

The Allegheny News



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 2015**

The Allegheny News

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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

www.alleghenysaf.org

Editor: Susan Lacy (ansaf@comcast.net)

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Cover Photo

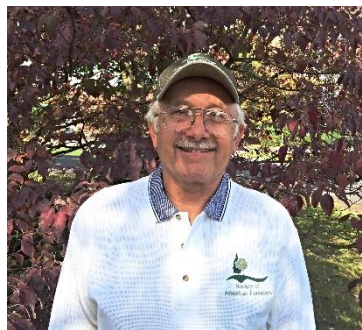
Lake Raystown in September. All Photos by Sanford Smith.

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 Kusko



I hope you all are enjoying (or have enjoyed) the spectacular colors of the season. Fall may just be my favorite time of the year. Mother Nature dons her most exquisite apparel at this time of year.

Hopefully, you had a chance to attend the Summer Meeting at Lake Raystown. The accommodations, program, and weather were great. A big “thank you” to the folks in the Rothrock Chapter. We were fortunate to have Matt Menashes, Chief Executive Officer, SAF, attend the meeting, including the Executive Committee meeting on Wednesday. Matt shared with us the plan to solicit \$250,000 for the Science Fund as a memorial for Kurt Gottschalk. The Committee discussed the idea of encouraging divisions/chapters to donate some, or all, of the proceeds from their silent auctions to the effort.

The meeting agenda was both timely and very interesting. Topics included forest management activities across several jurisdictions, invasive species issues, wildlife aspects of forest management activities, and forest history of the local region. The information presented generated ample questions and discussions. One thing we learned was that a school bus loaded with 50 foresters can't make it up a steep gravel road. I guess we all need to lose a few pounds!

The Auditing Committee Chair position remains vacant (for two years now). It is very important that we fill this position. No organization can properly function with its key positions vacant for extended periods. I urge you to consider serving.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the 2015 National Convention in Baton Rouge, LA. Recreating Forestry: The Confluence of Science, Society and Technology is certainly an appropriate conference theme. The program agenda appears power packed and very interesting. I will be representing the Allegheny SAF at the House of Society Delegates meeting. The agenda for this day-long meeting with the SAF leadership is ambitious and challenging as well.

Enjoy what remains of autumn, and be safe in your pursuits afield.

District VII Board of Directors Report

Rachel R. Reyna, CF



Greetings Allegheny SAFers!

This is my first “official” column as your representative to the SAF Board of Directors. As you know, I am filling the remainder of Kurt Gottschalk's term on the Board. Kurt's are big boots to fill, and I very much appreciate your emails and calls offering assistance and encouragement during this difficult and awkward time of transition.

As I write this column, the Board of Directors meeting is just four days away. This will be my first official full Board meeting, so this column will be smaller than subsequent ones. Though I am still catching up with Kurt's Board duties, I do have a few updates to pass along:

Memorializing Kurt at the National Level: The national efforts to memorialize Kurt are well underway. The Science Fund is slated to be renamed "The Kurt Gottschalk Science Fund." This change should be officially approved at the upcoming Board meeting. The financial goal for this fund is \$250,000. The ANSAF Executive Committee is encouraging host Divisions/Chapters to donate the proceeds from several upcoming silent auctions to this fund in Kurt's memory. You are also welcome to give to the fund personally. The second effort related to Kurt is the creation of a national award to recognize "rookies" for their contributions to SAF and the profession. I should hear more about the progress of this item at the upcoming meeting.

Membership and Mentorship: There was good news on membership this year – we are up 3%! This is great news, especially since membership, as you know, has been in a downturn for many years. These encouraging results are due to the hard work of people at the National Office (like Corey Ruple and Christopher Whited, among others) and the recruitment efforts of people like you. Thanks for your support of SAF and for telling your colleagues about the benefits of membership! Let's keep up the great work and grow another 3+% next year! One of the ways we can help with membership is to work on retention of student and young professional members as they go out into the workforce. The National Office is working on setting up a mentoring program that will help these folks grow their networks and become established (and hopefully stay active in SAF as well). Please consider participating in this program as it develops. I will keep you updated on this as it moves forward.

Evolving Forestry: SAF is working on a new effort to continue to move forestry forward. I am just learning about this myself and will share information as I obtain it. I mention it here so that you can be on the lookout for it.

My Role(s) on the Board: In addition to representing their geographical areas, Board members serve on committees or as liaisons to other arms of SAF. After joining the Board, I was appointed to the Finance Committee, as this was the role Kurt had been filling. I was recently contacted by Clark Seely, who will be SAF President in 2016. Clark asked me if I would be willing to serve in two other capacities: as the Board Liaison to the House of Society Delegates (HSD) and as Co-Liaison for Student Activities and Engagement. I have accepted these roles and will be moved off of the Finance Committee in order to put more attention on them. I am looking forward to these roles, as much focus is put on subjects that are near and dear to my heart: communications, leadership, and diversity. I look forward to updating you in the future. Well, that is all I will say for now. I look forward to the upcoming Board meeting and will have plenty more to report in the next newsletter. Please keep in mind that you can contact me if need information or if you have an issue you'd like to bring up – or an idea you'd like to share. I hope the upcoming holidays bring you blessings (and abundant hunting seasons)!

**Allegheny SAF Executive Committee Meeting
September 16, 2015
Minutes**

Attendees:

Jason Albright	Matt Menashes	Dick Schwab
Terry Hoffman	Bob Merrill	Bob Schweitzer
Jonathan Kays	Jack Perdue	Roy Siefert
Mike Kusko	Steve Resh	Dave Trimpey
Susan Lacy	Rachel Reyna	

Motion:

Made by:	Seconded by:	Wording of Motion	Pass/Fail
Steve Resh	Terry Hoffman	Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, as printed in the Allegheny News	Passed

Treasurer's Report (Steve Resh): See Steve's Reports. Steve has not yet paid out the Division and Chapter dues pass thru. He will send checks out within the next two months. The Educational Endowment fund is not doing well at present (but Steve does not yet have the August Statement). The current balance is \$52,093, which is down from \$52,792.

Board of Directors (formerly known as Council) Report (Rachel Reyna): Rachel is very new on the board, stepping in for Kurt Gottschalk and filling the remainder of his term. We all mourn the loss of Kurt. Rachel was able to attend Kurt's memorial services on behalf of Allegheny SAF. Rachel received an email from Janice Gottschalk containing a letter written to the 2015 SAF National President, Bob Alverts. The Board is slated to approve the renaming of the Science Fund to the Kurt Gottschalk Science Fund. Funding goals for the fund are currently set at \$250,000. Some of this funding may come from the Foresters Fund, which will receive at least a portion of a large bequest from the estate of Bill Hagenstein. Matt Menashes suggested that ANSAF write a letter of support in response to Janice Gottschalk's requests. Janice would like to stay engaged throughout the process and it would be great if ANSAF could reach out to her.

Motion:

Made by:	Seconded by:	Wording of Motion	Pass/Fail
Rachel Reyna	Steve Resh	Recommend that the proceeds from next 2-3 silent auctions go toward the National Science Fund in memory of Kurt Gottschalk	Passed

Discussion: we could add a line on the registration form for the next few meetings to encourage donations. We need to contact the chairs of next meeting(s). Perhaps we could add this idea to the newsletter via a column.

Ideas for the ANSAF to memorialize Kurt: perhaps create a student monetary award which could be called something like the "Lost Foresters Award" or the "Fallen Tree Fund." This would be a

place where funds could be donated in memory of members that have passed. It would be used to support students. Perhaps it could be used to support student or young professional attendance at ANSAF meetings. If we make this investment, it is also an investment in people and may foster continued interest in SAF into the future. Mentoring was also brought up. National is working on a mentoring program that ANSAF can be involved in. More on this effort at an upcoming meeting.

Update on Chair-Elect, Steve Koehn: Steve is doing well after a major surgery. He is looking forward to being very involved as chair. Steve appreciates prayers as he continues in his recovery.

Executive Director's Report (Susan Lacy): ANSAF taxes are coming up. It looks like ANSAF can participate in the submission that National makes. This would be fantastic, but in order to make this happen ALL TREASURERS REPORTS FROM DIVISIONS/CHAPTERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1. It is vital that they are in on time. Susan continues to work on the PA state sales tax exemption, which has not been an easy process. Susan has been involved in conference calls that allow SAF Business managers to share information. SAF has been talking about regionalization of Executive Director services. Susan is now on monthly conference calls with SAF staff and she will share info with us as it comes up. SAF is trying to invest in models that have been created so that members are better served. Thanks to Susan for all her great work!

Webmaster Report (Jack Perdue): See Jack's Website Report (attached). Thanks to Jack for all his work as webmaster! He continues to make our site useful to our members. The new site works much like a blog and will be easier to update. Please send info to Jack related to events. Presentations from meetings will be uploaded to the website as pdfs. Jack is working on scanning in all the old issues of the ANSAF newsletters. If you have old newsletters that are not yet on the site, send them to Jack and/or Susan and they will work to sort through them. Jonathan Kays may be able to help with issues that are in MS Publisher. We are now able to sell online and take meeting payments online, which will be very helpful to meeting organizers. The new format also saves us money.

National Office Update (Matt Menashes): The next Henry Clepper Forest Policy internships will start in January. There is a stipend of \$1,400 per month for this position. Send interested students to John Barnwell for info. Convention Info: the House of Society Delegates meeting starts on 11/2. The theme of the convention is "Recreating Forestry." SAF is launching an effort to reframe the discussion within SAF and the forestry community as to what the next 30 years of the forestry profession will look like (called "Evolving Forestry"). We have a tendency to look to the past and hold on to it too much. It's hard to get students engaged when we keep talking about how good things were 10+ years ago. What are the new issues and how will they affect the profession? How do we reframe issues so the next generation gets engaged? The excess property surrounding the national office was sold. There is massive development going on now, much of the property was harvested for development. Townhomes, office buildings, and single family homes are going in. Of the 34 acres, 16 are being developed (other acres are protected). This has improved SAF's financial situation and plans for investing the profits are moving forward (investing in IT, programs, services, people). There is a new policy in place to guides

the investment efforts. The new website may be ready early next year. It will allow for state units to have websites for little to no cost. Invoicing for dues renewal will begin in a few weeks.

Renewal of Susan's Contract (Mike Kusko): a new contract was executed between ANSAF and Susan Lacy. This new contract runs through June 30, 2017.

Review of Committees (Mike Kusko): Mike has made calls regarding committees and chair people.

Auditing Committee (Chair is vacant); this year's audit was completed by Gene Odat. We are looking good. Thanks, Gene!

Awards Committee (Jonathan Kays): Jonathan still good with his committee and continues to encourage everyone to submit nominees. We should think about adding a monetary component to the student award, above and beyond a certificate.

Education Committee (Brent Harding): Brent is happy to continue with this committee.

Forest Science Committee (Peter Linehan): Peter intends to start writing science articles for the newsletter.

Membership Committee (always the current Chair-Elect) will change each year.

Policy and Legislation Committee (Tim Kaden): Tim has not been feeling well, but is willing to remain the chair. There are plenty current issues. Terry Hoffman will call Tim and see what he can coordinate.

Keep the 100th Anniversary of ANSAF (2022) in mind – a committee will be formed to work on this. Let Susan know if you are interested in serving on this Ad Hoc committee.

ANSAF submitted an HSD Award nomination related to our collective work with New England SAF and NY SAF related to the Northern Long-eared Bat situation. Many thanks goes out to Steve Kalleser, who really spearheaded this effort. Many thanks also go out to the policy folks at the national office for their support and assistance in making this possible.

There was a discussion of whether to go to one meeting per year or continue on with two per year. It was decided to keep the two meetings per year. Matt Menashes suggested that we consider not calling the meetings "meetings." It is often easier to get funding from employers if it is a training with accompanying meetings. Perhaps "event" is something to consider. It was noted that late summer is not a great time for USDA FS participation, but we need to continue to remember that our NJ members are more able to attend if the meeting is after August 1. Rachel brought up a concern that Susan Lacy is not receiving travel reimbursement for her attendance at ANSAF meetings. If we expect our Executive Director to attend, we should help provide a means for her to do so, especially since she is willing to provide business manager services for such an inexpensive fee.

Motion:

Made by:	Seconded by:	Wording of Motion	Pass/Fail
Steve Resh	Dick Schwab	Add budget line for Susan's registration and travel to ANSAF meetings. Susan will have no expenses for the winter meeting.	Passed

PA Division is now lacking a Secretary/Treasurer, since Thad Taylor has stepped down after many years of service (thanks, Thad!!). They are looking to fill this position – please call Bob Merrill if you are interested. (This position has now been filled by Dave Trimpey).

NJ Division Report is attached.

Valley Forge Chapter is hosting the Winter 2017 meeting. They are looking forward to it. Dates are already set: 15-17 Feb. 2017. Next summer's meeting is in Mt. Holly, NJ. Dates are Sept 14-16, 2016. Our next meeting is in the Baltimore area Feb. 17-19, 2016

Motion:

Made by:	Seconded by:	Wording of Motion	Pass/Fail
Dick Schwab	Steve Resh	Adjourn	Passed

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel R. Reyna

Update on The Allegheny SAF Website – v3

By Jack Perdue, Webmaster

This is the third major revision of the website and I wanted to point out a few things to you, so that you will have a better understanding of what we (and your groups, specifically) can do to make our website more useful to our members.

Main page <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/main>

Rather than continually updating the main homepages of the website, now the articles-info-announcements will simply scroll further down the page. This makes it easier to maintain, but also better for the members since all that info does not go away, it just moves down the page.

Find <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/find/>

Also, using the Find page, users can enter any text they would like to look up on the website, e.g. events, announcements, policy, names. Each article on the Main page can be assigned a Tag and/or Category. For example, Newsletter, Members, History, Reading, Events. You can search using these search conditions on the Find page, or simply click the Tag or Category link on an article and it will quickly display all articles of the same Tag or Category. At the bottom of the Find page is a Tag Cloud. The larger the “Tag” the more often that tag has been used. Click or Touch that tag and all those articles with that tag will be rendered to the page.

State Webpages <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/divisions/>

Again, each State Division has its own webpage to post meetings, newsletters and other such important business to the Division. Each State Division webpage can be accessed either from the Menu under Divisions or in the footer on every page.

Events <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/events/>

An Events page has been added. It serves in similar fashion to the Main page in that events will be added to the top of the list and older Events will simply scroll down the page, always available via scrolling and the Find page. A great feature is that we can display active maps for an event. Use your mouse and you can zoom in and out on the map for better viewing. Click on the locator icon and it will zoom you to Google Maps, either desktop or mobile.

Mobile

A great feature of this new format is its ability to correctly render the website on any device, whether desktop computer, smartphone or tablet. When you go to the website using a smartphone, you will notice at the top of the page a Menu bar. Touch the Menu bar and the website menu is at your command.

Updates

There are a few things I will be updating in the near future. For example, the meeting presentations and the Allegheny News archive issues.

Contributions

As I have stated any time I have discussed our website, content is not only important – IT IS CRITICAL – and what makes a website useful and dynamic for our membership. Please send me content. More people every day are using the Internet to access their information. And more people are accessing the Internet via their smartphones. We now have the tools to offer information immediately. Many of our younger members have never known a time where they did not have access to the Internet. If we want to attract more members, younger members, this will help.

Edits and Suggestions

If you see things on the website that need to be corrected, please let me know. Also, if you think there is an opportunity or feature that would make the website even more functional, again please pass along your thoughts. I love suggestions.

Program Committee Update

By Steve Kalleser

Upcoming meeting schedule

Winter 2016:	Maryland/Delaware Division – February 17-19, 2016	Baltimore, MD
Summer 2016:	New Jersey Division – September 14-16, 2016	Mount Holly, NJ
Winter 2017:	Valley Forge Chapter – February 15-17, 2017	
Summer 2017:	Plateau Chapter	

All of the above local units have committed to hosting those meetings.

And after that.... Be forewarned!!! You will be getting a phone call soon!!

Winter 2018:	Keystone Chapter or volunteer
Summer 2018:	Western Gateway or volunteer
Winter 2019:	West Virginia Division or volunteer
Summer 2019:	Northern Hardwoods Chapter or volunteer

Winter meetings – please check American Tree Farm System annual meeting date to avoid conflict if possible.

Summer meetings – Due to regulations and filing deadlines in some states, June and July are very busy for some members. Please avoid these months and schedule summer meetings in August or September.

This schedule is set up to rotate meeting host responsibilities between the NJ, MD/DE and WV Divisions and the seven PA chapters. It also attempts to rotate hosting between summer and winter meetings. Any division or chapter may volunteer to host more often or to co-host with another division and/or chapter. This schedule should be kept 2-4 years ahead to allow ample planning time and to permit divisions and chapters to volunteer to host more frequently if they so desire.

Upcoming Plans

This winter I hope to update *The Guidelines for Hosting Annual Summer and Winter Meetings*, last revised by Ned Karger in 2010. We are looking to add recent developments from the National Office and some sample budgets. If anyone has any suggestions, email me at steve@gracieharrigan.com.

NJ Division ANSAF – Report to Allegheny SAF Exec. Committee – 9/16/2015 Year-To-Date Accomplishments, Plans, and Discussions for 2015:

Membership committee: chair + 4 members

- Contacted ~12 people who were not members (or who dropped their membership)
- Organized membership action plan and had it reviewed by the National SAF office
- Held steady at 94 members since February
- WHAT'S NEXT: Goals are 100 members by year-end 2015, and 110 members in 2016
- WHAT'S NEXT: Membership BBQ 9/27/2015
- WHAT'S NEXT: 2016 Membership drive starts in October

Science & Technology committee: chair + 6 members

- Contributed 21 articles summarizing recent forest research for *The Cruiser*
- Set themes for sci-tech articles to appear in upcoming editions of *The Cruiser*

Communications committee: chair + 4 members

- Quarterly publication schedule of The Cruiser
- E-mail newsletter system, www.njforests.org, Facebook, and Twitter accounts active
- WHAT'S NEXT: Monthly press releases/press placements (supported by Foresters Fund grant, and in coordination with NJ Tree Farm Committee and NJ Forestry Association)

Policy committee: chair + 4 members

- Engaged with USFWS and NJ Div. of Fish & Wildlife on field tour regarding NLEB
- WHAT'S NEXT: Working with NJ Division of Taxation to clarify issues regarding Farmland Assessment
- WHAT'S NEXT: Foresters' advocacy day in Trenton planned
- WHAT'S NEXT: Engaging Highlands Council regarding forestry issues in that region

Program committee: chair + 3 members

- WHAT'S NEXT: Planning January annual meeting and training
- WHAT'S NEXT: Planning Spring 2016 training (technology in the woods!)
- WHAT'S NEXT: Planning Summer 2016 ANSAF meeting – dates 9/14-9/16/16 in Mount Holly, NJ

Nominating committee: chair + 2 members

- Vetted nominees and forwarded information to Nat'l SAF to include on electronic ballot

Endowment committee: chair + 2 members

- WHAT'S NEXT: Fund-raising planned for 2016 and 2017

Executive committee: chair + 8 members

- Met with Lt. Gov. to advocate for forestry on DEP-owned lands, urban forestry, and SAF as a trusted source of information
- Charged its committees with tasks to meet the objectives of the Division
- Held bi-monthly meetings or conference calls
- WHAT'S NEXT: Meeting schedule for 2016, planning meeting in Dec. 2015

Save the Date

Roach Bauer Forestry Forum

Thursday, April 7, 2016

Kane Country Club, Rt. 6 East, Kane, PA

Speaker: Robert Long, Research Forest Pathologist

USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station

Topic: "Black cherry crown health, mortality, and seed production on the Allegheny Plateau."

Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting

Lake Raystown, PA

September 16-18, 2015



Thanks to the Rothrock Chapter for hosting the Summer Meeting in September. They did a great job organizing a meeting with engaging speakers, a beautiful location and good summer weather. The meeting started off with a leisurely afternoon tour on Lake Raystown aboard the *Princess* lake cruiser. Participants had the opportunity to learn about the history of the recreation area which is managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Raystown Lake is a multi-use project. The first and foremost being flood damage reduction. The Raystown Branch flows north, not south like most people expect, therefore the Dam and Outlet works are located on the northern end of the lake. The Dam stands 225 feet tall from base to top and is 1700 feet across making it one of the largest dams in the east. Raystown manages flows on the Juniata River and ultimately influences the Susquehannock River and Chesapeake Bay.

The second use for Raystown is general recreation including: five campgrounds managed or leased by the Corps with a total of 594 campsites; 10 boat launches; 2 full service marinas; 68.5 miles of trails; 10 picnic shelters and many, many, many other picnic areas and tables; an amphitheater with sound, light, and video capabilities; a resort complex with cabins, water park, miniature golf, and a brand new conference center; And approximately 21,000 acres open to hunting and 8,300 surface acres open to fishing (except where posted as no hunting/fishing).



The third use for Raystown is fisheries and wildlife management. Part of fisheries management includes maintaining minimum flows downstream- which can have an effect on lake levels during drought conditions. Raystown also has an active natural resource program with a goal to maintain and enhance the quality of existing resources. The fourth and final use for Raystown was added in 1988 when the William F. Matson generating plant was brought on line. The two generators at this plant can produce up to 21 mega-watts of power and release up to 1700 cubic feet of water per second, although it usually only operates at 500 cfs. Most of the releases are made through the hydro-plant with the spillway being used when the plant is not operating or when releases exceed the plant's capabilities (US Army Corps of Engineers).

The first full day of the meeting, Thursday, September 17, opened with a welcome from Jason Albright, Chair of Rothrock Chapter. Matt Price of the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau offered the group some insights on the economic value of recreation-based tourism in the region.

Joe Barnard, retired from the USDA Forest Service presented a fascinating biography of Joseph Trimble Rothrock. Rothrock, considered to be the father of Pennsylvania forestry, was the first president of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. Rothrock received a BS in botany before completing his MD and practicing medicine. He was appointed Forest Commissioner by the Governor in 1895 and remained in that position until 1901. Rothrock was instrumental in establishing the Pennsylvania State Forestry Academy (now Penn State –Mont Alto) in 1905 to provide an additional school to train foresters in the United States.

Sarah Wurzbacher, Penn State Extension, provided an update on the Pennsylvania State Wood Energy Team NewBIO Consortium. The remainder of the day was spent on a field tour. The first



stop included a discussion of silvicultural practices, deer management and American Chestnut breeding and restoration orchards on Army Corps of Engineers lands. Wood rat habitat and barrens restoration were the topics for a visit to State Game Lands. The tour was rounded out with a stop at Trough Creek State Park. Park staff provided a history of Civilian Conservation Corps activity in the area. The final presentations for the day focused on treatment plans for slowing the spread of hemlock wooly adelgid and emerald ash borer.

The second day of the meeting focused on a range of forest conservation and management challenges facing Pennsylvania today. Mark Faulkenberry, PADCNR, provided an update on the Bureau of Forestry's Hemlock Conservation Plan. Aaron Stottlemeyer, Penn State, discussed the long-term impacts of clearcutting, deer browsing and defoliation on stand development in mixed-oak forests. Ben Jones, PA Game Commission, presented forest management implications of listing the Northern Long-Eared Bat as an endangered species. Highlights of the deer forest study – integrating research with management was discussed by Duane Diefenbach of Penn State.



Matt Menashes, Chief Executive Officer for SAF, was able to join us for the entire meeting. He closed out the Summer Meeting with an update on national program activities within SAF. The new information system and website improvements will be widely available in January 2016. Some changes in staff at the national office to note: Corey Ruple is now the Membership Services Director and he is bringing many enhancements to member information and recruitment tools. Jeff Ghannam has returned as Acting Director of Strategic Communications. The outlook is very optimistic and there are great opportunities to continue to grow.

Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund

In honor of his many contributions to forestry, the Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund was established to provide funding for a series of annual educational workshops on timber taxes, estate planning, conservation easements and other financial topics 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 these workshops.



Our goal is to raise \$20,000 in the next two years with the long term goal of establishing a permanent fund. 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. Donations may be sent to:

**The Lloyd Casey Memorial Fund
c/o Pennsylvania Forestry Association
5th 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 Susan Lacy – ANSAF- ansaf@comcast.net Dave Alerich – PFA – djalerich@gmail.com or Terry Hoffman – PFA tehoffman@hotmail.com

The Fund has now raised over \$8,000! Help us reach the \$20,000 goal.

Bob Williams Wins National SAF Award



Robert W. (Bob) Williams, CF was awarded the 2015 W.D. Hagenstein Communicator Award by the National SAF Board of Directors. The award was presented at the Society of American Foresters convention in November. The award “recognizes an SAF member who displays the ability, talent, and skill to lead innovative and exemplary communications initiatives and programs that increase the general public’s understanding of forestry and natural resources at the local, regional, or national level.”

The nomination materials state that he is “...widely recognized as the point person for forest issues in southern New Jersey and beyond. He is regularly quoted by members of the media, which view him as a reliable and passionate forest steward capable of articulating the importance

of forest management to a lay audience.” His nomination, assembled by Dr. George Zimmermann, also details his outreach both to policymakers and directly to the general public.

Bob is only the second member of the NJ Division to receive a prestigious award from the National SAF. Bob is the owner of Pine Creek Forestry, LLC.

Hagenstein Award Acceptance Speech

By Bob Williams, CF

I am grateful to be able to be here to accept this recognition and deeply appreciate the SAF’s consideration. I’ve been involved in forestry for 45 years beginning with studying forestry at Centralia College in Washington State in 1970. Many things have changed in our field in those years, and of course when speaking of forestry issues, opinions vary.

It is my opinion that whether our Atlantic white cedar forest resources along our east coast or the great conifer forests of the California Sierra Mountains, many of our forest ecosystems are in trouble as a result of decades of benign neglect.

We have neither a science nor a technical problem: our forests now suffer from a broken social/political culture that has a hands-off approach to stewardship to dominate management decisions. This culture has caused the widespread neglect of our forests and not allowed land managers to make decisions for active management on a needed landscape level. As a result of this failed policy, there has never in the history of our country, a greater need for professional foresters or for that matter, this society of professional foresters. But what we really have is a failure to communicate – that is to communicate our beautiful green story of forestry to our public. We need a renewal of that conservation land ethic as Pinchot and Roosevelt had put forward for the country more than 100 years past. Yet many so-called conservationists continue their effort to redefine forestry and, for that matter, conservation itself.

In my small world of forestry and forests, it has been my belief that the relentless communication of our positive story of true land conservation out to our general public is and will continue to be forestry’s only hope.

The SAF must begin to encourage every single member to relentlessly encourage communication to our citizens by print media, video media and speaking engagements. It will take a generation to get things back where they need to be but we owe it to our forests, our citizens our profession and to the legacy of Gifford Pinchot – this effort must begin now!

This is our job and our responsibility. Our society has become and continues to be urbanized with most citizens having lost any relationship with the soil. It is our job to start a new conservation ethic with the public. It is my belief those that have been talking with the public have no love lost for forestry. Many that claim to support forestry after decades of opposing it; only hope to support cutting trees until the forest is “restored” then hope to eliminate loggers again. This is not conservation as Pinchot envisioned.

Our task will not be easy and it will take time. But the good news is the public is not stupid or uninterested in our beautiful green story – they just don't know about it. I have seen this over and over again. One good example is the essay I wrote on my trip to Montana as an eastern forester. I was told by forestry interests in Montana, that the main newspaper *The Missoulian*, would not print my essay because of its liberal leanings. They were wrong and my essay was published. One forester can make a difference. I wish you all luck with your renewed effort to communicate our beautiful green story.

Donna Davis Selected for Presidential Field Forester Award

*Reprinted from the **Forestry Source**, October 2015*



Donna Davis has been a practicing field forester with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service since March 1986 and has served as the project forester in Carroll County for 28 years. She is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the local forestry office. She directly supervises one watershed forester and is ultimately responsible for the work of several additional temporary positions, including two

high school interns, a Chesapeake Conservation Corps intern and a Volunteer Maryland coordinator. She works closely with landowners in stewardship plan development and forest practice implementation. She develops riparian buffer and reforestation plans and provides information and planning for invasive species control and plantation maintenance.

During her career with the Maryland Forest Service, Davis has prepared 495 forest stewardship plans covering 7,340 acres for private landowners and has planned and supervised tree planting projects on more than 2,000 acres of open land. She administers two woodland tax-abatement programs and works with landowners to explain the programs, determine eligibility and proper administration of legal forms, and inspect the properties for compliance. She also periodically oversees the work of licensed tree-expert crews and issues permits for trimming and removal of trees on public rights-of-way.

Davis is recognized by her peers as a highly competent and reliable forester. In 1997, she was selected by the regional forester to be a member of a Forester Workgroup charged with developing standards to improve the program's operations, efficiency and customer service for the Maryland Forest Service. The workgroup developed minimum standards for forest stewardship plans, created management guides that are used to explain silvicultural practices to landowners, and reviewed and revised the statewide Forest Conservation and Management Agreement program. The workgroup also researched and developed a suitable plant material list to assist the state nursery in determining species to propagate to support the state's Chesapeake Bay riparian forest buffer initiative.

Donna has been a member of SAF for over 30 years and recently served as the Secretary-Treasurer of Maryland-Delaware SAF from 2012 to 2013. Donna has also supported SAF through her membership and participation at many events throughout her career.

2015 SAF Presidential Field Forester Award – Personal Reflections

By Donna Davis

This year I had the honor of being selected to be the recipient of a SAF Presidential Field Forester Award for SAF District 7. I was one of 10 foresters from other SAF districts to receive this award at the 2015 National Convention in Baton Rouge, LA. I got a chance to speak to several of the other recipients at the Convention, and to read their dossiers. These other folks were top-notch and quite accomplished in their forestry careers. It was quite exciting and humbling for me to be included among them.

I want to thank the members of the Maryland/Delaware SAF Executive Committee for nominating me for the Field Forester Award. What makes this nomination all the more meaningful to me is that many of the committee members are colleagues which I have worked with or known for most of my (almost) 30 year career with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service. To me, their nomination was in essence saying “we have watched you grow in your profession over the years, you’re doing a great job, we want you to represent us.” Any one of the folks on the Executive Committee would be deserving of this award, as well as many other MD/DE field foresters, so I am very grateful for this vote of confidence. As such, I encourage others to take the time to nominate a colleague. I know that there are many exemplary long-time career field foresters that are Allegheny SAF members who have been quietly working year after year doing great things.

I also encourage everyone to attend at least one SAF National Convention. They are held all around the US in vacation worthy places. The convention in Baton Rouge was very well organized and with 1,500 registrants, very well attended. What an opportunity! 1,500 foresters and other natural resource professionals from around the country, and several from other countries, convening in one place to talk about forests! Attending a convention really opens one up to new ideas and opportunities to learn. There are so many different and exciting things going on in our profession, and we each have our own concerns and challenges specific to our own corner of the globe. But we also share many of the same concerns. What a great chance to hear what others are working on and to share ideas and knowledge. The week was packed full with informative concurrent sessions (281 of them, plus the plenary sessions) usually three or more going on at one time. As you can’t be three places at once, the greatest challenge for me during the convention was choosing which presentations to attend. A big THANK YOU goes to the convention committee members for planning such a great event.

I had never been to Louisiana so my husband and I chose to make this our vacation week and stayed a couple of extra days. The location was very convenient, with convention center, hotels and tourist worthy sites of interest all within close walking distance. There were pre and post-convention activities available which included technical field tours and technology workshops. The convention planners also booked several great companion tours throughout the week for the non-foresters while the SAF’ers attended sessions. These companion tours included a restaurant

binge, bus trip to New Orleans, a river boat swamp tour, and a plantation house tour. Several of these companion tours were scheduled in a way where one could take a break from the convention for a few hours, then get back to pick up a few more presentations in the afternoon.



A Thursday evening awards celebration included a dinner reception at the Belle of Baton Rouge hotel and casino for all convention goers and their families. Attendees paraded from the convention center to the hotel,



led by a Louisiana Jazz band. When the band arrived at the hotel, all award honorees joined them and were lead on stage and our names announced, one by one, as we took a bow while the crowd clapped and cheered with enthusiasm. The remainder of the evening was spent enjoying Louisiana style ham sandwiches, fried alligator, desserts and drinks with newly made friends.

The 2015 Convention in Baton Rouge is the second SAF National Convention that I have attended. The first was way back in the 1980's as a newly graduated forester. My roommate and I decided we needed to have a big adventure before the post college responsibilities of real-life kicked in. So we packed up my little Toyota pick-up truck with a tent, supplies and a national campsite catalog "borrowed" from the library, and headed west cross-country from Maryland to....as far as we could get in a month. Keep in mind that this was "back- in- the- day" of no internet, GPS or cellphones. We were having a wonderful time exploring America. However, after two weeks in the mountains with no bath houses available it was time for civilization, and the National Convention in Fort Collins Colorado was just the ticket. We stayed in a college dorm, took advantage of the showers and swimming pool, and I got many opportunities to meet experienced field foresters and rub elbows with potential employers during SAF Convention workshops. I mention this story because having the opportunity to meet and talk with established foresters attending that convention many years ago, along with attending Allegheny SAF meetings while a student at WVU (Let's Go Mountaineers), helped me to land a position with the MD Forest Service after I graduated. As we know, the forestry community is small. People remember you. That's my plug to encourage all of our students and newly minted foresters to attend a convention. If you cannot get to a national convention, attend your local district and division meetings.

I have had the fortune of being a field forester my whole career, working mostly with private landowners and local government. As a Project Forester with the Maryland Forest Service, if a tree or trees are involved, usually we will be too. I think my career began just before the forestry profession was starting another evolutionary change. Within a few years rapidly evolving technologies changed the way we did business, and is still changing it. We are all deep into the computer tech age now, using web-based systems, GPS and other sophisticated tools for data collection, reporting and mapping. The challenge now is to provide our clients with all of this

wonderful, detailed and precise information we are able to compile about their forest without losing our human relationship with them in the shuffle. We must resist the temptation to hand over the plan and run back to our computers. Instead, we must remember to take time to talk, learn who our landowners are, what they love about their woods, and encourage them to become involved in forestry issues. This is not time wasted, but time well spent. As my fellow Forestry Club students use to say: "May the Forest be with You".

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Awarded 17th Annual Achievement Award by SFI Inc.

By Chuck Coup, SFI Program Manager

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Implementation Committee was presented with the 17th annual SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award at the 2015 SFI Annual Conference in Olympic Valley, California on October 7, 2015. The purpose of the award is to recognize SFI Implementation Committees (SICs) for outstanding work in implementing the SFI program, making a difference on-the-ground advancing sustainable forestry and promoting the benefits of forests and forest products certified to the SFI Standard. The Pennsylvania SIC was selected for this award primarily for their work at adapting their Professional Timber Harvester Training program into an entry-level program for aspiring logging or forest industry workers and incorporating it into the curriculum of high school programs in Pennsylvania.

"What are the risks to the supply chain, to our economy, to forests in general, if we don't secure a future generation to care for our forests and to harvest them responsibly?" said Kathy Abusow, SFI Inc. President and CEO. "The Pennsylvania Committee members are thought leaders when it comes to youth training." For the second year in a row, students in the Natural Resource Management Career and Technical Program at Central Mountain High School in Mill Hall received the SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training credential. The training is provided through a partnership with the Pennsylvania SIC that allows students in the program to complete it as part of their regular curriculum at no additional cost to them or the school. "We hope that through this partnership, and others like it, more students will become interested in a career in the forest sector. By graduating with this training credential, these students come out ahead of the game as they enter the workforce. They already have the training that employers are looking for," said Chuck Coup, the SFI Implementation Committee's Program Manager.

The training is the same that loggers in Pennsylvania are required to complete to maintain their status as harvesting professionals recognized by SFI. The training program emphasizes safety, environmental conservation and professionalism. Students are taught requirements for timber harvesting safety, and methods of protecting the environment during timber harvesting operations, including best management practices for protecting water resources. The Pennsylvania Committee has a history of expertise in logger training. More than 7,000 individuals have participated in the Pennsylvania SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program. About 700 participants maintain a current training status each year, and some loggers have completed more than 100 hours of training. The benefits of the training program were

recognized and further bolstered when the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry adopted a policy in 2007 that requires SFI-trained loggers to lead all commercial timber harvesting activities on Pennsylvania's 2.2 million acres of state forestland.

And most recently, the SFI Committee convinced state lawmakers to unanimously designate June 5, 2015 officially as Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative Day. Both the House and Senate Resolutions specifically cite SFI logger training as a major reason for declaring SFI Day. "This strong recognition from the state government is a fitting tribute to the 20-year history of progress and leadership on sustainability from the Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee. It also reminds us all of the critical role loggers play on the front lines when it comes to the sustainability of habitats and ensuring critical steps are taken to protect things like water quality," Abusow said. Pennsylvania SIC member Paul Lyskava accepted the award on behalf of the Committee. This is the second time the Pennsylvania Committee was presented with the annual SFI Implementation Committee Achievement Award, with the first the first occurring in 2001.

Roach Bauer Forestry Forum

*By Chuck Abraham, Bradford Era Correspondent, cabraham.era@gmail.com
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KANE – While most people do not pay much attention to the hemlock wooly adelgid, or likely even know what it is, its presence has a direct impact on both the local ecology and economy. It was also the main topic of discussion at the Roach Bauer Forestry Fall Forum on Thursday evening at the Kane Country Club. The panel of experts who presented on Thursday on the hemlock wooly adelgid, all of whom work for the USDA Forest Service, were Mary Ann Fajvan, research forester with the Northern Research Station based out of Morgantown, WV.; Talbot Trotter, research ecologist with the Northern Research Station in Hamden, CT.; and Bud Mayfield, research entomologist with the Southern Research Station in Asheville, NC.

Fajvan spoke of controlling the pest from a silvicultural angle. She said the eastern hemlock, the species of the conifer indigenous to the Allegheny National Forest, is the most shade tolerant conifer in the eastern forest. Fajvan said the value of the hemlock timber itself is not extremely high, but the role it plays in the forest ecosystem itself is at risk. She said hemlock forests are habitats for such animals as the ruffed grouse, black bear and whitetail deer. Fajvan noted the benefits hemlocks have in the watershed hydrology.

Fajvan gave three options to combat the adelgid from a silvicultural viewpoint: Thin targeting hemlock crop trees, cut the shelterwood and let it regenerate, or absolutely nothing. Thinning the stands of hemlocks may not only help fight the adelgid but also increase revenue from timber, she said. She noted the increase of the diameters of the timber left standing after the thinning, with an increased diameter of 1.1 to 1.6 inches in three different stands over the course of six years. Fajvan said if a shelterwood cut is selected, 20 to 50 percent of the basal area of the stand must be removed, including the dying and damaged hemlock. By doing nothing and letting infested hemlocks die, Fajvan said, the light to the forest floor would increase, thus allowing other seedlings to thrive. She said the entire forest could turn into a hardwood forest.

While the species in Asia and the Pacific Northwest are native species, the adelgid common in Pennsylvania originally came from an area outside of Osaka, Japan, according to Trotter. He said while the first instance of the adelgid was recorded in Richmond, Va. in 1951, the adelgid likely first came stateside in the early 1900s, when Asian gardens were popular and imported Hemlock trees from Osaka were not uncommon. Trotter said the adelgids can freeze to death, unlike many insects which merely wind up in stasis. He said as the temperatures get lower, less of the pest will survive. Trotter also spoke of the “two percent rule,” which states that if the more than two percent of the adelgid population survives over the winter, the adelgids will continue to thrive. However, he said if that number drops under two percent, the population of adelgids will start to dwindle.

Mayfield would like to see a combination of insecticides and biological controls be used together in controlling the adelgid. He said neo – nicotinoids such as Imidacloprid and Dinotefuran are very effective in controlling the adelgid, but they must be applied to each affected tree every seven years, making it somewhat costly. Mayfield said a natural predator of the adelgid, a beetle called the *Laricobius Nigrinus* is also effective in controlling the adelgid naturally. However, he noted the difficulties in having the beetles reproduce quickly enough to be able to keep up with the adelgid. Mayfield said a possible strategy would be treat some of the infected trees with the insecticides, release the beetles on the untreated trees, and let the insecticide slow the adelgid growth while the beetles numbers increase over time.

Ned Karger, chairman of the steering committee for the forum, said 118 people registered for the 2015 Fall Forum, which is the second highest attendance total in the 31 years of the forum, matching the figure from the 25th anniversary forum in 2009. Karger presented Fajvan, Trotter and Mayfield with the traditional Black Cherry Biltmore sticks, given to those who speak at the forum. The next forum will be on April 7, 2016, with speaker Bob Long discussing his research on the decline of Black Cherry in the area.



The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid was the hot topic at the Roach Bauer Forestry Forum on Thursday at the Kane Country Club. Pictured are Ned Karger, chairman of the Roach Bauer Forestry Forum's Steering Committee, with Thursday's speakers, Mary Ann Fajvan, research forester with the USDA Forest Service's Northern Research Station; Talbot Trotter, research ecologist with the Northern Research Station; and Bud Mayfield, research entomologist with the Southern Research Station.

In Memoriam



Kurt W. Gottschalk, 63, of Waynesburg, PA, died on Monday, August 10, 2015, while on a mission trip with his church to Belize, Central America. He was born Wednesday, April 30, 1952 in Bloomington, Illinois. A son of the late Donald E. Gottschalk and Ruth Ahrends Gottschalk. Mr. Gottschalk was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Waynesburg where he was the chair of the Finance Committee and President of the Antioch Connection. He was also a member of the choir and enjoyed playing dartball. Over the years he had served on many other boards with the church and the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church.

He was a member of the Society of American Foresters since 1974 and the Pennsylvania Forestry Association since 1980. Mr. Gottschalk was the former editor of the Northern Journal of Applied Forestry. He was also a member of several other professional organizations. Mr. Gottschalk was a graduate of Stanford-Minier High School in Illinois and received his BS in Forestry at Iowa State University. He earned both his Masters Degree in Silviculture Forest Ecology and his PhD in Tree Physiology at Michigan State University. He worked as the Project Leader, Director's Representative and Research Forester with the USDA Forest Service in Morgantown, West Virginia.

He is survived by his wife: Janice Johnston Gottschalk, whom he married on June 28, 1980. 2 Daughters: Rev. Stephanie Gottschalk, and her Husband John Headley of Coraopolis, Pennsylvania, and Katherine Gottschalk, of Alexandria, Virginia., 1 Sister: Joy Haning, of Stanford, Illinois., 2 Brothers: Alan E. Gottschalk, of Jefferson City, Missouri., and Lyle R. Gottschalk, Pleasanton, California., and several nieces and nephews. Friends will be received from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM the time of the service on Saturday, August 22, 2015 at the First United Methodist Church 112 North Richhill St. Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. 15370. with Rev. Gary Grau officiating. Interment will be private held at the convenience of the family at the Warren County Memorial Park, in Warren, PA. The family ask that in lieu of flowers memorials be made to the First United Methodist Church, Proposed Future Building Addition Fund or to the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy Institutional Advancement, 800 Waterfront Dr. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15222.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

Officers

Chairman

Mike Kusko, CF
(h) 717-263-8030

mikekusko@gmail.com

Chairman-Elect

Steve Koehn
(o) 202-205-1389

stevenwkoehn@fs.fed.us

Secretary

Dennis Galway, CF
(o) 908-696-9133

dgalwaydsl@verizon.net

Treasurer

Steven F. Resh
(o) 301-784-5307

sresh@allegany.edu

Past Chairman

Rachel Reyna, CF
(o) 717-783-0385

reyna@pa.gov

Executive Committee

Gregory Cook, CF

(o) 304-380-1655

Greg.W.Cook@wv.gov

Richard Lewis

(h) 717-398-2485

rlewis7575@aol.com

Kip Powers

(o) 410-860-2978

saf215@comcast.net

Roy Siefert, CF

(c) 570-485-9435

rsiefert2@juno.com

Executive Director

Susan E. Lacy, CF

(o) 610-273-0118

ansaf@comcast.net

Board of Directors Representative

Rachel Reyna, CF

(o) 717-783-0385

rreyna@pa.gov

Division Chairs

Maryland/Delaware

Robert Feldt

(o) 410-260-8529

rob.feldt@maryland.gov

New Jersey

Don Donnelly

(o) 908-752-2538

donnellydon@comcast.net

Pennsylvania

Bob Merrill

(c) 814-661-5422

bndmerrill@verizon.net

West Virginia

Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy

(o) 304-478-2000 x114

mthomasvangundy@fs.fed.us

Chapter Chairs

Keystone

Craig Houghton

(o) 717-749-6239

cth2@psu.edu

Northern Hardwood

David Andrus

(h) 814-274-7204

davidrus70@hotmail.com

Pinchot

Richard Schwab

(c) 570-240-5714

rischwab@epix.net

Plateau

David Trimpey, CF

(o) 814-723-5414

dtrimpey@collinsco.com

Rothrock

Jason Albright

(o) 717-783-7938

jasalbrigh@pa.gov

Valley Forge

Randy Morin

(o) 610-557-4054

rsmorin@fs.fed.us

Western Gateway

David Babyak

(o) 724-465-8345

babyakforestry@comcast.net

Coming Events

February, 2016

17-19 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting
Baltimore, MD

March, 2016

15 Deadline for *Allegheny News*
Spring Issue

April, 2016

7 Roach Bauer Forestry Forum
Kane, PA

June, 2016

15 Deadline for *Allegheny News*
Summer Issue

September, 2016

14-16 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting
Mount Holly, NJ

February, 2017

15-17 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting
Southeastern PA

Future SAF National Conventions

2016: Madison, WI Nov. 2-6

2017: Albuquerque, NM Nov. 13-19

2018: Portland, OR Sep. 30 – Oct. 7

Allegheny SAF Committee Chairs

Auditing	Vacant
Awards	Jonathan Kays 301-432-2767x323 jkays@umd.edu
Communications	Ronald Farr, CF 973-831-3358 rfarr@njdwsc.com
CFE Coordinator	David McGill, CF 304-293-2941 dmcgill@wvu.edu
Education	Brent Harding 814-865-7422 Bahl73@psu.edu
Ed. Endowment Forest History	Ron Sheay 609-397-7886
Forest Science	Pete Linehan, CF (717) 749-6069 Pel2@psu.edu
Membership	Steve Koehn 202-205-1389 stevenwkoehn@fs.fed.us
Nominations	Rachel Reyna, CF 717-783-0385 rreyna@pa.gov
Policy/Legislation	Tim Kaden 302-697-7066 greatnowandthen@yahoo.com
Program	Steve Kallessen, CF 908-781-6711 steve@gracieharrigan.com
Student Quiz Bowl	Michael Powell 814-863-1113 mjpl75@psu.edu
Tellers	Gary Miller 304-285-1521 gwmiller@fs.fed.us