

# *The Allegheny News*



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters  
Summer 2014**

# The Allegheny News

Volume 23, 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**  
**PO Box 667 Honey Brook, PA 19344**

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## Advertising in the Allegheny News

<b>Rates:</b>	<b><u>One Issue</u></b>	<b><u>All Four Issues</u></b>
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
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One eighth page or Business Card (3 ¼" x 2")	25	70

## Chair's Corner

*Mike Kusko*



It is hard to believe that spring has passed and summer is here (with all its heat and humidity). Our cool, wet spring was quite enjoyable - ideal for planting trees. What else do foresters do in the spring? Oh yeah, there's trout fishing, turkey hunting, planting a garden..... but this spring found me planting trees.

I serve as President of the local chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. We received a grant from The Alliance for Community Trees to plant thirty 2"+ caliper trees on our 25-acre Waltonian Meadows property. The Meadows lies adjacent to the East Branch of the Conococheague Creek here in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. We needed to replace mature trees that were lost over the last several years and enhance the riparian buffer. As spring unfolded, it appeared Mother Nature was providing the perfect conditions for tree planting – ample soil moisture and cool temperatures.

Volunteers were enlisted for the Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> planting date. Twelve-inch starter holes were pre-drilled to facilitate the hand digging. Food and beverages were ordered, and we looked forward to a fun day planting trees. However, on the night of Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, five inches of rain changed our outlook. By Friday evening, three fourths of the Meadows was under water, and the water was still rising. All but one planting hole was under water! By mid-day Sunday, only half of the planting holes were dry enough to plant. The rest were completely filled with water or still under water. Weekly one to two inch rain events delayed the completion of planting for a month. On the plus side, the hand digging has been quite easy!

As I'm sure you have all heard the lengthy process of selecting SAF's Chief Executive Officer has come to a successful conclusion. The Board of Directors unanimously selected Mr. Matthew Menashes to fill the position. Mr. Menashes assumed his duties on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering listing the northern long-eared bat as endangered throughout its range (39 states). SAF has commented on this issue expressing its concerns. Additionally, Minnesota, Michigan, Indiana, and Wisconsin SAF have submitted a joint letter expressing their concerns. The New Jersey Division has suggested that the Allegheny draft and submit a letter as well. They, with the help of the National Office, will be drafting such a letter for our consideration at the summer meeting.

I have just finished looking over the agenda for the National Convention in Salt Lake City. Wow, what a power packed program! This year's joint convention with the Canadian Institute of Forestry promises to be special. Not to mention, the opportunity to attend portions of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations World Congress co-located at our convention. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

Our summer meeting is being hosted by the West Virginia Division near Berkley Springs, WV in the eastern panhandle. I'm looking forward to seeing the agenda. I'm sure it will be most interesting. Hope to see you all in wild and wonderful West Virginia!

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

## District VII Council Report

*Kim Steiner*



Council welcomed our new Executive Vice President, Matt Menashes, at its June 7-8 meeting in Bethesda. That weekend was the end of Matt's first week with SAF, so it was a real baptism by fire to have to face his Board of Directors after just five days on the job. Matt seemed to be up to the task. I think we are going to be very happy with him.

Unfortunately, because of a computer error, I have lost my notes from the meeting, and I rely on those notes to write these reports. However, I can touch on the highlights of the meeting as I remember them.

- The property sale is still on track to be completed this year.
- Several policy statement revisions were approved:
  - *Using Herbicides on Forest Lands*
  - *Wildland Fire Management*
  - *Utilization of Forest Biomass to Restore Forest Health and Improve US Energy Security* (retired)
- The website continues to be a source of complaint from our members and an issue within Council. Staff reported that consultants are working on the task, but the completion date is uncertain. I expect that the Council leadership will charge Matt with reaching some milestones with this project before the year's end.
- We received an update on the Salt Lake City Convention from Carol Redelsheimer. Registrations from SAF members for the SAF meeting are following expectations for a projected target of 1100, and Carol said that registration for the associated International Union of Forest Research Organizations meeting is expected to reach 2500. It should be an interesting combined event.

The major item of business at this meeting was the passage of a set of Bylaws for our soon-to-be re-incorporated organization. This document is the reincarnation of our existing Constitution, but with a few substantive changes. It will go before the general membership for approval (by mail or email ballot) in October.

There will be other questions on the October ballot, besides approval of the Bylaws, and these will be described in a future issue of the *Forestry Source*. But I want to take this opportunity to explain the Bylaws. I'm particularly familiar with this document because I chaired the committee that wrote it. Here are what I think are the important things to understand about our new Bylaws.

- Other than changes required by the new District of Columbia law, and a few minor tweaks strongly recommended by our attorneys as non-profit “best practices,” the Bylaws have been drafted to capture our existing rules of governance and as far as possible the exact wording. In the view of Council, they represent very minimal change from current practice. The most substantive changes are as follows:
- Some of the more detailed rules of procedure that were in the Constitution (most notably many of the rules for State, Intrastate, and Multistate Societies) have been omitted from the Bylaws as inappropriate for a document of this nature. These will be incorporated into a separate Policies and Procedures Manual and have the same force of authority as before.
- Some elements of our existing practices that were not in the Constitution have been incorporated into the new Bylaws because we believe they are fundamental to SAF governance. An example is procedures for electing District Council Representatives.
- Because we are required by DC law to have a Board of Directors, Council will in the future have the formal title of Board of Directors. Functionally, the Board will operate as Council has in the past.
- The position of Executive Vice-President will be renamed Chief Executive Officer. This change is not required by DC law, but it is in line with most non-profit corporations and with the actual responsibilities that our EVP has had for a great many years. The EVP (CEO) will no longer be an officer and voting member of Council (the Board).
- A Secretary-Treasurer has been added to the list of officers of SAF to comply with DC law. The chair of Council's Finance Committee, appointed annually by the SAF President, has in the past performed nearly all the functions of a Secretary-Treasurer. The proposed Bylaws would add the title Secretary-Treasurer to this position.

I know that the mere act of rewriting (in effect) our Constitution may alarm some people. Those persons should rest assured that there is nothing in the new Bylaws that materially affects S.A.F. or the way it is run. I can provide further information and explanation if anyone is interested.



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Vegetation Management Specialist  
Cell: 570-401-7098  
Email: [thagenbuch@arborchem.com](mailto:thagenbuch@arborchem.com)

## *Save the Dates*

*Allegheny SAF  
Summer Meeting  
September 8-10, 2014  
Cacapon State Park Resort  
Berkeley Springs, WV*

*SAF  
National Convention  
October 8-11, 2014  
Salt Lake City, UT*

*Allegheny SAF  
Winter Meeting  
February 18-20, 2015  
Wilkes Barre, PA*

*Pennsylvania  
Forest Landowners  
Conference  
March 20-21, 2015*



## Plateau Chapter Honors Howard Wurzbacher at Winter Meeting

The winter meeting of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters, Plateau Chapter was held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at Cross Creek Resort in Titusville, Pennsylvania. Despite a severe winter storm that day, many members braved the frigid wind and blowing snow to attend the meeting.



Prior to the start of the meeting, a special presentation was made from John Daugherty to Howard Wurzbacher. Some years ago, John had been given some forestry supplies by the late Bill Slusser who worked as a Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) Northwest Region forester with both Howard and the late Bob Bauer. Among those supplies was a paint can belt owned and well used by Bob. John mounted this belt behind glass and framed it with old barn wood, giving it a rustic look. (see picture) He felt it was only fitting to present this to Howard who had been mentored by Bob for many years at the PGC before Bob's untimely death in 2002. It was also pointed out that Howard was this year's recipient of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award which was awarded to him in February at the Allegheny SAF Winter meeting in Williamsport, PA.

Following dinner and a business meeting, the evening featured a roundtable presentation by Chapter members highlighting current projects and activities in each member's organizations. Plateau Chairman Dave Trimpey discussed current timber market conditions from the perspective of the Collins Pine Company. PA Bureau of Forestry District Forester Gary Frank presented District 8 projects and upcoming events. Howard Wurzbacher, PGC Regional Forester brought everyone up to date on activities within the PA Game Commission. PA Bureau of Forestry District Forester Cecile Stelter discussed the recent FSC re-certification audit on Bureau lands as well as the upcoming State Forest Resource Management Plan. Dave Trimpey also spoke about forest insects and diseases on behalf of Ned Karger of Collins Pine who was unable to make the meeting due to inclement weather. Similarly, Dave presented a summary of current USDA Forest Service research projects being conducted at the Forest Sciences Lab at Irvine, PA as Dr. Susan Stout was also unable to attend the meeting due to the weather.

# Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund

Lloyd Casey passed away January 6, 2014 after a long and productive forestry career. While working for the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Lloyd provided leadership for several landowner assistance programs and became a specialist in timber tax issues. Lloyd is remembered for his tax presentations to landowner groups throughout the 20 States in Northeast and Midwest.

After retiring from the Forest Service, Lloyd developed a consulting firm where he was passionate about helping landowners manage their forests. He was a Certified Forester and Fellow in the Society of American Foresters; a past-President and Board Member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association; and a Board Member and former Chairman of the Board for the National Woodland Owners Association.



In honor of his many contributions to forestry, the Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund is being established to provide funding for a series of annual educational workshops for landowners and professionals.

The Pennsylvania Forestry Association, the National Woodland Owners Association and the Allegheny Society of American Foresters are joining together to raise funds that would support the presentation of workshops on timber taxes, estate planning, conservation easements and other financial topics important to private forest landowners.

Our goal is to raise \$20,000 in the next two years to support the workshops. If you would like to donate, please make your contribution check out to PFA and note "Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund" on the memo or subject line. Please detach the coupon below and include it with your donation.

I would like to make a donation in the amount of:

☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make your check payable to **PFA** and mail it to the following address:

**The Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund**  
**c/o Pennsylvania Forestry Association**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**116 Pine Street**  
**Harrisburg, PA 17101**

*The Pennsylvania Forestry Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Gifts are deductible as charitable contributions for Federal tax purposes. If you have any questions: please contact Keith Argow – NWOA- [argow@cs.net](mailto:argow@cs.net) Susan Lacy – AN SAF- [ansaf@comcast.net](mailto:ansaf@comcast.net) Dave Alerich – PFA – [dalerich@paforestry.org](mailto:dalerich@paforestry.org) or Terry Hoffman – PFA - [tehoffman@hotmail.com](mailto:tehoffman@hotmail.com)*

***The Fund has now raised \$1,360! Help us reach the \$20,000 goal.***



## The Watershed that Unites Us

### Allegheny Society of American Foresters Summer Meeting

Cacapon Resort State Park, Berkeley Springs, WV

September 8-10, 2014

**SAF CFEs:** To be announced soon.



#### **Monday, September 8**

1:00 – 5:30pm **Registration**

2:00 – 5:00pm **Executive Committee Meeting**

6:00 - 8:00pm -----*Social hour/Icebreaker*-----

#### **Tuesday, September 9**

08:30 am **Welcome**

08:45am **Keynote Speaker** - How West Virginia Became a State, Randy Dye, WV State Forester

09:45 am **National Office Perspective**

10:15 am **Break**

10:45 am **Second Home Development and Easement Issues** – David Warner, TimberLand Consulting

11:15 am **Cacapon and Lost Rivers Land Trust** — Kelly Watkinson, Executive Director

12:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00 pm **Field trip – land management issues on private land** – David Warner and clients, visit forests with deer, NNIS, and development pressures that are being managed for forest products

4:00 pm **Field trip – EAB buffer plantings and NNIS control on Cacapon SP** - Herb Peddicord, WVDOP

6:00 - 8:00 pm **Cookout**

#### **Wednesday, September 10**

07:00 am **Breakfast**

08:00 am **State society meetings**

09:00 am **Allegheny SAF business meeting**

10:00 am **Break**

10:30 am **Water Quality in Chesapeake Bay Watershed** - Keith Eshleman, U of MD

11:00 am **Water Quality in Chesapeake Bay Watershed** – Fisheries Health

11:30 am **Closing Remarks**

12:00 pm **Adjourn**

***Thanks to all sponsors!***



**Registration Information:**

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lodging:** Rooms are being held for the **Society of American Foresters** at:

**Cacapon Resort State Park, Cacapon Lodge - \$70+ tax per night; (304) 258-1022**

Information on Cacapon Resort State Park

<http://www.wvstateparks.com/Brochures/CacaponResortBrochure.pdf>

<http://www.cacaponresort.com>

Description	Amount	Number	Total amount
Meeting attendance, includes evening social, breakfasts, coffee breaks, lunch, and cookout	SAF member \$150 Non SAF \$175 Student \$50		
Extra cookout	SAF member \$25 Non SAF \$30 Student \$20		
Extra social hour	SAF member \$16 Non SAF \$20 Student \$16		
Total			

CFE's have been determined for the meeting with the following breakdown:

**CFE:** Field tour - TBA

**CFE:** Seminars TBA

***Checks should be mailed to:***

WVSAF  
C/O Charles Copeland  
114 Virginia Avenue  
Harrisville, WV 26362

## **Updates from Valley Forge Chapter**

### **Spring Meeting**

John Quigley, the former Pennsylvania Secretary of the Department of Conservation and Natural resources, joined fifteen members and guests from the Valley Forge Chapter at the Thorndale Inn for a dinner meeting and presentation on April 10.

During his presentation, titled “Fracking in Penn’s Woods”, Mr. Quigley told the group that while the extent of drilling for natural gas in Pennsylvania forests is still somewhat modest, the industry has extensive plans to expand search for gas in the Commonwealth, perhaps as much as 100 fold. He described issues of concern that are outstanding in this commercial development:

- Increasing pressure to drill State Forest lands and in State Parks where drilling has not yet occurred.
- The amount of drilling on private forest lands continues to expand.
- Concern with disturbing blocks of forest that are important for wildlife habitat. Even though the footprint of the drilling pad and water retention basin may be somewhat small, the road and pipeline construction development to access the sites creates a substantial problem as do transportation on new and existing rural roads with heavy trucks and frequent trips.
- The massive amount of water needed for the fracking process to fracture the shale deposits deep underground has a very significant impact on water supplies. Once the water is returned to the surface, it is toxic and its storage is an issue. In some cases, storage ponds have leaked into streams causing significant concern for stream health.
- Concerns continue with escape of gas into underground aquifers and the effect of that invasion on drinking water supplies. Gas leakage from around the drilling pipe is not uncommon, especially as the extraction site ages. While the burning of natural gas only produces about half the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide as the burning of coal, the gas that would escape before the combustion process is methane which is at least 20 times the greenhouse heating effect on the atmosphere as the carbon dioxide.

### **Summer Field Trip to Stroud Water Research Center**

On June 19, the Chapter met at the Stroud Water Research Center in Avondale, PA. The Center conducts stream and river studies locally as well as nationally and internationally. The campus has experienced an expansion in recent year, including the new LEED Platinum certified Education Center. Outside of the new building, there are a variety of terrain construction features that collect rain water. Several basins connected to underground piping carry water under the building to a tertiary treatment system. It cleans all the “gray water” used in the complex. When water eventually reaches the White Clay Creek, it is cleaner than water in the Creek due to extensive filtering along the way. Each of the collection basins include multiple types of plants that aid in water purification.

The interior of the facility makes extensive use of recycled and locally sourced materials. The staff at the Center now comprises over 40 permanent staff and up to 15 interns who conduct research in Biogeochemistry, Entomology, Fish Molecular Ecology, Fluvial Geomorphology, Microbiology, Organic Geochemistry and Watershed Restoration.

Following the tour, David Wise, the Watershed Restoration Manager, provided a comprehensive view of the studies on existing streamside forest science and promoting appropriate riparian buffers on stream banks where no buffers currently exist. The Center has determined that a buffer should be at least 100 feet on each side to ensure good stream health. Mr. Wise also noted that the Center conducts many training sessions that would be of interest to foresters.

## **Roach Bauer Forestry Forum Will Celebrate 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Roach Bauer Forestry Forum will be held at the Kane Country Club in Kane, PA on Thursday, October 16 and mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Forum that was originally called the Ben Roach Forestry Forum. The speaker will be Dr. Alex Royo, who will present some interesting findings on his research examining the Landscape Analysis of Deer Impacts.

Social hour is at 5:30 pm with dinner served at 6:30 pm. 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities include special guests and some fun fund raising for the Bob Bauer Scholarship Fund will follow dinner and precede Dr. Royo's presentation. Each attendee will receive a commemorative mug. For more information, contact Ned Karger at [nkarger@collinsco.com](mailto:nkarger@collinsco.com).

## **Fellow Awards to Allegheny Members**

Heather J. Gracie, CF, Susan E. Lacy, CF and Jonathan S. Kays were elected Fellow in the Society of American Foresters in 2014. Congratulations to all!

The Fellow Award recognizes extraordinary contribution to forestry through a strong continuing commitment through direct SAF volunteer activities; exemplary action and sustained leadership, and advancement of the forestry profession in at least one of the following areas: application of forestry, education, public policy, research, or technology transfer. The SAF Fellow Award is a prestigious award that recognizes an SAF member for long standing service to forestry at the local, state, and national level. The SAF Fellow is recognized as an ambassador for the advancement of forestry.



Heather is a 1984 graduate of Cook College, Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resource/Forest Management. She has served on the Executive Committee of the New Jersey Division since 1988.

She is President of Gracie & Harrigan Consulting Foresters, serving 875 clients from their office in Far Hills, NJ. In 2001, she was awarded the Silas B. Little Award for her longtime service to the New Jersey Division. She is owner of a Certified Tree Farm and Christmas Tree Farm in New Hampshire.



Susan holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from Colorado State University, a Master of Science in Forest Resources and Economics from the University of New Hampshire and a Master of Business Administration from Villanova University. She is a member of the Valley Forge Chapter, has served as Treasurer for Allegheny SAF and on the national Communications and Leadership Academy Steering committees. Susan has been a member of SAF since 1980.

Susan has held several forestry positions in the private sector as well as state and federal government, including Assistant Director for the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry Northeastern Area. She is currently the Executive Director for Allegheny SAF, a Planner for Sherpa Financial, and Chair of the Honey Brook Township Planning Commission.



Jonathan has an MS in Forestry from Virginia Tech, and a BS in Natural Resource Management from Cook College, Rutgers University. His background includes county forester with the VA Department of Forestry, research assistant at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in NY, High School Earth Science teacher, and forestry technician with the USDA Forest Service in northern Idaho.

Jonathan has been stationed at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center near Hagerstown, Maryland, since 1988 as a Natural Resources Extension Specialist with the University of Maryland Extension. Jonathan has authored numerous extension publications and books, produces a quarterly newsletter *Branching Out* for Maryland forest owners, and other materials that can be found on his website. [www.naturalresources.umd.edu](http://www.naturalresources.umd.edu). Jonathan has been a member of SAF since 1988 in the MD/DE Division and has served on the Executive Committee since 1992 in a variety of capacities including: Continuing Education Chair, Awards Chair, Chair (2007-2008), Chair-elect, Past-chair, and Communications Chair. He is presently serving on the Allegheny SAF Executive Committee as Awards Chair. Jonathan received the Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Award in 2010 from the Allegheny SAF.

# High School Students Participate in Professional Logger Training Program

*Charles E. Coup, Program Manager, Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative*

A new partnership between the Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative (PA SFI) and Central Mountain High School in Mill Hall, PA allows students enrolled in the school's Natural Resources Management Program to participate in the state's premier logger training program at no cost to the students or the school. This spring marked the first class to complete the core requirements for the PA Professional Timber Harvester Training Program, administered by the PA SFI. This is the same training that many professional loggers are required to complete, including those that cut commercial timber sales on state forestlands. The training program emphasizes safety, environmental conservation, and professionalism.

"Pennsylvania's forest products industry is recognizing that finding and attracting new employees with the basic skills and work ethics necessary to carry out logging operations is becoming both an immediate and long term problem," said Chuck Coup, Program Manager for Pennsylvania SFI. "We hope that building partnerships like this will help encourage students at the high school level to consider a future career in the forest products industry." A report from a November 2013 Forum conducted by Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Hardwoods Development Council identifies lack of qualified skilled loggers as one of the top threats to the future of the state's forest products industry.

Central Mountain High School instructor John May agrees that the partnership between the PA SFI and the Natural Resources Management Program at Central Mountain High School is a great addition and provides several positive outcomes and opportunities. "It provides students with industry recognized training that will aid them in finding employment after graduation, and provides the industry with young people that have a sincere interest and proper training," May said. "It has also helped the students to develop a better sense of pride and appreciation for their education because they are able to see directly how it will benefit them in the future."

The Natural Resource Management Program at Central Mountain High School dates back to 1985 when it was simply known as the Forestry Program. Since that time students have been learning how to manage forest resources and safely operate chainsaws and portable sawmills in a hands-on setting.

The Pennsylvania SFI program has been operating the statewide Professional Timber Harvester Training program since 1995. More than 7,000 individuals have participated in the training aimed at reducing logging accidents, increasing the productivity and professionalism of Pennsylvania's loggers, and improving the sustainability of timber harvesting practices in the state. The PA SFI program office is located in Bellefonte, PA. Delivery of the PA SFI logger training to the school was supported in part by funding from the Keystone Wood Products Association, which strives to enhance the lumber and wood products manufacturers of Central Pennsylvania through promotion of career opportunities in the industry and other initiatives.





*Back row, left to right: Chuck Coup (PA SFI Program Manager), Ethan Shawley, Bryce Bason, Russ Mazzotta, John May (Natural Resources Management Program Instructor).  
Front Row, left to right: Dustin Windle, Curtis Hess, Dameon Ilgen, Ethan Wheeler, Logan Firestone.*

## **Funding Needs to Suppress and Prevent Wildfire**

*Joe Tekel, Forester, WV SAF*

After the wildfire on the Monongahela National Forest damaged over 1,600 acres in November, 2013, WV SAF members Dave McGill, Bob Beanblossom and Joe Tekel formed a working group to advance the effort to persuade Congress to provide additional funding and resources to combat wildfires. Mr. Tekel contacted the national SAF office for assistance and John Barnwell, SAF Policy Director offered guidance in the preparation of the following letter to the West Virginia Congressional delegation, including Senator Jay Rockefeller, Senator Joe Manchin, Representative Shelley Moore Capito and Representative Nick Rahall:

*Although the super large Western fires during the summer of 2013 rightfully got most of the attention, there exists a national problem due to inadequate funding for fire suppression and prevention in the East as well as the West. Due to budget restraints, resources deployed for fire prevention and initial attack, which include both people and equipment, have been reduced to a fraction of their past capability. To make matters worse, when the large difficult fires occur in the*

*West with their huge expenses, federal fire suppression and prevention funds along with funds from non-fire activities and programs in other geographic areas are transferred to cover the costs of these mega-fires.*

*We are robbing Peter to pay Paul. Projects have been delayed, contracts put on hold and other useful activities reduced because of the transfer of funds to combat mega-fires. Wildfires are becoming larger, more frequent and more costly to control. A National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy has been prepared by agencies within the Department of Interior and the USDA Forest Service that addresses the need for adequate firefighting and prevention nationwide. Wildfires know no boundaries, so coordination between agencies is essential. The Society of American Foresters (SAF) is currently revising a SAF National Position Statement supporting the elements of this strategy including managing vegetation and fuels, protecting homes and communities, and effectively and efficiently responding to wildfires.*

*West Virginia is the third more forested state in the nation. We have had our share of large wildfires in the past, and it looks like we are heading toward larger fires in the future. We need additional funding and resources to protect our very valuable hardwoods and conifers from uncontrolled wildfires. The values needing protection also include scenic enjoyment and outdoor recreation.*

The FEMA Disaster Fund only provides funds to cover 1% of the largest fire suppression costs. Congress needs to fund the remaining 99%. Current approaches to covering wildfire costs are insufficient and deleterious to other natural resource management efforts. SAF needs to help support the effort to change wildfire funding practices and help members of Congress understand alternative and potentially cost-saving approaches to fighting wildfires.

## **NJ Division News: Student outreach, communications**

*By Kris Hasbrouck and Charles Newlon*

The Division has reorganized its membership committee and organized an endowment committee. The membership committee has been active at Rutgers University and Stockton State College re-establishing outreach to students formerly handled annually by Dr. John Kuser. Immediate results to date are that the Division has sponsored the membership of 6 students, with Allegheny SAF sponsoring an additional 2 students. The membership committee's goal is to increase Division membership from 77 (in January 2014) to 100 by the end of the year, and then 110 by March 2016. The membership committee is also organizing a Division family barbeque on Sunday August 21 at Brendan Byrne State Forest (RSVP to [ajmcforester@yahoo.com](mailto:ajmcforester@yahoo.com)).

The new Endowment committee is looking into the Elwood B. Moore Award, a program that Dr. Kuser had also managed. The Executive Committee has charged the Endowment Committee with reinvesting some funds the Division has been holding and developing a protocol for using the proceeds to sponsor the Elwood B. Moore Scholarship Award and/or similar programs. The work of the Endowment Committee should be completed by the division's annual meeting in Jan. 2015.

The Division has also established a communications committee, in order to better facilitate internal communications to members, and to improve communications to the public, policymakers, other environmental organizations, and the media. To date, the communications committee has organized a Foresters' Fund grant application for communications infrastructure and an advocacy day in Trenton. They have solicited input and are coordinating with every local SAF unit that is adjacent to New Jersey, are designing and gathering information for a website, and are gathering contact information for media outlets, and are gathering partnering organizations within New Jersey. There will be more to report on this in the late summer or fall.

The Division has also reorganized its science & technology committee. Starting with the Spring 2014 edition of The Cruiser (the Division's newsletter), the science/tech committee has been providing briefs on recent developments in forestry and forest research. Past editions of The Cruiser can be found at [www.alleghenysaf.org/njsaf.htm](http://www.alleghenysaf.org/njsaf.htm).

## **WV SAF Winter Meeting a Success**

The WV Division of the Allegheny SAF held their annual Winter Meeting on March 31 and April 1, 2014 in Braxton County with almost 70 members attending. The theme for the meeting was **Rehabilitation and Restoration: Management Options for West Virginia Forests**.

The meeting began with a half-day field tour of early successional habitat development activities on the Burnsville Wildlife Management Area, led by WVDNR employees Terry Jones and Burnard Gibson. The indoor sessions were held at the Days Inn in Flatwoods. Josh Fershee of the WVU College of Law spoke on **"Roosevelt's Legacy: Law and Policy Implications for Natural Gas Production"** following the social hour and banquet. The WV SAF Executive Committee met later that evening.

Tuesday started with a business meeting, with 50-year SAF member, Joe Tekel's, presentation about the National Fire Policy and Roger Sherman's report on the Old Forester Print. Members of the Student Chapter made a presentation about their participation in the national convention and thanked the Division for their support. Newly elected Vice-Chair, Dr. Jamie Schuler, moderated a session he characterized as State Updates on "cooperation and collaboration" by WV State Forester Randy Dye, WV Forestry Association Executive Director Frank Stewart, Monongahela National Forest Supervisor Clyde Thompson and Natural Resources Conservation Service State Conservationist Kevin Wickey. **Rehabilitation and Restoration: Management Options for West Virginia Forests** was the theme for the later presentations.

Dr. Jamie Schuler, Professor of Silviculture at WVU gave a presentation on the **"The ABCs of Stocking"**. Dr. Sheldon Owen of the WVU Extension Service spoke on **"Bats of West Virginia"** following the luncheon. **"Rehabilitation of Degraded Hardwood Stands"** was the topic presented by Dr. Jeff Stringer of the University of Kentucky Extension Service. Dr. Tom Schuler, Project Leader/Research Forester for the USDA Forest Service presented **"Long-term Results of Diameter-limit Harvesting on the Fernow"**. Dr. Sheldon Owen presented for the second time -- **"Wildlife and Restoration"**. Todd Miller, Director of Aquatic Restoration at the Canaan

Valley Institute discussed “**Wetland Restoration and Mitigation**” and Dr. Jeff Skousen finished the day with a presentation entitled “**Mine Land Reclamation**”.



Fifty year SAF member, Joe Tekel, addresses the group about his concerns regarding the National Fire Policy, members of the WVU Student Chapter discuss their activities and Dr. Jeff Stringer of the University Extension Service discusses Rehabilitation of Degraded Hardwood Stands.

### ***New Leaders.....***



*At the business meeting of the Winter Meeting – Dave McGill passed the gavel to Vice-Chair Jamie Schuler in the absence of the new Chair Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy.*

**Chair – Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy**  
**Vice-Chair – Jamie Schuler**  
**Past Chair – Dave McGill**  
**Secretary/Treasurer – Charles Copeland**  
**Communications Chair – Barb McWhorter**  
**At-large board member – Jim Hays**  
**At-large board member – Rick Sypolt**  
**At-large board member – Todd Lotter**  
**At-large board member - John Pomp**

## **In Memoriam**

### **Gordon T. Bamford**

Gordon T. Bamford died peacefully on May 10, 2014. He was 96. He was born in Trenton, NJ in 1918 and raised in Morrisville, PA. He graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in forestry in 1940 and received a Master's Degree in forestry from Yale University in 1950.

Between earning his two forestry degrees, he served in the U.S. Army during World War II in the South Pacific as a first lieutenant in the 317<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion of the 81<sup>st</sup> Infantry



Division. His division fought in the battles of Anguar and Peleliu and in the Philippines, including the battle of Leyte. After the war, Gordon spent some time with the division as part of the occupation of Japan.

He spent his entire professional career with the New Jersey Forestry Service and became State Forester in 1975 until he retired in 1983. Gordon was active in the Society of American Foresters throughout his life. He was a member of the NJ Forester's Association in 1948. This organization petitioned the Allegheny SAF to become the NJ Chapter and was awarded such in 1950 making Gordon a charter member. He became chairman of the NJ Chapter in 1957 and was the Allegheny Newsletter editor in the early 1960's. He was a strong supporter of the Allegheny Educational Endowment Fund. He was elected a Fellow in 1996 in the SAF. He was also active in the New Jersey Soil Conservation Society, NJ Tree Farm Committee and the Hopewell Shade Tree Committee. He was an avid skier until the age of 90.

Condolences may be sent to his wife, Claire Bamford at 177 Penn-Harbourton Road, Pennington, NJ 08534. Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to St. James Church, 115 E. Delaware Avenue, Pennington, NJ 08534.

## **Samuel H. Dyke**



It is with great sadness that the Ward Museum shares the loss one of its founding fathers. Samuel H. Dyke passed away on June 24, 2014, at age 81. He is survived by his wife, Ann Dyke, their four children, and extended family.

Dyke was the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Ward Foundation when he passed, as well as Chair of the Curatorial Committee at the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art. Dyke served the Foundation and Museum for over 40 years, and was instrumental in helping the Museum to grow from humble beginnings to one of the premier wildfowl art institutions in the world. He played an important role in nearly all the exhibits featured at the Ward Museum, and was active in the Museum's daily curatorial operations—from exhibit conception and conservation to hanging objects on the walls.

Before his time with the Ward Foundation, Dyke earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from Pennsylvania State University, and a Master's degree in Forestry from Yale University. He went on to work as a forester for Glatfelter, where he was instrumental in brokering conservation easements that led to the protection of extensive tracts of land, including parts of the Nature Conservancy's Nassawango Creek Preserve.

Dyke's contributions to scholarship related to the waterfowling heritage of the Eastern Shore of Maryland and are unequalled; he was an expert on the history of hunting and decoy carving, and was regularly published in major magazines, journals, and books. In 2008 Dyke received the Heritage Professional Award from the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Council. Today the library named in honor of Dyke at the Ward Museum holds much of his written legacy, as well as the works of those he inspired.

In addition to leaving his mark on the worlds of decoy and decorative wildfowl carving and conservation, Sam Dyke also greatly impacted the youth of Delmarva. He was long active with area Boy Scouts, with whom he worked as a master.

Dyke's interests in wildfowl extended to the world of birding as well. He was one of the preeminent experts bridging hunting heritage and contemporary birding activities. Dyke served as president of the Tri-County Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society, led many Christmas Bird Counts, and was a regional leader in recording birds for conservation purposes. Dyke could be found outdoors looking for and appreciating birds nearly every day.

Sam Dyke's importance reaches deep within decoy collection, birding, and wildlife artist communities. Voices from friends in these circles may best recount Sam's legacy. World champion carver Rich Smoker had this to say of Dyke: "I knew Sam Dyke by many disciplines: collector, carver, judge, duck hunter, birder, curator, Chairman of the Board, evaluator of antiquities, and a wood specialist at his 'real job' at Glatfelter Pulpwood.

Sam was the Ward Foundation, guiding the Ward for over 40 years, through the tumultuous waters with an unerring and straight forward hand. Sam led by example; no job was too big or too small not to be finished with his eye to detail. He had the uncanny ability to be able to see your strengths and weaknesses, take them, and guide each person to use their assets to benefit the whole. He possessed an amazing eye that could spot field marks on birds in the field, as well as examples of works to be displayed in an exhibit, or added to the Ward's collection.

A quiet and unassuming man, his strengths were revealed when he spoke on any topic [he was] questioned on. When [he] questioned [me] if his advice was taken to view a prized bird—no being the answer, yard work taking precedence—his response [was]: 'Work can wait, time and tide wait for no man.'"

Noted author and decoy historian Henry Stansbury adds: "Sam was so multi-talented and universally well-liked by all! He was both creative and artistic in his role as a sophisticated collector...[as] our curator and exhibit planning and installation expert, and in his recurring leadership role that we pressed on him several times over the years when we absolutely needed his quiet good humored steady hand at the helm of the Ward Museum. He guided us through the complex and very successful transition into the Salisbury University family with grace, and Sam recently assumed the helm once more as we planned some major advances in our new five year plan. He was just great to work with and equally adept at all phases of museum life. Sam was affable and generous with his time, expertise, and his resources – with not only the Ward Museum, but also the birding and conservation communities on the Eastern Shore."



Jeffrey Gordon, President of the American Birding Association, remembers “The term gentleman is often applied casually, but it suited Sam perfectly; he carried it in a way that very few of us do. His authority, charm, and charisma—all prodigious—were rooted in his quiet, caring, and self-effacing manner. He had a distinct talent for inspiring confidence. ... He was able to see good in you [that] you didn't know you had and call it forth, just as he might lead someone to a view of some shy and heretofore unseen bird. He loved the lands and waters of Delmarva and all around the world. He loved the birds and other wild creatures he shared it all with, and worked hard to inspire that love in others.”

Sam Dyke never sought attention for the many works that he did. His role at and contributions to the Ward Museum were priceless, and he shall be sorely missed.

A public celebration of Dyke's life will be held at the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art on Saturday, July 26, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Please join the Dyke Family, the Ward Foundation, and Sam Dyke's many friends in honoring him there. You may also share your memories of Sam by leaving a comment on the Museum's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/wardmuseum](http://www.facebook.com/wardmuseum), or by emailing [wardinfo@salisbury.edu](mailto:wardinfo@salisbury.edu).

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The Allegheny Society of American Foresters***



# Allegheny Society of American Foresters

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## Coming Events

### August, 2014

21 NJ SAF Family Barbeque

### September, 2014

8-10 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting  
Berkeley Springs, WV

15 Deadline for Fall Issue of the  
*Allegheny News*.

25-28 Women and their Woods Fall Retreat

### October, 2014

8-12 SAF/CIF National Convention  
Salt Lake City, UT

16 Roach Bauer Forestry Forum  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Kane, PA

### December, 2014

15 Deadline for Winter Issue of the  
*Allegheny News*.

### February, 2015

18-20 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting  
Wilkes Barre, PA

### March, 2015

15 Deadline for Spring Issue of the  
*Allegheny News*.

20-21 PA Forest Landowners Conference

### Future Allegheny SAF Meetings

Summer 2015: Rothrock Chapter

Winter 2016: Maryland/Delaware

### Future SAF National Conventions

2015: Baton Rouge, LA

2016: Madison, WI

2017: Louisville, KY

2018: Portland, OR

## Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs

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