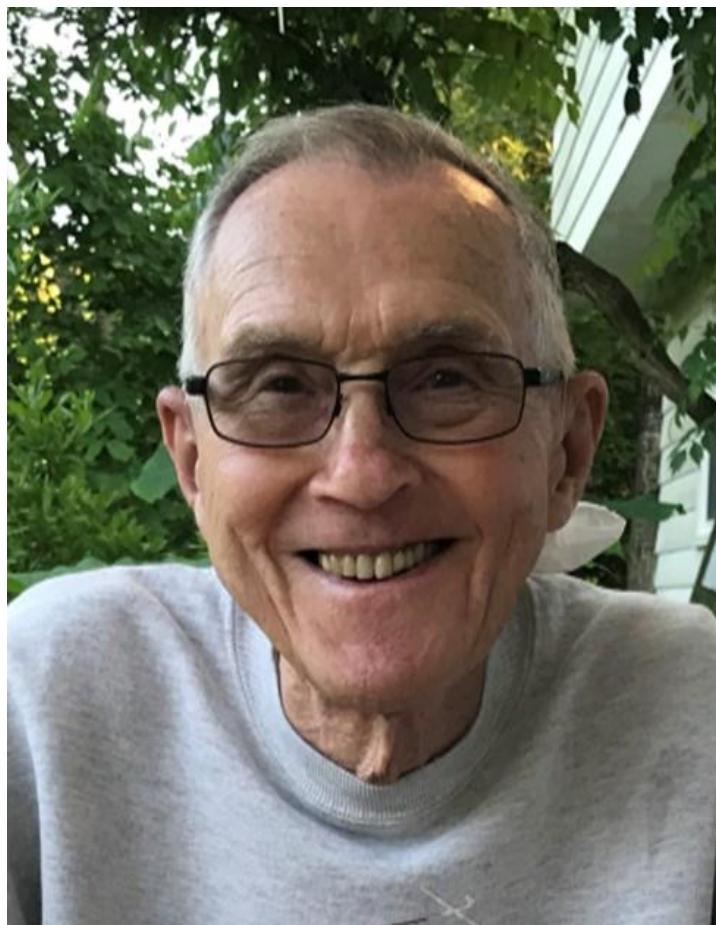


The Allegheny News



Happy 90th Birthday Jack Winieski

**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 2020**

Volume 29, No. 2

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

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

The Allegheny News
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www.alleghenysaf.org
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Advertising in the Allegheny News

Rates:

	<u>One Issue</u>	<u>All Four Issues</u>
Full internal page 6 ¾" x 9 ½"	\$130	\$ 450
Half page (3 ¼" x 9 ½" or 6 ¾" x 4 5/8")	75	250
One third page (3 ¼" x 7 ¼" or 6 ¾" x 2")	50	150
One quarter page (3 ¼" x 4 5/8")	40	130
One eighth page or Business Card (3 ¼" x 2")	25	70

Chair's Corner

Mike Huneke



2020 will be remembered as one of the most challenging Fire Years in American History. The year began with our nation's support for the unprecedented fires in Australia, and has continued through a global pandemic, with fire suppression efforts continuing throughout the American West to this day. We endured a weak Monsoon in the Southwest that never truly developed into fire season ending rainfall, extreme lightning in August through California and the Pacific Northwest and historic wind events in early September that fanned fires from Washington State to Southern California. At the peak of the fire year, more than 32,000 firefighters were deployed throughout the country. So far, in 2020 more than 8.5 million acres have burned in the United States.

Despite the challenges caused by COVID-19, firefighters from across the Allegheny Region deployed to support

the national effort. Several Allegheny SAF members contributed their skills, leadership and time serving on incident management teams, or as fireline resources, overhead or in other support roles.

Personally, I had the opportunity to serve as a Division Supervisor on the Mullen Fire in September and October on the Medicine Bow National Forest in Wyoming. It was a challenging late-season fire assignment. I valued the opportunity to contribute to the effort and I commend all of you in the Allegheny SAF who deployed this year. Thank you all for your contributions, and for serving our nation while protecting our public lands.

Upon return from the fire assignment, I received the news that we were formally selected to host the 2022 Society of American Foresters National Convention, to be held in Baltimore, September 18-23. I can't think of a better way for us to celebrate our 100th Anniversary! I recently participated in the Virtual National Convention, and I am quickly realizing the magnitude of our task ahead. When the call for assistance comes, please consider lending a hand... we're going to need a team to deliver a quality convention.

Finally, I wanted to mention a word about membership... the National SAF has seen a decline in membership for decades. The Allegheny SAF is following this trend with a gradual decline in membership. Moreover, a large component of our membership is of retirement age, which leads me to the concern that our membership decline may continue. I am hopeful that the excitement generated by our centennial year and the 2022 convention will boost our membership, but we all need to do our part to promote, recruit and retain. Please invite a colleague to a meeting, encourage them to renew their membership, or support a student when you are able.

I look forward to seeing everyone again when we are able to return to in-person meetings. Thank you for all that you do for our profession and the Allegheny SAF. I am at your service, and it is my privilege to be your chair.

Board of Directors Report

District 7 Representative – David Gwaze



COVID-19 has created and is continuing to create major disruptions to SAF activities. One thing that Covid-19 has highlighted is the importance of adapting to new conditions. Many SAF events were cancelled, postponed or some were or will be held virtually.

Our biggest event, SAF convention, will be held virtually. This will be the first time that the convention has been held virtually. Conducting the SAF convention virtually is great opportunity to learn what works and what does not work and use that information to guide SAF to make decisions on how future conventions will be held. One advantage of a virtual convention is that it gives an opportunity to more members to

attend because registration fees are less and there are no travel costs. I want to encourage all ANSAF members to attend the virtual SAF convention.

Highlights from Board meetings:

- Committee on Professional Recognition proposed a new Local Unit Achievement Award as a new National Award and at the August meeting the Board approved the Award. This award recognizes the outstanding achievement of a local unit for sustained leadership or a special project benefiting SAF, the forestry profession, and the practice of forestry. Any state society, division, or chapter is eligible.
- The SAF building was sold. The Board approved a proposal for a new headquarters location, and a lease was signed at 2121 K ST NW, Washington, DC. This location will put SAF Headquarters near many of our partner organizations.
- SAF hired Darnell Pinson as the new Manager, Membership and hired Franklin Parham as the new Manager, Development and Fundraising.
- With the July close, our SAF net assets are \$22.9 million (\$23 million in assets and \$129 thousand in liabilities). These numbers do not include the \$2.09 million proceeds from the building sale. We are now forecasting to end 2020 at \$16.1 million (minus building sale proceeds) in net assets.
- SAF membership is currently 9,543 (as of 7/31/20)
 - In 2019, our numbers were 10,222
 - In 2018, our numbers were 10,454
- We have 372 new SAF members (as of 7/31/20)
 - In 2019, our numbers were 390
 - In 2018, our numbers were 326

- Probing audits of our Association Management System continue to identify issues that went unidentified for several years by former staff and require immediate action to resolve.
 - Staff are developing reports that will help to prevent similar issues from occurring moving forward and developing SOPs to ensure current staff are trained correctly.
- As of July 31, 516 people had registered for the 2020 National Convention
- CF/CCF's can check for [COVID-19 FAQs](#) (testing centers in a re-opening phase nationally and globally)
- New opportunities for continuing education are being added to ForestEd
- Three COVID-related resources have been developed for leaders: Practical meeting planning steps to consider; engaging members during the pandemic; and an FAQ on considerations when resuming in-person meetings.
- SAF with multiple forestry entities signed a letter highlighting the economic and environmental impacts to working forests and rural communities resulting from the Presidential Proclamation suspending the entry of nonimmigrants to the United States under H-2B visas.
 - This letter and other efforts have resulted in an exemption pathway for forestry H-2B workers
- SAF submitted comments supporting Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposed new Categorical Exclusion to streamline review of timber salvage projects.
- SAF helped support an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).
- Three position statements were approved by the Board:
 1. Regulation of Genetically Modified Trees
 2. Forest Management, Carbon, and Climate Change
 3. Parcelization, Fragmentation and the Loss of Private Forestland in the US
- The Board Approve a decision to move forward to development a position statement on "Sustainability of American Forests."

District Representative: As you know, my term as your district representative ends December three-year term of 2021-2023. I am happy to announce that two candidates applied to fill my position. Voting for National Vice President and District VII Board Representative will occur between October 1-31. Watch your email inbox for your ballot.

ANSAF Summer Executive Committee Meeting Minutes October 14, 2020

In attendance (via Zoom): Kimberly Bohn, Steve Goodman, Mike Huneke, Jonathan Kays, Susan Lacy, Todd Lotter, Bud Reaves, Steve Resh, Bryan Seipp, Cecile Stelter, Dave Trimpey, Sarah Wurzbacher, Champ Zumbrun

Meeting Called to Order at 6:06 PM

Approval of prior meeting (Feb. 26) minutes

- Moved: Steve Resh
- Seconded: Jonathan Kays
- Approved.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Resh

- Dues are now slightly higher.
- Since Sept 30, have paid Susan's stipend from Q3.
- Stock account balance as of Aug 31 \$63,526 has recovered most of the losses incurred since market changes beginning in March.
- All other accounts static. Good shape for Forestry Fund money. 2 Forestry Fund grants – MD Legislative Session (paid), Writers' Workshop (still in the account, encumbered)
- Approval of report:
 - Moved: Bud Reaves
 - Seconded: Cecile Stelter
 - Approved.

Dues – Mike Huneke, Cecile Stelter, Steve Resh

- Can't have language in bylaws related to chapter dues
- Lori Rasor is happy to help facilitate this process for us if we provide documentation related to bylaw requirement
- Jonathan referenced Allegheny bylaws – articles 3 and 4 mention failure to pay dues, other general language about annual dues, how to pay dues, how transfers work, etc. No specific language about specific dues.
- Direction to chapters:
 - If chapters have bylaws, they will need to vote to change the bylaws to do away with chapter dues.
 - If chapters don't have bylaws, National is willing to help develop bylaws. And in lieu of bylaws, chapters would default to the Allegheny bylaws and need to have a meeting with documented minutes to eliminate dues with definitions of what constitutes a full member vote.
 - Alternatively, chapters can vote to set the chapter dues at \$0 and do not have to change bylaws.
- Action items:
 - Confirm path forward/directives for chapters with Lori Rasor – Cecile
 - Distribute to chapter chairs at winter meeting – Sarah and Cecile will spearhead for PA and share with other states

Executive Director's Report – Susan Lacy

- Writers' Workshop Funds – Susan will follow up with Sara Fitzsimmons
 - Recordings will be available
 - Rothrock Writers' group has been established
- Valley Forge Chapter
 - Down some officers, Susan has taken on their checking account

Membership Committee – Cecile

- Report will be distributed following this meeting
- General trends: numbers are down, very top-heavy in age distribution – two concerning trends that continue.

Program Committee – Dave Trimpey

- Lineup in order
 - Winter meeting 2021 – NJ
 - Dave will follow up to see if they're willing to continue as planned, go virtual, cancel, etc.?
 - Would still need to host a general membership meeting in February even if we don't meet in person. Dave will follow up on meeting that requirement
 - Summer 2021 – MD/DE
 - Winter 2022 – Plateau Chapter – planning
- Extending the “batting order” for long-term planning of the meeting lineup.
 - Susan will review past list
- Summer 2022 National Convention – update to follow later in minutes.

Awards Committee – Jonathan Kays

- Congratulations on winning the technology transfer award!
- Will work as in prior years to get the word out for the early December deadline for awards. Please nominate people!
- 2020 Fellows
 - Steve sent check for plaques. Mike will (someday) return to his office where it was sent to make sure it arrived.
 - Two honorees – Steve Kallesser, Teri Batchelor
 - Mike will ship plaques to other local members for presentation – Bryan Seipp, Steve Goodman

Other Committee Reports

- No items for discussion.

Committee Vacancies

- Audit
 - Tim Slavin has volunteered to do this for the next year or two
- Teller – election certification
- Communications

- Reach out to Rothrock Writers' Group
- Forest History
- Policy and Legislation
- Education
- Send suggestions to Mike
- Consider Leadership Academy Roster
- Send open positions list to chapter chairs – Mike

Hall of Fame – Champ

- Draft has been circulated
- General criteria: contributed in a positive way to SAF, excelled in the profession, enduring contributions, enthusiasm and persistence, team leader and player,
- Committee: 1 representative from each division.
- Each division may submit 2 candidates, writing a 1-page document of that candidate's accomplishments
- Questions and suggestions
 - Do honorees/nominees need to be SAF members?
 - How would this award differ from Fellow?
 - Should we have different categories of nominees, range of employment areas, etc.?
 - Page on the website with directory
 - Announcement of new inductees during winter meeting (including something to present them, requiring a budget)
 - Portable display to bring to meetings – a branching tree of honorees
 - Section of nomination to briefly capture the ethos of honoree's work with a phrase or a quote underlining their approach to service or the profession – would mean more to new members unfamiliar with some of these names and give broader membership something to meditate on.
- First year of inductees Feb 2022
- Action items
 - Refine/finalize draft, approve at next executive committee meeting
 - Move narrative to website
 - Review the need to change bylaws to make this happen. Will later tackle other administrative/logistical steps – form a standing committee? Move in with awards

National Convention – 2022

- Steve Glover at National today confirmed a letter of intent to proceed with the Baltimore Convention Center as the venue. Dates are September 18-23, 2022.
- 100th anniversary year!
- Allegheny SAF general chair will be involved with the planning committee. Mike and Cecile will work together to figure this out. Mike will serve as the point of contact until a convention chair has been named.

Chapter and Division Reports

- Everyone dealing with a lot of uncertainties, cancelled events, little activity re: COVID.
- PA Division Report – Kimberly Bohn
 - PA Executive Committee Meeting in June and informal interactions since then
 - Some chapters that were already active did have some meetings/field tours (e.g. Plateau) or virtual meetings (e.g. Keystone)
 - New officers – Sarah Wurzbacher will take over as chair in Jan 2021. Nominations for new chair will be solicited by end of October. Voting will be virtual. Dave Trimpey will stay on as secretary/treasurer.
 - Question on Division business meeting requirements before the end of the year – Jonathan confirmed that only one is required per year.
 - Sarah will need to be replaced as executive committee member-at-large
- NJ – Steve Goodman
 - No updates from program committee, no reported activities
- MD/DE – Bud Reaves, Bryan Seipp
 - Forester's Fund Grant – will schedule legislative meeting in January – a little up in the air in the current environment. Still planning pending other developments.
 - Dave Wigglesworth is chair-elect to Bud.
- WV – Todd Lotter
 - Sad to cancel meeting in May.
 - Yesterday scheduled Executive Committee meeting for October 22 via Zoom. Business meeting will follow a week or two later. Bylaws require 2 general membership meetings per year – need one more.
 - Dave McGill has been putting on webinars. Falling back to what was scheduled for May to provide continuing education to members.

Old Business

- Susan is working on the newsletter. If you have submissions, please send them her way.
- National Scout Jamboree scheduled for next summer in WV has been postponed. Activities around this are now on hold.
- Mike and Cecile will attend HSD meeting online. Has sent in a report and a success story about the Leadership Academy.
- Changing bylaws to create a student member for executive committee
 - Intended to do this at summer meeting, but cancelled.
 - Will present modification to bylaws at winter 2021 meeting to share a path forward for adding a student member.
 - Action item: draft language of the bylaw change – Steve Goodman
- Mike's plan to visit forestry schools was derailed due to COVID, but he is still committed to doing this. Considering Zoom meetings? Field meetings? Start with schools whose restrictions allow for outside guests and go from there? Mike will follow up with Steve.

- Leadership Academy 2020 – was not scheduled. Hoping things will get somewhat back to normal so we can do one in November 2021.
- September meeting of National Association of State Foresters has been rescheduled for Labor Day of 2021.

New Business

- Need to appoint a new Allegheny secretary. Would be a 1-year term to take minutes at two executive meetings. Please send ideas/nominations to Mike.
- Kimberly Bohn approved as Secretary
 - Moved: Cecile
 - Seconded: Jonathan
 - Approved.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 PM

- Moved: Bud
- Seconded: Dave
- Approved.

Communicating Forestry: A Writing Workshop Series

PRESENTED BY THE ROTHROCK CHAPTER OF ALLEGHENY SAF

Always look for the story to tell, be well-read, seek critique, and practice, practice, practice. These are just a few of the recommendations provided by "featured writers" during the Rothrock Chapter's four-session Writing Workshop. The Chapter endeavors to create an ongoing, interactive, and collaborative group within the Allegheny Division, one which can support other SAF writers throughout the entire writing process. Workshop participants can become members of the nascent Rothrock Writers Guild to provide editing, expertise, and perspective to one another from brainstorming to final draft revision.

After hosting the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting in February, our Executive Committee took a relatively long break to recuperate. We came back together in the late spring, still fresh into the COVID-directed reality to determine how we would follow-up with a summer event. A virtual meeting seemed both an inescapable and an appropriate opportunity to focus on writing.

Writing is a skill almost always overlooked in training workshops or CEU opportunities, and an important element of the forestry profession which many of us either do not enjoy or have a hard time embracing. We all write every day. As speaker Jeff Larkin shared in Session 3 of our series, those 100+ emails every day do count! The goal of this workshop series is to provide each other with tools to take our professional writing to the next level – strengthening our communication at the technical level while at the same time creating pieces that people will enjoy reading.

The idea quickly flourished into reality as we identified a group of diverse and inspirational writers representing both traditional and modern compositions. With help from the PA Division of SAF, we received a grant from the SAF Foresters' Fund. Sanford "Sandy" Smith, a Forest

Resources Extension specialist at Penn State, has been our guide during the series, interviewing each presenter with the knowledge, cadence, and demeanor of an NPR-host.

For the opening session, we snagged the incredibly versatile **Van Wagner**. A logger, educator, and prolific musician - Van described his writing process from his porch on a lovely central Pennsylvania day. Van always carries a notebook with him to capture fleeting ideas for songs and articles. Ideas can come at the most inopportune time and, try as you like to remember them later, you won't. Van was also the first of many in our series to emphasize the importance of storytelling. He is a master of the art, particularly in song and on social media. Toward the end of our hour together, a truck backed into his driveway to drop a load of logs for he and his son to cut for firewood, and Van left us by performing a crowd favorite, *Crosscut Saw*.

<http://vanwagnermusic.com/>

Clare Boerigter followed Van in that first session. Clare, studying for a master's degree in Fine Arts (MFA), focuses on writing creative non-fiction. She teaches an entire writing course with students using the practice of "workshopping" each other's writing at the University of Minnesota. Still early in her career, she has created several written pieces documenting her time as a wildland firefighter in the west. Our committee plans to invite Clare back to help kick-off the first workshopping event for the Writers Guild following the formal workshop series.

<https://clareboerigter.wordpress.com/>

In the following sessions, we enjoyed conversations with seven other writers. **Dominick Swentosky**, a fly-fishing guide, started as an English major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He publishes his work on www.troutbitten.com. His 600 + essays and articles provide an engrossing look at the details of fly-fishing and time spent on local waters. Dominick's prose captures the reader's imagination skillfully melding creative and technical details. Even those who do not fly-fish are drawn in! His example will hopefully inspire others in the forestry profession to follow suit.

Annie Maloney is the current Executive Director of the Foundation for Sustainable Forests. She writes for a very different audience and purpose, aiming to motivate private landowners to apply sustainable forestry practices to their properties. To achieve that goal, Annie weaves in personal narratives of her own families' successes and challenges managing their forested with a call to action for members of the Foundation and local community.

<https://www.foundationforsustainableforests.org/>

Charles "Chuck" Fergus is a native of central Pennsylvania, transplanted to Vermont. Chuck presented the most traditional writing background of our group, capturing the beauty of forests and wildlife in his works of non-fiction while more recently exploring the world of fiction in writing a series of murder-mysteries. He has written extensively for the PA Game News, authored several novels and numerous non-fiction guides and books on forests and wildlife. He has also published in varied outlets such as the New York Times, Ranger Rick, and Readers Digest. During their conversation, Sandy and Chuck created a meditative exchange between them, transporting everyone into the world of a science writer. As with every other session, this interview is not to be missed! <https://charlesfergus.com/>

Jeff Larkin, a professor of wildlife biology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, is an expert in and proponent of early successional habitat for golden-winged warbler (GWW) and other migrant birds. Immediately after entering medical school, GWW and the lure of field work snatched Jeff away from becoming an MD. The power of deep reading, relating to your audience, and good mentorship helped him overcome his natural tendency to avoid writing. Similar to our other presenters, Jeff emphasized finding purpose in a compelling story not only for the reader, but also for yourself, and using that to guide you through the chore of writing.

<https://www.iup.edu/biology/faculty/jeff-larkin/>

The final session focused on the more technical aspects of writing, inviting **James “Jim” Finley**, well-known slasher of words and king of the red line. Jim shared his extensive expertise in both research and extension writing, providing an especially utilitarian perspective on the art of writing. We discussed the differences between academic and journalistic writing, especially the challenges faced in the peer review process for research papers.

<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/directory/fj4>

Following Jim, we had a great conversation with both **Nancy Baker** and **Steve Wilent**. Nancy is the editor of *Pennsylvania Forests* magazine (<http://www.paforestry.org/>) and Steve is the editor for SAFs *The Forestry Source* (https://www.eforester.org/Main/Library/Forestry_Source.aspx). Besides discussing the specific needs of both publications, we also talked about the more challenging aspects of balancing the needs of diverse audiences, and the type of writing SAF members can do to better spread the passion they have for their profession.

This series has been a team effort of members of the Rothrock Chapter. As mentioned before, Sandy Smith has taken on the role of sage and tranquil interviewer. Paul Lupo of the PA Game Commission developed and maintains the website for the series. Jared Ernico of ReMax Realty Group helped with the website and creates each of the workshop flyers and advertising. Tracey Coulter of PA DCNR provided excellent ideas for each stage of the workshop, including interview questions and outreach to the presenters. It's been my pleasure to work with each of them through the entire process, and I look forward to future collaboration with them as part of the Rothrock Chapter Executive Committee.

We invite you all to review the recorded sessions and associated resources at your leisure, all available from the newly created www.RothrockSAF.org. Even if you did not attend the sessions in-person, we invite you to join the Rothrock Writers' Guild and share your writing, time, and expertise with other forestry writers.

Our next steps for the group will be to arrange a Workshopping session where attendees will share their own writing to each other for review and edit. In addition, our committee will be creating a list of publications and articles we hope guild members will tackle in the coming months and year.

A New Book has been Released

Beneath the Canopy: A Historical View of Forestry in Delaware

by Bob Tjaden and Walt Gabel, both former State Foresters of Delaware.



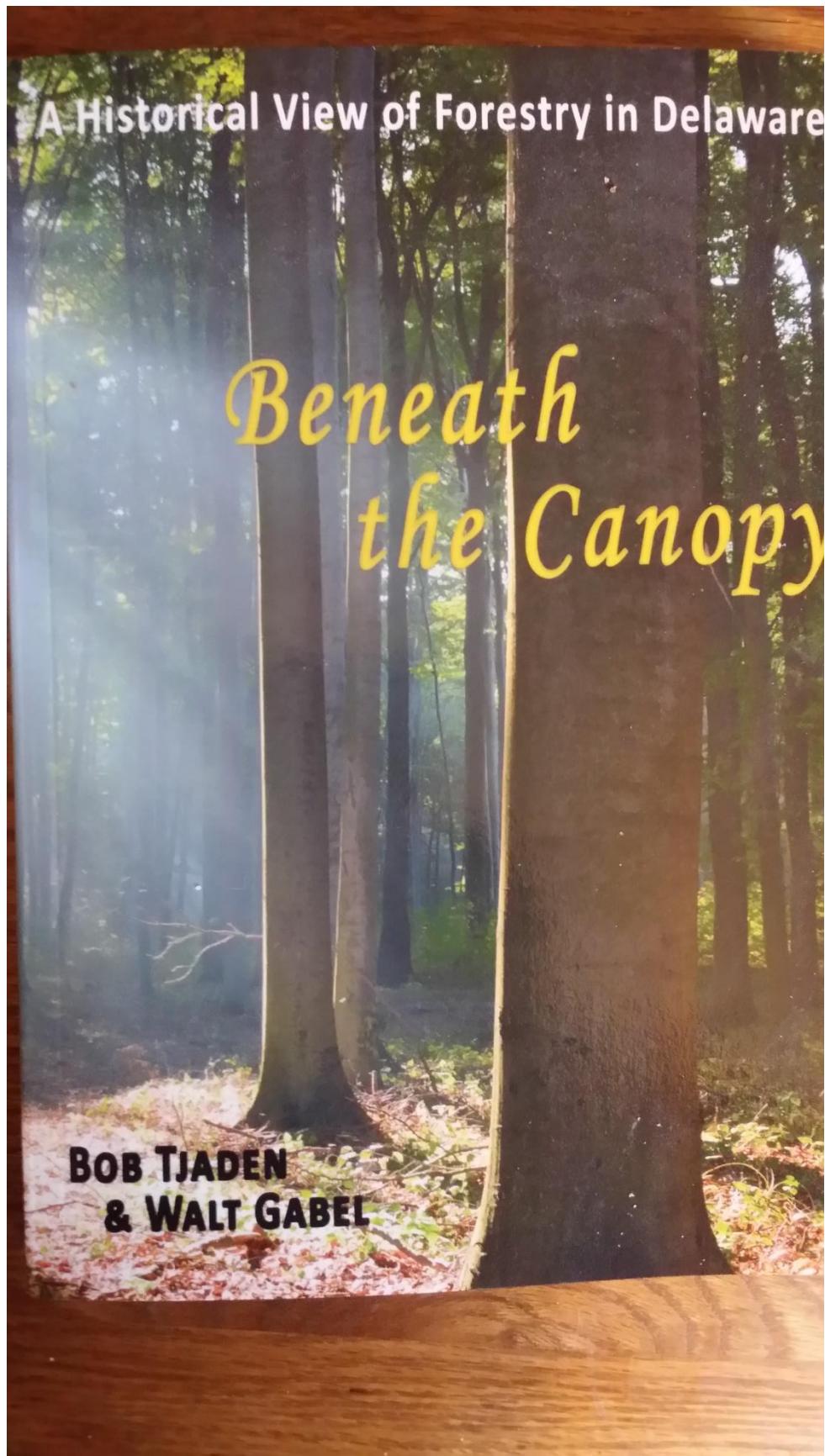
Bob (right) is a native Delawarean and a forester. With a great appreciation for Delaware's rich forest history, he wrote this book with the late Walt Gabel (left), so others can realize the value of these forests and have historical information in one publication. They take the reader on a historical journey with

photographs and written documents that were gathered from archival documents and interviews that are part of the Delaware Forest Oral History Project.

Delaware's forests have provided valuable materials for the production and manufacturing of many items. They include ship building, paper making, charcoal production, holly wreath making, wooden basket and shingle manufacturing, gunpowder, pulpwood and lumber. During the 1920's, Laurel was the largest manufacturer of wooden bushel baskets and crates for fruits and vegetables. In the 1930's & 40's, Milton was known as the Holly Wreath capital of the world, shipping Christmas wreaths worldwide. The Pennsylvania Railroad had a special train at Christmas called the "Holly Express" to pick up and deliver wreaths throughout the region. Over the years, foresters, private landowners and forestry organizations have helped protect and manage Delaware's forests and are highlighted in the book. There is also a chapter dedicated to the Great Cypress Swamp and its' folklore.

In 1927 the Delaware Forestry Department was established, with William S. Taber as State Forester, to provide leadership for the protection and management of Delaware's forests. During this time, forest fire lookout towers were erected, State Forests and a State Tree Nursery were established, and a Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) camp was built at Redden Forest. The reader will also learn the critical role of the Forestry Department and Delaware's wood products during WW II.

This 420 page book can be purchased on Amazon.com, in a soft cover or BarnesandNoble.com in hard cover. Signed copies of the book (soft or hard cover) can be purchased directly From Bob Tjaden at rtjaden1@comcast.net.



- Foreword
- Dedication
- Acknowledgements
- Introduction
- Chapter 1: Delaware Forests Then and Now: An Overview (1907, 1927 and 2017)
- Chapter 2: Paper mills on the Brandywine and White Clay Creeks
- Chapter 3: Early Maritime Shipping and Ship Building
- Chapter 4: Charcoal production
- Chapter 5: American Holly and the Holly industry
- Chapter 6: Basket manufacturing
- Chapter 7: Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Chapter 8: Forest Fire Protection
 - Forest Fire Destruction
 - Forest Fire Warden, Patrolmen & Rangers
 - Early Versions of Forest Fire Fighting
 - Forest Fire Prevention & Education
- Chapter 9: Forest Fire Towers
- Chapter 10: World War II and Delaware Forests
 - Forest Fire Towers as Observation Platforms for Coastal Air Defense
 - Delaware Pulpwood & Timber for War Effort
 - Gas Rations & Forestry Department
 - Prisoners of War & Forestry Projects
- Chapter 11: State Forests, State Tree Nursery and their Facilities
 - State Tree Nursery
 - Redden State Forest
 - Blackbird State Forest
 - Taber State Forest
- Chapter 12: The Great Cypress Swamp “A Natural Wonder of the State”
- Chapter 13: Forest Harvesting and Sawmills
 - Hauling & Loading Logs
 - Sawmills, Lumber, Pulpwood & Veneer
- Chapter 14: Tree Planting, Reforestation & Ice Damage
 - Hoopes Reservoir
 - Tree Planting Techniques
 - Arbor Day
 - Ice, Storm, Insect & Disease Damage
- Chapter 15: Establishment of State Forestry Department: A Chronology
 - Overview
 - Establishment of a Forestry Commission; “The William Taber Era” 1927
 - Transition to New Forestry Department: “A Cabinet Form of Government” 1970
- Chapter 16: State Foresters & Administrators
- Chapter 17: People Involved in Delaware Forestry through the Years
- Chapter 18: Tree Farm/DFA
- References

Emily Reams – First Susan L. Stout Fellowship Recipient

Emily Reams, the first Susan L. Stout Fellowship recipient at the USDA Forest Service Forestry Sciences Lab in Irvine, PA, completed her fellowship on October 1. During this 12-week fellowship, Emily was deeply immersed in forestry and forest science. She inventoried seedlings in forested sites where experimental treatments such as final harvests and fertilization had occurred, she measured old-growth trees in the Tionesta Research Natural Area, and she job-shadowed with foresters from the Allegheny National Forest, the Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Generations Forestry and Allegheny Forestry, two private consulting firms based in Kane, PA and Warren, PA respectively, and the Center for Private Forests at Penn State. Dr. Todd Ristau, Emily's supervisor for the summer, reported that Emily was a pleasure to work with. "She learned quickly whether it was how to conduct seedling assessments for different studies or recognizing trees, seedlings, and other forest plants. She worked hard and was a real positive asset to the Lab. She was able to get all of my tree and forest related puns and even contributed several herself after a couple weeks on the job."

Emily enjoyed her work. "The most memorable moment from the summer was seeing a small bear run across the road. When we got out of the truck, Todd cried, 'Beary! Come back!' It was an emotional sight to bear."

She also appreciated the aspect of the fellowship that allowed her to work in a wide variety of different settings. "For my first job shadow, I followed Greg Sanford, of the Allegheny National Forest, to learn about silviculture. He explained the decision-making process for tree regeneration in different areas and introduced me to both the science and protocol involved. Then, with Cecile Stelter, a District Forester from the Bureau of Forestry, I visited a private landowner who is hoping to rejuvenate his forest within a deer fence. I also had the opportunity to follow a forester from Generations Forestry, Jeremy Newman, as he took me along on a timber cruise. Dave Miller, president of Allegheny Forestry, brought me along as he marked trees for a sale, explaining his process for choosing trees and discussing the timber market with me. Finally, I had the opportunity to learn how to grade hardwood lumber and tour the facilities at Danzer Lumber North America Inc., in Bradford, with James Fink, a lumber grader."

The people whom Emily shadowed were impressed with her work ethic. Jeremy Newman noted that Emily happened to pick the only terrible wet day of the summer and stuck it out in the field. It didn't phase her. John Saf, a senior forester with Generations Forestry, talked with Reams at the end of that rainy day in the field. He said, "She appeared to be the perfect first Stout intern, very smart with a practical approach to life. Emily has a bright future in front of her."

Reams was selected as the first recipient of the Stout Fellowship from a nationwide search, conducted by a partnership among the USDA Forest Service, Mobilize Green, a non-profit group organized to recruit high-quality candidates for natural resource "green" jobs, and the Stout Fellowship Committee. One of the objectives of the fellowship is to offer the opportunity to understand forestry as practiced in the special environment of northwestern PA to a wide diversity of people. Emily graduated from The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford in April 2020, with a degree in Environmental Studies. Her senior project was an analysis of 20 years of tree and deer data from the Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative, and it was through that work and

her work as the campus Sustainability Coordinator at Pitt-Bradford that stimulated her interest in forestry.

The Stout Fellowship was created by several of Stout's colleagues when she retired. Its funds are maintained by the Community Foundation of Warren County, PA. Conservation minded individuals or organizations interested in donating to the Fellowship to support future Fellows may send checks to the foundation at Susan Stout Fellowship c/o The Community Foundation of Warren County, 310 2nd Avenue, Warren, PA 16365, with the check's memo line indicating "Susan L. Stout Fellowship Fund." People interested in applying for next summer's fellowship should contact MobilizeGreen at recruiting@mobilizegreen.org to be notified when the Fellows application opens February 2021.



Emily Reams, first SL Stout Fellow, and her USDA Forest Service Supervisor, Dr. Todd Ristau, after measuring black cherry in the Susquehannock State Forest in PA during the summer of 2020.

Emily Reams, the first SL Stout Fellow, with her work colleagues Matt O'Brien and Matt Marsh, as they measured seedlings in research study areas during the summer of 2020.



Transitions

Changes at Collins Company – Congratulations to all!



Dave Trimpey retired on April 1st, 2020

Tom Kase was promoted to the position of Resource Manager.

Matt Gayley was promoted to Tom's former position as Land Manager.

Jeromy Johnson was promoted to Matt's former position as Procurement Supervisor.

Celebrating 90 Years with Jack Winieski

By Rachel Reyna, Mike Kusko, and Susan Lacy



Someone to Celebrate:

We are happy to join the celebration of SAF member Jack Winieski's 90th birthday! When we heard it was his 90th, many of us who know him could not believe that he is 90 – as he continues to be active in so many endeavors. It is particularly appropriate to honor Jack though this publication, as he started the Allegheny News after taking a position as the Allegheny SAF Executive Director many years ago. He wrote, edited, organized, and curated content for this publication for 20 years. Jack: we celebrate you and all the great contributions you have made to SAF over the years!

How Jack got into Forestry:

After finishing high school, Jack joined the Army. He was shipped out to Iwo Jima during the Korean Conflict, where his training in weather school was utilized by assigning him to the Iwo Jima weather station. It was in this weather station that he began to think about the vegetation all around him – and about how it was regenerating after the disturbances caused by World War II. This was the beginning of Jack's interest in plant establishment and growth. Upon returning to the US after his time in Korea, he used the GI bill to earn a BS from the New York State School of Forestry. He went on to earn a masters degree from the same institution. During his schooling, he focused on his interest in genetics. A forester was born!

Jack's Career:

Jack got his foot in the door with the PA Bureau of Forestry through a maintenance position, where he worked in the Bureau's seed orchards. When the Bureau created a Forest Geneticist position, Jack jumped at this opportunity and served in this role until his retirement. During his time with the PA Bureau of Forestry, Jack spearheaded several novel projects. One of which he is particularly proud is creating a procedure for developing genetically superior seed orchards. To accomplish this, he adapted methodology used for Southern Pines to Pennsylvania species. By the time Jack retired, 45% of all seedlings produced in the Bureau's nurseries came directly

from seed produced in their own orchards. This gave the Bureau more control over the genetics of the trees planted out on state lands.

Jack's Career Advice for Forestry and Natural Resource Students and Young Professionals:

Jack's primary advice for young people in the forestry professions is to "be professional in everything you do." Work to find a mentor, someone who conducts themselves professionally and has years of experience in the forestry professions. Effective mentoring relationships can be either formal or informal.

Jack's Been Busy Since His Retirement:

In addition to having plenty of time to make Platzk, a tasty Polish sweetbread he makes according to his mom's recipe using his home-grown pecans and hickory nuts, Jack's retirement allowed him to branch out into other areas of work and service. He spent a few years writing stewardship plans before accepting his position as Executive Director for the Allegheny SAF and being elected SAF Fellow along the way. Jack has shared his talents with other organizations. He has been active in the PA and NY Nut Growers Association (he has his own pecan and hickory orchard of 50 trees), Dillsburg Jaycees, Carroll Township Planning Commission, the Dillsburg Garden Club, local PTAs, Backyard Fruit Growers Association, and the Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society (founding member). And somehow, in the midst of all of these endeavors, Jack found time to be a warm and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, colleague, and friend.

Thanks, Jack, and Happy Birthday!

Thanks, Jack, for all your contributions to forestry, SAF, and your community! We are beneficiaries of the efforts you have made and we walk the paths you cut through the woods. A hearty happy birthday to you – and many more.

In Memoriam

Teri Batchelor



Margaret Teresa "Teri" Batchelor of Chestertown, Maryland passed away surrounded by her family on July 14, 2020. She was 63. She was a 1974 graduate of Kent County High School and a 1978 graduate of West Virginia University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Forestry. She married Ted Batchelor on February 21, 1981, and they completed their home in Fairlee, MD in 1986.

Teri was a pioneer in her industry as one of the first women in the MD Forest Service. She worked briefly with the State of Virginia Department of Forestry then transferred to Maryland where she worked as Project Manager and Forester for the next 41 years.

She loved her work and if it were not for her illness would still be with the Forestry Service. In June she was selected to become a Society of American Foresters Fellow, the highest honor bestowed by her professional organization. She is the first woman in MD to receive this honor. She was active with the West Virginia Forestry Alumni Association. She was involved with several eastern shore counties with the Arbor Day project, owned Bakers Lane Christmas Tree Farm with her husband, and enjoyed traveling, quilting, scrapbooking, and antiquing.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her son Clay T. Batchelor and his wife Lauren E. and their sons: Lucas T. and Elijah J. all of Buffalo, NY along with her sister Deborah A. Radke of Timonium, MD.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, July 20 at 1:00 PM at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newman Funeral Home 130 Speer Road Chestertown where relatives and friends may call from 11:00-1:00. The funeral service will be webcast live. Interment will be held in St. Paul's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, www.pancan.org.

Robert H. Bommer, Jr.



Robert H. "Bob" Bommer, Jr., 85, of York died December 4, 2019 at York Hospital. He was the loving husband of Catherine M. (McHale) Bommer. Mr. and Mrs. Bommer celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on September 21, 2019. Born April 6, 1934 in Hazleton, PA, he was the son of the late Mary (Henry) and Robert H. Bommer, Sr.

Bob graduated in 1952 from Lehighton High School. He earned his B.S. in forestry in 1956 from Penn State University and then served for ten years in the U.S. Navy (both active and reserve duty) receiving training as a naval officer and naval aviator. In 1958, he was employed as a Cooperative Forest Management (CFM) forester by the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters. From 1959 to 1961, Bob worked for the M.C.

Houseworth Lumber Company in Bedford, PA as a buyer of timber, land, logs, and lumber. He then became director of procurement for the Williamson Veneer Company in New Freedom in 1961 until 1968 when the Evans Products Company acquired Williamson Veneer. Bob became the operations assistant to the general manager and his responsibilities included administration, legal activities, procurement of raw materials, and production. He received the Juris Doctor degree from the University of Baltimore School of Law in 1965.

Bob founded his own consulting business in 1971, known as R.H. Bommer, Jr. Inc., Forest Consultants. He served clients in eastern United States, specializing in forest management, appraisals, marketing, feasibility studies, legal cases, veneer and specialty log procurement, land

acquisition and sales, contract arbitration, real estate and export counseling, land surveying, and shade tree evaluation. He was a registered professional forester in Maryland and West Virginia, a registered surveyor in Pennsylvania, and a certified consulting arborist. His company continues as Bommer-Geesaman & Company, Forestry Consultants after Bob retired in 2003.

From 1979 to 1981, Bommer served as a member of the Secretary of Agriculture's Advisory Committee under the Carter Administration on State and Private Forestry, and for five years as a lobbyist for the Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF) in Washington, D.C. As a member of the National Commercial Panel of the American Arbitration Association, he used his knowledge to help settle commercial cases through arbitration. In 1982, he received the Outstanding Service to Forestry Award from the Society of American Foresters (SAF), and was a member for over 50 years of that professional organization. Bommer spoke at national SAF and ACF meetings.

Anyone who knew Bob knew that he was an avid fan and supporter of Penn State. He was a strong supporter of the Penn State School of Forest Resources and the College of Agricultural Sciences, having contributed time and money to several causes including the Forest Resources Building, Conklin Hall at Mont Alto, the Ag Arena, and the Bryce Jordan Center. In 2014, a tree was dedicated in Bob and Cathy's name located on the Mont Alto Campus of Penn State.

He was a member of the Penn State Alumni Association and was named an Alumni Centennial Fellow of Penn State Mont Alto in 2004 and received the Outstanding Penn State Alumni Award in 2005. He was a member of Tau Phi Delta Forestry Fraternity and helped them purchase its current fraternity home. Bob served a term as Grand National President of the Fraternity.

Bob was also a member of St. Mary's Church in York, Knights of Columbus, and Sigma Delta Kappa Law Fraternity. He was a past member of the Country Club of York.

In addition to his wife, Cathy, Bob is survived by his four daughters, Mary Catherine "Mary Kay" Campbell and her husband, Wayland of Richmond, VA, Therese "Terry" Bommer Tillotson and her husband, Christopher of York, Roberta Bommer Baranda and her husband, Leonardo, Jr. of Clovis, CA, and Patricia "Patti" Bommer Beck and her husband, Timothy of Berwyn, PA and 8 grandchildren, Hunter and Robert Ayscue, Austin and Catherine Tillotson, Leonardo and Mary Elizabeth Baranda, and McHalea and Skarlett Beck.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, 309 South George Street, York with Father Jonathan P. Sawicki officiating. A visitation will be held Saturday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at the church. Burial will follow the mass in Dallastown Union Cemetery. Graveside military rites will be conducted by the York County Veterans Honor Guard.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary's Church, 309 South George Street, York, PA 17401.

The family are grateful to the staff and physicians at the York Hospital for their extraordinary care and support given to Bob and the family during his final journey.

Harry B. Mahoney



Harry B. Mahoney, departed this life on Saturday, August 22, 2020.

Harry was born May 14, 1932 to the late James Mahoney and Margaret Thurber Mahoney in Williamsport, Pennsylvania and lived most of his life in Tucker and Randolph counties, WV. He was a graduate of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut where he received a master's degree in Forestry. Upon his graduation, he served two years in the US Army before beginning his career with the United States Forest Service. His work was concentrated on the Monongahela National Forest and specifically the Cheat Ranger District in Parsons, where he served as ranger.

His love for the great outdoors was demonstrated with his work while serving as coordinator of the Highland Scenic Highway and his role in the development of the Otter Creek Wilderness Area.

Harry was passionate about nature and its surroundings. He was an avid spelunker and bat enthusiast. In 1963, he discovered and named "My Cave" in Pocahontas County. In addition, he enjoyed skiing, hiking, rafting, backpacking, and camping with his family. He was very knowledgeable because of his love for books and reading and served as a member of the Friends of the Library for many years.

He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather whose purpose in life was his family. He is survived by his loving children; a daughter, Tina Hinrichs and husband Bryan of Elkins; two sons, Jay Mahoney and companion Areida Mendoza of Fairmont; Jon Mahoney and wife Cathy of Belington; four grandchildren, Coburn Mahoney of Boone, NC, Marcie Mahoney of Zionville, NC, Kurtis Mahoney of Belington, and Katelyn Mahoney of Wilmington, NC; and nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his loving wife Lois, two sisters-in-law, Maxine Alderman and Stella Hess; and brother-in-law, Elmo Alderman.

Harry Mahoney was known to be a great man to his family and friends and will always be remembered in that way.

Harry's request for cremation was honored and committal will be private with Pastors Tom and Dalene Coffman (niece and husband), of Jumping Branch, WV. The family suggests that expressions of sympathy be in the form of contributions to the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area, PO Box 1206, Elkins, WV 26241 or appalachianforestnha.org.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

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Coming Events

February, 2021

Allegheny SAF Winter Training
NJ Division

Summer, 2021

Allegheny SAF Summer Training
Maryland/Delaware Division

Winter, 2022

Allegheny SAF Winter Training
Plateau Chapter

Future SAF National Conventions

2022: Baltimore, MD September 18-23

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