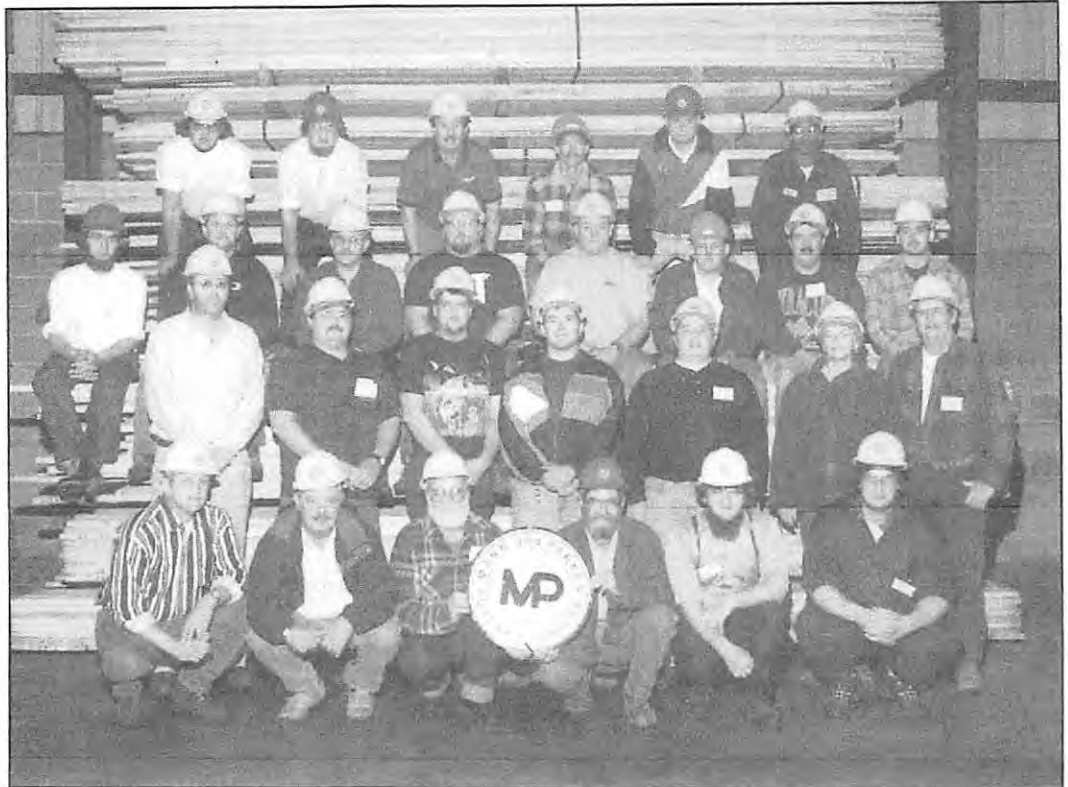
The society, however, is positioning to becoming financially sound and to pay off the loan in approximately two years without touching society reserves. All budget categories are tied to Council-developed strategic objectives and criteria, and will be reviewed annually or as necessary. National office staff, committed to do more with less, will obviously be stretched to the limit, and has committed to get the job done within restraints.

Two more points before I close. The National Convention was first class. I believe we scored big time with our congressional member and other out-reach programs. The congressional staff representing the Allegheny SAF region heard, and were receptive to, our views on forestry issues. I thank each and every member who took the time to meet one-on-one with his or her congressional representatives during the convention. Second, the 78th Annual Allegheny SAF meeting is February 21-23, 2001 in Atlantic City, NJ. Plan to attend the first Allegheny Society meeting for the next 100 years! See you there, Tim. 🌲

Hardwood Lumber Grading Course at M&P Lumber Co.

New Freedom, PA - The Mann & Parker Lumber Company of New Freedom, Pennsylvania, sponsored a Hardwood Lumber Grading Short course during the month of October 2000. Attendees came from throughout the United States, ranging from experienced hardwood lumber inspectors who came for a refresher course to novices serving in various capacities in the lumber industry.

The course consisted of approximately 1½ days of classroom instruction and 1½ days of practical application of hardwood lumber grading rules. Mark Horne, Chief Inspector, National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHHLA), who has been teaching lumber grading skills through the NHHLA for several years, provided instruction.



NHHLA Short Course Class of October 2000, sponsored by Mann & Parker Lumber Company

The Mann & Parker Lumber Company, now in its 98th year of business is one of the largest independent distributors of forest products, specializing in domestic hardwood lumber and allied forest products. The Company's buying operation reaches all lumber producing sources in the U.S. and Canada, in addition to importing from around the world; their distribution marketing area primarily covers the middle Atlantic States, but extends sales throughout the U.S., Canada and worldwide markets. 🌲

Allegheny SAF Annual Reginald Forbes Art Contest to be Held in February 2001 in Atlantic City

The Reginald D. Forbes Art Contest is a long time tradition of the Allegheny SAF Winter Meetings. The contest was established to honor Reggie Forbes, who was Chair of the Allegheny SAF in the 1930s. Throughout his career he urged foresters and their families do their very best in communicating through written and spoken words and through art in all forms. The purpose of the contest is to continue this tradition and to encourage SAF members and their families to develop and share their artistic talents. All forestry students and SAF immediate family members are eligible to enter the contest!

There are three categories:

SAF Student, Amateur, and Professional

In each category there are three types of art: Photo Art, Flat Art, and Three Dimensional Art

Entries are to be brought to the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting February 21-23, 2001 at the Tropicana Hotel on the boardwalk in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Any questions? Please contact Art Show Chair Charlie Newlon at 610-872-6019 or e-mail him at cbnewlon@home.com 🌲

Charwood's "In Tall Timber" Now a CD at the SAF's Store

Among the great new collection of merchandise at the SAF Store is the new CD "In Tall Timber," recorded by Charwood. Over the past 15 years, a group of musically inclined SAF members have performed nights at the national conventions, having a lot of fun and entertaining over-flow crowds well into the wee hours. With guitar, banjo, mandolin, fiddle base and dobro, they filled the halls with a variety of traditional music, mostly in the bluegrass genre, taking turns at lead vocal.




Well, after 15 years of practice, they've cut their first CD, including their original work, "In Tall Timber." The group, Charwood, includes Bob Cecich, Mike Crane, Dick Daniels, Ray Hicks, Tom Lynch, Mark Squires, Paul Trianosky and SAF past president Harry Wiant.

You can order this CD for \$15.00 online, by shopping at <http://www.safnet.org/market/store.htm> or call (301) 897-8720, ext. 106. Photos of all available items at the SAF Store are also online for your perusing at <http://www.safnet.org/market/convitems.htm> 🌲


Mike Lester Elected to Board

Mike Lester, Assistant State Forester of Pennsylvania and a 15-year member of the Society of American Foresters, was among three new directors elected to the Hardwood Forestry Fund Board. Directors serve a voluntary, two-year term. The board has grown to include 20 representatives of industry, natural resources, and public administration. Lester is also currently Chair of the Allegheny SAF. 🌲



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NH SAF Chapter's Fall Meeting & HFH Activities

By Ned Karger, Chair Elect, PA SAF Division and Silvicultural Manager, Kane Hardwood

"Threats to Pennsylvania's State Tree" was one topic at the annual fall meeting of the Northern Hardwood SAF Chapter on October 26, 2000 at the Potato City Motor Inn in Potter County. **Brad Regester** from the PA Bureau of Forestry covered the many threats to the Eastern Hemlock in Pennsylvania. In a well illustrated slide talk, he covered the biology of the Hemlock Wolly Adelgid, *Adelges tsugae*, and how it is affecting hemlock stands. Maps were presented showing the spread of the infestation over time from the southeastern part of the state toward the northwest. Other statewide insect and disease problems, as well as problems associated with site conditions and harvesting systems, were also covered by Regester.

Other speakers included Northern Hardwood SAF member **Marion Keegan**, who relayed information presented at a recent workshop on cancer and the environment - the monitoring and tracking of high risk areas. **Blaine Puller** described PA Cleanways, Inc., a statewide organization that assists local affiliate chapters with cleaning up and preventing illegal dumpsites on both public and private lands - McKean and Elk Counties currently have working chapters. The members present approved a proposal for the Northern Hardwood SAF to join with both county chapters in this project.

Ned Karger presented information on the National SAF partnership with Habitat for Humanity (HFH), during this SAF Centennial Year, to assist in constructing 100 HFH homes. In support of this goal, NH SAF assisted the Potter County HFH Chapter with their current project in Galeton, PA during an October 28, 2000 a work bee. In addition to the SAF manual labor, the chapter donated \$300 towards supplies. It just makes good sense - a partnership between HFH and SAF. One organization is working to supply affordable housing for low income Americans, and the other is working to sustain America's forests by managing the forests for values that benefit society. 🌲



Rev. Douglas Orbaker accepts a check in support of Potter County HFH from Ned Karger (l) of the Northern Hardwoods SAF Chapter

Penn State Mt. Alto Alumni "Super Forestry Reunion"

Contact: Holly Yingling, Office of University Relations, 717-749-6112 or hry102@psu.edu

Penn State Mont Alto is hosting its "Super Forestry Reunion" for all Mont Alto forestry graduates, May 31 through June 3, 2001 on the campus. A weekend of activities is planned for forestry alumni who attended Penn State Mont Alto at any point during their education.

Scheduled events include a forum on "The State of School of Forest Resources" with presenters from both Mont Alto and University Park; a woodsmen

competition; an exhibit/display of hobbies of alumni; a banquet; a service in the newly renovated Emmanuel Chapel; a Gettysburg tour for spouses; and much more.

Registration begins at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 31. All meals are provided and lodging in the campus residence halls is available. For more information on the "Super Forestry Reunion," please contact Chris Rotz, alumni relations coordinator, at (717) 749-6105 or car6@psu.edu 🌲

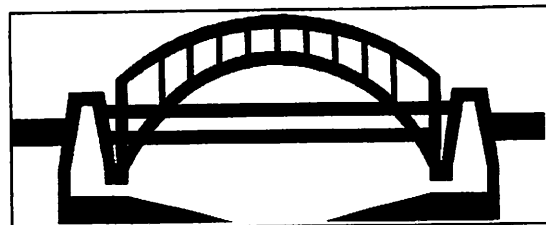
A FREE instruction booklet for the SAF Certified Forester Program is available from the National Office at (301) 897-8720, ext. 122

"BUILDING BRIDGES"

2001 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting

Tropicana Hotel on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City

February 21 - 23, 2001



Wednesday February 21, 2001

12-1 pm Early registration
 1-4 pm Urban forestry tour of Atlantic City
 4-8 pm Registration
 5-6:30 pm Allegheny Executive Committee Meeting
 6:30-8:00 pm Icebreaker/Social
 7:00-7:30 pm NJ ECOMAP Presentation

Dave Johnson NJ Forest Service

Dave MacFarlane, Rutgers University

Thursday February 22, 2001

7-9 am Buffet breakfast -General
 State Chapter Breakfasts
 9 am Welcome to Atlantic City for the 78th Winter Meeting
 State Forester Address
 Keynote-Managing Forested Watersheds

Scott Worrell, Chairman, NJSAF
Jim Barresi, NJ State Forester
Warren Archey, MA State Forester

----- BREAK -----

NPS Pollution and TMDL's as they relate to Forestry
 Future of Forest Management in Watersheds
 Panel Discussion

Jeanne Fox, US-EPA
Bill Banzhaf, National SAF
Ed Lempicki, NJ Forest Service-Moderator

----- LUNCH AND VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS -----

1:30-4:30 pm Session I- Managing Riparian Forest Buffers
 1:30-4:30 pm Session II - Science and Technology in Managing Watersheds
 4:30-6:00 pm Student Quiz Bowl
 6:30-9:00 pm Banquet - Guest Entertainment and Awards

Friday February 23, 2001

7-9 am Buffet breakfast
 7-8 am Chairman's breakfast
 8:30-9 am Allegheny Business Meeting
 9 am Working at the Watershed Level-Policy Implications
 9:45 am Watershed Forestry Programs -
 Incentives for Managing Privately Owned Forests

Richard Cooksey, Coordinator
Chesapeake Bay Program
Lance Miller, NJDEP, Tim Dunne, NJ-NRCS
Donna Drewes, NJ RC&D

----- BREAK -----

11 am-12 pm The NJ Highlands-A Watershed Planning Area

Marcus Phelps, USDA-FS

REGISTRATION

Total Registration Package	\$175.00*	_____
Non members	\$200.00	_____
Banquet Guest	\$ 50.00	_____
Student	\$ 75.00	_____
Chairman's Breakfast	\$ 10.00	_____
Registration only (no banquet)	\$135.00	_____
Registration (non members)	\$160.00	_____

Send check payable to NJSAF to:
Heather Gracie
 Richard Goodenough Associates
 PO Box 176
 Gladstone, NJ 07934
 Phone: (908) 781-6711, fax: (908) 671-6715
For Hotel Reservations: (800) 345-8767

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Name _____

*Total Package includes all materials,
 2 buffet breakfasts, breaks, lunch, hors-d'ouves at
 the icebreaker, and banquet

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

National SAF Convention Photo Highlights



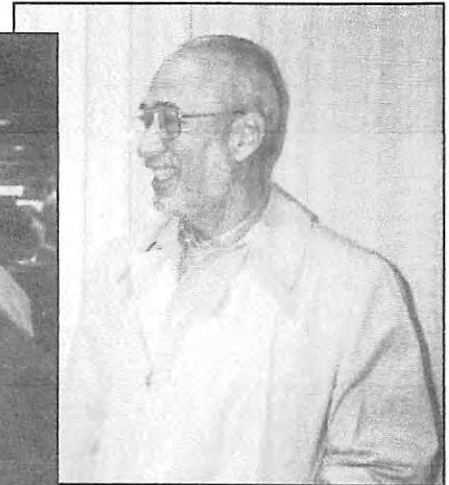
Jack Winieski with Jennifer Plyler



Karen Bishop of Congressman John Peterson's office



Jo and Bob Douglass with Alex Day



Dr. Jesse Dubin



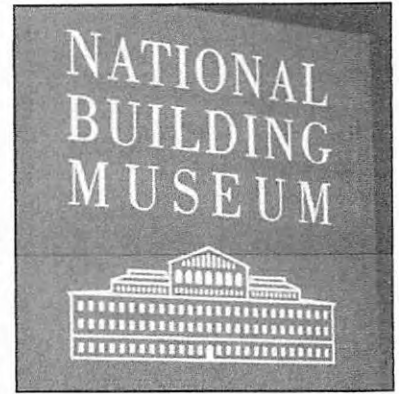
Honorary SAF Member Sen. Richard Lugar (R-IN)



National SAF Convention Photo Highlights



Kim and Suzy Steiner with Jim and Linda Finley



Linda Gribko (r) receives 2nd place ribbon for Women's Fun Run



WVU Student Yearbook Award Winners



Iowa, Colorado and Pennsylvania outreach crew



Valley Forge SAF Co-Sponsors Sustainable Agriculture Symposium

By R. Bruce Arnold, Chair, Valley Forge SAF Chapter

The Carpenter Auditorium in the Soda House at the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, Delaware served as an excellent venue for the presentation of five most interesting papers relative to urban and community forestry. The Valley Forge SAF Chapter was only one of ten contributing co-sponsors. Mr. Richard Pratt, Senior Arborist at the Hagley and Moderator, Mr. Charles Newlon of Valley Forge SAF, co-chaired the meeting.

Dr. Martin MacKenzie, USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, Morgantown, WV, thoroughly reviewed characteristics of hazard trees and their mitigation. He defined a hazard tree as, "any defective tree that had a target that was in range of the tree" - the distance between the tree and a target being 1.5 times the height of the tree for proper safety. Targets include any structure or site of regular human activity, with children and handicapped persons being the most vulnerable. Options available, once a hazard tree has been identified include: move the target, prune out damaged or deadwood, harvest the tree (and thus the problem), or close the area to humans. MacKenzie emphatically stated, "Deadwood is not negotiable." He suggested that the best mitigation technique was to remove hazard trees.

Mr. Russell Carlson, a registered consulting arborist and ISA certified arborist of Tree Tech Consulting in Bear, DE began his presentation by providing his

definition of tree management. He said it is "management of people and their impact on the environment." He elaborated with examples of people abuse with regard to trees: excessive use of mulch, soil compaction, improper nutrition, and construction damage to name a few.

With regard to mulch, excessive amounts cause excessive temperature within the bark of the tree (temperatures above the 140°F initiates bark decomposition). The proper mulch application is approximately a 3-inch depth, spread such that the root crown is exposed and mulch is not against the bark. When properly applied, mulch is "ambrosia" for trees providing for: moisture and nutrient retention, organic matter delivery to the soil, temperature moderation, and encouragement of micro flora and micro fauna. In his discussion of soil compaction, Carlson reviewed the well-known sand, silt and clay triangle of soil classification, pore spaces, gaseous exchange and their relation to root growth and mitigation techniques during construction.

Mr. Richard Pouyat, Research Scientist at the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Forest Experiment Station in Baltimore, MD, discussed in substantial detail, a major study of the watershed that includes Baltimore, MD that is now in progress. He shared a number of slides with the audience that showed different aspects of the study.

He presented an ecosystem concept and started by defining an ecosystem; "it is a bounded area

from which it is possible to measure inputs and outputs and their causes and effects." These areas have both structure and function. A watershed is a measurable ecosystem; inputs are contained within its boundaries and output flows go to a defined receptacle. However, watersheds that contain substantial urban areas are difficult to evaluate.

Mr. Bryan Hall, Assistant Urban Forester with the Delaware Department of Agriculture, Forest Service in Dover, DE, and an ISA Certified Arborist, proceeded to clarify the differences in urban and community programs in the states of Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania. He noted that each state has its own laws and regulations covering urban and community forestry. Commonalities exist, but he noted that the three programs differ in that each must deal with political units ranging from small towns to major cities. Delaware and Pennsylvania have programs that are quite similar, while Maryland has a roadside tree care law that doesn't exist in the other two states - certain tree and stump removal practices in Maryland must now be carried out by a licensed tree expert.

Dr. Daniel R. Kucera, a forest entomology consultant from West Chester, PA, related his experiences during a recent technical visit to Eastern Siberia under an USAID and US Forest Service Cooperative program. He was working with the Winrock Foundation, a philanthropic foundation started by Winthrop Rockefeller to fund various projects around the world.

(Continued from page 12)

Dan is the team entomology expert. The goal of the project in Siberia includes several items: carbon sequestration, fire protection, development of non-timber markets for forest products, and increase of opportunities for the employment of women.

In terms of traditional timber uses, the infrastructure for their harvest and transport is very poor. Much of the World War II-vintage harvesting equipment causes the destruction of many useful trees when used only to cut the very best high-income trees. The level of scientific knowledge residing in the universities and technical institutes is quite good within the region; however, a major problem is that this knowledge is not made available to people in the field. Winrock Foundation is encouraging the universities to create web sites for a broader distribution of their valuable information.

Dr. Kucera told the audience that a major problem is that the Russian Mafia controls everything, so if they are not a part of the action, it is unlikely to go forward. Finally, what research activities finally reach the field, the level of poverty is so great that most of the equipment placed there is likely to be stolen for resale.

With regard to non-timber markets, Kucera said that a big source of marketable product comes from the Korean pine, known regionally as the "Bread of the Forest" for its tasty and nutritious seeds. One effort of Winrock is to provide funds to various political districts for the purchase of cone shakers to facilitate the pine seed harvest. Other non-timber products include cranberries, mushrooms and juice extracted from birch bark.

It is difficult to put forward technologic change in Siberia since the people think of all information as propaganda, so are apt to discount solid scientific information. 🌲

USFS Is Hiring Firefighters – The National Fire Plan

By Jack Winieski, Editor, The Allegheny News

In response to the destructive 2000 fire season - 7 million acres charred nationwide and a record \$1.6 billion in suppression costs - a joint team convened by the Departments of Agriculture and Interior has created a *National Fire Plan (NFP)*.

The NFP recognizes that active management of our national forests is necessary to ensure that the catastrophic wildfire threat is reduced, and calls for action in five key areas: **Firefighting** - be adequately prepared for the next year; **Rehabilitation and Restoration** - restore landscapes and rebuild communities damaged by the wildfires of 2000; **Hazardous Fuel Reduction** - invest in projects to reduce fire risk; **Community Assistance** - work with communities to ensure adequate protection; and **Accountability** - be accountable and establish adequate oversight coordination, program development, and monitoring for performance.

President Clinton signed legislation October 11, 2000, appropriating \$1.9 billion for the US Forest Service for fire-related expenditures. This funding will be used to implement the NFP in a timely manner so that the USFS will be poised to meet the challenges of the upcoming fire season and to begin rehabilitation and restoration of landscapes and communities. A significant portion of this funding will be aimed directly at hiring more firefighters and fire managers, improving facilities, and increasing the number of fire engines and aircraft available as resources to manage wildland fires.

Nationally, the USFS will hire about 3,500 new wildland firefighters over the next few months. Congress mandated that employees be operational (trained) and ready for assignment by June 1, 2001, meaning that the Forest Service must act quickly to make opportunities available to interested permanent and seasonal positions.

Specific specialties include fire suppression (engine/initial attack), hot shot, helitack, heli-shot, smokejumper, fire prevention, dispatch, lookout, and fuels. Of the 3,500 people to be hired nationally, 1,000 will be permanent with the rest being seasonal (13 pay periods/year) or temporary (1,039 hours/year). Positions will be filled at 700 locations nationwide. Job application packets are available for permanent, seasonal or both by calling toll free, (877) 813-3476, TTY/TDD (208) 373-4265 or email fsjobs@fs.fed.us or check the web at www.fs.fed.us/fsjobs

Allegheny SAF forestry students and grads without jobs, this is a tremendous opportunity for experience, resume material, personal contacts, and perhaps a start to a long time career in the profession! 🌲

**This article extracted from material provided by Lisa Klaus, Public Affairs Specialist, Ottawa National Forest and packet material provided by the USFS Automated Staffing Application Program, 1249 S. Vinnell Way, Suite 108, Boise, ID 83709*

Next newsletter deadline is March 15, 2001

Send articles in the form of Microsoft Word documents or email to: ansaf@paonline.com

Report of the Historian

H. F. Round

Office of the Forester, Pennsylvania Railroad, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

(Reprint from "Proceedings of the Eighteenth Annual Winter Meeting," Allegheny Section, Society of American Foresters, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, February 24-25, 1939, pages 49-53).

The Society of American Foresters was organized in 1900 but it was not until 1911 that the Constitution was amended to permit the organization of local sections. This amendment, Section 1, Article XI, read as follows: "Sections of the Society may be authorized by the Council upon written petition of 10 or more voting members, at least five of whom shall be Senior Members or Fellows, residing within a territory small enough to justify the belief that a strong local organization may be effected. Sections must hold at least one meeting a year to retain their authorization."

Following the passage of the amendment, local Sections were organized as follows:

1	Northern Rocky Mountain	1912
2	St. Paul (Minnesota)	1912
3	North Pacific (Columbia River & Puget Sound)	1915
4	Southwestern	1915
5	California	1916
6	Washington	1916
7	Denver (Central Rocky Mountain)	1916
8	New York	1917
9	Intermountain	1917
10	New England	1920
11	Madison (Wisconsin)	1920
12	Pennsylvania (Allegheny)	1921

The question of a Pennsylvania Section was first discussed at an informal meeting held in Harrisburg during the early summer of 1920. Those present were enthusiastic concerning the organization of a local section and delegated Messrs. R. Y. Stuart and J. S. Illick as a steering committee to formulate plans, circulate a petition, and draft a set of By-Laws. The petition for the formation of the Section was circulated July 6, 1920 among 17 members of the Society residing in Pennsylvania and signed by all. The following members signed the petition:

G.P. Bard	John Foley	I. C. Williams	G.A. Retan
R. R. Chaffee	G. R. Green	Herman Work	R.Y. Stuart
W. M. Drake	J. S. Illick	I. T. Worthley	G. H. Wirt
R. C. Eccleston	Gifford Pinchot	E. A. Ziegler	G. W. Woodruff
J. A. Ferguson			

The Executive Council of the Society approved the formation of the Section on December 7, 1920 and the Section's By-Laws on February 16, 1921. The first formal meeting of the Pennsylvania Section was held in Harrisburg on March 10, 1922 with 29 members present. The following officers were elected: Gifford Pinchot, Chairman; John Foley, Vice Chairman and J. A. Ferguson, Secretary. The original By-Laws were approved after changing the office of Secretary to that of Secretary-Treasurer. The principal speakers at the banquet were Dr. J. T. Rothrock and Prof. H. H. Chapman.

The first summer field meeting of the Section was held on July 27 and 28, 1922 at the Penn State summer camp located on the Logan State Forest. Only 13 members were present and the program was greatly curtailed due to torrential rains.

The first steps in the expansion of the Section occurred on April 13, 1923, when Mr. C. P. Wilber, State Forester of New Jersey, on behalf of himself and seven other members of the Society from that state petitioned the Pennsylvania Section to admit the State of New Jersey. On April 14, 1923, Mr. F. W. Besley, State Forester of Maryland, in behalf of the members of the Society from that state petitioned the Section to admit the States of Maryland and Delaware into the Section. On May 9, 1923, the members of the Pennsylvania Section voted unanimously by letter ballot to admit the States of New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware into the Pennsylvania Section. The following members from these states were accepted as members of the Section:

NEW JERSEY		MARYLAND
H. V. Bailey	J. O. Hazard	F. W. Besley
W. M. Baker	A. D. LaMonte	J. A. Cope
M. M. Burris	F. H. Millen	Samuel Corbin
P. B. Haines	C. P. Wilber	K. E. Pfeiffer
		W. G. Schwab

At the summer meeting held in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, on July 27, 1923, the Section amended the By-Laws to include the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and West Virginia, and to change the name to the Allegheny Section. The name Allegheny being suggested by Vice-Chairman Foley.

The inclusion of West Virginia in the Allegheny Section precipitated considerable discussion as that state was also claimed by the Ohio Valley and by the Southern Appalachian Sections. At that time only two members of the Society resided within the state although fifteen other foresters were anxious to join. To settle the question of affiliation, the foresters of West Virginia held a meeting at Elkins, West Virginia, on December 4, 1924 to which representatives of the Allegheny, Ohio Valley and Southern Appalachian Sections were invited. Mr. John Foley, Chairman of the Allegheny Section was the only representative of the invited sections to attend. At this meeting the 13 foresters present voted to affiliate with the Allegheny Section and as a result the other two Sections dropped their claim to this state.

Other territorial disputes later developed when the Washington Section claimed all the territory within 50 miles of Washington D.C., and the New York Section claimed the metropolitan section of Northern New Jersey. These disputes were settled without changing the By-Laws by letting the location of the member's work determine his affiliation rather than his home address.

These boundaries became fixed until the By-Laws were amended on March 27, 1928, to include the State of Virginia, north of the James River. This action was taken as the result of a petition by Mr. Chapin Jones, State Forester of Virginia on behalf of the State employed foresters who felt that their interests would be better served by affiliation with the Allegheny rather than the Washington Section.

As a result of correspondence with President H. H. Chapman, the members of the Society living in Virginia south of the James River expressed their opinions that affiliation with the Allegheny rather than the Appalachian would better serve their interests. To make this change the Section amended the By-Laws on February 29, 1936 to include the whole state of Virginia.

The By-Laws have been subjected to a number of changes since their original adoption on January 17, 1921. Major changes, except to alter section lines which have been outlined above, follow:

- Affiliate members of the Society were recognized by an amendment adopted on February 24, 1933. Members residing outside of the Section's territory were permitted to affiliate with the Section by amendment adopted on March 17, 1928.
- The office of Secretary was changed to that of Secretary-Treasurer on March 10, 1922, and on February 24, 1933 an amendment was adopted adding two other elected members to the Executive Committee. An amendment, March 17, 1928, permitted the Executive Committee to fill vacancies occurring on the committee. As amended on March 17, 1928, the Executive Committee was authorized to act for the Section in recommending applicants for all classes of membership instead of waiting until the annual meeting. An amendment adopted February 24, 1933 gave the Executive Committee authority to act for the Section in all matters requiring action in the interim between meetings of the Section.
- The procedure of elections has been changed a number of times. Originally, officers were elected at the annual meeting from nominations made by a Nominating Committee. On February 17, 1932 this procedure was changed and the Nominating Committee of three members, appointed four months before the annual meeting, was required to submit to the Secretary-Treasurer six weeks before the meeting, two nominations for each elective office except for Chairman - as this office called for automatic election of the Vice-Chairman. The Secretary was then to send a letter ballot to all members at least a month before the annual meeting. A year later, February 24, 1933, the automatic elevation of the Vice-Chairman was eliminated and he was to be one of the two members nominated for the chairmanship. Also, the time of the appointment of the Nominating Committee was shortened to ten weeks. An amendment adopted in 1938 made it unnecessary to submit two nominations for Chairman or Secretary-Treasurer and provided that two of the nominations for Vice-Chairman be the two members of the Executive Committee.

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- The By-Laws were amended on February 17, 1932 to set the date of the annual meeting the last week-end of February and to provide for a Meetings Committee of three to arrange for all meetings.
- The By-Laws could originally be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members of the Section. On March 17, 1928, changes were adopted making it necessary to present such changes by mail 30 days in advance or at the meeting next preceding the meeting to be voted upon. Changes also adopted in 1932 made the By-Laws amendable by a two-thirds vote of those present at the annual meeting when a quorum of at least 50 members were present.

Activities

The activities of the Allegheny Section have been many and varied. The winter meetings have been devoted to the presentation of papers on timely subjects and to reports of technical committees. The summer field meetings have visited many points of forestry interest in the locality of the meeting. The Section has supported all constructive forestry legislation and it is interesting to note that the first resolution adopted by the Section in 1922 was "A resolution protesting against the proposed transfer of the National Forests, in whole or in part, from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Interior."

The Section took the lead in developing a national forest type classification by appointing a local committee and urging the appointment of a national committee. Type classifications adopted by the Section's committee were later incorporated into the national classification.

The Section took the leading part in the revision of methods of elections to the Executive Council. A resolution presented by W. M. Baker in 1930 urged the amendment of the Society Constitution to provide representation on the Council from each Section. This was rejected by the Council on the basis that it would provide a Council too large. A similar resolution was passed in 1932 seeking representation on a regional rather than on a sectional basis. This was again rejected by the Council. The Executive Committee then prepared petitions to compel the Council to put the question up to the entire membership. These petitions were signed by several times the number required and in the subsequent balloting the amendment was carried by a large majority. The first elections to the Council under this plan took place in 1935.

The Section also pioneered in the establishment of many other reforms such as the collection of assessments by the Washington office.

The Section has actively participated in bettering forestry conditions in many of its member states. Through many of its officers and leading members, it vigorously protested the political removal of State Forester Chapin Jones of Virginia. It likewise protested and secured cooperation of other organizations in defeating a bill designed to abolish the state Forestry Department of Delaware.

During 1935, the Section protested to the Governor and the Secretary of Forests and Waters of Pennsylvania against the political removal of several foresters in the state. This was followed by the passage of a resolution presented by R. D. Forbes at the summer meeting on August 23, 1935, seeking to (1) make an immediate, thoroughgoing survey of the possibilities of joining hands with other societies or organizations engaged in promoting the merit, or civil service, in the several states and federal government; and (2) to consider appropriate action looking to the establishment of non-political, non-partisan governing boards for forest and forest conservation departments in these states where it is not immediately possible to establish a civil service system. Partly as a result of this petition, which was widely circulated among other organizations, the Pennsylvania Federation for the Merit System of which the Allegheny Section was a charter member, was organized. This organization was later superseded by the Pennsylvania Merit System League. These organizations prepared and supported a civil service bill, which was introduced in the Legislature in 1937. A similar bill will be supported at the 1939 session.

Since 1936, the Section has published the Proceedings of the Annual Winter Meeting each year in mimeographed form.

H. F. Round, Historian

Silviculture News

By Mary Ann Fajvan, Forest Science Coordinator, Allegheny SAF

Thinning and Wildlife Habitat

Thinning has traditionally been used to maximize wood production. However, many forest owners realize the importance of maintaining natural plant/animal communities in their managed forests.

Silvicultural thinnings are procedures used to improve the quality, growth, and survival of residual trees. The type of thinning method influences the structural qualities of the residual stand. In low thinning, trees in overtopped, intermediate, or codominant crown positions can be cut, which indirectly benefits trees in dominant or strong codominant crown positions. Trees that are defective or likely to die are minimized in the residual stand. In contrast, crown thinning removes primarily low-quality codominant and dominant trees in the canopy that interfere with the growth of more desirable codominant or dominant associates (crop trees). Defective or subcanopy trees are retained in the stand if they do not compete with designated crop trees.

Processes such as tree decay and mortality are now seen as vital components of healthy forests. Research over the last 20 years has shown that managed forests generally have reduced snag abundance and quality compared to unmanaged forests. Hence, snags and other dead woody structures are important stand attributes deserving consideration in silvicultural prescriptions. The length of time that dead trees remain standing, and consequently have the potential to serve as feeding and cavity nesting sites, is largely a function of wood durability.

In 1998, one of my former graduate students conducted a study that measured the effects of different thinning intensities (45, 60, and

75% residual relative densities and uncut controls) on the density and volume of snags and decayed wood in an Appalachian hardwood stand. The thinning procedure was a combination of low and crown thinning with two-thirds of the trees cut from below mean stand diameter and one third above mean diameter. High-value species such as yellow poplar and oaks were favored as residual trees while red maple and sassafras were preferentially removed. Data were collected from a stand thinned in 1982 on the West Virginia University Forest. Study plots were remeasured in 1988, 1993, and 1998, and data on both live and dead trees were recorded.

Our study results showed that snags and decayed wood were two to four times more abundant in controls compared with heavily thinned treatments. Snags were less common in heavily thinned treatments for several reasons. Mortality in heavily thinned plots was lower than 75% relative density thinnings and controls because of decreased competition for site resources and removal of potential mortality trees during the thinnings. Thinning efforts focused on defective trees in subordinate crown positions, which were those trees most likely to die from competition. In addition, species decay resistance properties strongly influenced the snag population. Decay resistant species, such as black cherry and sassafras, formed the majority of the snags sampled in 1998 but comprised the minority of trees that died since treatment. Species with decay-resistant heartwood occurred frequently as snags because of their slower decay rates rather than higher mortality rates.

Management Implications

Existing silvicultural guidelines



Removal of standing dead snags in silvicultural operations can negatively impact the habitat of primary cavity nesting birds

for intermediate treatments in Appalachian hardwoods suggest cutting non-commercial species such as sassafras. However, such short-lived species would not appreciably decrease the growth or value of crop trees and would increase the abundance of small snags (<8" dbh). We also found that thinning reduced the potential number of large-diameter snags (>12" dbh) and live trees with decay that are necessary for woodpecker cavities. Silvicultural efforts aimed at increasing the quality of snags and other wildlife features should focus on the retention and (or) creation of large snags and decayed trees of appropriate species.

For more information please contact me (mfajvan@wvu.edu) for a reprint of: Graves, A.T., Fajvan, M. A. and G.W. Miller, 2000. The effects of thinning intensity on snag and cavity tree abundance in an Appalachian hardwood stand. *Can. J. For. Res.* 30:1214-1220. 📌

Mary Ann Fajvan is an Associate Professor of Silviculture at West Virginia University

PNDI Demystified at the Ben Roach Forum

By Jean Fike, Ecologist/PNDI Coordinator, DCNR Bureau of Forestry

The October 12, 2000 Ben Roach Forum addressed the subject of the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI), and dispelled many common misconceptions about the program. Approximately 85 members of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters, members of the forest community of northwest Pennsylvania and Southwest New York, and their guests attended the forum.

Charles Bier, Director of the Natural Heritage Program at the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and a highly respected biologist, spoke on the topic "Comparing and Contrasting Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA)." Mr. Bier has been involved with the PNDI project for nearly 20 years and serves on a variety of technical committees related to resource inventory and conservation in Pennsylvania.

It quickly became apparent that PNDI and the ESA have little or nothing in common. PNDI, it was explained, is a partnership between the Pennsylvania Science office of The Nature Conservancy, The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry to collect information about Pennsylvania's uncommon biological resources. It is essentially a public/private partnership that asks the question "what's out there and how is it doing?" The result of this work is a database containing information on the location and status of the Commonwealth's most imperiled biota (species and "natural communities" or habitats).

One of the main messages of the talk was that unlike the Endangered Species Act, PNDI is not tied to any legislation, and has no regulatory authority. DEP, as a

matter of policy, consults the PNDI database when issuing permits. The Bureau of Forestry, also as a matter of policy, consults PNDI before engaging in any project that has the potential to impact species of

concern. Both agencies consult the PNDI database out of a desire to prevent the inadvertent loss of Pennsylvania's biological resources, but neither is under any legal obligation to do so.

Legal protection of species in Pennsylvania resides with four agencies, three state and one federal. The PA Fish and Boat Commission has jurisdiction over fish, reptiles, amphibians, and aquatic organisms. The PA Game Commission has jurisdiction over birds and mammals, and the PA Bureau of Forestry has jurisdiction over native plants. Currently no agency in Pennsylvania has jurisdiction over terrestrial invertebrates, fungi or a few other groups of organisms. It was emphasized that none of these agencies have jurisdiction over the species habitat, only over the taking of species themselves. In the case of plants, there is even less protection, as state listed plants under Pennsylvania law are the property of the landowner. There are also a small number of federally listed species in Pennsylvania. Under the United States Endangered Species Act (USES), federally listed species as well as their habitats are under the jurisdiction of the USFWS. The PNDI system contains information about species that are under the jurisdiction of all of the agencies listed above. Any legal protection that might exist for these species, however, comes from the particular jurisdictional agency, and not from the fact that PNDI stores and manages information about the species.

Mr. Bier provided an overview of the status of Pennsylvania's natural diversity, and some alarming trends of species and habitat loss. It was also illustrated how little is known about the majority of Pennsylvania's natural diversity. In some species groups we do not even have a list of species occurring in Pennsylvania, let alone where they are or how they are doing.

Discussion following the talk focused on ways to engage landowners in positive ways, and to foster an attitude of pride in stewarding Pennsylvania's living heritage. 🌲



Jean Fike



Charles Bier (l) receives the "Ben Roach Biltmore Stick" from PASAF Chair Bob Bauer

WV Woodlands Committee Awards '2000 Recipients

By Rudy Williams, WV Division of Forestry



Committee member John Vallelonga shows a developing oak seedling planted in 1999

The WV Division SAF Woodlands Award Committee met on November 15, 2000 and reviewed award candidates. U.S. Steel's Mining Company, Bluestone Coal Corporation, was chosen as the 2000 award recipient. After a visit to their surface mining operation on Pinnacle Creek in Wyoming County, WV, the consensus of the committee was unanimous. US Steel Mining Company (permittee) and Bluestone Coal Corporation (operator) had planted an additional 100 acres of coal spoil in the Spring of 2000 with excellent seedling survival. The committee members also noted the continued survival and development of a series of past seedling plantings installed after mining operations.

The SAF Woodlands Award Committee consisted of Bob Beanblossom, John Vallelonga, and Rudy Williams (substituting for Jim Mitchell).

Accompanying the committee on the field evaluation was: Tim Probert, who reviewed the reclamation work in accordance with Bluefield Land Management guidelines; the local DEP inspector for the mine; and the Bluestone Mining Engineer responsible for this operation. 🌲

NEAWFM Visits NY City Catskill Mountain Watershed

By Randy Kelly, NY DEP Forest Manager, (845) 585-4060

Over 40 municipal watershed foresters attended the 2nd Northeast Association of Watershed Forest Managers (NEAWFM) Conference, October 12-13, 2000, focusing on programs in the New York City (NYC) Catskill Mountain watershed.

The group discussed and visited sites related to: NYC's Land Acquisition and Stewardship program; NYC-funded Watershed Council's Watershed Forestry projects (e.g., portable skidder and long-span bridges, road layout and BMP implementation, logger safety, forest management plans on private lands, etc.); the Model Forest Program; USFS watershed initiatives; DEP's stream and riparian management activities; and forestry research being conducted in the City's watersheds by the US Geological Survey, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, the Institute of Ecological Studies at Millbrook, NY, and DEP itself. 🌲

THE NORTHEAST'S CHANGING FOREST
LLOYD C. IRLAND

The Northeast's Changing Forest
LLOYD C. IRLAND

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Ricketts Glen State Park, Hurricane Floyd, and Helicopter Logging

By Joe Fiedor, Wyoming District Forester, Bureau of Forestry, PA DCNR

Ricketts Glen State Park is a 13,050-acre state park, nestled in the corners of Columbia, Luzerne, and Sullivan Counties of Pennsylvania. It is known mostly for its 22 waterfalls on Kitchen Creek. In fact, this series of waterfalls is so impressive that this 2,845-acre part of the park, designated as the Glens Natural Area, is a National Natural Landmark.

On the night of September 16, 1999, 80-mile winds of Hurricane Floyd impacted about 2,700 acres in the park - fallen and leaning trees tore down power and telephone lines, damaged park cabins, destroyed a Ranger vehicle, blocked roads and frightened park visitors. Fortunately, nobody in the park was physically injured, but it was a night all will remember. Most of the blow down was black cherry and red maple saw timber - value too much to ignore. The dilemma: how to salvage this valuable raw material for the timber industry, maintain the natural and historical park character, and address present and future concerns for visitor safety, forest regeneration, fuel loading and aesthetics.

Hurricane Floyd also caused wide spread blow down at elevations above 2,000 feet elevation in the adjoining Wyoming State Forest, managed by the PA Bureau of Forestry (BOF); Ricketts Glen State Park is managed by the PA Bureau of State Parks. I had been working on the first helicopter logging timber sale for the Wyoming State Forest, and felt that a helicopter salvage logging operation would work for Ricketts Glen. Helicopter logging is well documented around the United States, especially in sensitive areas. In essence, the helicopter is a skidder used to move logs from the forest to the log landing,

avoiding the use of heavy harvest machinery and road building. It is a fast and economically feasible salvage solution in sensitive areas with high timber values, as well as, recreational and other forest resource values.

Park Manager Terry Daltroff and I discussed the idea, and a helicopter salvage-logging proposal for Ricketts Glen was presented to the Bureau of State Parks in May. The plan, which included an environmental review and post-harvest rehabilitation of log landing

sites, was accepted and bid invitations were mailed to prospective logging companies in May. In July, Carson Services, Inc. of Oregon was awarded the \$994,000 contract. Having honed its skills in western states, where helicopter logging is more common, the 36-man Carson crew began their precision logging in late October.

First to arrive were the cutters. A crew of 18 cutters worked ahead of the helicopter. Bureau of Forestry foresters - one forester to four cutters - designated trees to be salvaged and gave direction on the product lengths, stump heights and salvage area boundaries. Tipped trees that were hung-up in healthy trees and would not fall, even after they had been severed at the stump, were flown to the landing with tops attached. This is strictly a salvage project and no other Silvicultural treatment is being applied. Live healthy trees, not connected with a blow down hazard complex, cannot be cut. The Sikorsky 61 helicopters used by Carson can easily fly 100,000 board feet a day, so the cutters plan to be 600,000 bd ft, or one week, ahead of the helicopter and

support crew. It is too dangerous for the cutters to be working in the exact same areas where the helicopter is lifting logs.

Two pilots are always on duty, one flies while the





Joe Fiedor briefs Valley Forge SAF members before onsite visit to helicopter salvage logging operation

other monitors instruments, records turn (woods to log landing and return) weights (scales on aircraft), number of logs flown, and helps observe and navigate. About every hour the helicopter lands for fuel and the pilots rotate jobs. The helicopter and pilots are supported by two mechanics stationed at the service landing, which is close to, but separate from the log landing, and a ground support crew of "hookers" and "unhookers." Six hookers set chokers in the woods for the helicopter and five unhookers work on the landing collecting chokers as the logs are placed on the landing (35 Carson and 10 DCNR employees support the helicopter operation). Double bell, double button, 25-foot chokers are coated with pink nylon for high visibility, and are cycled back and forth from the landing to the woods by the helicopter as needed. The Sikorsky 61 can lift 12,000 pounds at sea level. On the Ricketts Glen Project, the target weight for each turn is 9,000 pounds. For black cherry and red maple, this is almost 1,000 bd ft per turn. The helicopter averages about one turn every three minutes on this project and 13 turns every cycle (the time spent flying logs between fuel stops). Turn time depends upon distance from the woods to the landing and wind conditions. The preferred average working distance is one-half mile; average working distance for the Ricketts Glen project is one and one-quarter mile.

BOF Forestry employees scale the flown logs at the landing before they are stacked for sale. Log lengths are in multiples from 8' to 32', with occasional 46' logs. Each log stack, ranging from 80,000 bd ft up, is designated by its own paint color on the ends of the logs. The separate stacks are advertised by minimum scale tally for sale to the highest bidder. DCNR estimates reaping \$4-5 million from the sale of these logs, while addressing the park's natural, historical and safety

concerns resulting from hurricane Floyd. Part of the proceeds will be returned to the park for remediation work; the BOF will receive 15% for administrating and managing the sale.

It is expected that a minimum of 3.5 million bd ft of blow down will be salvaged from approximately 1,500 acres of the park. Six hundred acres of blow down in the Glens Natural Area, as well as several hundred acres of non-commercial blow down in the park, will not be salvaged. The project is expected to last well into the winter and the public is invited to visit. The public is invited to observe the operation at a viewing area set up off route 487, just south of the Job Corps Center and near the primary log landing site. No logging takes place on Sundays and operations are suspended during bear and deer season. Since weather conditions restrict operations, viewers may call the park office for information at (570) 477-5675. 🌲

The SAF Pinchot Chapter was privileged to view this operation in the field as part of a chapter meeting held at Ricketts Glenn State Park on November 14, 2000. On behalf of SAF members in attendance, Chapter Chair Mark Sickler thanks Park Superintendent Terry Daltruff, Wyoming District Forester Joe Fiedor, and Carson Helicopter's Forester Bret Daugherty for their contributions to a successful program and field trip.

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Where Do We Go From Here With Deer?

By Ben Moyer*

The following presentation was given by Ben Moyer at the jointly sponsored "Deer Management Workshop" held this past September at Lamar, Pennsylvania (see pages 22-23 in the Fall 2000 issue of The Allegheny News for an abstracted report of other presentations). Ed.

The management of an admired and adaptable creature like the white-tailed deer in a place of diverse physical and philosophical landscapes, such as Pennsylvania, is a formidable challenge. This conference, sponsored by the Allegheny Society of American Foresters Pennsylvania Division and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association is an important step toward eventual success. I am honored to have been asked to participate in this gathering.

I believe it is helpful to frame problems of this scope in historical perspective. American attitudes toward nature and natural resources have undergone dramatic change. The first Europeans to colonize North America viewed the primeval forest with fear and superstition. Over the next 300 years, prevailing attitudes evolved in support of culturally sanctioned abuse and over-exploitation, and later, strictly utilitarian conservation. Today, it must be exciting to find yourselves engaged in the work of balancing sustainable productivity with broadened ecological and aesthetic concerns. Looking back, we see that your role as professional conservationists and public communicators is more complex than it has ever been. The ways we choose to manage deer in our forests speaks volumes about our views toward the natural world around us. Hopefully, you find it stimulating and uplifting to be seeking solutions to problems earlier foresters never envisioned.

But where do we/you go from here? Observations on the future are my assignment here today.

First, and perhaps most important is to recognize that you, as informed land managers of both private and public forest land, have a legitimate duty to call for more creative deer management in Pennsylvania and the entire Allegheny region. For a long time deer policy has been constrained by reluctance to alienate the hunting public, whose expectations for forests have often been fairly narrow. And, except for those hunters, much of society has little experience in dealing with deer. In Pennsylvania, until fairly recent times, large herds were confined to the remote northern plateau where there is little agriculture and less urbanization. The returning woods there still held little commercial value, and not much was known about the importance of biodiversity. Until 15 years ago, when deer populations mushroomed across the state's farm, mining and suburban regions, few people but hunters had reason to care about deer. It was natural for sportsmen to assume primacy in deer management decisions. And to those sportsmen, good deer management meant one thing—more deer.

I suggest, however, in fairness to the hunting public mentioned above, that we do not have a good perception of what the majority of the hunting public actually wants or expects. In reality, deer policy has been steered by a vocal minority, particularly in the recent past. A comprehensive effort to statistically determine deer hunter values and expectations may prove that the hunting public is more of an ally than an adversary in efforts to craft



more creative strategies for managing deer and forests.

Your voices speak for the land that must support those deer, all the diverse economic necessities it produces, and the very recreational, personal and financial benefits that deer hunting brings to Pennsylvania and the region. Your voices, speaking from informed experience, tell the public and the policy-makers that there is a limit to the number of deer we can expect from land, and that there is a price for ignoring that limit.

Deer were once truly rare in this region. I have heard the efforts to facilitate their return referred to as "the easy phase of conservation." All that was necessary was to enforce laws protecting deer, especially antlerless deer, and watch them repopulate the ideal habitat offered by returning forests. Now we find ourselves embroiled in a more complex and challenging phase—one that requires active involvement by those, such as yourselves, who understand the relationships between land and its plant and animal communities. To that end, the appointment of Dr. Alt to head the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Deer Management Section is an inspiring opportunity.

It is critical that influential and credible resource managers, such as yourselves, seize this opportunity on behalf of the region's forests and

their diverse values.

I have been privileged to observe, as a journalist, the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the social and political environment in which it must operate for the past decade. Based on those observations, I believe that you must intensify your efforts to support Dr. Alt's proposals within the Commission. Attend all Commission meetings; testify, write letters to commissioners and staff. Make it known that you support hunting as a way to provide recreation to hunters while simultaneously improving ecological and economic conditions on forest lands. Ask commissioners to support the antlerless license allocations recommended by their own biologists, and to seek creative ways to achieve more efficient and fine-tuned deer harvests. Ecologically based Deer Management Units, longer and/or concurrent seasons, the availability of multiple antlerless tags per hunter, and programs designed specifically for forest landowners are all ideas that can become reality with adequate credible support.

Some of your representatives have faithfully accepted this responsibility for years. Thoughtful, reasoned and accurate testimony such as that repeatedly offered by Ken Kane have made a difference. Encourage more individual members to follow this example. Eventually it will overcome the anecdotal and emotional pleas from those who demand more deer on the land without consideration for the costs to us all.

Additionally, acknowledge that this challenge is, at its heart, political. Contact the Governor and your state senators and representatives and let them know what is at risk when entrenched policies encourage high deer densities for long periods.

Communicate as an organization, and encourage your members to communicate with elected officials as individuals. Educate officials about the costs high deer numbers inflict on commercial forestry and agricultural employers in their districts. Tell them that there are ideas and scientifically grounded proposals afloat in Pennsylvania that can benefit both hunters and the private landowners who help to support the deer herds.

Incidentally, the joint resolution regarding deer management and Dr. Alt's proposals passed by the PA Division of SAF and the PA Chapter of the Wildlife Society, April 8 in Titusville is an excellent organizational step in the right direction. I encourage you to communicate the text and spirit of this joint resolution to all appropriate policy makers in state government.

Because you probably spend more time in direct contact with deer habitat than anyone else involved in this controversy, I encourage you to watch the weather this winter. As you know, we in this region have "enjoyed" several exceedingly mild winters in recent years. It is entirely possible that this spate of mild weather has temporarily masked the mistakes of the Game Commission's recent turn away from the gains it had made in the early '90s in terms of reducing deer densities. Should we have a winter like some of those experienced in the late '70s or the early '90s, those mistakes will be inescapable. It is true that much of the public does not recognize a browse line in the woods, but everyone recognizes a dead deer. Watch the weather in your area over the coming months. If conditions suggest that you should start looking for dead deer in the drainages and creek bottoms, do so. And then point out the waste to everyone in a

position to influence the debate. That those starved deer could have, and should have, been taken by hunters will be a point that your opponents find hard to refute.

Devote whatever resources you can as an organization to the education of the non-hunting public. Many people unfamiliar with reality in the woods view an abundance of deer as a benign indicator of environmental quality. Find ways through press releases, television, radio, and public speakers to inform the public that more deer is not necessarily better for the land or for them. Tell them about the already documented loss of Pennsylvania wildflowers, shrubs, understory nesting birds, and the inability of forests to regenerate themselves because of deer overabundance. Programs that we've learned about here today—like Tim Pierson's efforts through Cooperative Extension—are excellent models to emulate.

Finally, know that you are not alone. The efforts of the Deer Management Working Group, convened by the Game Commission and the Wildlife Management Institute, prove that. Over a two-year period concluding in 1999, the Working Group exhibited nearly unanimous support for more creative deer management programs among most segments of the Pennsylvania public, including agriculture, forestry, environmental, municipal, and most hunting organizations.

There is, thanks to conferences like this one and the work of many of your individual members, momentum building toward progress. White-tailed deer are marvelous, graceful and inspiring wild creatures. But a more informed populace is awakening to the fact that deer, as enthralling as they may be, are but one component of our

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Coming Events

February 2001

- 21-23 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting at the Tropicana Hotel on the boardwalk in Atlantic City, NJ. Riparian buffers, Nutrient loading, EPA & TMDLs, Watershed boundaries & BMPs.

March

- 15 **Deadline: Articles and photos for Spring 2001 issue of *The Allegheny News***
- 20-21 Penn State Forest Resources Issues Conference, Penn State Conference Hotel, State College, PA, "Sustaining Future Forest Productivity." Laurie Schoonhoven (814) 865-7932, FAX (814) 865-6275, email ims28@psu.edu (10 CFE credits)

April

- 12 "Ben Roach Forestry Forum," Kane Country Club, Kane, PA. "Legal Implications of PA Natural Diversity Inventory and Endangered Species Act" with Dr. Charles Bier. Reservations are required. Steve Wingate (814) 776-6172 ext. 133 or 136 — meal included.

June

- 15 **Deadline: Articles and photos for Summer 2001 issue of *The Allegheny News***

September

- 13-17 SAF National Convention, Denver, Colorado
- 15 **Deadline: Articles and photos for Fall 2001 issue of *The Allegheny News***

(Continued from page 23)

forests. Your presence and your voice is needed to ensure that Pennsylvania, and all the states represented here, summon the courage required to move toward a more enlightened future in regard to deer and the land that supports their existence. 🌲

* Ben Moyer is an avid deer hunter, editor of *Pennsylvania Sportsman* magazine, contributing editor to *New York Sportsman* and *Michigan Hunting & Fishing* magazines, and writer of outdoor news and features for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. His essay entitled "The Deer Hunter as Protectionist and Predator" was recently published in *Outdoor America's* "Thinking Like a Mountain" series. He is former president and board chairman of the *Pennsylvania Outdoor Writers Association*. He lives in rural Farmington, Fayette County, PA.

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