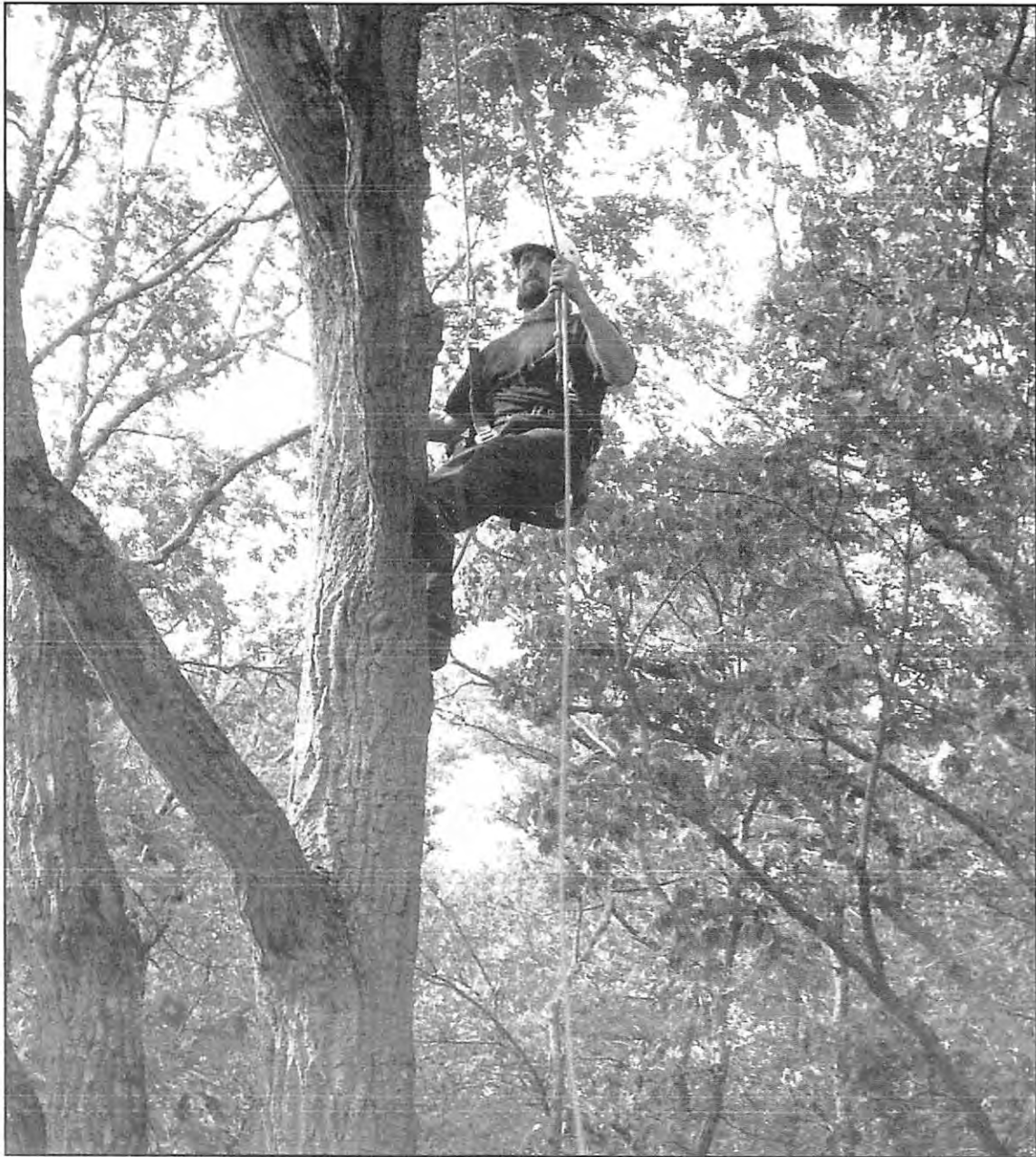


The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 2007

The Allegheny News

Volume 16, No. 3

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

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

The Allegheny News

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Cover Photo

(photo by Charlie Newlon)

Arborist Mark Chisholm demonstrates his arboriculture techniques at the summer meeting in New Jersey (see pages 10-12 for full article)



Chair's Corner

By Kim Steiner,
Allegheny SAF Chair

Within the past year or so, SAF has been debating two issues that are very important to the profession and to the Society. Mary Coulombe reported in the summer *Allegheny News* that Council, in its June meeting, decided against making substantive changes in our membership categories, as had been proposed. This decision reportedly came after two meetings with sometimes heated debate, much of which was focused on elimination of the Technician category as distinct from Professional Member.

The second issue is the name of our Society, which some (mostly younger) members think should be changed to be more "inclusive." This point of view seems to have some traction, but so far not enough for formal consideration by Council.

I bring this up because at the root of both issues are two related questions: "What is a professional forester and who are we as a profession?" We have wrestled with these for most of my career, and I expect that they will not be resolved anytime soon.

Not long ago, as a member of the SAF Committee on Accreditation, I was involved in a decision about whether or not to continue accreditation for one of the nation's oldest forestry schools. Their program has strayed far from what most would regard as forestry, not because of carelessness or administrative fiat but by deliberate decision of the faculty. I've thought a lot about their curriculum and even visited the institution as part of an SAF team, and I personally believe that their program provides a good education but not a *professional* education or a *forestry* education. However, I do think that what the faculty wishes to offer – a professional education in the management of renewable natural resources – is something that our accreditation process should encompass and that SAF should embrace.

Unfortunately, the faculty in this program has ventured into new territory without a map, and our accreditation standards offer little guidance. This has to change. We may never all agree on a name for our

(continued on page 2)

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organization or membership status for associate degree graduates. But I think we *should* be able to agree that the profession is too important to be restricted to timber management, and that a person can in truth practice forestry without managing for timber.

The challenge of managing forests (and other ecosystems) for all social values is far more complex than producing timber, and our profession should be up to the task. If we continue our ambivalence about embracing a broad definition of forestry, others will assume the task that we shirk, and the profession will continue to be marginalized. I personally do not wish to see this happen. ❁



In Memoriam – William S. Corlett

William S. Corlett, 85, died Friday, July 6, 2007 after a very brief illness. He died surrounded by his family.

Bill Corlett attended Case Western Reserve and received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Michigan. He retired from a forestry career in the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry after serving more than 35 years. Most of those years he served as Chief of Cooperative Forestry directing service foresters working with private landowners.

Bill was a Golden member of the Society of American Foresters (SAF), with 60-years of uninterrupted service to SAF and society. He served as Chairs of the Pennsylvania Division and the five-state Allegheny SAF; elected a Fellow in the Society in 1984; and served several years as editor of the Allegheny SAF Newsletter; Chaired the History Committee; and received the "1988 Allegheny SAF Outstanding Service to Forestry" award. A lifetime member of the PA Forestry Association, he served in many of its elected offices and received their "1997 Conservationist of the Year" award.

Bill also served as secretary of the Lemoyne Planning and Shade Tree Commissions for 15 years and was elected to the Borough Council and its presidency. A 33rd Degree Freemason, he was a Past Master of Lowther Manor Lodge #781, Camp Hill, PA; Past District Deputy Grand Master; a member of Harrisburg Consistory Scottish Rite; Zembo Shrine; and a long time admissions counselor for the Masonic Village at Elizabethtown. ❁



Identification Handbooks Available

"Shrubs and Vines of New Jersey and the Mid-Atlantic States" has just been updated and reprinted and is available for sale. Seventy-nine shrubs and 11 vines are identified. The handbook includes some information on invasive exotic shrubs, identification keys for native shrubs and plant communities associated in North and South Jersey. Excellent drawings of each species in the handbook help to readily identify specimens.

"Trees of New Jersey and the Mid-Atlantic States" is also for sale. Nineteen conifers and 76 deciduous both native and non-native trees are identified. This handbook also includes a glossary of terms, programs available through the NJ Forest Service and addresses of the field offices of the NJ Forest Service.

Each handbook costs \$10, and may be purchased by sending your remittance payable to NJ Forest Service to: Forest Resource Education Center, 370 East Veterans Highway, Jackson, NJ 08527. For more information, telephone 732-928-2360. ❁

Correction to 2007 Summer Allegheny News

Tara Claghorn, of the PA Prescribed Fire Council Secretary, authored the "PA Prescribed Fire Control" article on page eight of the Summer 2007 issue of *The Allegheny News*, and *The Natural Lands Trust, Inc.* 2007 provided the photos of "Warm Season Grass management on a Natural Lands Trust Preserve, SE PA."

A Forester for All Ages

By Tina Albans and Jeff Kozar, DCNR-BOF, Penn Nursery

Friend and professional colleague R. Alex Day CF, retired from the PA Bureau of Forestry on Friday, June 22, 2007. Both Pennsylvania's forests and its recorded history have been enriched because of his 36 years of dedicated service.

An early interest in forestry led Alex to enroll in Penn State's Forestry School in 1959 and his professional career was launched: the summer of 1963 he worked for the US Forest Service in Boise, Idaho, fighting forest fires; from 1965-1967 he served in the Peace Corps helping the citizens of the Dominican Republic with forestry related projects. It was in 1967 that he received his degree in Forestry from Penn State University. It was soon after that Alex was given the opportunity to serve his country and was drafted into the Army, serving as a Communication Security Equipment Repairman in Germany until 1970.

In 1971 Alex started working for the Bureau of Forestry in Harrisburg as a forester with the Forest Advisory Service. In 1973 he transferred to the Michaux State Forest field office, and in 1980, was promoted to Assistant District Forester on the Susquehannock State Forest in Coudersport. His last transfer was to the Penn Nursery and Wood Shop in 1989 as the Forest Nursery Operations Manager. One of Alex's special gifts to everyone he meets is his enthusiasm for learning and his willingness to *always* share what he has learned - many a student, K-12, BS, and PhD have benefited from his many tree nursery tours. Add to all that, his willingness to help solve problems and follow through to make things happen (the "Get'er Done" attitude).

Alex has been an active member of the Society of American Foresters for 32 years and has been elected a National SAF Fellow by his professional peers. As a member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA), he has contributed to many board committees; worked closely with the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum; and took part in founding the Pennsylvania Forest Fire Museum. For these and other contributions, he received the PFA 2006 "Joseph T. Rothrock Award".

An excellent photographer, Alex can always be depended on to document the meetings and events he attends. He has contributed many articles for *The Allegheny News*, a publication of the Allegheny SAF, and the PFA "Pennsylvania Forests".

Always having shown a keen interest in forestry and the history that went with it, Alex is considered by many as the Bureau of Forestry unofficial "historian" of Pennsylvania's forestry heritage. His research has been responsible for several publications and the placement of PA Historical Markers recognizing the contributions of the Mont Alto Academy and its leaders to the forestry profession.

Alex now resides in the Bellefonte area with his wife Sandy. His enthusiasm and contributions continues in his retirement. ❁



Alex with Black Cherry logs at Penn Nursery and Wood Shop

In Memoriam – Benjamin B. Stout

Benjamin Boreman Stout, 83, died July 29, 2007 in Corvallis, Oregon. He received a BS in Forestry at West Virginia University in 1947, an MS in Forestry from Harvard in 1950, and a PhD in Forest Ecology from Rutgers University in 1967. His professional career began as a consulting forester, and then as manager of Harvard's Black Rock research forest in Cornwall, New York. Later he served a Professor of Silviculture at Rutgers University, where he went on to serve as New Brunswick Chair of Biological Sciences and Associate Provost for Academic Affairs (1959-1978).



Ben Stout
(circa 1980s)

Stout ended his academic career as Dean of the School of Forestry at the University of Montana (1978-1985). Finally he served as director of the acid deposition research program for the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement from 1985 until his retirement in 1988.

He served in the European theater during WWII, participating in General Patton's grand march towards Berlin. He received a Bronze Star "for meritorious achievement in ground combat," and was discharged as a second lieutenant in 1945.

Ben authored numerous scientific articles and two books on natural resources. He was a 50-year "Golden Member" of the Society of American Foresters, served as Allegheny SAF Chair, and was elected SAF Fellow in 1985.

The family of Ben Stout is establishing a national memorial fund to honor his life and commitment to science-based natural resource management. For information on how to contribute to the fund email gifts@benstoutmemorial.org

Timber Taxation and Forest Finance Workshops

The Penn State School of Forest Resources will be offering three, one-day programs on "Timber Taxation:" October 30th in Strattanville, PA; November 1st in Tunkhannock, PA; and November 5th in Mill Hall, PA. Instructors will be Mike Jacobson, associate professor, and Lloyd Casey, USDA Forest Service (retired).

In addition to the timber tax workshop, two, one-day programs on "Forest Finance" will be held November 7th in Mercer, PA; and in State College, PA on November 14th. To view a copy of the brochure, please visit the website at <http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu/workshops.html>. For other information, contact Mike Powell via telephone at 814-863-1113 or email mjp175@psu.edu

PA SAF and PA Wildlife Society Joint Meeting to be held in March

As professionals working with common or related resources, foresters and wildlifers recognize the importance of sharing experience and cross training. In an attempt to broaden our horizons and encourage relationships with other professionals in an open forum, the PA Wildlife Society (TWS) and the PA Division of SAF have planned a joint meeting and conference to be held March 21-22, 2008 at the Ramada Inn, State College, PA. The meeting theme will be "The Future of Penn's Woods: Integrating Wildlife and Silviculture."

As foresters, we often discuss the reality that we are good at talking among ourselves, but are often lacking when it comes time to communicate good forestry to other audiences. The upcoming joint TWS/SAF meeting is an excellent opportunity to be proactive and network outside of our own ranks. Pennsylvania Division and Allegheny SAF members and guests are invited and encouraged to attend and participate with the meeting's activities.

The meeting format will feature a workshop including indoor and field sessions on Friday, March 21, followed by the Plenary Session, Technical Sessions, and Banquet on Saturday, March 22, 2008. The program will focus on discussion of the integration of Silviculture and wildlife habitat within the themes of connectivity, diversity, and policy.

Registration information for meeting activities will be available early in 2008. Please mark your calendar to save the dates, and plan to attend what promises to be an exciting and interactive joint meeting.



District VII Council Report

By Mary J. Coulombe, CF, SAF District VII Representative

2007 SAF Convention in Portland Oregon

I am hoping that as many of you as can/will be attending the SAF Convention in Portland Oregon October 23-27, 2007. The theme this year is Sustaining America's Forests. As you all know, sustaining our forests is one of the most important challenges that we face. The keynote speaker is Richard Louv, the author of the "Last Child in the Woods, Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder." Mr. Louv has started a movement to build local, state and national programs to address the issues related to children and nature. I have heard him speak and one of his most important messages is that if we don't build an appreciation for nature in our children, there will be little or no support

for environmental stewardship and conservation when they are adults. That is a sobering thought as it relates to forests and forestlands. If they don't care, who will? I hope to see you there.

SAF Elections

PLEASE VOTE! In the last few years, voting percentages have been very low. I can't emphasize how important it is for you to vote in our elections. Our leadership needs to know they have the support of the members, and as always in the election for Vice President (who automatically proceeds to President), there are real differences in candidates. Take a look at the candidates and vote!

SAF Leadership

I encourage all of you readers of the newsletter to consider volunteering for positions in your SAF chapter, division, or state society. We are only as strong as our members.

I know from my own experience that participating in SAF governance is a rewarding and wonderful opportunity to network and grow your skills. I know you might think that it will be too time-consuming, but if there is good participation, the work gets spread among a group. I think it is also very important that we get young people engaged in our SAF leadership. They have much to offer and can help SAF grow and adapt to the changing world around us. So, DON'T BE SHY, volunteer today!

Council Activities

I reported to you all after the June Council meeting and our next meeting will be at the Convention. If you have anything you would like me to share, or issues you would like me to raise to Council, please send me an email (coulombe@cox.net), or give me a call (202-761-1228 work, 703-352-4460 home). I want to represent your interests at Council. ❁



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Can Money Grow on Trees? Understanding Ecological Services in the 21st Century

MFA 2007 Annual Meeting slated for November 2 & 3, 2007
by Karin E. Miller, MFA Executive Director



Join with us as we learn from the experts and discuss with each other the many aspects and opportunities for managing forest land for new "ecological services." Learn about new tools that exist to aid us in our stewardship efforts, and participate as we confront the dilemmas we face, addressing the issue of **Ecological Services in the 21st Century**. The MFA Annual Meeting will be held Friday and Saturday, November 2 and 3 at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront Conference Center in Ocean City, Maryland. Full registration materials plus detailed agenda and speaker bios are online at <http://www.mdforests.org/AM2007.htm>

Keynote speakers for the event will be former SAF president Dr. Harry V. Wiant, Jr. The Saturday luncheon speaker will be award-winning Tree Farmer and Activist Mr. Thomas Thomson. Educational Sessions (CFE's available) include:

Session 1 ~ ISSUE UPDATES

State of the States Report:

Austin Short, Delaware State Forester and Steve Koehn, Maryland State Forester

State of the Nation Report

Doug Crandall, SAF Director of Forest Policy

Session 2 ~ Ecological Services in the 21st Century

Measuring the Values of Maryland's State-owned Forests ~ Rob Weiland

Beyond Timber Dollars:

Carbon Sequestration, Mitigation and Trading Markets ~ Neil Sampson

25x25: Growing our Energy Future-Solutions from the Land ~ R. Bruce Arnold

Session 3 ~ From Lo-tech to Hi-Tech: New Tools for the Forest Landowner's Toolkit

The Woods in Your Backyard ~ MD Cooperative Extension

Forestry for the Bay ~ Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

All this, and an optional Field Workshop **Wetlands Ecology 101**.

Dr. Roman Jesien, science coordinator with the Maryland Coastal Bay Program and its Executive Director Dave Blazer will lead the group by canoe through the marshes and shallows of the Coastal Bays and talk about some wetland ecology and issues facing the bay (workshop is limited to first 50 meeting registrants)

PLUS the Awards Banquet, Silent Auction, networking events,

I&E Exhibits and a great getaway location.

Contact the MFA office to receive a registration brochure
by calling 301-895-5369 or emailing mdforests@hereintown.net

Pennsylvania Takes Second at 2007 Canon Envirothon

by Lorelle Steach, Program Coordinator, PA Envirothon, Inc.

Lake Success, NY, August 6, 2007 - A five-member team of Pennsylvania high school students from Northern York High School received second place honors in the 2007 Canon Envirothon. Winners were announced during closing ceremonies of the weeklong North American environmental education competition held at Hobart & William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY, and sponsored by Canon USA.

More than 260 teenagers from more than 40 US states and nine Canadian provinces studied environmental issues and resource conservation, while competing for a share of more than \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes.

The Housatonic Valley Regional High School of Falls Village, CN took first place (\$25,000 in Canon scholarships) along with Canon photographic equipment for their advisor and sponsoring agency/organizations to use in

science education. Northern York High School from Dillsburg, PA placed second, winning \$20,000 in scholarships and Canon equipment, The Charter School of Wilmington, DE took third (\$15,000 in scholarships and Canon equipment), and High Tech High School from North Bergen, NJ was fourth, receiving \$7,500 in scholarships and Canon equipment.

In addition to their second-place honor, the Pennsylvania team was awarded for receiving the highest score on the Forestry test with a perfect score of 100 points, and on the Wildlife test with a score of 90 points.

Each team's knowledge is tested under the supervision of foresters, soil scientists, wildlife specialists and other natural resource professionals. Teamwork, problem solving and presentation skills are evaluated as each team offers a panel of judges an oral presentation containing



recommendations for solving the specific challenge that is presented during the competition. Resource professionals within all the states and provinces involved volunteer in the preliminary competitions leading up to this annual international competition.

The 2008 competition will be held at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona, July 28 through August 3, 2008. For information about this year's competition and photos, visit the Canon Envirothon Press Room at www.envirothon.org, and click on '2007 press room'.



Northern High School winners Benjamin Spalding, Ben Mummert, Chris Jacobs, Morgan DeLuca and Hanna Richwine

Allegheny SAF Officer Elections

There will be no election ballot in this Fall 2007 issue of The Allegheny News. The ballots for the election of Allegheny SAF officers will be e-mailed to members with e-mail addresses on file with the national office, and snail-mailed to everyone else. Candidate information follows for your information - please vote your choice of leadership for 2008-09.

2007 ANSAF OFFICER CANDIDATES

CHAIR-ELECT:

• Mary Ann Fajvan

Current Professional Position - Research Forester in quantitative silviculture, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Research Station in Morgantown, WV.

SAF Activities - Member since 1977. Elected SAF Fellow in 2006. Allegheny SAF Executive Committee 2004-07, and currently ANSAF Forest Science Coordinator. Initiated "Silviculture News" series in *The Allegheny News*, 1998-present. Steering committee for first SAF Leadership Academy 1995. Secretary, Chair-elect, Chair, Silviculture Working Group 2000-04. SAF Science Fund Committee 2002-04; Chair, Science Fund subcommittee for the 2006 National Convention in Pittsburgh. Initiated and coordinated Science Fund photo competition fundraising event.

Professional accomplishments - PhD, Quantitative Silviculture, 1991, University of Maine; MS, Silviculture, 1983, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; BS, Natural Resource Management, 1981, Cook College, Rutgers University. Forest management faculty at West Virginia University, 1992-2004; taught undergraduate silviculture and graduate courses in silviculture and forest stand dynamics. Charles Bullard Fellowship in Forest Research from Harvard University, 2001. Instructor in Forest Resources Extension at Penn State University, 1984-1987.

• Dennis M. Galway, CF

Current Professional Position - Consulting Forester, Galway Forestry Services, Bernardsville, NJ.

SAF Activities - Member since 1981. Served on NJSF Executive Committee, NJSF Vice Chair, Chair, and currently Past-Chair. Served on various Meeting Planning Committees, most recently the Allegheny Summer 2007 Meeting, and attended numerous SAF national Conventions.

Professional accomplishments - BS Natural Resource Management, Cook College, Rutgers University, 1981. Practicing Forester for 26 years. NJ Forest Service Approved Forester, NJ Certified Tree Expert. Recently completed a 3-year term on American Tree Farm System National Operating Committee. Served as NJ Tree Farm Committee Chair, 1996-2006, and recently completed 15th year as TF member. Member, Bernardsville Shade Tree Committee.

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

• Rachel Billingham, CF

Current Professional Position - Community Forestry Coordinator, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Harrisburg, PA

SAF Activities - Member since 1993. Allegheny SAF Secretary/Treasurer 2004-present. SAF National Communications Committee 2003-2006, Chair 2005-2006. Keystone Chapter SAF Executive Committee 2003-present. Co-chair of Communications Committee for 2006 SAF National Convention. Currently Vice Chair of the SAF F3 Working Group.

Professional accomplishments - Masters of Agriculture, Pennsylvania State University 1998. BS, Forestry, Louisiana State University 1996. Self employed in forestry education and database management, 1998-2001. PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, 2001-present. Program responsibilities include Forest Legacy, PA Clean & Green, stewardship of private forestlands, urban and community forestry.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

• Brad Elison

Current Professional Position - District Forester, Lackawanna Forest District, PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Scranton, PA.

SAF Activities - Member since 1974. PA Division Chair, 2007.

Professional accomplishments – BS, Forestry, West Virginia University 1975. Forester with PA since 1978, including time as forester with PA Bureau of Mining and Reclamation. Began career with PA Bureau of Forestry working as a Forest Foreman in north central PA, and worked as a service forester and resource management assistant in various forest districts. Worked for three years in arboriculture prior to working for the Bureau.

• **Frank Hennion**

Current Professional Position – Forester, NJ Forest Service, Andover, NJ.

SAF Activities – Member since 1990. NJ Division Chair, 2006–07; Vice Chair, 2005–06; NJSAF Secretary 2002–04; EC Member 2000–03. Served on Allegheny SAF Executive Committee as NJ representative in 2003.

Professional accomplishments – BS, Environmental Studies, Ramapo College, NJ, 1985. AAS Forestry, Paul Smith's College, 1962. Graduate studies in forest pathology, SUNY, Environmental Science & Forestry, and in Chemical Engineering, University of Wisconsin. International Nickel Company, Sterling Forest, NY, 30-year career in the reclamation and recycling industry. Joined NJ Forest Service in 1999. Active with Boy Scouts of America, serving as Director of BSA Camp Sabattus, Long Lake, NY. Also served on the BSA NE Region forestry planning team and implemented forest management plans on two BSA Camps. Timber Management, USDA Forest Service, Green Mountain NF, 1966–1969.

• **Ned Karger, CF**

Current Professional Position – Silvicultural Manager, Kane Hardwood Division of the Collins Pine Co., Kane, PA.

SAF Activities – Member since 1985. Allegheny Executive Committee and Program Committee Chair, 2003–2007. Northern Hardwood Chapter Chair, Vice Chair, 1996–1999 and PA Division Chair, Vice Chair, 2000–2003. SAF Leadership Academy, 2000. Received the Allegheny SAF Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award, 2005.

Professional accomplishments – BS, Forest Science, Penn State University, 1979. Collins Pine Co., 1983–present. Currently responsible for managing 127,000 acres of FSC certified forestland in NW PA. Before Collins Pine Co., worked for Hammermill Paper Co., USDA Forest Service Forestry Sciences Lab and the USFS ANF Sheffield District. Current Chair of Roach–Bauer Forestry Forum Steering Committee, and has served on that committee since 1985. Active with the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group and received the 2003 Sandy Cochran Memorial Award. He is a member of the PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Ecosystem Management Advisory Committee. Active in the Kane Area Loggers Safety Committee and numerous community groups.

• **Charles J. Newlon, CF**

Current Professional Position – Forestry Education Consultant, Hamilton, NJ.

SAF Activities – Member since 1957 (Golden Member). Elected SAF Fellow in 2006. Chair of ANSAF Reginald Forbes Art Show for many years. Chair and Vice–Chair of National Capital SAF, active in Central Rocky Mountain SAF, SE Wisconsin SAF, and Valley Forge Chapter, ANSAF. Chair, National SAF Education and Communications Committee. Member SAF Forest Science and Technology Board. Served on National Arrangements Committee for two SAF National Conventions.

Professional accomplishments – BS, Wood Utilization and Forest Management, Colorado State University, 1956. USDA Forest Service, 36-year career, mostly in Western US, retired in 1992. Adjunct forestry professor, Delaware State University, 1992–2005. Member of numerous professional organizations.

• **Steve Resh**

Current Professional Position – Forestry Programs Coordinator, Allegany College of MD, Cumberland, MD.

SAF Activities – Member since 1976. Established the Allegheny Student Quiz Bowl in 1987. This included writing the original rules for the contest as well as collecting several hundred questions to begin the contest. Served for six years on the National SAF Forest Technology Committee and chaired the committee for two years. Served as Treasurer, Chair Elect, Chair and Past Chair of the MD–DE Division.

Professional accomplishments – MS, Forestry, University of Maine, 1983. BS, Forest Science, Penn State University, 1974. Has taught forestry at Allegany College for 21 years, and at the University of Kentucky and Unity College in Maine for the previous 10 years. He is a “Certified Trimble Trainer.” Currently serves as the Curriculum Coordinator for the annual Natural Resources Careers Conference in Garrett County Maryland, designed to expose Maryland high school students to careers in forestry and natural resource management. Also hosts the annual State Forestry Contest for the FFA. 🌲

Summer Allegheny SAF Meeting – a Scorching Success

Community Forestry: Diverse Opportunities and Challenges for Everyone

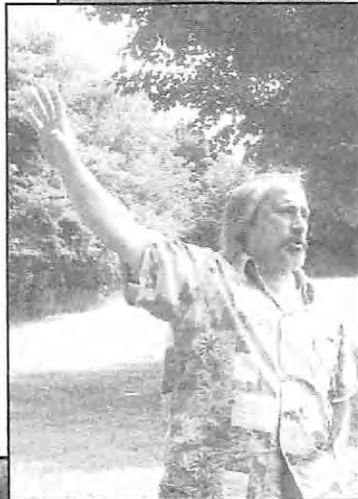
Article and photos by Charlie Newlon CF

There were many successes at the Summer Allegheny SAF meeting hosted by the New Jersey Division SAF in East Windsor, New Jersey at the Holiday Inn Conference Center August 14-16, 2007. It began with the gathering of the ANSAF Executive afternoon Executive committee meeting hosted by ANSAF Chair **Kim Steiner**. The evening ice breaker food did not run out before closing!! This is a “first,” in my memory, a record that is rare and will be hard to beat. The hot finger foods were served by tray carrying hostesses who constantly worked the crowd and there were no “fillers” like peanuts, popcorn or potato chips. In fact all the meals served by the Conference Center were very good and with generous helpings.

The bus tour the next morning began with a “scorching” success which came in the form of a Bacterial Leaf Scorch (BLS) presentation in the quiet surroundings of the Westminster cemetery in Cranbury, NJ.

Dr. Ann Gould and **Dr. James Lashomb** of Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service were joined by Rutgers grad student **Jason Zhang** in discussing the problem of this vascular disease. It is widespread in the red oak group in New Jersey and has been found in as many as 44% of the oaks in several NJ municipalities. In the trio’s studies to understand the disease which threatens to cause \$1.8 million in losses in the next decade, they note that the spread of BLS is determined by many insects that carry the disease. So far these include insects in the spittlebug, eared hopper, leafhopper, and treehopper families. The goal is to devise preventative or remedial strategies that community arborists can use to delay or manage the BLS epidemic.

Next we visited the small municipality of Manalapan where big things are being tried in urban forest stewardship by SAF forester **Gary Lovello** and **Shari Spero**. They have been able to foster stewardship programs via many subdivision planning sessions. They showed us several sites where TSI and mass tree plantings have been done as well as the more traditional street tree plantings. A fine catered box lunch was served at a Manalapan City Park topped



Photos by Charlie Newlon

with generous helpings of juicy watermelon slices.

Then we traveled to the **Rex Lumber Company** in Englishtown, NJ. Their specialty is custom manufactured architectural grade mouldings plus glued-up hand rails, panels and drawer sides. They buy some local yellow poplar and eastern white pine lumber but most of their extensive stock is from other states and continents. Besides oaks, alder, beech, maples and other domestic hardwoods, the company carries African and Central American mahogany and 41 tropical species ranging from Afrormosia to zebrawood. Some species carry the FSC certified label. Quality control appeared to be very high as observed in the drying sheds (all stickers between layers of boards were aligned precisely in vertical rows, extra sticks per layer were used, along with grooved and spiral sticks to avoid staining). Their big bank of dry kilns is fully computerized. Their heavy duty machinery appeared well cared for and we observed their precision cutter-head sharpeners in action. All in all the Rex Lumber Company, which has been in business for 50 years and operates 3 other yards in CT, MA and VA, appears to be quite successful.

The next tour stop was at the Forest Resource Education Center (FREC) which the New Jersey State Forest Service operates in the pinelands near Jackson, NJ. We were very fortunate to watch **Mark Chisholm**, a very talented arborist, and champion climber, demonstrate new techniques in arboriculture. In fact Mark is the reigning, international, secured foot lock rope climbing champion (50 meters in 13.8 seconds – a new world record time) and he is also the world throwline champion for 2007. Mark is with the **Aspen Tree Expert Co.**, Jackson, NJ.

Soon we hopped on a hay wagon to tour the FREC demonstration forest with a stop at the NJ Forest Service tree Nursery which opened in 1982. Foresters **John Burkle** and **Joe Battersby** discussed how they grow 300,000 conifer and hardwood seedlings annually for reforestation on public and private lands. The small nursery staff also manages the *Today's Acorns = Tomorrow's Trees* program each fall where the public gathers acorns and delivers them to drop off sites for the nursery. Though there are quality control challenges, the acorn program is a good way to involve the public in reforestation efforts. Another of the nursery's state wide programs entitles every third grader
(continued on page 12)



Photos by Charlie Newlon



(continued from page 11)

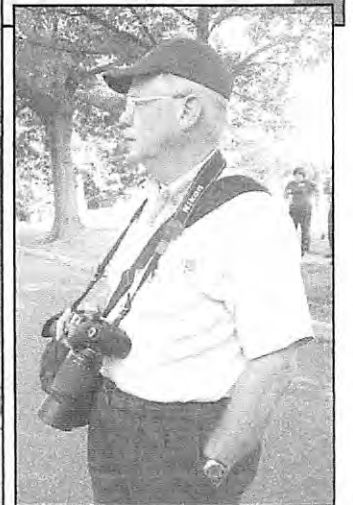
in New Jersey to a free tree seedling when requested by the local school.

The final stop on the tour was at the FREC Interpretive Center which is committed to public education and to providing professional development opportunities for teachers, educators and other youth leaders. NJ Div SAF Treasurer Elizabeth Faircloth leads the Project Learning Tree (PLT) program which offers environmental education workshops at the Interpretive Center and at schools, organizations, and teacher colleges on request. The FREC offers many educational programs throughout the year and features many trails such as an arboretum trail, bluebird trail, forest products loop, Firewise trail, sensory trail and more including a stop at a sugar maple shack. The silent auction held forth at FREC with quiet but spirited bidding on more than 40 donated items and netted \$541. There was so much to see and do at FREC that one could hardly do it all, but we ended the day with a fine catered barbeque amongst the educational displays and outdoor picnic tables.

The final morning of the summer meeting was held in the Holiday Inn Conference Center and focused on New Jersey's latest urban forestry issues and programs. NJ State Forester Jim Barresi set the stage with a 'state of the forests' address. Dave Johnson, NJ Forest Service (NJFS), reported on the NJ Forest Health Council. Rosa Yoo and Brian Widner (NJFS) provided the latest update on the Asian longhorn beetle situation in Union and Middlesex Counties, followed by a lively presentation on the Cool Cities Initiative by Mary Ferraro (NJFS). Dave Johnson then returned to the podium to cap off the morning session with a presentation on Community Forestry in New Jersey and its opportunities for consulting foresters.

The highly successful meeting was capped by a very fine luncheon and an equally interesting presentation by Maris Gabliks, NJ State Forest Fire Warden. He gave out prizes to those who correctly answered his questions as he tested the knowledge of the audience about the Firewise program.

Many thanks to NJ Division SAF Chair Frank Hennion and the crew he assembled to manage this program. And very special thanks to NJD SAF Treasurer Elizabeth Faircloth, who quite literally did the work of three in making arrangements, registering, and paying bills for this summer meeting. By the time you read this Elizabeth will have presented twins to the world and we marvel at her jolly stamina. 🌲



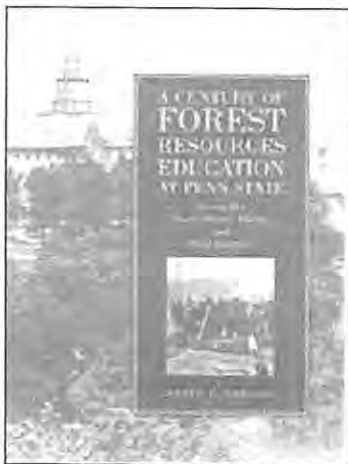
Photos by Charlie Newlon

History of Forest Resources Education at Penn State

Forestry education in Pennsylvania has a long, proud tradition, having begun earlier than in most other states. By 1897, twenty land-grant colleges, including Penn State, had introduced the subject of forestry, typically in botany courses. Professional forestry education in Pennsylvania originated in 1903, when the Pennsylvania State Forest Academy was founded at Mont Alto, and expanded in 1907 when the B.S. degree program started at the Pennsylvania State College.

For the 100th anniversary of the School of Forest Resources in 2007, *A Century of Forest Resources Education at Penn State* was published by Penn State Press. This book reviews progress in the School's academic programs and facilities and examines accomplishments in academic programs, research, and outreach. The events that led up to the founding are described first, featuring eight pioneering men and their sole female peer. The principal developments of the initial fifty years then provide background for the ensuing expansion of the faculty, facilities, administrative organization, and graduates of the last five decades. Fascinating little-known tidbits—such as students hanging officials in effigy, an interloping bear in a classroom, administrative battles, and a tale of the original Nittany Lion—add to the interest of factual data.

Biographies of 13 directors of the school and of 53 of our more interesting and prominent graduates and faculty describe their careers and some amazing accomplishments. Many of them offer insights into what their experience at Penn State meant to them.



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First Penn State Annual Forestry Field Competition

by Brent Harding, Senior Forester, PSU Forestland Mgt. Office,
Photos by Jamie Murphy

After one foul weather postponement, the First Annual Forestry Field Competition was held on April 29, 2007 at Penn State's Stone Valley Forest. The competition was open to any School of Forest Resources undergraduate who had completed Forest Mensuration (FOR 366). Eight students accepted the challenge to test their forestry skills and have some fun. Participants were told to bring a clipboard and a pencil and be prepared to do forestry fieldwork; no additional instructions or clues were provided in advance.

Joe Harding and Brent Harding from the Forestland Management Office and volunteers from the School of Forest Resources (Jamie Murphy, Chris Dahl, Damian Houseknecht, and Chuck Coup) designed, installed, and officiated the competition. Ben Meadows provided very generous gift certificate prizes in the amounts of \$200, \$150, and \$100 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, respectively, and Forestry Suppliers provided a \$50 gift certificate for 4th place.

The first event was a 30-specimen dendrology quiz of common trees, seedlings, and shrubs of Pennsylvania. The students received one point for the correct common name; one point each for the correct Latin family, genus, and species; and one point if everything was spelled correctly – for a possible total of 150 points. The outcome suggests that Latin nomenclature is not retained very long after taking a dendrology course! Scores ranged from 112 to 28.

The second event was a compass and pace course. Before the competition, four different courses were carefully measured, with the starting and ending points marked by a piece of pipe sunk into the ground. Each course had five or six legs, totaled either nine or ten chains, and required some conversions of feet to chains, and bearings to azimuths. Students each completed one course and marked their end points with a wire flag with their initials on it. The distance from the wire flag to the true endpoint was measured. Each student started with 150 points and lost two points for each foot away from the true endpoint. Scores ranged from 104 to 0.

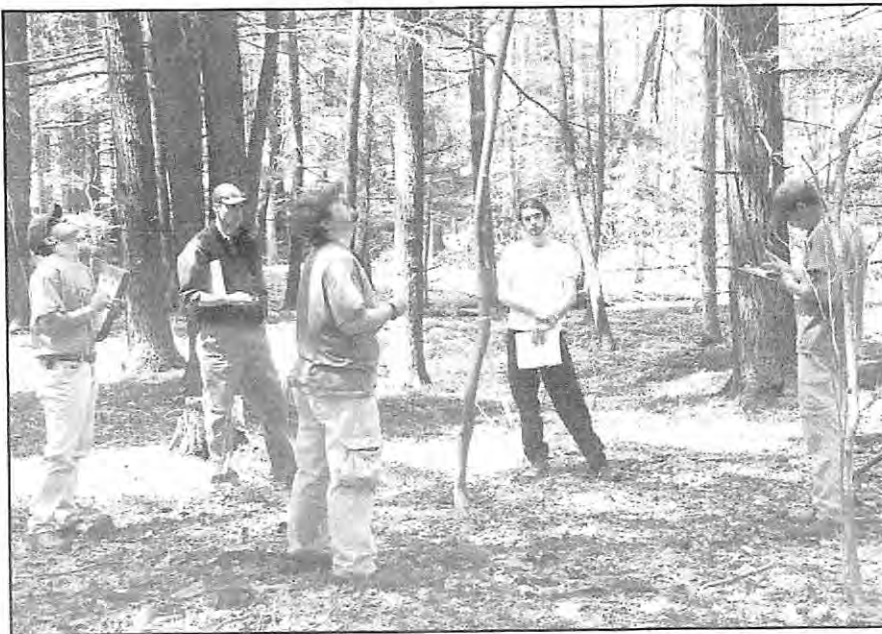
The third and final event was a 10 BAF prism plot. Each student was supplied with a prism, 75-foot logger's tape, clinometer, and a limiting distance chart. Strategically placed plot centers ensured the occurrence of borderline trees.



Overall winner, Travis Weinzierl accepts a \$200 gift certificate, provided by Ben Meadows, from Joe Harding

Students were required to determine whether trees were "in" or "out" and to record "in" trees by common name and DBH (diameter at breast height) to the nearest half-inch. Credit was given/deducted for correct/incorrect names and diameter measurements. Depending on the number of trees and borderline trees in each plot, students were also required to measure total heights on any three or five trees over 15.0 inches DBH. Full credit was given for measurements within +/- half a log (8 feet) and half credit for measurements within +/- a full log (16 feet). Total possible points equaled 150; scores ranged from 124 to 44.

After the events, a barbeque lunch was served on truck tailgates



(l-r) Travis Weinzierl, Judge Chuck Coup, competitor Blaise Simmon, James Gillespie and Doug Manning identify a specimen during the dendrology section

while scores were tallied and ideas on how to make the competition better next year were discussed. Several new and interesting event ideas were also suggested. The students enjoyed the competition and the free food, and the opportunity to assess their skills (or deficiencies therein!). Winners were **Travis Weinzierl** (1st place), **Doug Manning** (2nd place), **Blaise Simmons** (3rd place), and **Derrick Nahill** (4th place).

Next year we hope to expand the competition to include students from other two- and four-year forestry programs on the East Coast, with each program represented by one three-person team. The team with the best score would win a significant prize as well as yearlong rights to a trophy with names of the winners engraved on it annually. Individual contestants with the top three scores would also receive prizes. Perhaps a different program could host the event each year.

This fall we will begin contacting other programs about participating, and forestry-related companies about prizes and sponsorships. If you would like to offer any thoughts or suggestions about the competition, please contact Joe Harding at 814-865-6272 or h31@psu.edu



Competitor Derrick Nahill receives directions from Brent Harding for the compass and Pace section (all photos by Jamie Murphy)

Forest Fever CD-ROM Available

An interactive CD-ROM for middle and high school students entitled "New Jersey Forest Fever" is available for purchase. This educational tool discusses balancing social, environmental and economic challenges, managing and growing a forest for over 100 years; identifying and resolving current forestry issues; discovering tree products and forest benefits; and learning about careers in forestry. If you would like a copy to give to a school in your town, remit \$10, payable to NJ Forest Service, and send to Forest Resource Education Center, 370 East Veterans Highway, Jackson, NJ 08527. For more information, phone 732-928-2360.



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On the Horizon – Allegheny SAF Awards

by Howard Wurzbacher

The 2008 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting and Awards Banquet seems a long way distant as we work and play through fall activities. It's not too early, however, to be thinking ahead to the presentation of the Allegheny SAF Forester of the Year and the Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry awards at the meeting in Carlisle, PA, February 13-15, 2008 (please see advertisement below). While participating in the regular activities of our SAF Chapters or Divisions, please take time to note individuals among us who display leadership in communicating the message of forestry to the public, and in the practice of good forestry by example.

The purpose of the Forester of the Year award is to recognize current professional achievements in forestry and a specific accomplishment or achievement within 2007. Last year's recipient is Ken Roberts, of the MD/DE Division.

The Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry award recognizes achievement in the forestry profession and service to SAF and local or regional

community activities over a career time span. Members of the Awards Committee, who serve in anonymity, review nominations for each award and select recipients for award presentation. Duane Green, of the Valley Forge Chapter (PA) received the award for 2006.

A request for nominations for Allegheny Awards will be forthcoming to Allegheny leadership late this fall, and your experiences with deserving individuals throughout the year will provide a great head start to the nomination process. We all interact regularly with good, solid foresters, who are deserving of our recognition of their professional commitment and performance. When the call for nominations comes, please respond! ❄️

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Allegheny SAF 2008 Winter Meeting

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More information and registration form to arrive via mail and in the Winter issue of The Allegheny News

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HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

The Ibberson Forestry Forum

The 5th annual Ibberson Forestry Forum will be held at the Penn Stater Conference Center on November 10, 2007. This year's topic is **Practical Forestry for the Landowner**.

This forum is designed to provide forest landowners with practical knowledge that will help them manage their forest to meet economic and ecological goals. The landowner will be better prepared to communicate with foresters and others about:

- **Practical Silviculture:** Keeping your forest healthy and productive; how to know when thinnings, improvement cuttings, and harvesting is appropriate. Presented by Dr. Eric Zenner, Associate Professor of Silviculture, PSU.
- **Estimating Timber Volumes:** Simple techniques and tools will be provided by which the landowner can make ball-park estimates of timber volumes. Presented by Dr. Harry V. Wiant, Jr., Joseph E. Ibberson Chair, PSU.
- **Forests as an Investment:** Explanations of stumpage values; how timber values change as trees grow and economic conditions change; understanding your forest as an investment. Presented by Dr. Michael Jacobson, Associate Professor, PSU.
- **Selecting a Forester to Meet Your Needs:** How to select a forester to assure your goals are met. Presented by Mark Webb, Consulting Forester.

For more information on the forum, please contact Mike Powell via email at mjp175@psuedu or telephone at 814-863-1113.

The next newsletter deadline is December 15, 2007

Send articles in Microsoft Word format and photos as JPG files to The Allegheny News editor Jack Winieski at ansaf@verizon.net

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Visit the Allegheny SAF website  
[www.alleghenysaf.org](http://www.alleghenysaf.org)

for online newsletters, officer contact information, committees and chairs, important documents, etc.

## Fire in Pennsylvania Conference Scheduled

The Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council (PPFC) seeks to advance the responsible use of prescribed fire in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We are holding a conference to discuss prescribed fire issues and serve our members. Please join us on February 19 & 20, 2008 at the Penn Stater Conference Center. For more information, contact Tara Claghorn at 814-237-2190

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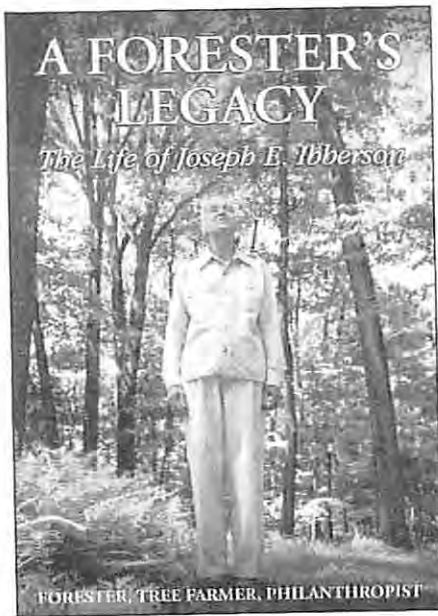
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***The Life of Joseph E. Ibberson***  
 by Henry D. Gerhold

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—**Stephen R. Reed, Mayor of Harrisburg**  
 A Top Ten World Mayor, 2006

*A Forester's Legacy* is the biography of a forester and philanthropist devoted to bringing the benefits of forests to all people. Despite humble beginnings, Joseph E. Ibberson pursued his vision persistently, working hard at an early age and saving his meager earnings to finance his professional forestry education. In his career with Pennsylvania's Bureau of Forestry, he brought about many innovations that modernized the management and preservation of the state's valuable forestland. Having acquired wealth through wise investments, he later donated large properties as conservation areas and endowed professorial chairs in forestry at Penn State. This is the success story of a man with a mission to preserve the state's most valuable resource.

The author, Henry D. Gerhold, is professor of forest genetics at Pennsylvania State University. His other books include *A Century of Forest Resources Education at Penn State*, *Landscape Tree Factsheets*, and *Our Heritage of Community Trees*; he also has written numerous scientific and popular articles.

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# Silviculture News

Mary Ann Fajvan, Forest Science Coordinator

## Silviculture and the Global Demand for Tree Species

In August, the West Virginia SAF Summer Meeting included a tour of various wood products manufacturers in and around Elkins, WV. We saw all steps of processing from a state-of-the-art sawmill, to a dimension mill which then sold boards to other companies in the area for flooring, millwork and custom cabinets. All of the plants were highly efficient, utilized the latest technology, and produced a diversity of products including wood chips for landscaping and sawdust for their boilers. Even though we were in one tiny corner of West Virginia, the global effects of wood supply and customer demand influenced the profit margin of every business we visited.

Local markets typically exist for the highest quality (FAS) boards of most species. However, marketing lower quality boards of certain species is more challenging. For example, the holding yard of the dimension mill had about 30% of its inventory in No. 2 Common red oak. Most of this oak was being shipped to China to be manufactured into flooring. The Chinese government is currently subsidizing most manufacturing in order to gain a market share in the global economy. The flooring manufacturer we visited produces about 1.3 million square feet of product per week with about a 55% average yield from boards to finished product. While their demand for flooring from maple and other species has surpassed oak, they have developed new stains and finishes for oak to create entirely new product lines in order to remain competitive.

Currently, red oak, and to a lesser extent red maple and yellow-poplar, are three of the most under-utilized species in terms of their availability in the forest. The American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) has established major international promotional campaigns for these species, with designers, architects and builders as their target audience. In addition to promoting the structural, functional and esthetic features of a

species, the campaign (initiated in 1999) communicates the message of using species that are most abundant in the forest. In Europe, for example, there has long been a bias against red oak by many traders and manufacturers some of which was caused by a lack of awareness of its availability and suitability for a wide range of architectural applications. Overall, from 2002-2004 global exports of red oak lumber increased 15% and the species has become one of the most important U.S. species in the markets of Mexico and China.

According to the European director of AHEC, "We have seen what happens when markets get single species fatigue, consumer's interest in wood products wanes. Therefore the more species we can offer them the more options there are available to architects and designers." Silviculture is designed to improve the productivity of managed stands by adjusting the species composition to those most suited to a site both biologically and economically. Forest product markets have a strong influence on the affordability of silvicultural treatments. Maintaining a diversity of high quality stems gives landowners more options for taking advantage of changing global markets. 🌲

**Reference:** American Hardwood Export Council. 2005. Red Oak Revisited: A closer look at global red oak consumption trends and promotion; [www.ahec.org](http://www.ahec.org)



Attendees at the West Virginia SAF Summer Meeting discuss grading oak boards at the Coastal Lumber Company Dimension Mill



## Coming Events

### October

Please vote for your 2008-09 officers!

- 23-27 SAF National Convention, "Sustaining America's Forests," Portland, OR.
- 30 "Timber Taxation" workshop featuring Mike Jacobson (PSU Forest Resources associate professor) and Lloyd Casey (USFS retired), in Strattanville, PA. Contact Mike Powell, 814-863-1113, or [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu) (first of three)

### November

- 1 "Timber Taxation" workshop in Tunkhannock, PA. Mike Powell, 814-863-1113, or [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu)
- 5 "Timber Taxation" workshop in Mill Hall, PA (see above for contact).
- 7 "Forest Finance" program in Mercer, PA. Contact Mike Powell at 814-863-1113, or [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu)
- 10 Fifth annual Ibberson Forestry Forum: "Practical Forestry for the Landowner" at the Penn Stater Conference Center. Call Mike Powell at 814-863-1113, or email [mjp175@psu.edu](mailto:mjp175@psu.edu)
- 14 "Forest Finance" program in State College PA (see above for contact).

### December

- 15 Deadline for articles and photos for the Winter 2007-08 issue of *The Allegheny News*. Email articles in Microsoft Word, and photos in JPG format, to [ansaf@verizon.net](mailto:ansaf@verizon.net)

### February 2008

- 13-15 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting at the Hotel Carlisle in Mechanicsburg, PA. **Mark your calendars now!**
- 19-20 "Fire in Pennsylvania Conference," at Penn Stater Conference Center. PA Prescribed Fire Council, contact Tara Claghorn at 814-237-2190 or [taraclaghorn@yahoo.com](mailto:taraclaghorn@yahoo.com)

#### Future Allegheny SAF Meetings

Winter 2008: Keystone Chapter

Summer 2008: Western Gateway Chapter

#### Future SAF National Conventions

2008: Reno, NV, November 5-7

## Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs

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