

The Allegheny News



In Memorium - Maurice K. Goddard, Ph.D.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 1995

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The Allegheny News

Volume 4, No. 3

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Cover Photo

We remember Dr. Maurice K. Goddard
Born September 13, 1912
Died September 14, 1995



Looking Back; Looking Ahead

By Mark Vodak,
Allegheny SAF Chair

This last official column as Chair, before the "reins" change hands, offers the opportunity to look back at accomplishments, as well as forward to new challenges.

In the Summer 1994 *Allegheny News*, I listed five broad objectives that the executive committee had identified as "priority" to receive attention in '94-'95: 1) Encourage activity at all Chapter and Division levels... two Chapters have been reorganized with new leadership and meaningful activities and one is in the process of revitalization; 2) Provide more regional input into issues resolution... our Forest Health and Productivity ad hoc Committee chaired by **Kurt Gottschalk** has performed admirably; 3) Increase member and employer recognition... thanks to **Lillian Woods** and **Bob Shipman**, recognition awards have increased significantly; 4) Maintain and increase membership... as of September 18, 1995, the Allegheny SAF is holding 1,113 members in all categories; 5) Increase the voter participation in elections... we'll have a better handle on that after this newsletter goes to print with a ballot for both the Allegheny Society and the PA Division offices.

I have to say thanks to the many members who made things happen these past two years. Looking ahead, I promise to continue to be an active volunteer. While it is impressive to see that "core" of volunteers in our Society whose names always seem to appear on meeting notes and notices, we don't want to "use them up." If I might paraphrase a bit from my fellow Chair of the Colorado/Wyoming Society, remember:

- Allegheny News articles don't just happen in Dillsburg
- There isn't a place to order ready-made programs and meeting arrangements
- "Walks in the woods" aren't booked through travel agents
- Bills aren't paid by auto banking nor books kept by CPAs
- Records, notes, and minutes aren't kept by clerical staff
- Responses to inquiries, and media misinformation aren't in the "Forms" file

Keep in mind our organization relies on volunteers. You and I must remain involved as we move ahead in these changing times. Isn't it time for you to volunteer to share some of "the load"? When **Tim Kaden** takes the "reins," give him a call and ask him to put you on his "really short list" for permanent or ad hoc committee work. ♠

Members and Views

Dr. Maurice K. Goddard 1912-1995

Maurice K. Goddard, Ph.D., died September 14, 1995 from injuries received in a fire at his Camp Hill home... the day after his 83rd birthday. Pennsylvania's environmental leader from 1955 to 1979 (serving as Secretary of Forests and Waters and the Department of Environmental Resources under five Governors, Democratic and Republican), Dr. Goddard continued to influence environmental issues until his death.

He was instrumental in establishing a separate cabinet level agency for parks and forests just this summer, with the creation of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. His vision and dedication was responsible for creating a state park within 25 miles of every Pennsylvanian.

"The state park system, our state forests, and establishing professionalism in our environmental programs are among Dr. Goddard's legacies to improved state government," said James Seif, Secretary of Environmental Protection. "His contributions extend to all Pennsylvanians through his commitment to conserve and enhance our natural resources."

During Governor George Leader's administration, Dr. Goddard was instrumental in establishing executive civil service coverage for professional foresters in state government, and later legislative civil service. He was a mentor to many — his former students at Penn State Mont Alto and the Penn State School of Forestry where he was professor and Dean, and members of many state and national wildlife and conservation organizations. The Goddard Chair in Forestry and Environmental Resources at Penn State's School of Forest Resources reflects just a portion of the giant legacy Dr. Goddard has provided Pennsylvania.

Dr. Goddard held degrees in forestry from the University of Maine ('35), the University of California ('38), and five honorary degrees from various colleges and universities. He has been an active member of the Society of American Foresters since 1935; elected Fellow by his peers in 1963; Chairman of the Allegheny Section in 1951; and received the SAF Outstanding Service to Forestry Award in 1967. Numerous other awards recognized his leadership and contributions to conserve and enhance natural resources, the most recent being the 1994 University of Maine Alumni Career Award.

In commenting on Dr. Goddard's death, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge stated, "Dr. Goddard was a giant in the field of conservation, a master steward and an articulate spokesman for public lands and waters. He will be remembered in history in the same way we remember Gifford Pinchot — as a great man, a great leader, and a great inspiration to us all." ▲

SAF Certified Foresters

Your editor apologizes for the incorrect listings of Allegheny SAF Certified Foresters on page 4 of the Summer 1995 issue of *Allegheny News* (employers of newly certified foresters were also listed by mistake). The following is a corrected list as of September 18, 1995.

Maryland:

Robert G. Lueckel

Lawrence P. Walton

New Jersey:

George J. Boesze

Dennis M. Galway

Heather J. Gracie

Christina L. Harrigan

Mark W. Hynson

Eric J. Kurtz

Pennsylvania:

William M. Barcheskie, Jr.

Richard E. Cary

Donald E. Dorn

Dana T. Dowling

Riva R. Duncan

Mark W. Freeman

Christopher J. Guth

Robert O. Hobbes

Paul J. Hyde

Paul A. Johnston

Allan R. Knox

Robert J. Labar

Susan E. Lacy

Michael B. Lester

Marc D. Lewis

Roy A. Siefert

Jim Soltis

Robin R. Wildermuth

John A. Winieski

Wilbur E. Wolf

West Virginia:

William H. Gillespie

Jeff A. Parsons

WV SAF at National 4-H Forestry Invitational

The 1995 National 4-H Forestry Invitational was held at Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp from July 30 through August 3. A West Virginia SAF team composed of **Frank Daniel, Jim Hays, Jim Mitchell and Chad Westfall** conducted the field events in the competition. Young 4-H representatives from states all across the U.S. attended. ▲

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P&G and Audubon Society Join Forces in Cooperative Study

By Mike Lester, Pinchot Chapter Chair-elect



The first field season of a unique partnership in Pennsylvania will be coming to a close soon. Early this year, the National Audubon Society and the Procter and Gamble Company (P&G) have joined forces in a project that will help determine the impact that timber harvesting has on wildlife communities in Northeast Pennsylvania.

The concerns about the effect that timber harvesting has on wildlife population parameters have been intensifying for the last few years. However, there is often more emotion than research in this arena. The Audubon-P&G project hopes to add some much-needed scientific data that will help better clarify this issue.

Moreover, it has been estimated that less than 20% of timber harvest treatments of forest stands in Pennsylvania involve the planning and execution of a professionally trained forester. As a result, the majority of advice that forest landowners receive regarding timber harvesting comes from the timber buyer (i.e. the logger). That advice has not been particularly strong in the area of management activities that takes into account the affect the harvest treatment of a stand has on game and non-game species. Frankly, there isn't a lot of advice based on scientific data that is easily available to the timber harvester or the professional forester.

The Audubon-P&G project is an effort to address this lack of information. The thrust of the project is twofold. First, research has been initiated to discover the impact that different harvesting methods have on the resident wildlife communities. Second, the research data collected over the next few years will be used to develop a wildlife training module to help foresters and timber harvesters assess the outcome that different timber harvesting techniques will have on wildlife.

Owners of private non-industrial forest lands that have received a timber harvest treatment by P&G in the previous three to seven years are the third parties cooperating in this research. The residual stands on these treated woodlands contain between 30 and 100 square feet of basal area per acre. The project team will be monitoring, recording and sampling birds, amphibians, soil biota, and vegetation at the end of this first season; small mammal sampling is anticipated to begin in the next field season. The research approach is referred to as retrospective analysis.

The project will also attempt to validate the Habitat Assessment Mode; (HAM) computer model that was developed by **Helene Harvey**, now with the USDA Forest Service, and **Jim Finley** of Penn State University. The HAM model makes predictions of wildlife species in a stand based on vegetative and landscape characteristics. These characteristics are determined by adding some simple and time tested sampling procedures to a standard timber cruise. The predictive power of HAM in Northeastern Pennsylvania will be another interesting outcome of this research project.

Project team members include **Jan Beyea**, **Wayne Hoffman**, and **Todd Fredericksen** from the National Audubon Society, and **Mike Lester** and **Brad Johnson** from Procter and Gamble. ♠

First Leadership Academy for SAF a Huge Success

By Tim Kaden, Allegheny Chair Elect

Allegheny SAF member **Roger Sherman** (WV) has seen another one of his innovative ideas come to reality. A few years ago, Roger proposed to SAF Council members the idea of conducting a formal leadership academy for society members: Bring together, from across the country, chair-elects of Multi-State Societies and Divisions and expose them to training that would prepare them to stimulate and lead during their term of office and beyond.

This first Society-sponsored Leadership Academy came to fruition September 14-17, 1995 in Traverse City, Michigan (host city for the 1998 National Meeting). Chair-elects from across the country came together for three days to be trained and enlightened in the skills of leadership and Society affairs. Five modules were presented: I. Leadership to Meet Current and Emerging Needs; II. You as a Leader in a Changing Environment; III. Leadership Skills: Evolving Needs; IV. SAF: Partnership and Linkages; and V. The Road Ahead: Your Role in Leading SAF. Interaction, partnerships, team building, and trust development were all wrapped into a package of study, exercises, and a good time.

All of the participants will be representatives to the House of Society Delegates for the next two years — the forum for presenting Society concerns and ideas to our council members and the national office staff. I personally cannot say enough good things about this first academy and my experience. Talk to your elected officers who were in attendance and learn more about it: **Tony DiPaolo** (MD/DE), **Craig Kane** (NJ), **Barbara Breshock** (WV), **Ken Kane** (PA), and me, **Tim Kaden** (Allegheny).

The council and the national staff have done themselves proud by sponsoring this training, the first of more to come. And if you run into Roger Sherman... say "thanks." ♠

Pennsylvania Foresters... Help!

As you may know, the Timber Harvesting Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Division SAF has been actively intervening in an attempt to counter the proliferation of timber harvesting ordinances and other restrictions on timber management activities. As a part of the the Committee effort, we ask your help in compiling a list of existing Pennsylvania Township, City, or Borough ordinances relating to the management and harvesting of forest land. If you know of an existing ordinance which impacts timber harvesting or other forest management activities, please send the information listed below.

Include as much information as you have available, but please don't neglect to send it because you lack all the information (available copies of ordinances/zoning restrictions would be appreciated). Eventually the Committee would hope to have a listing by County and Township/City/Borough, which could be used as a reference by all foresters in Pennsylvania.

Thank you in advance for your assistance, and remember to notify **Wilbur Wolfe** (717) 766-5915 or **Jack Winieski** (717) 432-3646 if you detect the initiation of any restrictive ordinance impacting on forest management activities — so that a Committee member can make a personal attempt to intervene.

Township _____

County _____

Date of Adoption _____

Check one:

- Stand alone ordinance
 Part of a zoning ordinance

Ordinance impacts: (Yes/No)

- Harvesting
 Road Building/Use
 E & S
 Tree Planting
 Other Mgt. Activities

(Specify) _____

Management Plan Required (Yes/No) _____

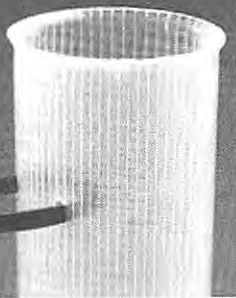
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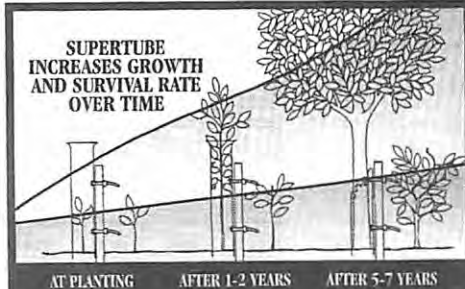
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NJ "Fall Forestry Fest" Informative and Wet

By Ron Sheay, Forest History Chair

One of the more memorable field trips of the NJ Division SAF that occurred over 20 years ago was a canoe ride on the Delaware River — in a heavy rain for four hours! The recent Allegheny Summer Meeting held in NJ, September 20-22, 1995, will in all probability fall into the category as most memorable because of the canoe trip on the Wading River.

Fifty hearty members, spouses, students and guests put canoes and kayaks in at Jenkinstown in the pouring rain and pulled out at Beavers Bridge two hours later — in the same pouring rain. The good news? Only two canoes tipped over! Everyone got wet anyhow, either from tipping, lack of rain gear, or sweating from the inside out in rainproof gear. Thanks to Bob Zampella of the NJ Pinelands Commission who led the group down the river, identifying the flora and fauna of the pinelands region. That was Friday.

Thursday was a glorious day and the 80+ people that registered enjoyed the pinelands ecology field trip. How the "east plains" developed with pygmy pines (pseudonanism of *Pinus rigida* for scientific minds) was thoroughly reviewed by a number of scientists, ecologists and professors, all pointing to repeated forest fires as a major factor. Soils and site productivity were discussed in and out of the plains area. Atlantic white cedar management and reproduction studies were inspected, showing the detrimental effect of deer browse on cedar seedlings. Prescribed burning areas and the effects of a 15,000 acre spring forest fire were also visited.



John Benton (left - NJ) directs attention to the "pygmy pine" complex in the New Jersey pine barrens.

An added touch to the excellent tour of the pinelands region was a visit to the historic Batsto village where a water powered sawmill was operating. The day ended at the Renault Winery, one of the oldest wineries in the U.S. in continuous production of wine — operating even during the prohibition era when wine was made for "medicinal purposes." All had the opportunity to taste the fruits of the vine.

The NJ Division is highly commended for hosting a truly outstanding and memorable Allegheny Summer meeting. ♠

Councilman's Corner

Between Council Meetings

By Dwight Fielder,
SAF Dist. VII Council
Representative



Since our last newsletter, Society of American Foresters Council has not met as a group. However, if you read **Tim Kaden's**

article elsewhere in this newsletter, you know that an historic event occurred for SAF on September 14-16 of this year... the first annual SAF Leadership Academy.

I had the privilege of serving on the steering committee (along with **Mary Ann Fajvan** of West Virginia), and had the opportunity to present a two-hour portion of one of the training modules. By all accounts, the academy was an exciting and successful endeavor. My thanks and congratulations to all Allegheny officers who attended; we had 100% participation!

Special thanks go out to **Roger Sherman** of West Virginia. As a member of SAF's Volunteer Organizational Structure Task Force, Roger originated and forwarded the idea of a top-notch academy for SAF leadership training. Thanks to Roger's vision, I can guarantee you that SAF will never be the same!

Speaking of leadership, have you ever considered a leadership position in SAF? It is a tremendous individual growth opportunity and will give you a chance to meet and work with a lot of fine people. And, if you are a Division or State Society chair-elect, you will have the opportunity to attend a SAF Leadership Academy in the future.

In the meantime, be sure to exercise your professional responsibility to VOTE. Complete and return the ballot at the centerfold of this *Allegheny News* for Allegheny SAF Officers. If you belong to the Pennsylvania Division, also complete and return the ballot for PA Division Officers.

As a reminder, the next SAF Council meeting is on October 28, 1995 at the National Convention in Portland, Maine. This is usually a short meeting filled with program and issue updates. Our next substantive meeting will be held December 9-11, 1995 at the Society of American Foresters Headquarters, Wild Acres in Bethesda, Maryland. Please contact me with any issues that you think Council should be addressing. I can be reached at work (703) 235-2725, or at my new home address and telephone number: 1050 N. Stuart Street #201, Arlington, VA 22201, (703) 908-9488.

Again, please vote, using the ballots on pages 10-11. ♠

Plateau Chapter Continues Making their "Rounds"

By Howard Wurzbacher, Plateau Secretary/Treasurer



Mark Webb reviews stand history and prescription in a stand marked for harvest.

Since revitalization in August of 1994, the Plateau Chapter SAF has been visiting forest sites in various stages of management and encouraging peer discussion in the field as an educational activity for participants - similar to making the "rounds" in teaching hospitals. They have visited PA State

Gamelands proposed timber sales, a sugar bush and Christmas tree operation and on September 7th of this year, featured field tours of timberlands managed by consulting foresters **Mark Webb** of Union City and **Richard Nichols** of Centerville.

Attending the most recent field visit was a broad spectrum of the forestry community active in northwestern Pennsylvania: industrial foresters from several forest products companies, private consultants, management and service foresters from the PA Bureau of Forestry, the PA Game Commission, Penn State Extension, U.S. Forest Service, research foresters, and even a foreign exchange student from Germany studying with the Forest Research Lab in Warren, PA.

The field tours centered in the area near Spring Creek, with Mark and Dick each showing timber stands which they marked for selective cutting, sold, and were awaiting

harvest. At each location they reviewed the silvicultural history of the present stands, then discussed some of the factors involved in determining what type of forest management activities would be applied. One prominent theme repeated itself in both presentations; the land owners' wishes were primary considerations in choosing a strategy. The challenge for the consulting forester, then, is to apply the best possible management procedure within the parameters outlined by the landowner.

An excellent informal refreshment and discussion session followed the field trips and focused on the need for forestry professionals to publicly "spread the word" of the benefits of properly planned and executed forest management practices.

At a short business meeting over dinner at Spartansburg, the Chapter discussed plans for SAF "Walk in the Woods" programs in Warren and Titusville on October 20; efforts to provide a statement of Best Management Practices for area landowners; and plans to co-host the October 1996 Allegheny SAF meeting with the Northern Hardwoods Chapter. ♠



Dick Nichols discusses the landowners' influence on his timber marking strategy.

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Town Creek Ecosystem Management Project

By Daniel B. Hedderick, MD DNR Forest Service



MD Forest Service personnel and teachers visit Town Creek Watershed in western Maryland.

Ecosystem management is becoming a reality. Starting in the Western Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service Office, an idea to develop a landscape scale ecosystem management project began, becoming a surprisingly overwhelming task. This project has evolved a life of its own.

More than 33 groups, organizations, industries, departments and their divisions are involved in the beginning stages or so-called grass roots start-up. The partners involved in this project are far greater than can be listed in this article and will increase before this reaches print.

One of the greatest victories to date has been the break down of political and administrative boundaries. MD Forest Service will tackle, with help from other partners, the 43,501 acres of the Town Creek Watershed that exist in Maryland. Pennsylvania has jumped on board with the rest of the designated watershed area equaling 54,144 acres for a total of 97,645 acres. Both MD and PA have mixed ownerships that contain private, industrial and government lands.

Currently, partners are collecting assessment data on the watershed. This information will be used by the various partners, including private landowners, to determine objectives and goals for the watershed.

One of the advantages of this project for natural resource managers will be the large amount of data available to assist in making better recommendations to landowners. A GIS system is being developed with the cooperation of the MD Forest Service and the Western Maryland Regional Geographic Information System Center at Frostburg State University. The system is being developed down to the stand level providing us with size and age class information which can be updated.

The Maryland Forest Service hopes to learn a great deal about the practical process of ecosystem management with a purpose of sharing do's and don'ts of the process with other agencies involved in similar projects. Hopefully it can be used as a model. Let it never be said that the power of an idea cannot change the world, for Town Creek is living proof! ♠

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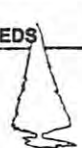
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Allegheny SAF 1995 Candidates for Office

Detach and mark the appropriate ballot(s) found in the centerfold of this *Allegheny News*. Fold, seal, stamp and post mark by November 1, 1995. We have competition... a healthy sign. Your vote is very important!

Chairman Elect:

Kidd, William E., Jr. Extension Forester & Professor (retired), WV University, Morgantown, WV
BS and MS Forestry VPI. Experience: Service Forester, VA Div. Forestry, conducted numerous continuing education programs for foresters and landowners, planned and produced award winning "Managing Your Woodlot" video series. Charter member Blue Ridge Chapter of Appalachian SAF. Member Executive Committee WV Div. SAF and served as Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Chair, and on Program Committee. Elected Fellow of SAF in 1994.

Lester, Michael B. District Manager, Wood Supply, Procter & Gamble Paper Products Co., Mehoopany, PA
BS Forestry, Colorado State Univ., MF Duke Univ., MBA State Univ. NY, SAF Certified Forester. Chair Elect, Pinchot Chapter SAF; PA Forestry Assn. Tree Farm Chair, NE PA; Member PA SAF Statewide Task Force on Local Timber Harvesting Regulations; Member Allegheny SAF Committee on Forest Health & Productivity; Chair, Alpha Student Chapter SAF, Colorado State; member, Xi Sigma Pi Natural Resource and Gamma Sigma Delta Agricultural honor societies.

Webb, Mark R. Consulting Forester, Mark Webb & Co.
BS Forest Science, Penn State. Senior Forester and Land Manager, Fisher & Young Lumber Co.; Sawmill Manager, Endeavor Lumber Co.; Chair, Plateau Chapter SAF & PA Div. SAF; Exec. Comm. Allegheny SAF; Joint PA SAF Chapter Deer/Forest Regen. Comm.; PA SAF Registration & Licensing Comm.; Chair, Penn Chapter, Assoc. of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.; member, Penn State For. Issues Working Group, Timber Harvest Assessment & Best Management Practices for Silviculture Task Force.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Lacy, Susan E. Forest Management Specialist and
Program Manager of Forest Stewardship for USFS NE State and Private
BS Forest Management, Colorado State, MS Forest Resources, Economics Major, Univ. NH. Forester: Clearwater National Forest, USFS; South Dakota Dept. Game, Fish & Parks; Boise Cascade Corp. Louisiana. Financial Analyst, three years in Banking Industry. Forest Inventory and Analysis Project research on private forest land ownership in NE US. SAF member, 1980; Program Chair, Valley Forge SAF 1990, Science & Technology Coordinator, Allegheny SAF 1994-95.

Executive Committee:

Bamford, Gordon T. Retired State Forester & Assistant Director, NJ Division of Parks & Forestry, DEP
BS Forest Mgt., MF Yale Univ. Battery Commander, US Army; Forestry career with the NJ Bureau of Forest Management, 1947-82. SAF member since 1947; presently sustaining member; Allegheny SAF - past Newsletter Editor, Awards and Membership Committees. Charter member of the New Jersey Division SAF and 1957 Chair.

Gottschalk, Kurt W. Research Forester, USFS NE Forest Experiment Station Insect and Disease Research ,
Morgantown, WV.
BS Forestry, Iowa State, MS and PhD Silviculture, For. Ecology & Tree Physiology, Michigan State. Project Leader, Silviculture Options for Gypsy Moth. SAF member 1974; Chair C6 Physiology Tech. Working Group; Chair, Secretary, For. Ecology Working Group. Member, Allegheny SAF Research & Forest Entomology/Pathology Comm.; current Chair, For. Health & Productivity Comm. Incumbent member, Allegheny SAF Exec. Comm.; active member, other professional societies.

Gribko, Linda S. Asst. Prof. Forest Management, WV University, Morgantown, WV.
BS Forestry & Wildlife VPI & SU, PhD Integrated Resource Management, WVU. Previous employment: USFS NE Forest Experiment Station. SAF member 1991, Book review contributor, *Allegheny News*; Professional organizations: The Wildlife Society, American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Sigma Xi Honorary.

Kenneth W. Jolly Southern Regional Forester, Maryland DNR Forest Service
BS Forest Management, North Carolina State University Currently at mid-point in MGA program, University of Maryland. Previous experience with MD-DNR as Program Supervisor, Public Land Stewardship; the US Forest Service in a variety of forest technician positions on the Tahoe National Forest; served as a forester with Honduras Forest Development Corporation/US Peace Corps. Currently Editor of the MD/DE Division Newsletter Editor; past Secretary, and several past meeting committees. Presently Allegheny Tellers Committee chair and Planning Comm. for 1996 Allegheny Winter Meeting.

(Biographies continued)

Kuser, John E. Associate Professor of Forestry, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

AB Chemistry, Princeton Univ., BS Horticulture, Rutgers Univ., PhD Forest Science, Oregon State University. Teaching: Dendrology, Forest Ecology & Silvics, Urban Forestry, Wood Science. Research: Tree Improvement, Propagation, Restoration. Seed orchard establishment for NE shortleaf pine, and pitch pine seed sources; progeny test of metasequoia seedlots and isozyme frequency studies of NJ & NC white-cedar populations. NJ Outstanding Tree Farmer, 1977 and 1994; Director, NJ Forestry Assoc.; member, Pinelands Commission For. Advisory Comm.; Chair, Princeton Twp. Shade Tree and Deer Committees.

Siefert, Roy A. Forester, PA Bureau of Forestry, Susquehannock State Forest District, Coudersport, PA.

BS Forestry, Penn State, 1976. USFS Certified Silviculturist, 1989, SAF Certified Forester. SAF Member, 1985; Current Chair PA SAF Div.; Member, PA SAF Comm. On Local Timber Harvesting Ordinances, Forester Licensing & Registration; Past Chair, Northern Hardwoods Chapter; Chair, Finance Comm. PA Forestry Association; Steering Committee, Ben Roach Forum Series; Board of Directors & Treasurer, Tau Phi Delta Grand National Fraternity.

Steiner, Kim C. Professor, Forest Biology, Assistant Director Academic Affairs,
Penn State University, State College, PA

BS Forest Biology, Colorado State Univ., MS & PhD Forest Genetics, Michigan State Univ. Previous employment with USFS and Army Adjutant General. SAF member since 1970; founder of first-ever SAF student chapter; Allegheny SAF Tree Improvement & Student Coordinating Committees; Rothrock Chapter Chair; organizer of the 1992-93 Student Quiz Bowls at annual winter meetings. IUFRO Working Party Chair; currently organizing national conference on natural resources education co-sponsored by SAF.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters 1995 Election Ballot

Report of the Nominating Committee
Harry V. Wiant, Jr., Chair

Chair Elect (Vote for one) _____ William E. Kidd, Jr. (WV)

_____ Michael B. Lester (Pinchot/PA)

_____ Mark R. Webb (Plateau/PA)

Secretary/Treasurer _____ Susan E. Lacy (Valley Forge/PA)

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Executive Committee (vote for four, but no more than two from one state)

— — — —
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_____ Gordon T. Bamford (NJ)

_____ Kurt Gottschalk (WV)*

_____ Linda Gribko (WV)

_____ Kenneth W. Jolly (MD/DE)

_____ John Kuser (NJ)

_____ Roy Siefert (Northern Hardwoods/PA)

_____ Kim Steiner (Rothrock/PA)

* Incumbent

Return marked ballot by November 15, 1995. Fold on designated lines, seal, stamp, and mail (self-mailer).

Pennsylvania Division SAF 1995 Candidate Biographies

Chair Elect:

Duncan, Riva R. Forest Silviculturist, Sheffield Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest
B.S. Forestry, Purdue University, USFS Region #9 Certified Silviculturist. Experience: City Forester, Mishawaka, IN; Forester, Keith Horn Forestry, Inc.; Sheffield Ranger Dist. 1989 to present (timber sales environmental assessments); firefighter. SAF Activities: Past Secretary/Treasurer, Vice-Chair, and Chair, Plateau Chapter; member PA Division Licensing and Registration Committee. Awards: Superior Performance Award, Allegheny National Forest; Superior Continuing Forestry Education accomplishment; SAF Certified Forester.

Labar, Robert Private Forest Consultant, Hawley, PA

Degrees from Penn State University, Yale, Gannon Universities. Experience: Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, Hammermill Paper Company. Presently a private Forest Consultant with specialties in wetlands delineations and soils. SAF activities: Numerous committee appointments; meeting arrangements; licensing and registration; parliamentarian. Plateau Chapter chair, Allegheny Society chair. Pocono RC & D Forestry Committee chair. National SAF Certified Forester.

Secretary/Treasurer:

D'Amour, Douglas Program Specialist, Division of State Forest Management,
Bureau of Forestry, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

A.A.S. Degree, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, B.S. Forestry, University of Michigan. Previous seasonal employment with the USFS; Forestry Consultant staff forester; procurement forester, and Service Forester with the PA Bureau of Forestry. SAF Activities: Past Secretary/Treasurer, Valley Forge Chapter SAF, and Arrangements Co-chair for 1992 Winter SAF Meeting.

Pennsylvania Division Society of American Foresters 1995 Election Ballot (PA Division Members Only)

Report of the Nominating Committee
Earl Higgins, Chair

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— — — —
Fold here

Chair Elect - (a two year position, assumes the Chair position in two years)
Vote for one

_____ Riva R. Duncan (Plateau Chapter)

_____ Robert Labar (Pinchot Chapter)

Secretary Treasurer - (a two year position)

_____ Douglas D'Amour (Keystone Chapter)

Return marked ballot by November 15, 1995. Fold on designated lines, seal, stamp, and mail (self-mailer).

Pinchot Chapter Rafts the Delaware River

By Al Knox



Top scavenger John Bitzer and grand daughter Kelly with a prize catch.

Members of the Pinchot Chapter and their families spent August 19, 1995 canoeing, rafting and enjoying a trip down the Delaware River from Pond Eddy (PA) to Matamoras (PA). The river forms the boundary between New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania through the Delaware National Scenic and Recreational Area. This intrepid group of "River Rats" paddled approximately 12 miles through spectacular rock formations and forested mountains of Northeastern PA.

Besides enjoying the sights and sounds along the river, the members took time out to help pick up trash along this heavily used waterway. **John Bitzer**, along with his granddaughter and rowing partner Kelly, took top honors as the best trash collectors.

Canoes and rafts were provided through the courtesy of Ruth and Dave Jones, owners and operators of the award winning Kittatinny Canoes. This company has won national recognition and awards, twice winning 1st. place in "Taking Pride in America" and the Gold Star award from the National Park Service. Trip arrangements were made by member **Al Knox**. Pictures by **Bob Labar** and **Mike Lester**.

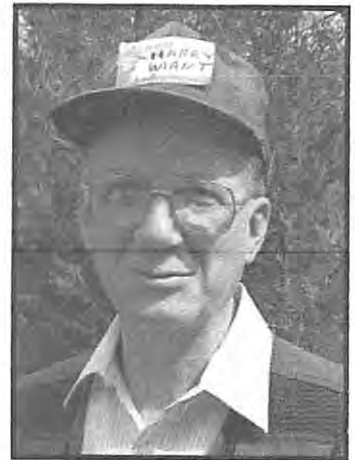


Rob and Bob Labar "policing up" the Delaware.

The Chapter is presenting a certificate (available from the SAF National Office) to the company recognizing the stewardship Kittatinny Canoes practices in their commercial use of this public recreational resource. ♪

Is the Board Foot on the Endangered List?

By Harry Wiant, Jr.



Some time ago, I attended the National Cubic Volume Measurement Symposium in Spokane, WA. It

seems that the USDA Forest Service is determined that cubic-foot volume estimates be used rather than the board-foot measure in timber sales (in some regions almost immediately and in all regions sometime down the road). Over 150 people, many on-the-ground industry types, attended the conference, and there appeared to be little objection to this conversion (it may have been an unrepresentative sample, as those who object did not choose to attend the meeting).

Mensurationists have long cast dispersion on the board foot, pointing out that it is not really a measure of volume but an attempt to predict the product that can be produced from logs... sort of like estimating the apple crop in terms of the number of apple pies that can be baked. Also, the illogical fact that if a log is cut longer it may have less predicted board-foot volume, as scaling is from the small end of the log.

The Doyle rule, popular in the East, comes in for special ridicule because of its well-known underestimation of volumes of small logs. A mensurationist friend pointed out to me that the persistent popularity of the Doyle rule may be because the volumes it predicts are more closely related to value than those given by other rules. Obviously, a board foot from a small log, which tends to be of low quality, is worth less than a board foot from a large log, which tends to have higher quality.

It is apparent that this conversion is designed to get us ready for total conversion to the metric system. I well remember a meeting of mensurationists 15 years ago when a panel of experts were urging us to convert to metric immediately. At the time I put up my reputation on the line when I stood to predict that we wouldn't be on the metric system in 20 years (I may go into the horoscope business).

Now, I'll again attract the scorn of my colleagues in the mensuration business by prophesying that we'll be using the old board-foot measure 20 years from NOW, at least in most of the East. After all, the board foot is an American invention, and to many it will be an act of patriotism to see that it is preserved. More seriously, the board foot will hang on because it has served the wood-using industry for 150 years (some would say ill-served), and we're a conservative lot (now there's an understatement)!

You can't expect us to change overnight! ♪

"As A Forester/Logging Contractor, I Say . . ."

By Gary Rossman, Self-employed Logging Contractor

What can the forester do to make the logger's job easier, safer, and more efficient? What can loggers and foresters learn from each other? And what are the greater roles of the forestry profession and the forest industry in society? As a self-employed logger with a degree in forestry, I see a real need to answer these questions.

How Foresters Can Help Loggers

Most Foresters have not had any training in timber harvesting, and many of them have little understanding of the logging profession. Regardless, foresters need to know that everything they do, from marking timber to laying out haul roads and log landing effects loggers. The best loggers make the job look easy, but, as in any profession, it takes years of experience to give that appearance. When I was in college, I discussed the lack of harvesting training with my professors. They replied that, as four year foresters, we are being trained to supervise and not actually to do that kind of work. I still argue that to supervise a logging operation properly, a forester must know how to do the job. I remember when, years ago, we were cutting big oak on a hillside and the young forester thought we were doing too much felling damage. He actually said, "the book says you'll do less damage if you fell trees uphill." That may be true, but I assure you that most of those trees weren't going to go uphill. Sometimes what it says in "the book" has little or no relevance to the realities the logger faces on the ground. After numerous conversations with other loggers in the Kane (PA) area, where I work, I have come up with a few common-sense practices that foresters should keep in mind when they assume responsibility for a timber-harvesting operation.

Timber Marking

When foresters mark timber, they need to know that loggers need a hole into which to drop the trees, especially a large forked tree. The logger must be able to fell the tree so that the forks hit at the same time. If they don't, the tree

will most likely split right down to the butt. That gives the logger only two directions in which to fell the tree, and if the tree is leaning heavily, it leaves only one direction. Foresters need to be able to recognize this kind of tree and mark any additional trees that would aid in the felling rather than leave a reserve where a large tree needs to land. When marking timber, it is a good idea to paint the trees on both sides. It is frustrating to look over while you are cutting and see a marked tree that should have gone out two hitches ago.

I believe any job can be logged. But can it be done economically? I often find that an occasional pulpwood tree is marked. No doubt the forester is trying to do a good silvicultural job, but at the expense of the logger. Loggers cannot stop the skidder six or eight times to get a hitch of pulpwood and make a living from their work; loggers are not responsible for timber stand improvement work. An older logger once told me that if marked pulpwood doesn't yield at least seven cords per acre, it's not worth going after. I've found that to be true.

Road Design, Construction, and Preparation

Foresters should try to lay out haul roads so that the majority of the skidding is downhill. Loggers can take bigger hitches downhill, twice as far in less time, using less fuel, and creating far less ground disturbance that they can if they must skid uphill.

I speak from personal experience when I say that it pays to do the job right the first time. I used to have the road contractor build the road and do some sparse stoning—just enough to get by. If the road didn't hold up, I had the money to move the contractor back in and use more stone to fix the road than if I had done it properly at the outset. In the meantime, the logging crew is still working, running out of landing room, fighting to push two loads of logs in a one load opening, or cutting more trees and taking more land out of production for additional landing room so they can

continue to work. The same holds true when a crew is moved into a job, just gets started and finds that the township or state road leading to the job hasn't been bonded. Again, they're fighting for room while waiting for the paperwork to get done so the trucks can haul.

Timing

Foresters need to mark the entire job, or at least a good portion of it before logging begins so that loggers can pick their places to work. Good loggers will log the wet areas on dry days and save the higher, dryer areas for wet periods. If the forester marks timber in wet weather only a day or two ahead of harvesting, it leaves the logger with two choices: don't work, or work and make a mess of it.

Communications Between Foresters and Loggers

People are more accepting and cooperative if they know whys and wherefores of what they do. Because foresters and loggers are both essential to good forestry, they need to be willing and able to learn from each other—neither should have to do their job without understanding the others point of view. For example, I used to have trouble with someone telling me that, if I cut veneer logs longer than 16', they must hold a 16" small-end diameter. Shorter veneer can go down to 14". Why not longer veneer? I had seen lots of cherry or oak without a blemish that would go 20-24' but only hold a 12" small end diameter. Finally, when I simply asked, "Why?", I learned that the mill gets a higher price for veneer that is 16" and up; long, smaller-diameter logs were thrown into a lower price category. Suddenly, what used to annoy me because it made no sense, became clear and reasonable.

I also remember my former frustration over pulpwood specifications. I hate to see good material wasted, so it seemed logical to me that if I could get a second stick of wood from a tree, but have to squeeze the small end down to 3" to get it, I would. And I would get in trouble with the pulp

company. When they explained to me that small wood in a ring debarker slows production and that small wood contains juvenile fibers that don't work well in fine paper, I understood. Never underestimate the value of communication. Don't be afraid to ask for a logger's opinion, whether it be on road layout, a switchback, a rock patch, or a steep sidehill. The logger will respect you for it, and you might just get some good answers.

As a logger, I have seldom been told why a piece of timber is marked the way it is. What is the forester trying to accomplish? It is the logger who is on the job every day. It is the logger who talks with the hunter, the hiker, and snowmobiler. It is the logger who has the greater opportunity to answer their questions and send them off knowing that loggers, foresters, and landowners alike are out here with a goal and a plan—not just cutting and slashing.

The Role of Education

Communication is the foundation for education. Education through communication may start with loggers and foresters, but it cannot stop until it reaches landowners and the general public.

Foresters often find themselves at odds with some loggers who have no stewardship ethic and with some landowners who want as much immediate financial gain as possible. Foresters often find themselves at odds with themselves and their own ethics, knowing that a diameter cut may bring them more money than a good selection cut. Diameter cuts down to 12" are common. As pulpwood prices continue to increase, we may be seeing diameter cuts down to 6". It is the obligation of the forestry profession to demonstrate convincingly to loggers and landowners that short-term gains seldom outweigh the long-term benefits of good forest management.

The forestry industry has its own obligation to educate the public on a broad scale, not just in rural logging communities, and to demonstrate to the public that their operations are based on a stewardship ethic. The general citizenry needs to be conscious of its

daily dependence on forest products. People need to realize that humans have always needed and used forest products, and that we can continue to use them far into the future through good forest management. They need to understand that trees are our only natural resource that is renewable, recyclable, and biodegradable.

If the forestry profession and the forest industry both fail to meet our obligations to educate ourselves, each other, and the public at large, we may find ourselves standing idly by as productive, public forest lands become public parks. We may find ourselves sitting on our hands as overly restrictive timber harvesting ordinances—developed by those who do not understand the difference between conservation and preservation—eliminate private forest lands as an essential source of society's wood products. ♠

This paper was developed from Gary Rossman's February 9, 1995 talk as part of a panel presentation at the 1995 winter meeting of the Allegheny SAF at State College, PA. Ed.

The Allegheny Society of American Foresters 1996 Winter Meeting

March 20, 21 and 22, 1996

Ocean City, Maryland
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Hosted by the MD/DE Division

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Legislative Update



A Broader Perspective

By I. Cameron Carte,
SAF Congressional Affairs Liaison

In the past several issues of *The Allegheny News* I have taken the opportunity to give you an update on the political picture in Washington, DC regarding forestry legislation. Based on the feedback I have received, this information has been helpful. However, as you may know, SAF is unveiling a new publication, *The Forestry Source*, at this year's convention. I will be writing a legislative update each month for that publication which is a bit more detailed than what I have written. For updates concerning SAF forest policy activities and legislative updates, turn to *The Forestry Source*. In an attempt to differentiate between the two columns I will author (so you don't read the same thing in two places), I will try to take a more introspective approach to my future discussions on forest policy in *The Allegheny News*. I hope they prove to be insightful.

On Capitol Hill, SAF is **THE** national organization representing the forestry profession in the United States. SAF has come to be recognized as a bipartisan, science-based voice

concerning natural resource issues that contemplates a broad range of scientific, economic, and social variables that combine to comprise an issue. Our firm foundation in science has served us well, and it will continue to do so.

The Society of American Foresters promotes public policies that advance knowledge about the capabilities of forest resources and responses of forest ecosystems to specific actions and policies. SAF has a responsibility to ensure that knowledge grows vigorously to serve society's needs, thereby improving decisions affecting forests and resolving uncertainty about future consequences of forest activities. This means that we must be willing to evolve along with our science. With this statement as a backdrop, I will now digress into some philosophical musings about the importance of SAF maintaining this comprehensive, science-based perspective.

An individual's perception is his reality. How one perceives the environment that surrounds them is a consequence of the sum total of their prior experiences and exposure to knowledge. With each repetition of a given experience or exposure to a belief or premise, the more ingrained the reality that an individual perceives concerning that experience becomes.

It is generally held that experience is a good trait to possess. To hold that an individual has experience connotes an implied maturity, a demonstrated ability to handle a set of circumstances or utilize a bundle of knowledge and information. Experience can also act as a set of blinders, much like those used in Thoroughbred racing, to limit the equine's peripheral vision. The premise of using blinders in horse racing rests with the notion that the animal cannot be distracted or intimidated by what it cannot see. The same argument can be made for experience.

Experience allows us not to be distracted by what we know to be false. Experience allows one to discard those alternative decision options that do not

fit into the realm of possible or plausible options based on the present state of the environment in which the decision is being made. The fallacy of this reasoning rests in the potential for what we hold to be a valid statement of fact as a society, based on our limited perception of our environment to become invalidated after being viewed and contemplated from an untried alternative. What is now true may become false. What was unknown yesterday may now be known. The World was once flat, and polio was once an uncontrollable disease that crippled and killed.

Adopting an alternative "truth" or conventional wisdom can often be accomplished by changing our point of view, our bearings, by walking a mile in another brave's moccasins. Our perception of reality becomes more focused and narrow as our experiences multiply, and there is a danger that our reality becomes absolute. The inherent assumption with regard to the aforementioned is that the same experience is constantly reinforced by being repeated. Absolutes lead to an entrenchment of thought, especially when they are developed from a solitary perspective.

Absolutes are friendly to the psychological processes of the human mind. Absolutes allow us to become firmly ensconced in positions that are non-changing, and there is a degree of solace in the status quo because it is human nature to fear the unknown and untried.

Absolutes are most appropriate in a static environment in which homeostasis has been achieved with respect to an all encompassing set of variables including science, politics, social interaction and morality. This of course is a theoretical utopia, and not reflective of the world in which we live. The science of forestry, as is the case with all scientific disciplines, is dynamic and ever changing. Hence, there exists no absolutes in forestry.

In the evolving science of forestry,

only accepted methodologies based on the best available science in any given point in time exist. This is not to suggest that the science of forestry is researched and practiced in a state of acute entropy, but it is to demonstrate that it is not a static discipline. As the science of forestry evolves, so must our application of its current "conventional wisdom." We are bound as stewards of the Earth to utilize the best available science in the management of our

natural resources. The transfer of technology and innovations in the science of forestry is reasonably expedient, but it is to no avail if it is not put into practice.

To guard against the establishment of absolutes in the science of forestry that we are unwilling to relinquish, even in the face of overwhelming evidence, we must view our study and application of the science of forestry from as many varied perspectives as we are afforded.

The more varied our tools of analysis, the more comprehensive our understanding of the science of forestry becomes. It is up to each of us as forestry professionals to be receptive of alternative methods of practicing the science of forestry, and adopt them in practice as our knowledge base evolves. Likewise, our positions on forestry issues should evolve similarly. The human mind is much like a parachute. It functions only when open. ♠

"Taking Chances" on Trees

By Deborah Boerner-Ein



Anyone who has played the popular board game of Monopoly knows that the city it portrays -- Atlantic City, New Jersey -- offers houses and hotels as assets. Nary a tree is found at Park Place, Marvin Gardens, or any other property on the board. Members of the Allegheny Society who attended the "Fall Forestry Fest" here on September 20 discovered otherwise on a tour with city landscape architect **Edward Garvey**. **Michael D'Errico**, and urban grant coordinator **Dave Johnson** were also on hand to discuss various aspects of the city's urban forestry projects.

The afternoon tour included six STOPS around the city. The first stop after passing "GO" (Harrah's Hotel Casino served as conference headquarters) was at Huron Avenue, the street leading to the city's bayside casinos, Trump's Castle and Harrah's. This \$1.7 million beautification project was begun in late May with the planting of large-sized oaks and sycamores.

Although planted trees were being fully irrigated, the project was temporarily discontinued during the summer drought; planting of mixed evergreens, shrubs, grasses and perennials will be continued this fall. The cost of the project is shared by the two casinos that will benefit most directly, as well as, other members of the Casino Reinvestment Development Association. Plantings extend up to and along Absecon Boulevard, better known as Route 30 or the White Horse Pike, one of the three gateways to the city from the mainland.

Another gateway STOP was visited along Route 40 or the Black Horse Pike. Here, Zelkova was planted in oblong pits with mulch and groundcover along several blocks leading into the city. Garvey emphasized the "double chances" played by he and his staff in a city that faces the usual urban challenges as well as the wind and sea spray of an oceanside environment. The initial fall 1993 planting of Zelkova suffered 50% mortality, but was successfully replaced the following year. This project included one of the city's largest parks and a vacant lot, which adjacent landowner McDonalds pitched in and planted to benefit all.

A STOP at Ohio and Huron Avenues showed Bradford pear planted beneath concrete blocks which allows the percolation of water and oxygen. These blocks also allow the trees more space than normally seen in an urban setting, because the trees don't need to be kept within the grass strip where it is

more prone to damage from snow plows and salt. Johnson called the cooperative effort between city planners and urban foresters in this design a "nice marriage that enhances the green infrastructure" of the city.

At the Chelsea Avenue STOP, streetscaping has been accomplished with cultivars of London plane, Callery pear, red maple, green ash, and Zelkova. Here Garvey described an underground anchoring system used throughout the city. A 6"x6"x4' timber is cabled on either side of the root ball and tightened with a turnbuckle, to stabilize the newly-planted tree against stiff shore breezes and abuses of urban population.

Next, the SAF group was taken to City Hall, where native plant materials -- multi-stemmed red maple, sweetbay magnolia, blueberry, and native grasses -- are arranged in a woodland setting for a low maintenance microenvironment. Across the street, a large privately owned vacant lot, once an eyesore, has been spruced up with public funds. Sidewalks cut the quadrangle corner to corner with interspersed planting of red maples and little-leaf linden along the walks and among the internal grassed areas. The design allows for pedestrian traffic and a pleasant waiting area for users of public bus transportation.

With continued use of these pedestrian-friendly designs, plantings -- and above all -- continued maintenance on the part of the city, casinos, other businesses, and the residents, Atlantic City will pass "GO" again and again, and end up winning with many more trees on the Monopoly board! ♠

Northern Hardwood Summer Meeting

By Donald Nibert



The September 26, 1995 summer meeting of the Northern Hardwood Chapter, attended by 63 members, guests, and students from Penn College, consisted of an excellent slide-talk program entitled "The Elk Herd of Pennsylvania," given by **Rawley Cogan**, Wildlife Biologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

Mr. Cogan explained that the native elk were extirpated by 1870, and from 1913-1926 a total of 177 elk from Yellowstone National Park were released in Northcentral Pennsylvania. The present herd of approximately 255 animals are descendants of these early releases. The herd is healthy, with a 12 to 13 percent increase each year.

The peak of the mating season occurs at the end of October. Elk can readily be observed at the new Dent's Run Public Elk Viewing Area or along gravel roads north of Route 555 between Driftwood and Benezette. Benezette is located between DuBois and Emporium. For more information, call **Donald Nibert** at 717-320-8038.

A tour of elk habitat enhancement projects such as fenced aspen regeneration cuts, seed tree treatments, and food plots developed on the Elk State Forest followed the slide program. The tours were conducted by **Robert Martin**,

John Sidelinger, and **Ralph Harrison**, from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, and **Rawley Cogan** of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

After an evening picnic, 15 magnificent elk were observed at distances ranging from 25 to 200 yards. Everyone was delighted to see the elk in various locations of their natural habitat within Elk and Cameron counties. As the observation period was ending, a wounded "7 by 7" royal bull elk was found. He was gored during an encounter with another bull as they battled for females during the rutting season. The size and magnificence of the animal impressed us all. It was also an excellent educational experience for the students, as well as the other SAF members attending. ♠



"7 by 7" Royal Bull Elk in Dent's Run, Pennsylvania

SAF History... 32 Years Ago

From May 1963 *Allegheny News*
Editor A. J. Pickall
Assistant Superintendent of State Parks,
Annapolis, MD

- The Plateau Chapter of The Allegheny Society of American Foresters was organized on June 6, 1962, representing eleven (11) counties in Northwestern Pennsylvania. Over 30 members in attendance met and elected **Charles S. Merroth**, District Forester with the PA Department of Forest and Waters, as Chairman.
- The Pinchot Chapter, representing twelve (12) counties in Northeastern Pennsylvania, was started in 1960. **Nevin Slusser**, District Forester with the PA Department of Forest and Waters, was Chairman.
- The Allegheny Section of The Society of American Foresters sent \$100 to the Puget Sound Section (Oregon) to help them with the \$3,000 deficit incurred by the SAF exhibit at the Seattle World's Fair. The West Virginia Chapter sent an additional \$25, and the Trenton, New Jersey Office of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development sent \$17. ♠

It All Started With a "Small" Gift

In 1829, a wealthy British citizen left \$515,169, "the whole of my property, to the United States of America, to found at Washington an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men." Were James Smithson alive today he would, I suspect, be more than a little pleased at what his vision helped create: 16 of the world's greatest museums! ♠

Is there something here we can learn, and apply our resources and responsibility to our profession through support of The Forester's Fund? I think so...

Ed.

A Better Idea?

By Mark Webb, Forestry Consultant



As we draw near to the end of the 20th century and look forward to the next, it is natural to look back at our beginnings and note the concerns regarding man's use (or abuse) of the environment. Seems as though the only thing that has changed in these 100 years is the date; but I believe someone has turned up the volume!

I have been involved with SAF for over 20 years (though not the entire time as a member), and from the beginning, we have continually talked about communication. We spend a lot of effort talking to and among ourselves, and not nearly enough effort informing others. Beyond that, it seems we have fallen into various internal "camps." This can be very destructive, but it doesn't have to be.

Recently, we in the Plateau Chapter SAF have changed our meeting format to field trips, where tracts managed by various members are visited. An explanation is given as to the history of the tract and the goals which led to the implementation of the specific management plan; everyone is encouraged to comment. This has been very successful. At the last meeting, over 40 people participated. We strive to find the things which unite us in our profession with an open and honest discussion to further understanding and knowledge.

The point is simple... Let's spend more time looking for the common ground, and a little less time arguing over issues. I know that we can find agreement if we try. The result will be a stronger SAF at the local, regional and national levels. Open debate and discussion is crucial to meeting this goal. To be successful, we need all members to be involved and willing to find the many things that unite us. We then need to let everyone know that we share a strong environmental concern, and that our solutions are not just "feel good" pseudo-science, but real, sound, scientific ones.

I think the next century will be exciting. As a profession we will mature and acquire the respect and recognition we deserve as we lead the discussion on environmental issues. Let us work together to that end. ▲

The Road to Mont Alto Before SATs and Zip Codes

528 North 34th Street
Philadelphia, Pa.
January, 11, 1922

Mr. R.Y. Stuart, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Forestry
Harrisburg, PA

Dear Sir:

We received your letter a few days ago. The reason it has not been answered before is, that we have been reading the literature that you sent, and talking it over. Mother approves of it and so does Dad.

I think Mother told you that I was eighteen years old. I am six feet one inch in height and weigh about one hundred and fifty pounds. I am all sound physically, as far as I know. I have had one year's experience in the office of a large publishing house here in Philadelphia. I have been in the Boy Scouts of America for the last six years and at present am an acting Assistant Scout Master (until I take my exams). I am very fond of the out-of-doors, in fact so much that I can't stay indoors for any length of time without wishing I were out.

In choosing my vocation I want something where I can pay my own way as my parents are not able to give me much financial assistance and it is my desire to help them in that respect as much as possible.

Any advice that you can give me about the possibility of this, Mother thinks would be very valuable before writing to Mont Alto as you advised.

Appreciating the fact that you permit me to write to you, and awaiting your reply, I remain respectfully yours...

Richard Henry Rule

P.S. Am enclosing a small snapshot taken on my 17th birthday which will give you an idea of my size.

The original of this letter and photograph were discovered several years ago when the Mt. Alto nursery was being closed. Writing with a straight pen and ink well of the times, this young urban dweller, humbly, was attempting to expand his boy scout experiences into a forestry career. I wish we could tell you whether he succeeded in enrolling at Mt. Alto Academy. Ed.



Coming Events

October

- 19-20 National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council meets in Baltimore, MD. Contact Suzanne delVillar (970) 928-9264.
- 26-27 Joint West Virginia SAF Division and Fisheries Society Summer Meeting, Glade Springs Resort, Daniels, WV. Reservations (800) 634-5233 or (304) 763-2000.
- 28-11/1 National SAF Convention, Portland, ME. Join us in Maine... we'll leave the light on for you!

November

- 10-11 MD Forests Association Annual Meeting, Tremont Plaza Hotel, Baltimore, MD. "The History of American Forests" Karin Miller (301) 895-5369.
- 27-1 International Forestry Conference, "Conservation of Northern Forests, Toronto, Canada University of Toronto and Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (416) 978-5750

February 1996

- 19-20 Symposium on Non-industrial Private Forests: "Learning From the Past, Prospects for the Future." Sheraton Washington, DC. Mel Baughman (612)624-0734 or E-mail mbaughma@forestry.umn.edu
- 21-24 7th American Forest Congress, "... seeking (for our nation's forests) a cohesive policy that is environmentally sound and economically viable." William Bentley or Robert Clausi (203) 432-5117; or E-mail b.bentley@cgnet.com.

March 1996

- 3-5 First Biennial Conference on University Education in Natural Resources, University Park, PA. Penn State (814) 865-8301.
- 20-22 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting, Ocean City Sheraton Fontainebleau, Ocean City, MD. "Sustainability of the Forest Resource." Mark that calendar now!

June 1996

North American Forest Biology Workshop, Sainte-Foy, Canada (near Quebec City). "Forest Management Impacts on Ecosystem Processes." Pierre Bernier (418) 648-4524.

FUTURE NATIONAL SAF CONVENTIONS:

November 9-12, 1996 - Albuquerque, New Mexico
 October 4-8, 1997 - Memphis, Tennessee
 September 19-23, 1998 - Traverse City, Michigan

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

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