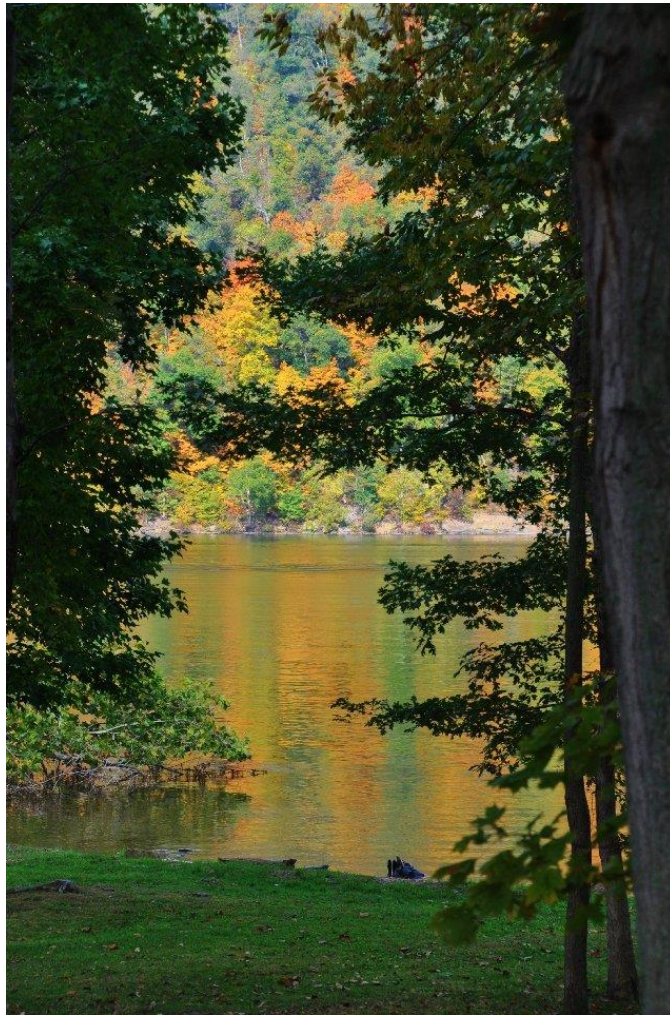


The Allegheny News



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Summer 2015**

The Allegheny News

Volume 24, 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

www.alleghenysaf.org

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Cover Photo

Lake Raystown in September. Photo by Richard Lewis.

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



Greetings to Everyone!

Hope you all had an enjoyable spring. Here in the Cumberland Valley, the spring harvest is coming in as summer's heat is taking over. I'm really not looking forward to the constant mid to upper 80 to 90 degree temperatures that summer dictates. We've already had two straight weeks of summer before spring's time has expired!

Evidence of the Emerald Ash Borer's presence is finally showing up in a big way here in South Central Pennsylvania. Extensive tree mortality and decline is everywhere. It's certainly discouraging to see another one of our major tree species under assault.

I am really looking forward to this year's summer meeting on September 16-18 at Lake Raystown Resort. This is a beautiful area of Pennsylvania with many outdoor attractions to offer. The Rothrock Chapter has put together a most interesting and timely program. Once again, we'll have a representative from the National Office in attendance. SAF Chief Executive Officer, Matt Menashes will present an update from the national level. If you have never been to the Lake Raystown area, I strongly suggest you plan to attend the summer meeting. You'll have a wonderful time!

Here's hoping to see you in September (sounds like a good title for a song)! Enjoy your summer, stay cool, and be safe.

District VII Board of Directors Report

Kurt Gottschalk, CF



Greetings! One of the highlights of the May-June 2015 BoD meeting was the attendance of Allegheny SAF's Susan Lacy as a participant in a session about regionalization. In addition, to the meeting, we had a conference call in May. On the conference call, we approved the national award winners and fellows, approved one change to the District Fellows Committee Charter to remove potential conflicts of interest, and approved two position statements: Roads in Managed Forests and Professionals in Natural Resource Management. See the meeting highlights below for more details.

Regionalization within SAF

Lori Rasor, business manager at SAF's Northwest Office, and Susan Lacy, executive director of the Allegheny SAF, spoke to board members about the different organizational models used by

regional SAF offices and how their professional staff persons work to create efficiencies and distribute information to associated divisions and chapters.

Mentoring Program

Sam Delano and Jim Thinnes gave a presentation on the mentoring program. They issued a report to the board that outlined SAF state societies' willingness to participate in a mentoring pilot program, as well as the challenges to getting such a program started. In the near term, Delano and Thinnes aim to have a "tangible outcome" for the 2015 national convention wherein students and young professionals can start to engage with more established professionals through the mentoring program. The long-term goal is to have an active mentoring program in each state/multistate society with mentees and mentors benefiting from their participation in the program.

Membership Discussion

Corey Ruple, SAF's Director of Membership, presented statistics on the state of SAF membership and, after being with the organization for six months, offered his thoughts on how the Society engages with its members. The following are some takeaways from his presentation:

- With the implementation of the new iMIS database, SAF will be moving to an "anniversary-type" renewal system, and away from our current annual cycle. Doing so will eliminate pro-rated dues (and the confusion on the part of new/reinstating members that comes with it), allow student members to join at the beginning of the school year, make it easier to add new and rejoining members at the annual convention, and facilitate member recruitment throughout the year without lost revenue due to prorated dues.
- SAF's membership and marketing team will be conducting a survey of all current members in November that asks, "Why are you a member of SAF?" Results from this survey will help leaders and staff better understand the value of SAF membership and be used to drive marketing efforts, telemarketing campaigns, and web content concerning member benefits.
- The number of members who pay their dues monthly is on the rise. Not only is this a good option for those who claim SAF membership is out of their financial reach, but it's an easy sell for local unit leaders, who can now invite potential members to join for less than \$14 per month.

SAF Website and Database

The board was brought up to speed on where the national office is in converting the database from Q to iMIS and informed about the value that an integrated database provides for improving SAF's organizational efficiency and enhancing communication/engagement with the Society's members. Although progress on the database conversion and construction of the new SAF website is proceeding according to plan, but we do not have a firm completion date.

Leadership Development

SAF's consultant Mark Cannon delivered results of the survey work he performed with the House of Society Delegates and a select group of young leaders to begin identifying a curriculum for basic-level leadership education (both online and in-person) within the Society.

Communications Strategy

SAF communications consultant Jeff Ghannam informed the board of the ongoing work on the communications campaign about the future of forestry and how the Society can best position itself to meet the needs of the profession in the coming years.

Board Policy Manual

Under the leadership of SAF Vice-President Clark Seely and SAF chief operating officer Louise Murgia, the Board of Directors passed its board policies manual (BPM), a tool to assist the board in implementing the governance framework (i.e., the Carver Model for nonprofit governance), which the board adopted several years ago. The BPM is a living document that assists the board in setting policies for the organization in a disciplined and deliberate manner.

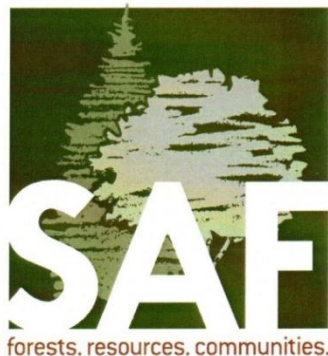
Organizational Investments

The board passed a package of investments in the organization to fund critical infrastructure and provide programmatic support to SAF's certification, communications, membership development, and publications.

Gregory Award Honorees

The board approved two Gregory Awardees for 2015, doubling the number of international honorees and further increasing SAF's engagement with the international forestry community. The Gregory Award provides support to outstanding students or professionals from outside of the US and Canada to enter into meaningful engagement with foresters in North America.

Following the meeting on Saturday evening, members of the board joined staff and their families (and a few dogs) for a barbeque on the SAF campus, reinforcing their commitment to build community throughout the Society. I want to thank you for your support of me as your member of the Board and ask that you contact me with any questions or issues that you might have. My contact information is below.



Kurt W. Gottschalk, CF

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www.eforester.org

Allegheny Section Summer Meeting Lake Raystown Resort

Entriken, PA
September 16-18, 2015
DRAFT AGENDA

Forestry in the Land of Rothrock – Conservation Challenges Past and Present

Wednesday, September 16

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1:00 - 3:00 PM | ANSAF Executive Committee Meeting – Pine Cone Room |
| 3:00 – 8:00 PM | Registration Open –Lower Lobby |
| 4:00 - 6:00 PM | Optional Pre-Conference Raystown Lake Boat Tour - Princess Lake Cruiser, Seven Points Marina |
| 7:00 - 9:30 PM | Ice Breaker Reception - Lower Lobby and Balcony Patio |

Thursday, September 17

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 6:45 - 7:45 | Breakfast , River Birch Ballroom B |
| 7:00 - 10:00 | Registration Open –Lower Lobby |
| 8:00 - 8:15 | Opening Remarks/Agenda For the Day - Jason Albright, Chair, Rothrock SAF Chapter |
| 8:15 - 8:45 | The Economic Engine of Huntingdon County: History and Impact of Recreational-Based Tourism in the Raystown Lake Region - Matt Price, Executive Director, Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau |
| 8:45 - 9:30 | The Rothrock Legacy: Joseph Trimble Rothrock - Joe Barnard, USDA Forest Service (Retired) |
| 9:30 - 9:45 | PA State Wood Energy Team – Sarah Wurzbacher, Extension Educator, NewBIO Consortium |
| 9:45 - 10:00 | Break and Load Busses |
| 10:00 - 5:00 | Field Tour |
| 10:15 - 12:00 | Army Corps of Engineers: Silvicultural Practices; American Chestnut breeding and restoration orchards, High Germany management area |

12:00-12:45	Lunch, Raystown Juniata College Field Station, tour of building and grounds
1:30 - 3:30	State Game Lands 67: Wood rat habitat management, silvicultural practices, prescribed burning, Barrens restoration
3:45 - 5:00	CCC history of Trough Creek State Park, HWA and EAB treatment demonstration
6:30 - 8:30 PM	Cookout - Lake Raystown Resort Pavilion

Friday, September 18

6:45 - 7:45	Breakfast , River Birch Ballroom B
8:00 - 8:15	Division and Section Meetings , River Birch Ballroom B
8:15 - 9:00	Allegheny SAF Business Meeting , River Birch Ballroom B
9:00 - 9:30	Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry's Hemlock Conservation Plan - Mark Faulkenberry, Support Section Chief, Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry Division of Forest Pest Management
9:30 – 10:00	Long-Term Impacts of Clearcutting, Deer Browsing, and Defoliation on Stand Development in a Pennsylvania Mixed-Oak Forest - Aaron Stottlemeyer, Assistant Professor of Forestry, Penn State Dubois
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-10:45	Forest Management Implications of the Northern Long Eared Bat Listing Ben Jones, Chief, Pennsylvania Game Commission Habitat Planning and Development Section
10:45-11:15	Deer Forest Study – Integrating Research with Management - Duane Diefenbach, Leader, Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit, U.S. Geological Survey and Adjunct Professor, Penn State University
11:15 -11:45	National SAF Update - Matt Menashes, Chief Executive Officer, Society of American Foresters
11:45 – Noon	Closing Remarks – Matt Keefer, Pennsylvania Assistant State Forester

Allegheny Society of American Foresters 2015 Summer Meeting Registration

Lake Raystown Resort 3101 Chipmunk Crossing Entriken, PA 16638

NAME _____ EMPLOYER _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

Meeting registration is due by **September 2, 2015**. A late fee of **\$15.00** will be added to all registrations postmarked after **September 2, 2015**. Registration includes Wednesday Icebreaker social, Thursday breakfast and box lunch, Friday breakfast and all breaks. **Wednesday afternoon lake cruise and Thursday night cookout require additional fees (see below).**

SAF Member \$110.00 _____

Non-Member \$125.00 _____

Student: \$ 40.00 _____

Spouse Rate (Thursday Tour only) \$ 20.00 _____

Thursday Cookout \$ 20.00 _____

Sponsor a Student \$ 20 / \$40 / other _____

Wednesday Afternoon Lake Cruise* \$15.00 _____

Late Fee (after Sept. 2nd) \$15.00 _____

EXHIBITOR - SPONSOR REGISTRATION

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: Please select event(s) you wish to sponsor.

☐ Icebreaker ☐ Thursday Breakfast ☐ Tour Lunch ☐ Cookout ☐ Friday Breakfast

Select Level of Sponsorship:

☐ Gold @ \$500 ☐ Silver @ \$250 ☐ Bronze @ \$150 ☐ Other

EXHIBITOR: Exhibitor registration includes one complimentary meeting registration.

Commercial Exhibit _____ : \$200 Non-Profit Exhibit _____ : \$150

We will need electricity _____ Yes _____ No _____

**My exhibit is a floor display. _____ My exhibit space will be only a tabletop. _____

Total Enclosed

Do you have special dietary needs or accessibility assistance? Please let us know.

* Afternoon cruise – participants must drive to Seven Points Marina, located approximately 7 miles north of the resort (5922 Seven Points Rd, Hesston, PA 16647). Boat departs at 4:00, returns at 6:00. Minimum of 20 registrants required – refunds will be given if minimum is not met. No food or beverage service on the boat.

Make checks payable to Rothrock SAF, and mail to Sanford S. Smith, Dep't. of Ecosystem Sciences and Management, 355 Forest Resources Bldg., University Park, PA 16802 e-mail: sss5@psu.edu phone: 814-865-4261

LODGING

Hotel Reservations: Call Lake Raystown Resort at 1-814-658-3500. (<http://rvcoutdoors.com/lake-raystown-resort/>)

Rates vary by room (nightly rates):

Lodge Rooms (<http://rvcoutdoors.com/lake-raystown-resort/accomodation/lodge/>)

Hotel Room Standard.....	\$70 +
tax (18 Rooms)	
Hotel Room "Adirondack".....	\$97 + tax
(14 Rooms)	
Hotel Room "Premium Double".....	\$104 +
tax (9 Rooms)	
Hotel Room "Premium King".....	\$114 +
tax (9 Rooms)	
Hotel Room "Suite".....	\$150 +
tax(2 Rooms)	

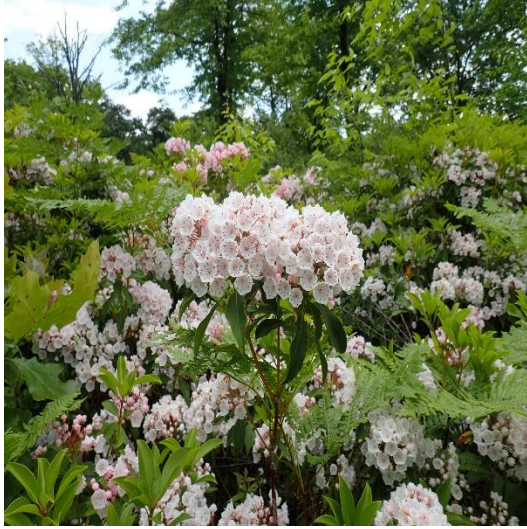
Traveling with Friends? Rent a Villa and split the cost!

(2 Bedrooms and facilities) (<http://rvcoutdoors.com/lake-raystown-resort/accomodation/villas/>)

Waterfront.....	\$134 + tax
(2 available)	
Non-Waterfront.....	\$124 + tax
(8 available)	

- Towels and shower accessories are not included with villas. Ask the registration desk for details when you call in.

Rooms held under Allegheny Society of American Foresters. Hotel rooms may be reserved at any time. Reserved rooms are held until **August 10th, 2015**. **Rooms reserved after this time are not held at the discounted rate.** First come first served – reserve your room now!



Previews of Lake Raystown

You want to be here in September

Photos by Sanford Smith



***Generations Forestry Proudly Supports
Allegheny Society of American Foresters***



Harvest on Birdsboro Water Authority Site Highlights Positives of the Forest Legacy Program

By Randall Morin, Photos by Rich Widmann

The Birdsboro Waters Forest Legacy property is a large, undisturbed forested landscape located within the Berks County area of the Hopewell Big Woods. Due to its importance for biodiversity, valuable streams, and rare species, the Hopewell Big Woods is a high priority of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA-DCNR). The addition of the approximately 2,000 acres from Birdsboro Waters Forest Legacy Project ensures that nearly 40% of the previously unprotected Big Woods forest will remain forested forever through a conservation easement administered by the PA-DCNR.



Bob Girvin, a procurement forester for the Mt. Airy Lumber Company and SAF member, organized a tour of a 92-acre harvest site, which was attended by more than a dozen Valley Forge SAF members, PA-DCNR employees, and PA Game Commission employees. Bob Girvin and Rick Hartlieb, assistant district forester with the PA-DCNR, led the tour and explained the goals and activities involved in the project. Amongst the attending foresters were Rachel Reyna, a section chief with the PA-DCNR, Chip Scott, a program manager with the USDA Forest Service, and Matt Dillon, a training officer with the USDA Forest Service. Scott and Dillon are SAF members in the Valley Forge Chapter.

Lands that are enrolled in the Forest Legacy Program (FLP) provide many benefits including supporting local economies, conserving wildlife habitat, providing public access, and improving forest health among others. The goals specific to this harvest project include the removal of a many declining oaks, regenerating desirable species for the next overstory, removing invasive plant species, and creating recreation access points for the public. A side benefit was the opportunity to harvest ash trees that would have likely been killed by the emerald ash borer within 5-10 years.

The management activities that were employed on the site included herbicide treatments on nearly half of the area to remove invasive plant species prior to harvest and selective removal of about 75% of the basal area. Steep slopes were left unharvested and a buffer was left between the harvest area and adjacent residential properties. The trees that were left to help regenerate the site consist mainly of black and red oak and yellow-poplar. The photo, right, illustrates a skidder pulling yellow poplar to the landing.



When the harvest is completed a small parking area will be created that will give the public access to the site. Additionally, the skid trails and logging roads will become trails that can be used for recreation. “This site demonstrates the value of the Forest Legacy Program,” said Hartlieb, “because it provides economic value to local businesses while ensuring the land remains forest for future generations.”

Commemorating 25 Years of Forest Legacy, Forest Stewardship, and Urban & Community Forestry

by James Hubbard, Deputy Chief USDA Forest Service State & Private Forestry

As the visionaries who founded the Forest Service knew, conservation begins where people live; healthy landscapes and healthy communities are inextricably linked. Protecting natural resources is therefore a vital part of sustaining thriving communities. By working with partners, we help to disseminate the knowledge, tools, and resources that Americans need to conserve their forests and sustain the communities that depend on them. This year, we celebrate a milestone in the cause of conservation: the 25th anniversary of the 1990 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill authorized three key Forest Service programs for working with partners to achieve our mutual goals for healthy, productive forests:

- The Forest Stewardship Program serves thousands of landowners each year, providing technical assistance and access to education programs and activities. The program focuses on high-priority landscapes identified by the states. Under the program, private landowners are using forest stewardship plans on more than 26 million acres.
- The Forest Legacy Program provides resources for protecting working forests from conversion to developed non-forest uses. Through the program, the Forest Service has worked with partners to protect more than 2.47 million acres of important forested landscapes through acquisitions of conservation easements and fee-simple purchases.
- The Urban and Community Forestry Program, with the help of partners, plays a critical role in protecting over 136 million acres of urban and community forest land, where 83 percent of our population lives. Urban forests provide critical benefits to Americans, including energy conservation, flood and pollution control, and open space for a higher quality of life.

With the support of key partners like SAF, the Forest Service is working to protect America’s forested landscapes for generations to come.

Thanks to our partners, we are proactive in the cause of conservation—be it through innovative outreach and communication tools, through new technologies for monitoring and reporting achievements, through networks of knowledge and practice that broaden our capacity, or through new and innovative tools and authorities that expand our nation’s capacity for conservation.

Partnerships are key to sustaining healthy landscapes, sustaining our nation’s communities, and providing Americans with all the benefits they get from healthy forests, both now and for generations to come.

Federal Official Hears Plea For More ANF Timber Harvests

By Ted Lutz, Kane Republican Staff (reprinted with permission of the Kane Republican)

A key USDA Forest Service official came to Kane to outline the agency's robust plans for building "a strong forest industry." But the presentation April 9 failed to impress several local foresters, who claim the Forest Service is failing in its mission to maintain a sustainable Allegheny National Forest (ANF) in the Kane area.

"We're not cutting wood," Jack Hedlund of Kane said during a question-and-answer session at the semi-annual Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum at Kelly's Restaurant at Kane Country Club. Hedlund is a former Executive Director of the Allegheny Forest Alliance (AFA), a coalition of schools, municipalities and businesses in the ANF area. Dave Kiehl, owner of North East Hardwoods, Inc. of Marienville, claims the "health of the forest is going down the drain" because of inadequate timber harvests. He said the declining harvests in the ANF are "killing our schools" and municipalities, which rely heavily on revenue from timber sales to make ends meet. "We're suffering," Kiehl said.

Bryan C. Rice, Director of Forest Management for the Forest Service in Washington, D.C., was the guest speaker Wednesday at the gathering of more than 100 involved in forestry. In his remarks, he said timber harvests in all national forests have increased by 18 percent since 2008. But he admitted that this figure is "across-the-board" and "doesn't mean that every area"-- such as the ANF is "increasing at the same rate." He said the proposed federal budget for 2016 calls for an additional national increase in timber harvests. "It needs to increase," Rice said in commenting on the annual target for timber harvests. "It is going up." But he did not indicate whether the proposed national hike would have an effect in the ANF.

According to Hedlund, the ANF will become a "biological desert" without proper management, including adequate timber harvests. He said the ANF is "sliding off the cliff" because it is not properly managed by the Forest Service. Kiehl blamed "no leadership" as a key factor for the alleged improper management of the ANF. He said the position of forest supervisor for the ANF has been "a revolving door" with leaders coming and going virtually every year for the past decade. He said it is imperative for the Forest Service to "get our forest healthy before it's all gone."

The ANF with more than 513,000 acres is the only national forest in Pennsylvania. Rice, who has worked for the federal government for nearly 20 years, outlined several programs in his Powerpoint presentation. Some of the topics covered include:

The 2016 budget plan proposes a "funding strategy" that considers "catastrophic wild-land fires as disasters." Funds for fighting these fires would be funded in part by a budget authority rather than from the annual Forest Service spending plan. This policy change would keep more ANF money intact rather than send it off to fight forest fires-- primarily in the western states. Since 2000, at least 10 states have had their largest fires on record, Rice said.

Development, insect and disease outbreaks, climate change, drought and invasive species are putting U.S. forests "at risk," Rice said.

The "Good Neighbor Authority" is a program that permits the Forest Service to enter into cooperative agreements and contracts with states to conduct restoration projects on and off federal forests.

Ned Karger, land manager at Kane Hardwood, is the chairman of the Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum. He served as the master-of-ceremonies for the program. Donated bottles of maple syrup were sold at the forum to raise money for the Bob Bauer Scholarship program at Penn State University. Several Penn State forestry students attended the event. The next forestry forum will be held October 8 at the Kane Country Club.



Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum

Photo by Ted Lutz

Ned Karger (left), chairman of the Roach-Bauer Forestry Forum, presents a black cherry Biltmore timber measuring stick to guest speaker Bryan Rice (right), the director of forest management for the USDA Forest Service in Washington, D.C. Looking on are Ruth Sutton (left), the public affairs officer at the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) headquarters in Warren; and Nadine Pollock (right), ecosystem staff officer at the ANF office.

Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Celebrates 20th Anniversary in 2015

Chuck Coup, Pennsylvania SFI Implementation Committee Program Manager

This year marks the 20th Anniversary for the Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Implementation Committee (SIC) and its work at fostering an appreciation of forest conservation and sustainable management throughout the forest community in Pennsylvania.

The Committee was formed in 1995 in conjunction with the development of the SFI Program at the national level by the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA), and at a time when rising concern over industrial forestry practices was igniting major lawsuits, public hearings, work stoppages, and boisterous demonstrations. The goal of the SFI Program was to enhance the environment and improve public confidence by visibly changing the practice of forestry on industrial and other private forest lands through a program of self-regulation and continuous improvement.

Owing to the diversity of forest types and local circumstances across the nation, SFI Program organizers recognized that successful implementation would depend upon action by member companies in cooperation with state, regional, and national forestry and logging associations, state and federal agencies, academia, professional and conservation organizations, consulting foresters, and landowner technical assistance programs. As a result, SFI Implementation Committees (SICs) made up of volunteers from a variety of interests were established across the country. The newly formed Pennsylvania SIC was organized under the Hardwood Lumber Manufacturers Association of Pennsylvania (HLMA - now the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association) and began meeting monthly in State College.

The Pennsylvania SIC worked hard to not only improve forestry practices on their own lands but also reached beyond and included efforts to educate loggers, private non-industrial forest landowners, and the general public on sustainable forestry issues. The early focus of the SIC was on developing landowner and public outreach, establishing a logger training program, and exploring a Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring system for measuring success. These three efforts eventually developed into the core of the PA SIC's programing for many years.

The SFI program itself has evolved a great deal since its inception. In early 1999, AF&PA released formal standards and added procedures for participants to independently certify their compliance through voluntary third-party audits. On-product labeling for certified materials followed. In 2000, the SFI program was transferred from AF&PA to SFI Inc., an independent non-profit organization. In 2005, the SFI program was endorsed by the Programme for the



Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC), increasing its legitimacy and reach. The SFI Standard itself has evolved over the years to reflect the dynamic concept of sustainable forestry. It is now reviewed and updated on a 5 year cycle. This year, SFI Inc. released its newest version, with the adoption of the SFI 2015-2019 Standard. To date, there are more than quarter billion acres of forestland across the United States and Canada that are certified to the SFI standard.

The efforts of the Pennsylvania SIC over the last two decades have helped shine a light on sustainable forestry and timber harvesting practices across Pennsylvania. The SIC has distributed more than 26,000 landowner outreach packets designed to help private landowners make sound management decisions on their forests. With web access (www.sfiopa.org), these materials have been updated, made more comprehensive, and are now more accessible to a wider audience.

The Pennsylvania SIC has also sponsored a number of worthy organizations and events to support sustainable forestry. These include the Pennsylvania 4-H Forestry Program, the Log A Load for Kids charity (which supports Children's Miracle Network-affiliated hospitals), The Penn State Center for Private Forests' biennial landowner conferences, the annual Wayne County Woodsmen's Competition, and the HDC's WoodMobile. More recently, the SIC began supporting the future of Pennsylvania's forest products industry workforce by partnering with High School vo-tech programs to offer their students the core component of the PA SFI Professional Timber Harvester Training Program at no cost.

The Professional Timber Harvester Training Program has also had a direct impact on the state's forest resources. Training focused on reducing the impacts of harvesting operations on soil and water resources by advocating for the use of BMPs has increased acceptance and recognition of sustainable forestry practices. More than 7,000 individuals (e.g., loggers, foresters, and landowners) have participated in the program, with approximately 700 maintaining a current training status each year. Some long-time participants have completed more than 100 hours of training. Our success in teaching the importance of BMPs is evident in the latest DEP data that places logging nearly last in the list of water polluters across the state.

To celebrate this important milestone the Pennsylvania SIC enthusiastically engaged in an attempt to set the Guinness World Record for the most trees planted in 1 hour simultaneously by small groups. The record setting attempt was held from 1:00 to 2:00 pm EDT on May 20th and was organized by the SFI. Two Pennsylvania teams, made up of 101 volunteers, joined 26 other teams across the United States and Canada, and planted a total of 7,258 trees. The combined efforts of all the teams, representing more than 1,100 participants planting across four time zones, resulted in 202,330 trees being planted during the 1 hour attempt. The benchmark that the attempt needed to exceed in order to obtain the record was 40,885 trees; however, the record will not be official until Guinness World Records reviews and confirms the results, which is expected to take 6-8 weeks.

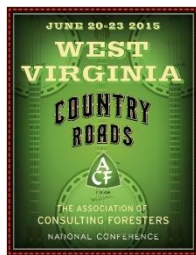
The Pennsylvania General Assembly also recognized the SIC's 20th anniversary by unanimously passing House Resolution 375 and Senate Resolution 144, identifying the achievements of the

SIC and declaring June 5, 2015 to be Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative Day in Pennsylvania.

The organization's success over the past 20 years is a testament to the dedication of the Committee's first members (several of whom still volunteer today) and all those who followed, PA SIC staff members, Strong partnerships with key organizations such as the Bureau of Forestry, Penn State, the Hardwood Development Council, and the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, and financial support from SFI Certified Program Participants and many SIC Partners and Supporters. We owe a great deal of gratitude to these individuals and entities, as well as those who have participated in training programs or received forest stewardship guidance from the SIC and who then implement sustainable practices to conserve our forests for the future.

Association of Consulting Foresters Convenes Annual Meeting

Takes Long-Term Look at the Profession



The West Virginia Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF) hosted the 2015 ACF national conference in Wheeling, West Virginia from June 20-23. Continuing education classes were provided as pre-conference options and throughout the event on topics as diverse as “Marketing Your Business,” “Legal Issues around Oil and Gas Leases” and American Tree Farm Inspector Training. A one-day course on business exit strategy planning was popular and, as always, the two-day “Practice of Consulting Forestry” course was very well attended. A day-long field tour (photo below) to hydraulic fracturing sites and the West Virginia University Research Forest closed out the conference.

SAF Immediate Past President Dave Walters spoke to the group during the plenary business meeting and emphasized the importance of collaboration in developing and maintaining industry standards and in promoting specific legislative efforts. An inclusive strategic planning effort is currently underway within ACF and the membership engaged in a spirited review of the results of recent surveys and focus group discussions. On a positive note, 80% of the survey respondents believe the business environment for consulting forestry will improve or stay the same over the next five to ten years. They cited changing types of ownership, transition of ownership, new technologies (GIS, GPS, drones, etc.) and the need for greater expertise in forest management as factors feeding the demand for consulting foresters. The lack of awareness of consulting forestry was cited as the single biggest challenge to the industry.



Drawing more than 200 participants from across the nation, the conference provided exciting opportunities to network with fellow consulting foresters, sponsors and exhibitors; learn from one another; compare notes and build new partnerships. ACF President Clifford Barnes (ACF - Oregon) noted that “the national ACF meeting in West Virginia was a great success in my opinion. It is always a great experience to reconnect with foresters from around the country, some of whom I only see each year at the meeting. There is no other event you can attend which allows you to network with other consulting foresters from around the country who are the best in the business. The quality of the classes, speakers, and facilities each year is a bonus.”



The expansive Oglebay Resort and Conference Center just outside of Wheeling provided the backdrop and the closing party featured an entertaining bluegrass band “The National Pike Pickers,” a barbeque and dancing! Next year’s ACF conference will be held June 11-14, 2016 in Mobile, Alabama.

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 \$7,500! Help us reach the \$20,000 goal.

Transitions

Barbara Breshock Named Assistant State Forester Bob Radspinner Set to Retire Mid-August



State Forester Randy Dye announced longtime Division of Forestry (DOF) employee Barbara Breshock has been promoted to the position of assistant state forester of forest management and stewardship effective immediately. “Barb has more than proven her abilities over the last decade and a half as the Division of Forestry’s state lands manager,” Dye said. “I am confident she will succeed with her new duties heading up the forest management and stewardship program.”

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin recognized Breshock earlier this year for being employed by DOF for more than 35 years.

(Photo, left, courtesy of the Office of Governor Earl Ray Tomblin). Breshock has been with the agency since

graduating from West Virginia University in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science degree in forest management. Throughout her career, Breshock has served as forest products utilization forester in Elkins and Kingwood; service forester with fire control duties in the Northern Panhandle; and state lands forester in the southeastern portion of the state. Since 1999, Breshock has overseen all forestry-related activities on the seven state forests managed by the DOF: Cabwaylingo, Calvin Price, Camp Creek, Coopers Rock, Greenbrier, Kumbrabow and Seneca. She helped develop the *Guidelines for Managing State Forests*, and has overseen the updating of forest inventories and management plans for the state forests.

Breshock has worked with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) on conservation measures for the northern flying squirrel and continues to work on the red spruce restoration initiative. She serves on the Governing Board for the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area, is the DOF’s representative for the Hemlock Conservation and Invasive Species working groups, and, since 2003, has been an instructor for the DNR’s Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program.

Breshock is filling the upcoming vacancy created by the retirement of Bob Radspinner in mid-August 2015. Radspinner joined the DOF in 2010 after a career in the private forest industry working for Plum Creek Timber Company and Georgia-Pacific. He grew up in Cabell County and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry and wildlife management from Virginia Tech. “During the last five years I have had the opportunity to work with some very talented and dedicated people: DOF staff, agency partners and private-sector foresters,” Radspinner said. “Together we have been able to improve services to private landowners in West Virginia.”

Radspinner counts among his accomplishments streamlining the process and shortening the time for landowners to receive forest stewardship plans and increasing the overall number of forest

stewardship plans in West Virginia. He also created e-files to supplement hard copy records of forest stewardship plans and related documents and utilized a technology grant from the USDA Forest Service to obtain laptops, software and data collectors for the DOF's landowner assistance foresters. A longtime Scouter himself, Radspinner led the agency's efforts on the "Conservation Trail" during the 2013 National Boy Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Radspinner also worked on legislative rule changes pertaining to the harvesting of ginseng. "Bob has done more than an excellent job of guiding his program area to a higher standard of quality," Dye said. "His talents will be missed in many ways."

Jack Shuart Retires from NJ State Forestry Services

John B. "Jack" Shuart, retired on June 30, 2015 as Northern Regional Forester with the New Jersey State Forestry Services (NJSFS). Jack joined the SAF as a student member in 1974 at Southern Illinois University. He is a graduate of Paul Smith's College forestry with an AA degree and earned a BS in Forest and Recreation Resource management from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL in 1976.



Jack grew up in Northern NJ and graduated from Riverdell High School in River Edge, NJ. His first job after his BS degree was in Shade Tree Maintenance for the town of Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ. He moved on to the NJ State Parks Division on the staff of the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) and the Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) programs in Ringwood State Park. Then a transfer took him to Trenton as an assistant forester with of the NJSFS Forest management unit assigned to State land management. In addition he served on a forest fire crew for four years. He transferred to the NJ State Fire Service in 1982 as a Section Fire Warden located in Morris County. In 1986 he moved to the NJFS Forest Management Division located in Northern Region Office in Franklin, Sussex County.

The major effort here was working in private forest land management under the Cooperative Forest Management (CFM) program and state forest land management. This soon turned to work primarily in Farmland Assessment. In 2009 he took over the leadership of the 8 county NJFS Northern Region, now located in Andover, as Regional Forester.

Jack says he especially enjoyed working with people and projects. These included the forest restoration efforts after Hurricane Sandy, Tree City USA, Project Learning Tree, Envirothon, Chain Saw Safety, talking to groups about forestry, as a past Scoutmaster, and serving as past chief, and currently as a Trustee and life member, of the New Jersey Search and Rescue program. He looks forward to having time to be with his new born grandchildren, working on his collection of 4WD Power wagons, restoring old forestry tools and demonstrating their historical uses. Incidentally, he will be showing children how to use crosscut saws at the Grey Towers Festival of Wood on August 1st and 2nd, 2015 in Milford, PA.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

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Coming Events

September, 2015

15 Deadline for Fall Issue of the
Allegheny News

16-18 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting
Lake Raystown, PA

November, 2015

3-7 SAF National Convention
Baton Rouge, LA

December, 2015

15 Deadline for Fall Issue of the
Allegheny News

February, 2016

17-19 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting
Baltimore, MD

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

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