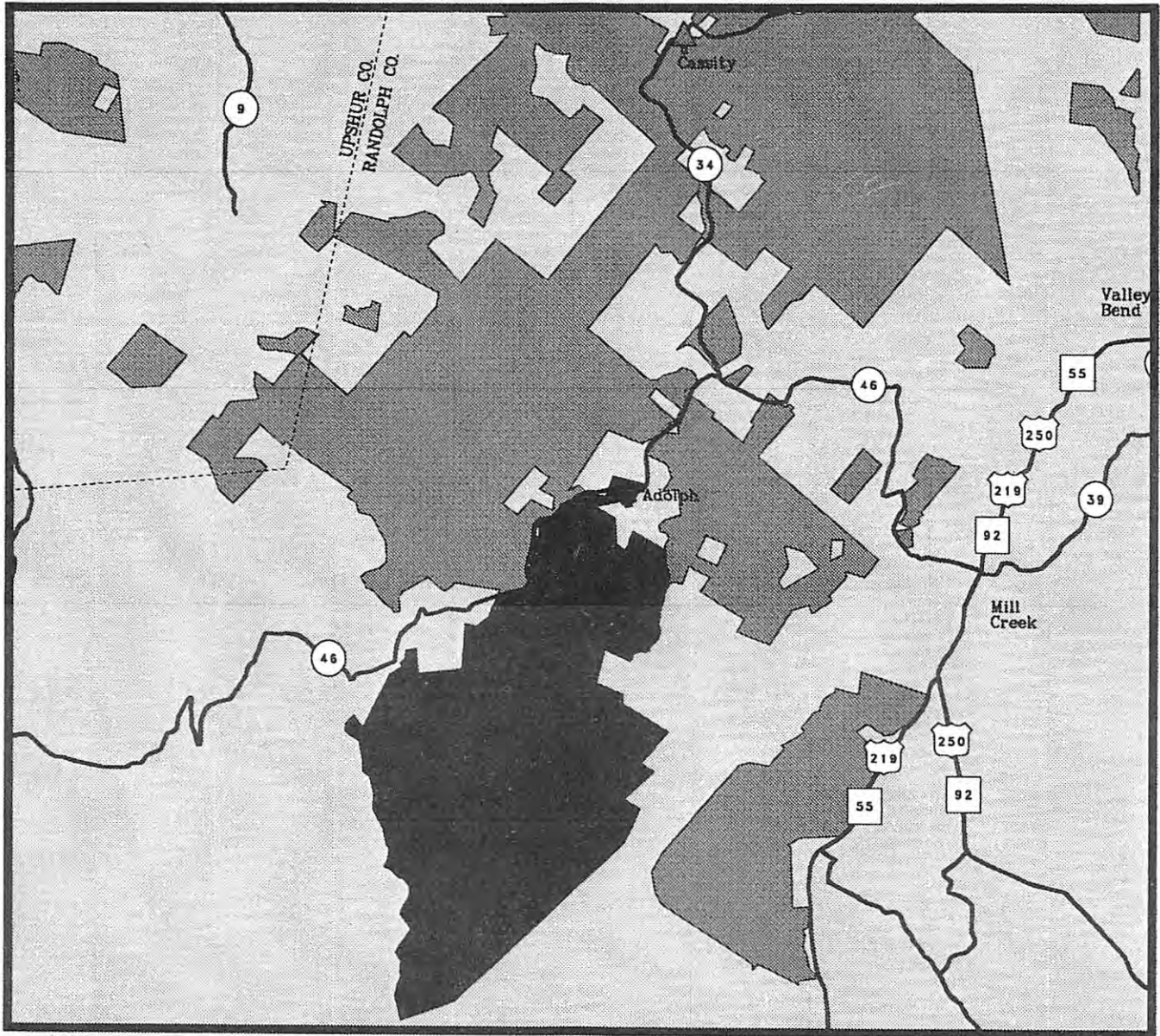







The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 1994

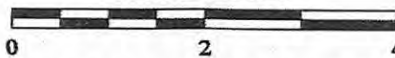


-  Other Westvaco Ownership
-  Tract Location
-  Project Headquarters
-  Paved Road
-  County Line

Location Map
 of the
Westvaco
 WILDLIFE & ECOSYSTEM
 RESEARCH FOREST
 Randolph County, West Virginia
 8430 Acres



SCALE IN MILES



Source: USGS DLG & Westvaco Timberlands FRIS Data
 Map by: Appalachian Region Technical Department

The Allegheny News

Volume 3, No. 4

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| Allegheny SAF Chairs, Executive Committee and Division Chairs | Inside Back Cover |

Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs will return in the next issue of the Allegheny News

Cover Photo

Westvaco President and Chief Executive Officer John A. Luke, Jr. addresses the dedication of the company's Wildlife and Ecosystem Research Forest in Cassity, West Virginia (see article on page 13).



Forest Health and Productivity: Another Opportunity

Forest health and productivity, and the science and management for them, is an issue of continuing importance and discussion for all professional foresters and the SAF. This was certainly proven by the controversy and debate spawned by the recent SAF 1993 Task Force Report on the topic. In fact, it was decided that the issue warranted more study and that more member involvement and input was desired as part of a new effort.

SAF President **John Moser** appointed Vice-President **Bill Siegel** to chair a Process and Design Committee, which published (in July *Journal of Forestry*) its recommendations that the entire membership be given "the opportunity to examine the issue." A National Committee on Forest Health and Productivity (FH&P), chaired by **Dr. John Beuter** and representing a member from each of the eleven Council voting districts, has now been appointed. **Dr. Steve Jones**, PA Extension Forestry, is Allegheny's representative on the national committee. Read the Journal article for the charge given to the committee.

Here's where the Allegheny Society comes in (through Steve, or directly): President Moser has asked each State or multi-state SAF unit to form a FH&P Committee to stimulate more local division and chapter discussion of, and education about, the issue at the state and chapter levels. This is an excellent opportunity for Allegheny to be heard, to positively influence professional policy and position on a national level. Steve has agreed to chair the Allegheny ad hoc FH&P Committee -- but we need volunteers to work with Steve in initiating this serious examination of the issue. At least one interested member from each SAF division.

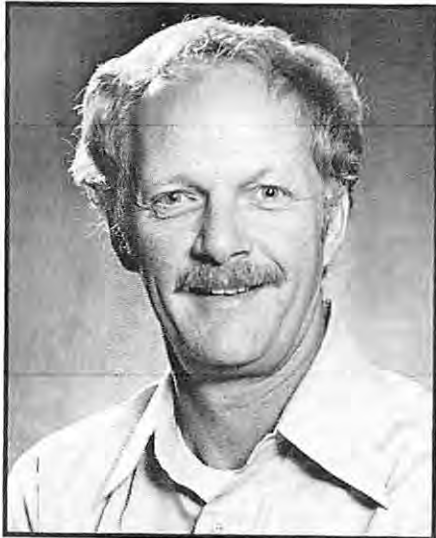
I feel that we, as a region, potentially can and must significantly contribute to the formation of positions and policies on this broad but important issue of forest health and productivity. We can't afford to miss this opportunity!

I ask that if you have a strong interest in this issue, and are willing to spend the time and exert the effort to stimulate discussion and input from the membership of your division/chapter, and act as a liaison to the Allegheny Committee... step forward now! Let **Mike Brown** (Secretary/Treasurer) know by November 4, 1994. Write to him at 2320 S. Dupont Highway, Dept. of Agriculture, Dover, DE 19901, or call (302) 653-6505. ♠

Members and Views

Dr. William L. Cones Retires

by Steve Fresh



With special recognition at the 32nd Annual Commencement exercises of the Allegany Community College (ACC), Cumberland, MD, **Dr. William (Bill) Cones** retired after a long career in developing and teaching in the forestry curriculum at ACC. He was also honored by the Forestry Alumni Association at their annual commencement meeting.

Dr. Cones, Professor and Coordinator of Forestry Programs at the College, joined the ACC faculty in 1970 when the forestry program had only recently been started, and became the first full-time professional forester on the staff. As the first coordinator of the forestry program, Bill played an important role in the growth and

development of forestry education at ACC. The program has the distinction of being the only forestry program in Maryland. He was responsible for documenting the quality of the curriculum so that the Society of American Foresters would grant it recognition status. ACC is one of only 21 programs in the U.S. to be thus recognized by the SAF.

In recognition of his dedication to the college, ACC's president, Dr. Donald L. Alexander, presented an award to Dr. Cones on his retirement. Earlier, he was honored at a reception attended by fellow faculty members, staff, and ACC's Board of Trustees. At their annual picnic meeting, Alumni Association members made a gift presentation of contributed funds to Bill. He plans to use the gift in captaining his newly purchased boat on an extensive cruise south to Florida's Gulf Coast before returning home.

Bill and his wife Sandy, also recently retired, are the parents of three children and have one grandchild. Bill will continue to be active in SAF and forestry issues within the region. ♠

APA Announces 1994 Awards

Dick Wallace of the Timber Harvesting Council (THC) of Pennsylvania, has been honored by the American Pulpwood Association (APA) for authoring the finest of the technical releases APA published in 1994. The winning release, "Communications and Involvement Workshop," is part of the comprehensive logger certification training program sponsored by THC and NORTIM Corporation. **Steve Delappe's** (Westvaco Corporation)

"Tractor-Mounted Brush Sweeps Mud Off Highways," and **Ken Brummel's** (Glatfelter Pulp Wood Co.) "Timber Harvesting Costs and Group Selection Silviculture" received second and third ranking, respectively.

Single copies of these award winning APA publications can be obtained at no charge from the American Pulpwood Association, 1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite #1020, Washington, DC 20005. ♠



John Jastrzembki Appointed to ACC Faculty

John Jastrzembki (SAF MD/DE Chair) has accepted a position on the Forest Faculty of Allegany Community College (ACC). John served as Regional Forester for the Southern Maryland Region of the MD Department of Natural Resources prior to this appointment.

John brings a wealth of knowledge and work experience to the College program, with past positions as a Service Forester in Maryland, Urban Forester in New York City, Forest Health Research Forester in New Hampshire, and a Rangeland and Wildlife Ecologist in Arizona.

"I will miss working directly with the forestry community in Southern Maryland and those within the Maryland Forest Service," John recently commented. "I am excited about working with students to help them develop their career paths and insure that they excel at their chosen professions."

John will continue to serve as Chair of the SAF Maryland/Delaware Division. He can be reached at Allegany Community College, Willowbrook Road, Cumberland, MD 21502 or (301) 724-7700 ext. 309. ♠

Tim Farnham New National SAF Communication Coordinator

The National SAF Office has announced the selection of **Tim Farnham** to the position of Communication Coordinator formerly held by Sarah Zollman. Tim brings strong communication skills (a B.A. in English from Williams College) and forestry expertise (M.S. in Natural Resources in Forest Policy and Management, University of Michigan) to the position.

Prior to his selection to this position, Tim served as the Henry Clepper intern in our forest policy department. One of our more important communication target audiences is the federal policy-maker. With the combination of communication and forest policy skills, Tim should be of great value to the communication director, when selected, and the Society of American Foresters.

Welcome aboard Tim! ♠

“Sylvan” and “Cruiser” Win National Honors

In the judging of forestry school yearbooks at the joint 1994 Society of American Foresters/Canadian Institute of Forestry Convention in Anchorage, AK, two Allegheny SAF schools took prizes. **Penn State’s “Sylvan”** and **West Virginia’s “Cruiser”** took second and third prizes respectively. Indiana’s “Purdue Log” took first prize.

The “Sylvan” was co-edited by **Gary Gilmore** and **Amy Rushatz** with **Dr. Charles Strauss** as faculty advisor; **John Rose** and **Gretchen Steinke** edited the “Cruiser” with faculty advice from **Drs. Ray Hicks** and **Mary Ann Fajvan**. Congratulations to the year-book staffs (too numerous to mention) of both schools for their efforts which resulted in these quality publications! ♠

Councilman's Corner



What Have **You** Done for Forestry Lately?

by *E. Dwight Fielder*,
SAF District VII Council Representative

What is it that caused most of us to go into the forestry/natural resources profession? Were we answering a special calling? Is forestry just a job to you, or is it something more?

All of us are presumably making important contributions to forestry on a daily basis through our “jobs.” It is the time outside the hours of that so-called forty-hour week that I refer to when I pose the question, “What have **you** done for forestry lately?”

Do you stay current with forest policy, and state-of-the-art technology -- at least in your field of specialty?

Do you take advantage of offerings in continuing forestry education? Do you read the Journal of Forestry or the Northern Journal of Applied Forestry?

Have you attended an SAF meeting lately?

Did you invite a non-member to attend or offer him/her a ride?

Have you recruited a new member into SAF recently; ever?

Have you volunteered your time to serve on an SAF committee, Task force, or working group?

Have you helped to plan and execute a local chapter or division

meeting? And what about stepping up and taking the responsibility as a unit officer?

Did you read pages 6-7 of the June Journal of Forestry regarding SAF strategic priorities? Did you read pages 6-8 of the July issue regarding studying Long-Term Forest Health and Productivity?

Have you entered into any discussions -- formally or just over a beer -- with your colleagues and/or provided input to your SAF leadership at some level?

Have you visited with your local media to try to establish yourself as a credible and dependable source of forestry information?

Have you written a letter or otherwise responded to non-factual news articles or information presented related to forestry as you know and understand?

Have you written or visited your elected leaders to discuss a forestry issue or related legislation?

Are you active in your community, and known as a credible source of information on issues involving forestry values?

Have you joined or visited with members of conservation groups with a particular concern for some more narrow natural resource value?

Have you responded to requests from teachers for help with PLT workshops or environmental education classes; Girl and Boy Scouts for badge work; 4-H clubs with projects; and civic groups with talks about forest values and land stewardship?

We are all busy, and our time is valuable. But we are operating in an era of rapid change both within and outside the profession. With change comes opportunity; the opportunity to chart our own course and the opportunity to have input into decision making.

What will forests and forestry be like in the 21st century? What is it worth to you?

What have **you** done for forestry lately? ♠

Allegheny SAF Members Battle Western Blazes

by Earl A. Higgins

John Berst, Program Manager of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry (BOF), Division of Forest Fire Protection, has personally or through the efforts of others in his work unit sent ten fire fighting crews on various western fire details. In addition to these 200 fire fighters, crews from New Jersey (6), Maryland/Delaware (4), Maine (1), Ohio (1), Allegheny N.F. (1) and New Hampshire (1) have passed through the Harrisburg International Airport mobilization site. Forester Berst commented, "feeding and housing 480 fire fighters can present some interesting logistical situations but when you have the support of others, particularly the networking of Society of American Forester (SAF) members, anything is possible and obtainable."

Other SAF members in the BOF, Forest Fire Protection Division assisting John included **Gene Odat**, **Earl Higgins** and **Wally Haulik**. **Doug D'Amore** from the State Forest Management Division served as a dispatcher on loan to the U.S.F.S. in Radnor, PA for weekend duty.

Either serving on crews as fire fighters, squad bosses, crew bosses, crew representatives, or as single resources, these **Allegheny SAF** members express a bit of their pride and satisfaction in contributing to the western fire effort:

Roy Siefert, Susquehannock State Forest (Coudersport, PA), served as a crew representative on two separate details, Montana and Idaho. Roy related some of his activities in a recent phone call from Idaho. "We were flown to the fireline as soon as we arrived to work the line for one shift. Nine days later we got back to camp via a three-hour hike. Our crew was working some slop-over with an Air Crane at \$4,400/hr. (the helicopter was getting those bucks, not me!)"

Mike Brown (first rate from the First State) of the Delaware Department of Agriculture, Blackbird State Forest, went out as a crew member. "I like

going on fire detail. Although tired at the end of the day, you can see what you've accomplished and gain a great amount of satisfaction. The pizza in Harrisburg isn't bad either, John."

Jeff Prowant, Sproul State Forest (Renovo, PA), served as a single resource (crew representative) for a native American crew in Arizona. "Because the fire season progressed so quickly, the Forest Service was running short of overhead personnel. I was able to get an efficient, hard-working, "can do" crew. It was a positive experience that will always be with me."

Mark Deibler, Wyoming Forest District (Bloomsburg, PA), has been bringing crew members to the Harrisburg staging site for many mobilization efforts. "Getting the crews to Harrisburg within the time frames involved can be hairy at times. We've never missed a flight, a meal, or our work break though! Being a support resource isn't glamorous, but you get to sleep in your own bed without the benefit of ash, needles, and grubbiness."

Bob Kurilla, Bald Eagle State Forest (Laurelton, PA), served as a crew boss in Idaho. "Give our crew a job and it'll get done and done right. The training each spring serves the crew well. They know what to expect, they look out for each other, and they always remember their times as a team. It's sort of like being army buddies but the work is harder."

PA Crew #9 and **PA Crew #10** are back with their war stories. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will not send anymore crews this year. For those SAF members and others that did go, this winter will be spent remembering the fellowship of the fire fighters, a feeling that has to make them feel warm even if they don't admit it.

The tragic loss of 14 fire fighting comrades from Oregon effected all of us in the fire service. Our brother and sister fire fighters gave the ultimate, and will be remembered for what they gave.

For those SAF members that I did not mention or quote, please forgive my error. ♠



Dr. Silas Little, Jr. Dies

Former Allegheny SAF Chairman (1970), Society Fellow (1982), SAF Golden Member, and respected peer **Dr. Silas Little, Jr.**, died in Austin Texas on October 2, 1994.

Si received his BS degree from the University of Massachusetts in 1935, and MF in 1936 and Ph.D. in 1947 -- both from Yale University. Most of his career with the U.S. Forest Service from 1936-79 was dedicated to forestry research in ecology, silviculture, fire, and tree breeding. As Adjunct Professor of Rutgers University, Si served on the committees of botany graduate students.

Awards received during his career include: Forest Conservation Award by the NJ Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and the National Wildlife Federation in 1966; SAF Outstanding Service to Forestry in 1973; the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Forestry Department of the University of Massachusetts in 1981; and Outstanding Biological Research on Atlantic Cedar at the Woods Hole Wetland Symposium in 1984.

In 1988, when Si moved to Texas, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection renamed the Lebanon Experimental Forest the "Silas Little Experimental Forest," and the NJ Division of SAF established a "Silas Little Award," to be given for outstanding contributions to forestry.

Si requested that he be cremated and his ashes scattered in the pine-breeding orchard of the "Silas Little Experimental Forest." ♠

Richard Ewalt SAF Golden Member

by Don Niebert



Richard Ewalt 1912-1994

Richard Ewalt, died on May 7, 1994 in Venice, FL after a brief illness. His widow, Ruby (Broderick) Ewalt, was recently presented with an SAF Golden Member Certificate, acknowledging Ewalt's 50 years as an SAF member. **Don Niebert**, SAF Northern Hardwoods Chapter Chair made the

presentation at the Ewalt residence in Ridgeway, PA.

A 1934 graduate of the University of Michigan, School of Forestry and Conservation, Ewalt served as a foreman in various CCC camps located in the upper peninsula of Michigan until the program terminated in 1941. He then took a position leading to Superintendent of the Land and Timber Department of the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company, responsible for the sustained yield forest management of 400,000 acres of primarily virgin hardwood forests in the upper peninsula.

He later moved to Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada to become Manager of the Raw Material and Supply Division of Weyerhaeuser Company for Eastern Canada and the New England states. In 1964, he was promoted to Branch Manager of the Weyerhaeuser Company's veneer and saw mill in Ridgeway, PA.

Ewalt returned to Canada in 1967 to become General Manager of the Pick Timber Company, Forest Products Division, UOP Inc., where he remained until his retirement in 1976. Δ



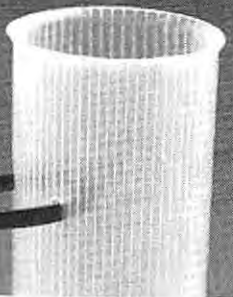
Mrs. Ruby B. Ewalt receives the SAF Golden Member Certificate from Don Niebert, Northern Hardwoods Chapter Chair. The Award recognizes Richard Ewalt's 50 years of service and membership in the Society of American Foresters.

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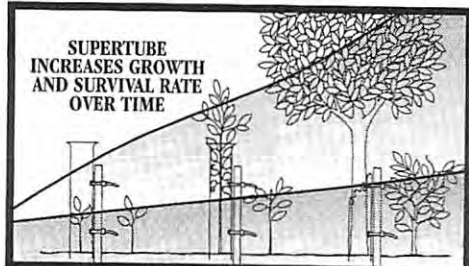
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PA Division Forester Licensing Referendum Passes

by Don Oakes

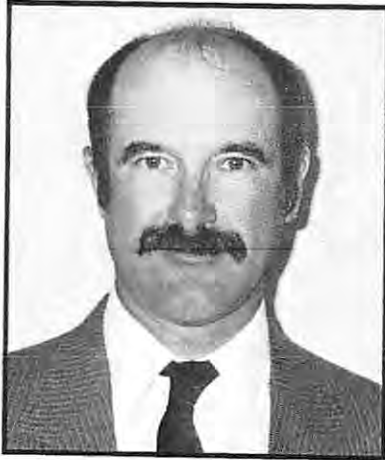
"Should the PA Division of SAF pursue legislation requiring the licensing and registration of foresters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the public interest?"

This referendum ballot on forester licensing and registration in Pennsylvania has passed, 180 yes votes to 84 no votes (68% in favor) by sixty-three percent of the voting members of the SAF PA Division. The Teller Committee, **Bill Corlett, Bob Rumpf, and Jack Winieski** submitted the count to Chair **Roy Siefert** on September 28, 1994.

The officers of the division will now proceed to initiate a formal position statement on licensing and registration of foresters in PA with the intent of seeking legislation. In line with the majority membership wishes, representatives of the division will seek the the assistance of other organizations and groups in the forestry community with interests which may be affected by such legislation. The objective will be to try and reach a concensus on the draft legislation produced by the original committee, and a strategy to have a bill introduced into the state legislature for consideration.

There is a large amount of work to be done. It's time for PA SAF members to step forward and volunteer help. A thumbnail sketch of work might include: drafting a division position statement; building consensus with interested/affected publics; organizing a public education program; documenting need; soliciting political support; and initiating and following through with the political process.

The only way we can consider accomplishing the task before us is to get a large, strong, active Division organization in place. That's what the the PA Division was organized for back in the 70's -- to respond to state-wide issues! We need your talent and commitment now. Let's try to come together with all interested parties to consider what is best in the long run for Pennsylvania's forest resources and all its' citizens who, directly or indirectly, depend on those resources for a livelihood and envious quality of life. ♣



What Now PA Division?

by Roy Siefert, PA Division Chair

The PA SAF Division members have spoken through the ballot box. In a vote of 180 to 84, the membership has decided to continue to pursue mandatory licensing of foresters in Pennsylvania. Where does that leave us? I believe we need to look carefully at all aspects of this issue.

While the majority of the responding members decided to pursue licensing, a number feel there is a problem with the licensing of foresters offering management services to the public. As Division Chair, I feel an obligation to continue to search for a solutions to this real or perceived problem among the membership. We have an intelligent and diverse membership and I invite those truly interested in this issue to step forward and volunteer in search of a solution.

I would also like the PA Division (us) to be more active in regards to other forestry related issues. I invite you to become involved by contacting me at 814-274-8474 (office), or 814-647-8525 (home). Chapter chairs should seriously consider their expected role of leadership in using their members' professional knowledge in responding to local issues related to forestry. The larger resources of the Division stand ready to assist -- just ask.

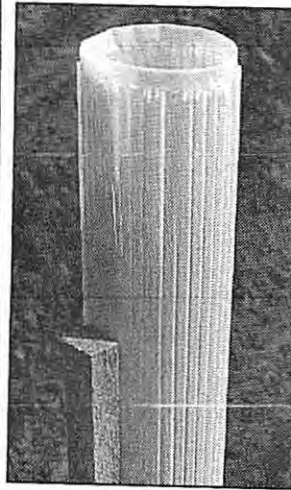
At the February 8-10, 1995 meeting of the Allegheny SAF in State College, PA, I would like to see all Chapter and Committee Chairs attend the Executive Committee meeting (the evening of the 8th) and present at least one idea on how to rejuvenate chapter member involvement. Help me improve participation and vitality into all units and committees.

In the meantime, I thank all the members who took the time to examine the Licensing Committee report and discussion of the licensing issue, and followed through with a vote (we had 264 of a possible 491 members voting - 53.8%). I commend the Committee for their efforts in researching and bringing a tough issue to the membership for consideration. Call me if you are interested in serving on a post-vote committee which I hope to form to address the question, "Where do we go from here?"

Let's work together as reasonable professionals in reaching consensus on all issues related to the forest land resource values of Pennsylvania and beyond. ♠

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An Argentina Peace Corps Experience and Reflections

by Sylvia Grisez, PCV

For me, Peace Corps-Argentina has been interesting; a great experience; and I'd recommend it or a similar Peace Corps stint to anyone looking for a challenge.

But before my work experiences and reflections, a little about Argentina itself. The country is beautiful! In the northeast, there are jungles, wetlands, and land is used for cattle ranching and plantation forestry (eucalyptus and pine). In the Province of Misiones, close to Brazil, is one of the world's famous waterfalls (Iguazu Falls) -- wider and higher than Niagara. You can see them in the movie "Mission".

In the northwest there also is a tongue of jungle that comes down from Bolivia, but most of the region is very dry, with mountains, altiplano, salt flats, and vast scrubland. The center of the country has the Pampa -- the wet rich growing area like our midwest. In the south there are the mountain areas with glaciers, and flat drier land toward the Atlantic coast.

As a PCV, I live in the Province of Catamarca in the northwest. The capital city where I live (San Fernando del Valle de Catamarca, if you please) is in a beautiful setting, between two mountain ranges. In the evening I can stand on the roof and watch egrets glide to their evening roosts in the huge eucalyptus trees in the plaza below. But there are environmental problems here -- deforestation, desertification, overhunting of wildlife, soil erosion, water pollution, and the lack of proper solid waste management. Enter "Peace Corps-Argentina."

After a three-month training program in Santiago, Chile, Peace Corps-Argentina began in November of 1992 with its first full-fledged group of about 17. The original idea was to stay with a small group in Argentina (under 50) and only focus on environmental areas, but later small business projects were added. As Peace Corps Volunteers (PCV's), the range of opportunities lie in forestry, environmental education, wildlife research, park interpretation, planning,

ranger training, and even solid waste treatment (see anything here yet that intrigues your spirit of adventure?).

I'm involved in the area of environmental education, and can truthfully say we have had successes. "We" includes PVC Laura Lee Lienk (former assistant director at Schuykill Valley Center near Philadelphia). Laura, with her counterparts agencies in Buenos Aires, formed a national environmental education network that has reached the majority of the provinces. As part of the network in the outlying provinces, we have organized teacher workshops and provided follow-up environmental projects in the schools, new workshops for teachers, etc. We also ran a two-week ecology camp in the Province of Entre Rios (north of Buenos Aires) during the summer vacation in 1994 (summer is December - March!). I've also been publishing a weekly environmental article in a newspaper section devoted to teenagers. Volunteers use activities from Project Learning Tree (PLT), Project Wild, National Wildlife Federation's Naturescope series, and other materials in English and Spanish. After struggling through our first year of learning Spanish and making contacts, we are all proud of our achievements -- and hope that future PCV's and our Argentine counterparts will continue to expand the work we've started together.

Some of the specific projects in forestry might be of interest to foresters in general, or prospective PCV's. In the north, projects focused on the study of the production of native species; in the center province, plantation forestry (including the emphasis on safety consciousness among cutting crews) and forest fire fighting are the dominant projects. Forestry PCV's have also taken advantage of the "Farmer to Farmer" program which brought down expert forester volunteers for short periods to conduct workshops on computer applications and other specific areas of interest.

After almost two years in Peace

Corps-Argentina, it's time to leave. My landlady just gave me a beautiful good-bye gift -- a piece of buffed rodocrocita (a pink stone found in this Province of Catamarca which is used for jewelry). Argentines are very open and friendly people.

Besides thinking of the satisfactions and frustrations related to my work projects, what's been on my mind lately are the differences between life in general here and back in the U.S. -- and how I'll cope with the cultural shock upon my return.

Imagine doing a folk dance in Chile, where we did our training, in the middle of the street with all our neighbors on Independence Day (and imagine what independence and democracy really mean in countries like Chile and Argentina, where the people have lived through recent difficult political times). In Argentina after one workshop, all the teachers danced folk dances and the tango to the tune of the music teacher's piano. Although U.S. rock music is very popular, everyone here still seems familiar with their regional and national folk music -- it is played on the radio and sung and danced to at festivals and parties.

If you're a carnivore, Argentina's the place for you! Meat consumption is very high -- and chicken and fish are not considered very good substitutes. The Argentina version of barbecue (asado) is just delicious. Sauces aren't used, and the meat is cooked over natural charcoal (made in big round brick or mud ovens out in the country) or over firewood. Small baked or fried pastries filled with meat, potatoes, onions, green olives and sometimes raisins (called empanadas). The national drink is "mate." It's sort of a tea made of green leaves and is drunk from from cups made of wood, metal, cow horn, bone, or gourds through a metal straw with a strainer on the end. It is shared by a group of people, all drinking from the same cup. Lunch is the big meal of the day and supper can be eaten any time between 9:00 pm and 1:00 am.

Many homes -- especially in the

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country -- are very open, some without doors or front walls, and some have indoor patios into which all the other rooms open. Although there are plenty of cars, bicycles and horses (often with carts) are still important modes of transportation. All cities and towns have their Plazas and the "downtown" areas always seem more active than what I remember in the U.S. In my city, Catamarca, lots of people are out at 2:00 am, or even to 4:00 am, drinking coffee or sharing a bottle of beer (wine is more popular) at the outdoor cafes with friends. My experience is that the people don't seem to drink to get drunk, and drugs and the crime rate is much lower than at home.

One thing I'll not miss is the frustrating bureaucracy that one meets during every aspect of work: to do the smallest thing, such as obtaining a room in which to have a workshop, requires a ridiculous amount of arrangements; formal letters signed and sealed by all the heads of all agencies involved; and local agencies either have one phone for many and many phones don't always function. I feel for the many Argentines who have to face this day after day, but they seem to cope, and are very generous, open, and friendly -- one reason I hope to return some day! ♠

Ed note: Sylvia, a native of Pennsylvania, is returning to the U.S. this October, and is looking to use the Peace Corps experience along with her other work experiences and formal education to find a job. I present her credentials in appreciation for her the cooperative response to my request for this Peace Corps-Argentina article. Send or contact employment leads to:

Sylvia Grisez, 8 Belmont Drive, Warren, PA 16365 (814) 723-9464

Education - B.S. Recreation and Parks, Environmental Interpretation, Penn State University; M.S. Outdoor Teacher Education, Northern Illinois University.

Seasonal Employment - National Wildlife Federation's Wildlife Camps (NC), Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm (OH), PA Bureau of Forestry and the Lackawanna State Park, Allegheny National Forest.

Permanent Employment - Naturalist with the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation near Chicago (six years before the Peace Corps assignment).

The Puma: Friend or Foe?

by Betsy Howell, PCV

The legend says that a woman named Maldonada, in 17th century Argentina, was a victim of an act of kindness. One may not find this so unusual, unless one knows who the perpetrator was. We don't often associate a sensitive, caring personality with that of the mountain lion, more commonly known as puma or leon in the southern hemisphere. Yet, this is how the story goes ... Maldonada had been ousted from a Spanish settlement in the Buenos Aires area for accusations of having sided with the indigenous people on certain issues. Spanish soldiers took her to a remote area, chained her to a tree, and left her to die. A few days later when some returned, expecting to find her dead from animals or the elements, they were greeted with a surprising scene. Close to Maldonada sat a puma, guarding her from other threatening beasts," including a prowling jaguar. The story continues that the soldiers released this woman and she returned to the settlement a heroine. For the puma's part, a new nickname was adopted, "amigo del Christiano" or "the Christian's friend."

Although during two years of working on a puma research project in northwest Argentina, I had heard this endearment used to refer to puma, the overall sentiment is one of antagonism, hatred, misunderstanding, and fear. Aside from politicians, lack of water during the dry season, and poor prices for goats, few subjects generate as much emotion with the people in the campo (country) as do pumas. It is true that these big cats, the dominant predator in the semi-desert landscape of La Rioja where I lived and worked from 1992 to 1994, are responsible for livestock losses - and in the case of small, family owned operations, can cause severe hardship. However, with emotional topics such as these (the puma in La Rioja is similar in many ways to the spotted owl in the Pacific Northwest, the wolf in Yellowstone, or the Florida panther in the Everglades), we learned quickly that for the pumas in Argentina, facts are few, myths are many, and

everyone has a different theory, but most believe one thing: the animals are bloodthirsty killers.

Thus, with funding from a National Argentine organization, Instituto Nacional Tecnologia Agropecuaria (INTA), we began an assessment of the situation. This has included gathering existing information, doing an intensive monitoring program of several families' goat herds to document losses and their causes, trapping and collaring several pumas to study more their behavior and movements, an analysis of scats to know more about what they are eating, and experimentation with different management strategies to avoid and/or reduce predation.

It has proven to be an amazing learning experience for me. My presence was made possible via the Peace Corps who, from 1992 through 1994 had volunteers working in the professions of forestry, wildlife biology, environmental education, and park planning. INTA is an organization dedicated primarily to bettering livestock production and rural life conditions, however, they are trying to develop more programs and employees in natural resources. In September 1993, our proposal was approved and work officially began on the three-year puma project. The study will continue through October 1996, and the results will be used to direct future management of mountain lions in the province.

I spent most of my time hiking roads and trails looking for tracks and other puma signs and evidence of other wildlife. The campo folks are right about one thing; there do seem to be a lot of pumas, based on the indirect evidence I found. One morning I was hiking along a livestock trail and sat down for a quick rest. The day was beautiful, the temperature most agreeable (always a pleasure in a land that frequently has days over 100 degrees Fahrenheit), birds were singing, and it was very peaceful. I laid back and shut my eyes. I thought about all the amazing places to see and people to

meet in the world. Apart from spectacular landscapes, incredible wildlife, and cultures never even imagined, there are so many adventures to be experienced ... it sometimes overwhelms me. Yet, I feel very thankful for having had so many opportunities already.

When I terminated this daydream -- I probably snoozed a little -- and got up to go, I looked down at the trail in front of me. There, clear as could be, were tracks of a small puma that had crossed the path not a meter from where I had been. Undoubtedly, the tracts had been there all along and I simply did not see them ... yet, I like telling the story with a question mark. And there's always the Maldonado legend to consider! ♠

Ed Note: Betsy Howell will be returning to the U.S. at the end of November, and can be reached at the Powers Ranger Station, Powers, Oregon 97466.

World's First Fax

The first fax machine was not exactly a desktop -- it came in cast iron and stood over two metres high. But it transmitted facsimiles of handwritten documents or line drawings between Paris and Lyon more than a century before the first Japanese model came onto the market.

Brainchild of Giovanni Caselli, an Italian physics professor, the 'Pantelegraphe' began operating in 1866, and sent 5,000 faxes in the first year. The sender wrote a message in nonconducting ink on a sheet of tin. The sheet was then attached to a curved metal plate and scanned by a needle, which sent signals to the telegraph circuit as it ran over ink or tin. At the receiving end, the needle marked out the message in "Prussian blue" through a chemical reaction, as it ran over a sheet of paper soaked in potassium ferrocyanide. The needle had to scan at exactly the same rate as the needle on the sending machine. Extremely accurate, synchronized clocks were used to trigger the pendulum and complex systems of wheels, levers and pulleys which were linked to the needles (New Scientist, June 13, 1992). ♠

Plateau Chapter Meeting Educates and Elects

by Bob Bauer

In an interesting outdoor format, the Plateau Chapter in northwestern Pennsylvania held a revitalization meeting August 30, 1994. Thirty-four members took a relaxed walk through a timber sale area on Pennsylvania Gamelands #143. It was designed to be a dialogue among forestry and wildlife peers regarding decisions that were proposed on this gamelands sale -- almost like the "rounds" medical professionals take in teaching hospitals.

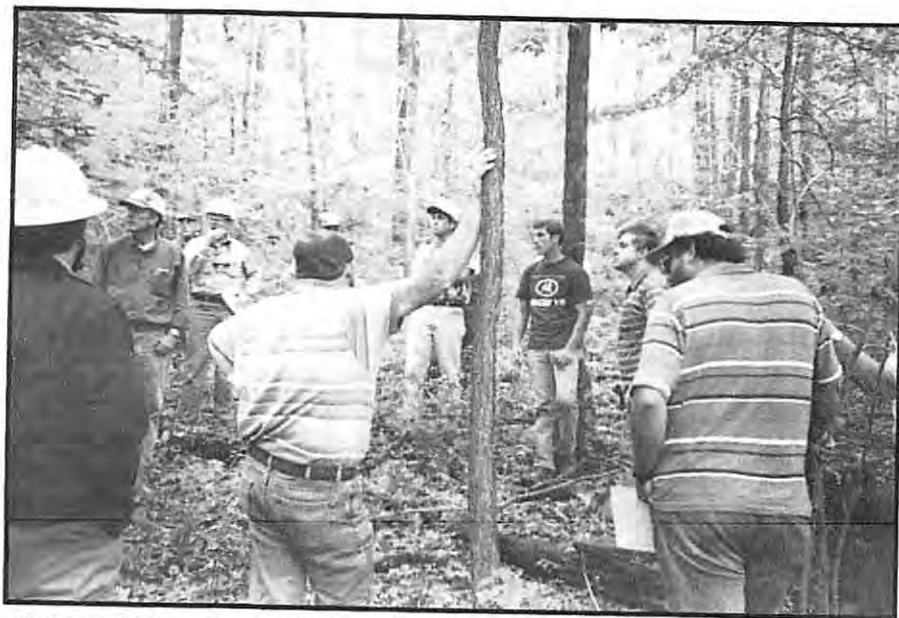
Game Commission Forester **Bob Bauer** directed the discussion, and Wildlife Society member **Shane Hoachlander** reviewed the markings intended to meet wildlife considerations. Several marked but uncut areas, several proposed but unmarked areas, and several completed timber sales were visited -- and the weather was perfect for this learning experience.

Herbicide applications, leave basal area in thinnings and in shelterwoods, leave wildlife snag and den trees, travel corridors and other reserved areas, and haul roads were discussed in depth. Shane explained the importance of: stand structures as well as the usual

wildlife food and cover considerations; snag and live den tree habitat differences; longevity of the different hardwood wildlife leave species; clump vs. single leave trees in a sale; and advantages to marking wildlife leave trees in advance of the timber marking. Discussions were enlightening to all.

The last stop was a visit to a constructed wetland and food plot area recently constructed to provide a "rest stop" for migrating waterfowl. Shane and Bob explained the background leading to the project, and detailed the expected long range development of the introduced native food plants.

At the conclusion of the "rounds," a country style buffet was held at the 4-H Pavilion of the Warren County Fairgrounds in Pittsfield, and a short business meeting ended with the election of new officers: Chair, **Doug Ostergard**; Vice-Chair, **Chris Nowak**; Secretary-Treasurer, **Howard Wurzbacher**. Special thanks was expressed to **Riva Duncan** who served as Chair for several years, keeping the Chapter together (Riva was one of several members unable to attend due to fire duty out West). ♠



Bob Bauer, PA Game Commission Forester, listens attentively as peers give constructive criticism of the marked timber sale.

1994 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting at Harpers Ferry



"Ecosystem Management" Discussion



Bill Gillespie



Neil Sampson

The 1994 Allegheny SAF Summer meeting attracted over 100 members and their families to historic and scenic Harpers Ferry August 3-5, 1994. The Mountaintop Inn, high above the junction of the Shenandoah and Potomac rivers provided a special atmosphere both for deliberation of issues and fellowship.

On Wednesday, **Delmar Yoder** from WV University moderated the discussion after **Bill Gillespie** (WV Director of Forestry retired) and **Neil Sampson** (American Forests) presented views on, what else, "Why Not Sustained Yield Management" and "Ecosystem Management, Why Should We Do It?"

Bob Bailey (USFS) led the Thursday session through a well illustrated hierarchical order of ecosystems, all of which are controlled by climate, and briefly covered methods, applications, and benefits of using multi-level ecosystem analysis. **Craig Headman** (International Paper) and **Keith Argow** (National Woodland Owner's Association) then

discussed Ecosystem Management from the respective viewpoints of Industrial and the non-industrial private forest land ownerships. To ease the burden of classroom presentation, an afternoon historic tour of Harpers Ferry by local citizens prepared all for the famous Hilltop House dining room.

Del Yoder again challenged us on Friday morning with an exercise in "Having an Open Mind" and being an "Explorer." **Jack Winieski** then reviewed some of the activities going on in the Allegheny: a PA Division licensing and registration referendum; liability insurance coverage for all SAF units through the National Office; and made a pitch for Allegheny News articles (with black & white photos) from other than local unit Newsletter Chairs.

The MD/DE SAF Division conducted a very successful and fun silent auction -- thanks all who contributed items.

CFE Credits - Category I: 8-1/4 hr.; Category II: 3-1/2 hr.

If you missed this one, you missed a good one! ♠

The Allegheny News . . . 20 Years Ago

by William A. Ackrom

The status of The Professional Forester Registration bill before the PA State Senate was the big topic of discussion at the SAF Keystone Chapter meeting as they met in the Cashtown, PA Fire Hall on October 9, 1974.

The Chapter also heard of the retirement of Keystone member **Walter L. Ludwig, Jr.** as District Forester for the Tuscarora District #3 in Blain, PA, after 32 years of service with the PA Bureau of Forestry.

Jim Nelson was busy setting up the agenda for the Allegheny Section's 53rd Annual Winter Meeting to be held in Monroeville, PA. The technical program was CLEARCUTTING - A PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE.

Jim reported: "A group of interested professionals in various fields of conservation, whose work brought them into contact with clear-cutting in PA, formed a committee to take a critical look at all aspects of the issue. Their purpose was to marshal the facts and evaluate as objectively as they could the probable effects of clear-cutting, good or bad, on six

forest-related resources: aesthetics, fisheries, soils, timber, water, and wildlife. The committee, chaired by **Ben Roach**, consisted of aquatic and wildlife biologists, soil scientists, hydrologists, ecologists, silviculturists, and forest managers."

The West Virginia Chapter reported on a joint Fall Meeting with the West Virginia Forests, Inc. **Joe Yeager** and **Don Fogus** did an excellent job in designing a program around the theme of "COMMUNICATIONS."

PA's Chief of the Division of Forest Fire Protection, **Eugene McNamara**, provided a report about a study to use a fixed-point infra-red detector to (1) detect wildfires, (2) within 5 minutes of ignition, and (3) in conditions of air pollutants and high atmospheric moisture. The equipment was installed in Keffer's Fire Tower in Schuylkill County, PA. The Cresson Forest District #18 personnel tested the equipment by setting test fires in burn barrels. They reported that a burning pile of leaves was detected at a distance of seven miles! ♠

WESTVACO Announces Unique Research Forest

Westvaco corporation, a major manufacturer of paper, packaging and chemicals, announced the establishment of an 8,400 acre research forest in Randolph County, WV., to study how commercial forest management impacts forest ecosystems. The project is the first of its type in the U.S.

The Westvaco Wildlife and Ecosystem Research Forest covers 13 square miles that encompass two entire watersheds and the upper reaches of a third. The site was selected because its size and physical integrity will allow ecosystem level research to be conducted on a landscape scale.

Building a better understanding of human interaction with ecosystem elements such as soil, water, plants and animals is of increasing interest to forestry professionals and other environmentalists. Forest ecosystems constantly undergo changes due to natural processes. Human activity can affect both the rate and character of the changes. While there is substantial qualitative understanding of ecosystem processes, opportunities for broad-scale study leading to quantitative knowledge have been extremely limited.

"We know a great deal about how to harvest and regenerate a forest, and we've been extremely successful in producing wood fiber while protecting and enhancing important environmental values," said John A. Luke, Jr., Westvaco President and Chief Executive Officer. "We have an opportunity to learn more about how these activities relate to an entire ecosystem. More quantifiable knowledge in this area will be of substantial benefit to all forest managers, both public and private, as they work to maintain biodiversity."

Mr. Luke added that Westvaco's property is an excellent site for comprehensive study. The timberlands within the research boundaries have experienced relatively little disturbance since the turn of the century and currently support a wide variety of plants and game and non-game wildlife species. Westvaco's ownership of the entire property ensures that research can take place under controlled conditions.

All research work on the property will be guided by a steering committee that includes representatives from The Nature Conservancy, The National Wild Turkey Federation, The National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, The Ruffed Grouse Society, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, West Virginia University, the West Virginia Division of Wildlife Resources and Westvaco.

"These associations have reinforced our belief that voluntary, cooperative efforts have great potential for advancing both environmental excellence and business success," said Mr. Luke. "We as a company are committed to both, and our new research forest is just the latest example of how we support that commitment."

Westvaco has been collecting biological data that will serve as a resource for all research projects. The company will also support research by providing access to its forest information and computer systems as well as office space, laboratories and housing for visiting research scientists. ♠

A Little Dirty Linen

by Harry Wiant, Jr.

Most families have a little dirty linen stuck away somewhere and hesitate to put it out on the line where it can be "aired." The forestry profession, defining "forestry" broadly, is no exception.


I'm talking about the strain I perceive in the relationship between some first cousins, forest managers and wildlife biologists. We all trace our lineage through the same family tree. The success of wise-use conservation is a source of well-deserved family pride, but fussing among relations is embarrassing and detrimental to our cause, especially in an increasing hostile neighborhood. Neither cousin should take secret joy in the discomfort of the other when attacked by those strange animal-rights and anti-utilization neighbors next door.

I would not hope that our family will agree on every issue (what family does?). However, when our relatives are lambasted with poor-science or no-science camouflaged as "ecology," and delivered with mean-spirited fanatical emotionalism, we should unite. (As they say, blood is thicker than water, but we've lost so much blood recently that we've become easy prey).


Part of our problem is historical. In the early days ("In those times.."), most wildlife management programs were in forest management courses. With time, there has been more and more specialization and the family has sort of drifted apart. Also, for many years forest managers called the shots, and wildlifers were viewed as a not-very-useful luxury by some. That has and is rapidly changing, leading quite naturally to some individual hurt feelings and jealousies.

With more and more of our neighbors thinking that hamburgers come from McDonald's, not once-living cows, and paper from recycling bins, not trees (if they have an inkling it comes from trees, they assume old-growth redwoods), forest managers and wildlife biologists cannot afford this family fuss. More importantly, our nation and the world cannot afford it!

Both professions continue to mature. Why not all of the individuals? ♠




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A Closer Look Examines Sierra Club's Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry

Several months ago the Sierra Club distributed its book Clearcut: The Tragedy of Industrial Forestry to many state and federal officials. It is a large coffee-table size book printed in Japan, with lots of color photographs, purporting to show forests destroyed by clearcutting. It is available from the Sierra Club for \$50 plus \$7 postage.

This spring, the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) visited a number of the sites, rephotographed them, and then moved onto the ground to examine the sites close up. The result is a booklet (printed in the U.S.) just issued as Closer Look: An On-the-Ground Investigation of the Sierra Club's Book, Clearcut. As the introduction to this rebuttal to the misleading Sierra Club book states, some photographs in Clearcut do indeed illustrate bad forestry practices, and the AF&PA recognizes that clearcutting can be and has been abused. However, the AF&PA investigation also reports, "Virtually every site we were able to locate told a story that was quite different from the one told by the Sierra Club -- stories that showed how good forestry perpetuates healthy diverse forests."

Closer Look affords an instructive contrast to the Sierra Club's vision. For more information, call the AF&PA at 1-800-878-8878. ♠

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Roger Sherman Receives Beal Memorial Award

Roger L. Sherman of the West Virginia Division received the coveted National SAF **John A. Beale Memorial Award** at the 1994 SAF/CIF Convention in Anchorage Alaska. The award was presented by National SAF President **John Moser** (photo at left) at the Awards Banquet on September 20, 1994.

Roger was recognized by his professional peers for, "Outstanding continuous efforts, over a sustained period of time, for promoting forestry through voluntary service to the Society of American Foresters." He was selected for this national honor from among candidates submitted by State and Multi-State SAF Societies across the U.S. ♠



Wanted: A Few Good Foresters

by Cam Carte, Forest Policy Analyst,
SAF National Office

DE, MD, NJ, PA, and WV SAF members... Where are you? As I have spoken with many of you throughout the last year, I have been continually asked to respond to a derivative of the following question: "When is SAF going to take a more pro-active role in speaking out on forest policies and legislation?" In response to the wishes of our membership, the Forest Policy Department has created **PLAN -- The Policy-Legislative Action Network**. PLAN needs you to work! This initiative has been well advertised in the August issue of the Journal of Forestry (pg. 48), and in the last SAF Action, yet the five states comprising the Allegheny SAF have no PLAN State Coordinators or local activists.

What needs to be done? In short, two individuals from each state need to volunteer to become State PLAN Coordinators. You may do so by contacting me at the National Office (301) 897-8720 ext. 116). Once you volunteer, I will then send you a starter packet of materials with a more detailed explanation of how PLAN will operate. Then, both State PLAN Coordinators need to contact five reliable, well distributed local activists to assist them in collecting and disseminating policy information, as well as interacting with your elected officials. This is an opportunity for those SAF members who are, or wish to become politically

active to do so in a calculated and coordinated effort with other SAF members and the National Office.

Why Create PLAN?

In today's political climate, we can hardly differentiate between policy and politics. One is certainly an integral part of the other. Politics is the process by which policy decisions are made that affect everyone within a given society. The outcome of any political decision is important to the entire body politic, including SAF and its members. To affect the political process, one must participate in the political process.

The grassroots membership of SAF consistently identifies forest policy as a main area on which the National Office (and the Society in general) should collectively focus our energies and limited resources. The question is how to better connect Council's policy efforts, and those of the Forest Policy Department to our grassroots members.

The underlying reason to establish a firm connection between SAF's Forest Policy Department and the local chapters concerning policy issues is the reality that all political issues have local origins. Due to the way our representative democracy functions, elections must be won at home, and a constituent whose views are well represented in policy matters is a happy constituent and a potential vote in the ballot box. This translates, in terms of SAF's policy initiatives, into the political realization that one letter from a constituent back home is worth more than ten letters on SAF letterhead from National.

The forest policy information exchange between the National staff and the local chapters has two important outcomes: (1) both the local chapters and the National staff are well informed about each other's current initiatives; and (2) it empowers the membership at large to influence the direction of the Society's policy initiatives.

Establishing a coordinated, manageable network of "home-based" policy gurus to collect and disseminate relevant and accurate forest policy information, and to comment on forestry issues to their elected officials is essential to SAF in becoming more active in the forest policy arena. ♠

1995 Winter Meeting Allegheny SAF

February 8-10, 1995

Hosted by SAF Rothrock Chapter
at Days Inn, State College, PA

The Practice of Forestry: Addressing Concerns of Private Landowners, the Public, and Resource Professionals

Tentative Agenda

Wednesday, February 8:

Meeting Registration
Art Contest Registration*
Icebreaker
Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 9:

Meeting Registration (continued)
PA Division Breakfast Meeting
Welcome
"Forest Practice in Pennsylvania: An Historical Perspective"
BREAK
"Perspectives on the Profession of Forestry: Landowner, Timber Harvester, Environmentalist, Socialist"
LUNCH
Allegheny Society Business Meeting
"Industry, State, and Federal Foresters Respond to Perspectives"
"New York State's Timber Harvesting Assessment"
Student Quiz Bowl
Cocktail Hour
Awards Banquet

Friday, February 10:

Chairman's Breakfast
Housekeeping Announcements
"Forest Practice Programs"
BREAK
"Changes that Lie Ahead"
"Forestry Issues from a Global Perspective"
Wrap-up and Adjourn

*The Reginald Forbes Art Contest, in both amateur and professional art categories, is open to all SAF members and their immediate family

Coming Events

November 1994

4 "Seeds to Trees Tour" of the New Jersey Forest Tree Nursery, 10am to 2pm (bring your bag lunch, and collected acorns for nursery production). NJ Forest Tree Nursery, 370 E. Veterans Highway, Jackson, NJ 08527. John Benton (609) 292-2531.

11-12 Maryland Forests Association Annual Meeting, Tremont Plaza Hotel, Baltimore, MD. "The Future of Forestry in Maryland" emphasis on ecosystem management and the future of MFA in Maryland. Susan Reinhart (410) 823-7215.

February 1995

8-10 1995 Winter Allegheny SAF Meeting, State College, PA, "The Practice of Forestry: Addressing Concerns of Private Landowners, the Public, and Resource Professionals." SAF Rothrock Chapter host. Mark your calendar now -- registration information in the mail soon (see previous page for tentative agenda).

March 1995

5-8 10th Central Hardwood Forest Conference, Lakeview Resort and Conference Center, Morgantown, WV. Contact Mary Ann Fajvan for Title & Abstract, and Poster deadlines (304) 293-294 ext 423.

August 1995

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

September 1995

20-22 NJ SAF Division hosts the Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting, Atlantic City, NJ. The New Jersey Pinelands: Enjoy the Experience! My Pinelands, Myth, Mystery, & Magic; Heritage and Folklore; Fire Ecology; BMP's; Atlantic White Cedar Research; Wilderness in NJ?; Team Forestry; Pinelands Agriculture: Red and Gold; Forestry Aquifers - Mark your calendar today!

October/November 1995

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

Membership Categories Subcommittee Request

by Jim Coufal

Full membership in the Society of American Foresters (SAF) for affiliate members (technician members) has been debated and voted on several times, and the status of such members has changed over the years. Recent House of Society Delegates and Membership Committee actions indicate that this remains an issue of interest. In 1993, both of these units submitted a formal motion to address the affiliate member issue.

Recently the SAF Council chartered a Membership Categories Council Subcommittee "to study, evaluate, and consider further the relationship between full, affiliate, and associate member categories of SAF, particularly in light of current issues and trends in the arena of professional certification." Stanley Blinks, Lisa Stocker, and I, as chair, make up this subcommittee; Amy Eades is staff liaison.

The subcommittee will report to the full SAF Council at the December 1994 Council meeting. The spirit of the study is to allow dialogue, provide information to Council so they may advance this issue to member referendum on the 1995 ballot, and provide members with as much information as possible on which to base their vote. The study should help the subcommittee advise Council and SAF members of the opportunities and problems of advancing affiliate members to full membership, with full voting rights, especially in light of current studies and potential changes in SAF organization and structure. For example, the "Certified Forester Program" is currently being implemented; the Task Force on Volunteer Organizational Structure will soon be making its report; and SAF is engaged in discussion of its proper role and strategic priorities (June 1994 Journal of Forestry on this latter issue).

How would advancing affiliate members to full membership affect these and other SAF issues and trends? What are the potential problems and opportunities? Comments on the associate category are both important and welcome.

The Subcommittee Charter encourages the widest member input possible on this issue so that the study report will reflect a range of facts, opinions, and alternatives. We need your help. Make your ideas known by writing or faxing them to Jim Coufal, 210 Marshall Hall, SUNY-CESF, Syracuse, NY 13210, FAX (315) 470-6956. Please submit your ideas by November 1, 1994. Thank you! ♠

Glasser: We Learn...

10% of what we read;
20% of what we hear;
30% of what we see;
50% of what we see and hear;
70% of what we discuss with others;
80% of what we experience personally;
95% of what we teach others.

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