

The
Allegheny News



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 2011**

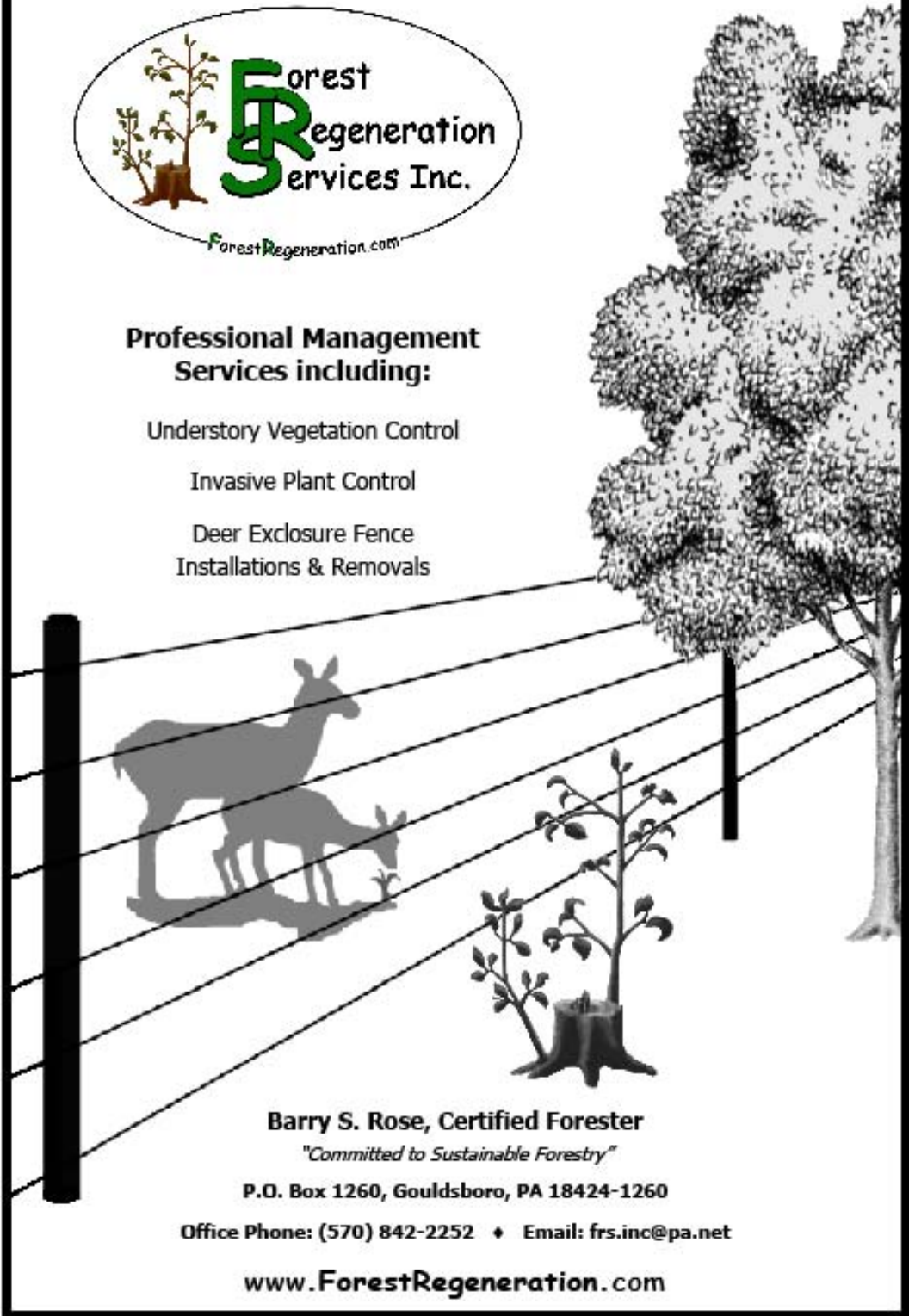


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The Allegheny News

Volume 20, No. 3

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

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

The Allegheny News

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Cover Photo

Pine Logs, Eastern Shore Forest Products Company
Thursday, September 15

Photo by Charlie and Barbara Newlon



Chair's Corner

Mary Ann Fajvan, Allegheny SAF Chair

The Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting

I would like to thank the Maryland/Delaware Division for hosting an excellent summer meeting and field trip. One of the highlights for me was the private tour of the Ward Museum of Waterfowl Art. It was hard to believe those birds were made of wood and not real feathers! Fall is going to be very busy for Allegheny SAF members because we need to vote, recruit new/old members and nominate our colleagues for awards. So read on . . .

During the Summer Business Meeting, I announced that our **membership** records for 2011 indicate that 112 of our members did not pay dues and will be removed from the list at the end of the year; last year we also lost over 100 members. Please take a moment to check the membership website at: www.eforester.org/members/member_central.cfm. Review the names on the inactive list and see if you know any of these inactive members, then give them a call. Provide a friendly reminder that they have not yet paid their dues and be sure to tell them that **DUES ARE ACTUALLY SIGNIFICANTLY LOWER IN 2012** because of SAF's **NEW TIERED DUES** structure. I want to thank Ken Jolly, our Council Representative, for his perseverance in discussions regarding this important issue. For detailed information on the new structure check the SAF website: www.safnet.org/members/service_level_packets.cfm.

Fall is a great time to be recruiting new members, especially students. We need to remember to invite student members to our local chapter and division meetings and then get them excited about attending the **Allegheny SAF Winter meeting** (February 15-17, 2011, in New Jersey) to participate in the student quiz bowl.

I would also like to encourage everyone to be looking for your electronic ballot from the National SAF office because it will contain important information on the election for new Allegheny SAF officers (chair-elect, secretary, executive committee) and a new District VII Council representative. **PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE THE BALLOT**- Our typical participation rate is less than 5%!!

The deadline for the two annual **Allegheny Society Awards: 1) Forester of the Year and 2) Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award** is **December 15, 2011**. The purpose of the Forester of the Year award is to recognize current professional achievements in forestry and specific accomplishments or achievement within 2011. The Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry award recognizes achievement in the forestry profession and service to SAF and local or regional community activities over a career time span. We all know many foresters who are deserving of our recognition for their professional commitment and performance. Please take the time to submit a nomination to your Division or Chapter Chair before the deadline. Applications and instructions for nominations are included on our web page: www.alleghenysaf.org.

I know everyone is busy but the strength of SAF depends on your participation. Get involved!

Twenty Years: A Retrospect

Jack Winieski, CF

As retired Executive Secretary/Newsletter Editor of the Allegheny SAF, several thoughts come to mind as I now begin a second retirement.

The position was quite beneficial for me professionally. It has kept me in contact with developing technology and society's changing views of the forest resource from 1991-2011. I had just finished a satisfying career with the PA Bureau of Forestry and might have lost some of the personal contacts I valued without the opportunities provided by the SAF position.

Aside from the 20 years of Allegheny officers and Chairs (interesting personalities – all leaders), there were many dedicated working members who helped along the way. I must apologize to many of the 1,000 +/- members for my lack of memory recall of names over the years.

Back at SUNY College of Forestry in 1958-59, with the help of my new bride “Bert” and her manual typewriter, I was newsletter editor of the college's “Knothole” for two years– my only experience with newsletters. Editing the “Allegheny News” publication was a major learning experience.

It would not have been possible without the help and guidance of my family, some patient printers, and SAF article writers and photographers (special kudos to Charlie Newlon and Alex Day and cover artist Dave Haubrick). To all of them and our dedicated advertisers, I say thank you for the continuing education they provided for me, and the finished product. After this learning exercise, I have the greatest respect for all the work previous Allegheny SAF volunteer newsletter editors had contributed over the years.

All the members of my family had their special skills. Our four children had the computer skills and decided that an Apple computer would be best for “moss-back” Dad - with Mark closest to home for immediate problem solving. Art skills were many, and evenly divided among Suzanne (who did the first Spring 1991 line-drawing cover), Julie (who designed the note pads for the converted office), and Catherine (whose design, editing and layout – not to mention patience - made the “Allegheny News” a publication we could all be proud to be associated with professionally). Certainly, without Catherine's skills, cooperation – and patience - it would not have been possible. I must also give credit to Catherine's husband Steve (the computer guru who solved many deadline crises). Then there was “Bert”, the office staff, who covered in my absence and joined in the newsletter process, edited the final copy before cutting a disc for the printer. I will miss the family “togetherness” we had in producing the newsletter, with breaks playing with the grandchildren and cutting firewood.

Allegheny SAF Executive Committee Meeting
September 14, 2011
Fountains Conference Center, Salisbury, MD

Attendees:

Allegheny Officers: M. Fajvan, Chair; R. Billingham, Chair-Elect; K. Gottschalk, Imm. Past Chair; K. Jolly, Council Rep.; D. McGill, R. Webster, Exec. Cmte Members; J. Winieski, Outgoing Ex. Dir.; Susan Lacy (by phone), Incoming Business Manager.; Division/Chapter Officers and Committee Representatives: J. Kays, Awards Cmte Chair; K. Powers, MD/DE Div. Chair, J. Stuffle, Valley Forge Ch. Chair; S. Wacker, Keystone Ch. Chair; T. Kaden, Legislative Cmte Chair; J. Perdue, Webmaster

Minutes from the Previous Executive Committee Meeting

The minutes from the Winter 2011 Executive Committee meeting were approved. Motion was made by R. Billingham, second by D. McGill.

Treasurer's Report:

The current treasurer, S. Resh, was not able to attend the meeting, so no report was presented at that time.

Council Report (K. Jolly):

Council is having only three meetings this year, due to the National Convention being in Hawaii this year. The new SAF dues structure will go into effect for 2012. It is a tiered structure. You will receive a percentage off of your dues for every new member you recruit (also applies to people who were members but let their membership lapse). National dues are now under \$100! Check out the new structure at: http://www.safnet.org/members/service_level_packets.cfm - you will need to use your SAF login information to get to this site. Council approved a new accreditation program for Terrestrial Ecology programs. The accreditation standards are under development. Look for more information on this in the next issue of The Forestry Source. The current national SAF President, Roger Dziengeleski, has been having Council go through the "Good to Great" process. They are working on honing in on the main mission of the SAF: advancing/meeting the needs of professional foresters. The Biomass/Carbon report will come out sometime soon. Council has accepted the report and it will be published in an upcoming Journal of Forestry issue. K. Jolly's term on Council ends at the close of this year – it is a three-year term. There are two candidates for Council in ANSAF/National Capital: Kim Steiner and E. Lynn Burkett.

Business Manager's Report (S. Lacy, by phone):

S. Lacy is our new Business Manager, replacing J. Winieski after his many years of service. She is a long-time member of ANSAF. S. Lacy will be sending out notices soon for contributions to the next issue of the Allegheny News. She would like to hear more from ANSAF members to see what kinds of articles or items they would like to have included in the Allegheny News. She is also working on ideas to get students more involved. Council is working on trying to get more student members involved. Right now, our student rep. is from WVU. She will continue the tradition of creating a great publication that discusses the business of the ANSAF, with a balance of articles from among the five states. We will now list the student chapters on the back cover of the newsletter. In order to make room, all the other officers will have only emails and phone numbers listed. S. Lacy will also be responsible for completing the ANSAF tax forms on behalf of the treasurer. She has already opened a new mail box and is working on obtaining a bulk mail permit. This fall, we will need to send out paper ballots to the members that do not have email addresses. Completed ballots will need

to be mailed to the Tellers Committee Chair, G. Miller. K. Gottschalk is almost ready with the ballot.

Committee Reports:

Awards (J. Kays):

J. Kays will send out award submission information to the ANSAF leadership soon. Note that all forms are now online at alleghenysaf.org. ANSAF had no nominations for Fellow this year. J. Kays will strive to put an article on awards in the Allegheny News 2 issues before the deadline. Various SAF and ANSAF awards have different submission timelines: ANSAF's two awards: Outstanding Service to Forestry and Forester of the Year awards are due Dec. 31. Nominations for Fellow are due March 1. The Presidential Field Forester nominations should go to the Council Rep. by May 15.

Auditing (D. Galway via M. Fajvan):

The 2010 books were audited and everything looks good.

CFE Coordinator (D. McGill):

Most members send their CFEs to their own state coordinators. A few use D. McGill as a conduit. He will continue to step in when needed.

Membership (R. Billingham):

The list from the National Office indicates that we have 773 members in good standing and 112 members that are recently delinquent. R. Billingham will send out the list of members that are recently delinquent to the chapters. Keep in mind that the new dues structure will come into play next year, so everyone should be talking to foresters that they know to get them to re-up or join for the first time.

Nominations (K. Gottschalk):

The electronic ballots will come out soon, along with paper ballots (sent only to those members with no email access). Candidates for Chair-Elect are J. Kays and M. Kusko. There are 4 slots on the Executive Committee, and we have seven nominees: D. Galway (NJ), C. Kane (NJ), N. Karger (PA), C. Stelter (PA), B. Harding (PA), R. Webster (MD), and K. Arano (WV). S. Resh, the current Treasurer, is the only candidate for Treasurer. There are no candidates for the Secretary position at present. There is a charge from National to run elections with the electronic ballot. Even though there is a charge, it is still considerably cheaper than mailing out paper ballots.

Legislative (T. Kaden):

There have been no requests recently from divisions or chapters. Everyone can stay up-to-date with the policy update that National sends out to the membership. The National Office has lost several recent policy people to other organizations and to various positions in the Federal administration. There are currently two policy interns working in the National Office: John Barnwell and Kelsey Delaney. Michael Goergen and Mark Rey are involved at the strategy level and the interns work on implementation. They are doing a great job.

Program (N. Karger via M. Fajvan):

Winter 2012	NJ Division	Feb. 15-17
Summer 2012	Valley Forge Chapter	Aug. 8-10
Winter 2013	Gateway Chapter	

Summer 2013	Keystone
Winter 2014	TBD – maybe Northern Hardwood Chapter
Summer 2014	TBD – maybe WV Division
Winter 2015	TBD – maybe Rothrock Chapter
Summer 2015	TBD – maybe Pinchot Chapter
Winter 2016	TBD – maybe MD/DE Division
Summer 2016	TBD – maybe Plateau Chapter

Tellers (K. Gottschalk):

G. Miller will handle the upcoming vote count.

New Business

ANSAF Website Hosting (J. Perdue):

J. Perdue has done a great job with our website for the past five years. He has learned much in the process and is now able to get more creative with the site. He recently heard of a web hosting group called Dream Host, which will host 501c3 organization websites for free (other SAF state societies are using this host). We have had our site with Yahoo at the cost of \$12.95 per month. On the new site, we may consider putting our Allegheny News advertisers on it. We could manage this as an enhancement or as an additional source of income. In order to get onto Dream Host, S. Lacy will need to contact the IRS for a duplicate certificate of ANSAF’s 501c3 documentation. A motion was made by R. Webster that J. Perdue pursue hosting of the website by Dream Host. The motion was seconded by D. McGill. The motion passed unanimously. We can also consider using Amazon as an affiliate and we would get a small amount of money for every order placed through a click to Amazon on our website. Other SAF units are doing this. We will get member input on this at Friday’s business meeting. We could also consider applying for a grant to update the website. J. Perdue sends out quarterly reminders to everyone. Keep in mind that you can send him anything you’d like to see up on the website, such as advertising your local meetings or making slide presentations from the meetings available to the membership. Note that software called NX Power Lite can shrink the size of you PowerPoint for easy distribution. ANSAF may decide to purchase a copy of this software, which costs around \$40.

Credit Card Registration for Meetings (general discussion):

The National Office will run registration for any state society, division, or chapter – this includes offering the ability to pay by credit card and also the generation of nametags, etc. This is great, but several groups that have investigated it found it to be rather expensive, costing \$5 or \$6 per person. It is possible that we could negotiate less cost for fewer services. We may also be able to set up a Pay Pal account so that we could accept credit cards, which would be easier for many people to register. We should look into an ING account as a permanent place for the ANSAF checking account.

Education Endowment Request (request via email proposal from B. Harding):

A proposal for education endowment funds was received from B. Harding, Chair of the Rothrock Chapter, for funding for the Penn State Forest Fest. This Festival is being held in conjunction with a football weekend and will be held on Sept. 25 at the PSU Arboretum. This is part of a celebration of the UN’s Year of Forests. After much discussion and evaluation of the amount of funding available for grants, K. Gottschalk made a motion to award \$300 toward this project. The motion was seconded by R. Webster and was passed unanimously by the group. It was noted that we need to revamp the Education Committee and that the committee’s first charge will be to structure an official application for the endowment funds.

Division/Chapter Reports

Maryland/Delaware Division (K. Powers):

Thanks for coming to the meeting – this should be a great meeting. Enjoy the Eastern Shore of Maryland! The attendance is very good, currently at 102. The banquet sold out at 78 seats.

West Virginia Division (A. Plaucher):

They had their summer meeting a few weeks ago, focused on urban forestry. There was not a huge crowd, but the meeting did make money. WV may soon create a communications chair position in their division.

Keystone Chapter (S. Wacker):

Their last field tour was cancelled due to the flooding in Central PA. Their next meeting is scheduled for November and will be featuring how one of the State's Forest Districts is utilizing their presence on Facebook to do outreach. They are in the process of revising their bylaws.

Northern Hardwoods Chapter (J. Saf via emailed report):

They held their winter meeting in March, where they heard from Pat Browse of the USFS Experimental Lab in Warren, PA. The talk was on the competitive relationship between black cherry and black birch, which is of great concern to the forest industry in that part of the state. There was also discussion about forest tent caterpillar defoliation and treatment. The chapter donated \$500 to help the students attend the Hawaii convention. They have recently held elections. D. Andrus will be the new Chair. The Treasurer will continue to be T. Pierson.

Valley Forge Chapter (J. Stuffle):

They met in August and discussed prescribed burns on State Game Commission lands. They looked at experimental plots where mile-a-minute beetle had been released. The Chapter donated \$200 to the students to help them attend the Hawaii convention. They are already planning for next summer's ANSAF meeting.

Note that at the next meeting under "New Business," we need to discuss whether or not ANSAF should have a presence on Facebook.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel R. Billingham
Chair-Elect

Maryland / Delaware Division Host Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting

By Kip Powers, MD\DE Division Chair

The 2011 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting was held over three days beginning September 14th at the Fountains Conference Center in Salisbury, Maryland. Over 100 forestry professionals attended the meeting to hear presentations on issues surrounding the role that forest certification has played in the management of our forest.

On the first day before the start of the conference, several attendees took the opportunity to experience the beauty of our local coastal plain pine and oak forest via a bike ride, or a canoe\kayak



paddle down the Nassawango Creek amongst the cypress forest that line the shore. In the evening participants enjoyed a wonderful Ice Breaker Reception sponsored by local forest industry, private consultant firms and a few large forestland owners.

The second day started early with the keynote by Tom Wieland, NE Regional Director for Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company on the topic of “*Industrial Forest – More Than Fiber*”, followed by Debora Landau, Conservation Ecologist from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on “*Forest & Sustainable Management*” on TNC owned properties. This led into the start of our field tour with the first stop on TNC certified property to observe silvicultural practices and hear about some of their ongoing research. This was then followed by a stop on a tract of land owned by The Forest Land Group to see work done to protect and enhance endangered plant populations. Lunch followed at the historic village of Furnace Town, with a presentation by the President of The Furnace Town



Association, Kathy Fisher who earlier that morning gave us an overview on the history of the Iron Furnace. The afternoon portion of the field tour involved stops at Paul Jones Lumber Company and Eastern Shore Forest Products, where we observed wood products being produced for specialized local and global markets.

The evening banquet and program was held at the Ward Museum of Wildlife Art where everyone had the opportunity to browse through the museum to view unique wildlife carvings and other historic information on the art of decoy carving. At the banquet, Sam Dyke a 50 year SAF member and current Chairman of the Ward Foundation gave a talk on the Ward Brothers.



Friday morning we returned to the Fountains Conference Center where the last four presenters gave talks covering trends influencing changes in silvicultural practices on Forest Industry, State Forest, and private forestlands. The program finished up with a panel discussion and numerous questions from the audience. I believe the consensus on the presentations is the content covered information we already knew. That is, we are doing a good job in managing the forest in a sound ecological manner, but struggle with meeting the letter of the certification standards which tend to frequently change and which require a tremendous amount of documentation and oversight. I encourage everyone to check out all of the presentations from both days, which can be viewed on the Allegheny SAF website under Allegheny Summer Meeting 2011.







Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Summer Meeting: September 14 – 16, 2011
Salisbury, Maryland

Tree Farm and Private Land Certification

Robert S. Simpson
Senior Vice President, AFF
Forestry Programs
bsimpson@forestfoundation.org



Photos by Charlie and Barbara Newlon (p.11-12)

District VII Council Report

By Ken Jolly, District 7 Council Representative

This will be a rather brief Council Report, since Council has not met since the June meeting that I reported on in the summer issue of the *Allegheny News*. However, there are a few important items that I would like to highlight for everyone's attention.

First of all, the SAF National Elections are currently in progress. There are two outstanding candidates running for the position of SAF Vice President – Joann Meyer-Cox and Charles Levesque. Also, this is an election year for the District VII Council position (representing Allegheny and National Capital SAF), as my 3-year term will be expiring this year. Two highly capable candidates – E. Lynn Burkett and Kim Steiner – are on the ballot and willing to serve as your District representative. Additionally, the Allegheny Section is holding elections for all officer positions for the next two-year term of office. Be sure to read the campaign statements and professional biographies of all candidates and then cast your vote before the elections close on November 5!!

Secondly, let me provide everyone with another reminder about the new and exciting tiered dues structure!! As I mentioned in my previous column, this new dues structure will be in place for 2012, so make sure you're "up to speed" on all the details by checking out the SAF website at: http://www.safnet.org/members/service_level_packets.cfm. Also, while you're reviewing the four tiers that are available for membership in 2012, be sure to let several of your professional colleagues know about the very affordable SAF membership rates at the "Silver" Level tier, and encourage them to join or re-join SAF for the year ahead!!

The final item I'll mention is Council's meeting schedule for the rest of 2011. Council will meet for the final time Oct. 31-Nov. 2 at the National Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. If you have any items you would like to bring to my attention in regards to this meeting, please feel free to contact me and let me know. I'll look forward to providing you with a full report on the meeting in the next issue of the *Allegheny News*!

Recognize An Outstanding Forester with a Great Award!

Most foresters work alone or in small groups and it can be a challenge to be recognized by others for outstanding service and effort and contributions to the profession. But it is possible, and recognition means a lot to us as professionals, especially when salaries and the future are so tenuous. The Awards Committee for Allegheny SAF has the challenge of encouraging SAF Division or Chapter Chairs and their members, to nominate their peers for Forester of the Year and/or the Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award.

So, who does care about foresters? What do they do? Actually, no one knows better than you and other members of your executive committee or membership. In an effort to ease the nomination process, fillable nomination forms have been created using Microsoft Word that allow you to open and write in your information. You can share it with the Chair or other members of the executive committee for submission to the Award Chair. All the forms are posted on the Allegheny SAF website and you can link directly at: <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/awards.htm>

Share this message by email or at your next executive committee meeting and solicit feedback. Is there a forester who has done something exceptional in the last year? Nominate them for **Forester of the Year**. How about someone who has demonstrated years of service to forestry and SAF? Nominate them for the **Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award**. I have added information on the nomination form about Bob Bauer that you may find very enlightening.

Make someone's day. How would it make you feel if someone recognized your contributions to our profession? More detailed descriptions for the awards are available at the website. As Awards Chair, I am asking for at least one nomination from each chapter or division. Submit nominations to Jonathan Kays by **DECEMBER 15, 2011!!**

Jonathan Kays
Awards Chair – Allegheny SAF
University of Maryland Extension
301-432-2767 x323
301-432-4089 (fax)
Email: jkays@umd.edu

GUIDELINES FORESTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Purpose of the Award:

1. To give official recognition to current professional achievements in forestry.
2. To recognize a specific accomplishment or achievement in forestry during the previous year.
3. To demonstrate to the public that the profession is a vital and active part of the total conservation effort.
4. To provide a means of additional publicity showing the caliber of professional foresters and the forestry profession.

The award is limited to members of all grades of the Allegheny Society of the Society of American Foresters who are currently in good standing. The award will be presented only once to an individual.

Awards Committee members will review the nominations including all supportive materials submitted and will rank nominee(s) comparatively based upon the importance of the achievements to the science and/or profession of forestry.

In this award, service and leadership in the Society of American Foresters and local or regional community activities are not given any weight.

GUIDELINES ROBERT W. BAUER OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO FORESTRY AWARD

Purpose of the Award:

1. To give official recognition to professional achievements in forestry.
2. To recognize superior service to the Society of American Foresters.
3. To provide a means of additional publicity showing the caliber of professional foresters and the forestry profession.
4. To stimulate more participation of the section membership in Society affairs.
5. To educate the public to the importance of the forestry profession.

The award is limited to members of all grades of the Allegheny Society of the Society of American Foresters who are currently in good standing. The award will be presented only once to any individual.

Awards Committee members will review the nominations together with all biographical materials and will weight the three categories by which each nominee is considered as follows:

1. Professional achievement in the field of forestry or closely allied fields. Only Working Group Subjects of the parent Society will be considered as closely allied fields. (60 points)
2. Service and leadership in the Society of American Foresters including work in Working Groups, Chapters, Society, special projects, or National Office. (30 points)
3. Service to local or regional community activities including church and civic organization. (10 points)

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

GPS Training for Natural Resource Professionals, Conservation Volunteers, and Woodland Owners

Handheld GPS receivers are accurate (+/- 15 feet) and can be used for numerous natural resource related purposes but first you need to learn how to use it in the field and interact with a computer. The University of Maryland Extension is offering Beginner GPS Workshops to teach those interested in learning how to use GPS handheld receivers with a computer, using applications specific to land conservation and forestry uses. No special skills are required. Topics to be covered include the basics of using a GPS receiver, as well as: marking waypoints, creating routes, and creating tracks, entering and finding coordinates, determining acreage or perimeter of an area, locating roads, stream crossings, and points of interest, downloading and uploading data to a computer (computer provided), downloading and uploading data from Google Earth, computer software options, and comparing different GPS handheld units.

Integrating Terrain Navigator with GPS for Natural Resource Professionals, Conservation Volunteers, and Woodland Owners

A second one-day workshop is being offered on the use of Terrain Navigator (TN) software that provides USGS topographic maps in a digital format and allows the user to create GPS waypoints, routes and tracks and transfer them to a GPS unit or to download GPS information taken in the field and then create a individualized computer map of the area you are working. All this information can be kept on a laptop and can it can save many hours of field time. It is for natural resource professionals, volunteers, and landowners as well.

Garmin GPSMAP76Csx units and computers are provided for the training. All knowledge and skills learned are easily transferred to other GPS units. Lunch and course materials are provided. The manual of activities and resources are posted free of charge at: www.naturalresources.umd.edu/EducationalGPS.html Workshops run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and the cost is \$45. Registration forms and additional information are available at <http://www.naturalresources.umd.edu/Events.html#20111004>

November 2, 2011

Beginner GPS Training for Natural Resource Professionals, Conservation Volunteers, and Landowners

Location: University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Lab 1107 Waters Hall, Princess Anne, MD

Register by: *October 28, 2011*

Contact: Carol Taylor (carolt@umd.edu) 410-827-8056

Pennsylvania Community Tree Management Institute

Wednesday, November 2nd and Thursday, November 3rd, in State College. This 2 day program is designed to provide you and your municipality with the information and tools needed to successfully manage their community tree program. Topics include: Forming a Shade Tree Commission, Municipal Tree Ordinances, Trees & the Law, Tree Inventories, Tree Risk Assessment, Contracting Tree Work, Developing Management Plans, Organizing Volunteers and Working with Utilities.

You will benefit from this Institute if...

- * You value tree benefits
- * Your community is turning gray and brown
- * You want to know about community tree programs or how to start one
- * You are a member of a tree commission, an environment advisory committee, or are a municipal official or community volunteer

Approved for ISA Certified Arborist CEUs

- * American Society of Landscape
- * Architects CEUs
- * Act 48 Credits

For More information and to register for the program visit

<http://www.cvent.com/d/vcqjn0>.

Timber Taxation and Finance

Thursday, November 10

Mill Hall, PA

See the website: [Timber Taxation and Finance Workshop](http://www.cvent.com/events/timber-taxation-finance/event-summary-bb7ae8920c554d83b62544c1ad60127a.aspx) for registration details:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/timber-taxation-finance/event-summary-bb7ae8920c554d83b62544c1ad60127a.aspx>

Contact Mike Jacobsen for more information

mgi2@psu.edu

814-865-3994

Plateau Chapter Summer Meeting

By Jack Buckler

The Plateau Chapter held its summer meeting on August 17, 2011 at Cook Forest State Park. The highlight of the event was a tour and discussion of the very large and tall white pines, Eastern hemlock and oak trees present on the old growth and virgin forest areas of the park conducted by Dale Luthringer, Environmental Education Specialist with PA-DCNR. Attendees viewed white pines over 180 feet tall (tallest in the Northeast), pines of almost 14 feet in circumference (including the second largest living white pine by volume in the Northeast), white oaks over 275 years old and a fallen cucumber tree documented to be over 430 years old (the oldest known of that species). One white pine was documented to be over 325 years old when it fell last year. This sunny afternoon tour was both enjoyable and educational. Our thanks to Dale for the “Walk in the Woods”. The tour was followed by a catered dinner in the park.

West Virginia SAFers take to the streets....

At the very end of August, at the very southernmost boundary of West Virginia, the WV SAF met for their summer meeting in Bluefield, WV. Two of our members, **Tim Probert** (Marshall Miller & Associates) and **Bob Radspinner** (WV Division of Forestry), have served on the City Tree Board and worked in conjunction with the WV Division of Forestry Urban Forestry program on various civic beautification committees, as well as with local students from elementary to college age for the betterment of the Bluefield environment.

Bluefield is really two cities that straddle the Virginia-West Virginia state line. At one point in history, Bluefield was the railroad gateway to the coalfields of SW Virginia and southern West Virginia. Today, vestiges of the city still hold on to its bright and colorful past and serve as an inspiration for new community leaders and volunteers (including our fellow SAFers) who work to maintain and improve local businesses, public services, and streetscapes.

Our meeting began with a day-long field tour of the Mercer County/Bluefield area. Jerry Belcher, a local Christmas tree farmer told us the story of his farm and how he was cultivating a valuable Christmas tree, the Canaan fir—a variety of the balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*). It is always motivating to hear about the labor of love that goes into these beautiful Christmas decorations.

Steve Milauskas (an SAFer with a lifetime membership), Director of the USDA Forest Service Wood Education Resource Center (WERC), gave us an overview on the center’s history and mission. Steve then introduced us to Robert Kincaid, owner of Accurate Millworks, who operates a wood blinds manufacturing firm at the center. The wood blinds are made primarily from yellow-poplar and basswood and most are custom made for clients all over the US.

The group met with Bluefield community leaders for lunch at a local park that features a minor league baseball team stadium, a narrow gauge railroad, and a community children’s play park. The afternoon started with a demonstration by WVDOF urban foresters **Bob Hannah** and **Jessie Wise** on how to measure trees for the WV Big Trees program. The group visited a small tree nursery established on city property to provide trees for replacement in parks and city streets.

Out on the streets, the urban foresters among us determined that the cause of the sickly sycamores planted near the local tennis courts was an all too common problem: the trees were planted too deep. Foresters from Appalachian Power explained their community outreach programs to convey the idea of “right tree, right space” with property owners. Finally, the field day ended with a visit to the awe-inspiring East River Mountain Overlook and a barbeque dinner at Pipestem State Park.

The next day, our group heard excellent presentations on various urban forestry programs. We were also fortunate to have one student from West Virginia University and five from Virginia Tech attending the meeting. The panel of speakers began with **Mark Books** (Ft. AP Hill, VA) who shared successful outreach efforts at the Scout Jamboree in Virginia. He presented ideas for SAFers in WV to continue the outreach at the upcoming 2013 national scout jamboree near Beckley, WV.

Urban forestry experts from our region took over as **Anne Cumming** (USDA FS) told the group about the free urban forestry inventory software I-Tree. As a recent addition to WVU, **Dr. Greg Dahle**, Assistant Professor of Arboriculture & Urban Forestry discussed the new Urban Forestry/Arboriculture program at WVU; and **Jill Rose** (WV Department of Agriculture FHP Coordinator and Forest Pathologist) and **Tim Tomon** (WVDA Forest Entomologist) briefed the group on current important pests and diseases, notably, thousand cankers disease, bacterial leaf scorch, emerald ash borer, and Asian longhorn beetle. From Virginia, **Barbara White** (VA DOF Urban Forester) explained the importance of tree canopies in urban areas and how the Virginia Department of Forestry is working with cities and towns on Urban Tree Canopy (UTC) assessments in the Commonwealth. **Kevin Sigmon**, an AEP Utility Forester and an ISA certified arborist for the Town of Abingdon, Virginia, wrapped up the indoor session discussing Abingdon’s UTC assessment and how the community is developing their implementation plan for increasing canopy.

The meeting adjourned with all feeling well educated on current issues and complexities of urban forestry in West Virginia. An additional consensus was that the interaction between states contributed to participants’ networks and knowledge bases and gave all of us new motivations for continuing these excellent collaborative forestry education programs under the SAF umbrella.

NJ Division Announces ANSAF 2012 Winter Meeting

The New Jersey Division, ANSAF cordially invites you to attend the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting at the Holiday Inn Select in historic Clinton, New Jersey February 15-17, 2012. Clinton is situated in the beautiful 'Hunterdon Hills' of northern New Jersey, and is very conveniently located on Interstate Route 78, only 15 miles east of the Delaware River. The theme of the meeting is *21st Century Challenges to Our Forests and Our Profession*. Pertinent and important management, social/political, and economic issues will be addressed by a range of highly qualified speakers. More details will follow. Room rates are \$89 per night single or double occupancy. The Holiday Inn Select in Clinton can be reached at (908) 735-5111 or on the web at www.hisclinton.com. Ask for the Allegheny SAF room block when making reservations. Please save the dates, and we look forward to seeing you in February!

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Coming Events

November

- 2-6 **2011 SAF National Convention**
Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort
Information at www.safnet.org
- 2-3 PA Community Tree Management
Institute, State College, PA

December

- 15 Deadline for the Winter 2011-12
Issue of the *Allegheny News*. Send
Microsoft Word articles and JPG
photos to ansaf@comcast.net
- 15 Deadline for submitting
Nominations for Forester of the
Year and the Robert W. Bauer
Outstanding Service to Forestry
Awards

February 2012

- 15-17 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting,
Hosted by New Jersey Division
Mark your calendar now!

March

- 15 Deadline for the Spring 2012
Issue of the *Allegheny News*. Send
Microsoft Word articles and JPG
photos to ansaf@comcast.net

Future Allegheny SAF Meetings

Summer 2012: Valley Forge, PA
Winter 2013: Western Gateway, PA
Summer 2014: Keystone, PA??
Winter 2014:

Future SAF National Conventions

2012: Spokane, WA – October 24-27

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