

The Allegheny News



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
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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
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Advertising in the Allegheny News

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

Cover Photo: (l) Mike Huneke, Outgoing Allegheny SAF Chair; Linda Finley receiving Hall of Fame Award for Jim Finley; (r) Champ Zumbrun – Hall of Fame Committee Chair

Chair's Corner

Cecile Stelter



As I begin my tenure as Chair of the Allegheny, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge and extend my appreciation to the past Chair, Mike Huneke who guided the Allegheny Society through two unsettled years. To be a leader during the good times, when everything goes as planned is much easier than what Mike had to manage. He led through COVID closures, cancellations, virtual meetings, to just name a few of the challenges; and yet he kept the Allegheny on track and moved us forward. Sincere thanks Mike, for all your dedication, time and especially your leadership.

Speaking of coming out of the pandemic, the Allegheny responded quickly with the lifting of many of the COVID restrictions and had a very successful Winter Meeting hosted by the Plateau Chapter. The theme was "Young Forests and Young Professionals" and was aptly held at Clarion University. The attendance exceeded 150 participants which included many students. Much appreciation to the Plateau Chapter for hosting a truly excellent meeting which included numerous thought-provoking speakers and opportunities to visit with old friends and colleagues and to make new acquaintances. Check out some specific highlights from the meeting that are included elsewhere in this Allegheny News edition.

Highlighted throughout the meeting were references to the Allegheny's 100th Anniversary --- an event we are recognizing this year. What an amazing history we have to reflect upon! Take a moment to think about what the forests (and society) were like 100 years ago ... so many things have changed! Back then, professionally trained foresters were few and far between and today the Allegheny Society has a membership of nearly 600 members. Forest management was less management and more wildfire suppression and erosion and sedimentation control. The concepts of managing our forests for sustainability, biodiversity and carbon sequestration were ideas that no one even dreamed of. So, let us take this year of 2022, and celebrate! Let's celebrate the forward-thinking professionals who cleared the trail so that we could follow in their footsteps. Let's celebrate the advances and technologies that have developed to help us better manage our natural resources. Let's celebrate the opportunities we have, to practice the "art and science" of forestry and above all ... let's celebrate being foresters!!!

One way you might consider celebrating ... is to attend the 2022 SAF National Convention in Baltimore, MD. The dates are September 20th-24th and the theme is "Our Working Mosaic." The planning committee is hard at work to make sure there is something of interest for everyone. Please consider joining us, as we highlight the Allegheny Society, celebrate our 100th Anniversary and celebrate the amazing opportunities we have, to practice forestry! Hope to see you there!

In closing, I remain at your service and I continue to be humbled by the opportunity to serve as Chair of our organization. Thank you all for your contributions to forestry, and I look forward to seeing you in the woods!

I wish you all good health and good forestry.

District 7 Board of Directors Report

Sarah Wurzbacher



Membership

Some good news: National membership is currently at 9,455, actually ticking a little higher than 2021's mark of 9,439. This includes 213 new members (75 reinstated, 138 new to SAF) as of February, up from 2021's 159 and 2020's 167.

State Society Governance and Business Operations Update

In my last update, I talked about the process of incorporation of our state society. Incorporation is a recommended legal structure that establishes state societies as separate legal entities and creates a separation between personal and corporate assets, thus providing limited liability protection to those managing or governing the unit. The lead article of the March issue of the *Forestry Source* explains the purpose and process for incorporation; to find it, go to the [Forestry Source landing page](#) and click on the March issue to view the article. All 30 state societies, including ours, have begun the process and are working toward the next steps of incorporation with individual support from national staff.

I also mentioned in my last update that D&O coverage was being pursued to accompany the Comprehensive General Liability coverage for local leaders and units. National SAF continues to pay for Comprehensive General Liability coverage for state societies, division, and chapters that covers most activities hosted by local units, including meetings and field trips, but D&O insurance is now an added offering provided by SAF National. Highlight sheets of both coverages and the full D&O policy is posted on Leadership Central, and the March issue of the *Forestry Source* includes an article describing the coverage and answers to D&O FAQs.

Foresters' Fund

The next of 3 annual deadlines for [Foresters' Fund](#) regular grant proposals (up to \$2,000 for chapters, divisions, and state societies) and the only annual deadline for special grant proposals (up to \$5,000 for state societies and divisions) is fast approaching: June 15.

Refresher: The Foresters' Fund was established to promote forestry education and enhance public understanding of forest management. Grants are awarded to SAF local units to financially support projects and activities at the grassroots level that increase our impact and grow our organization. In 2022, grant proposals should align with at least one of two themes:

- Education and Outreach: Promote forestry education and outreach to a wide range of audiences and stakeholders to enhance understanding of sustainable forest management on all

lands, create awareness about the forestry profession, and encourage opportunities for youth natural resources career exploration.

- Professional Growth: Bolster opportunities to promote personal and professional development to cultivate future leaders of all backgrounds through leadership trainings, experiences, and mentoring opportunities.

I know that as hosts of the annual convention this year, our state society has a lot to do. But I also know how much work happens in our region bolstering both of those themes – education and outreach as well as professional growth – that could further blossom with a little focused support. Don't hesitate to chase after a Foresters' Fund grant to support a good idea.

Opportunities to Lead and Lean In

- Become SAF's next Vice President
 - Service would begin January 1, 2023. The National Nominating Committee is actively seeking candidates and can provide more information. Nomination packets are due to Linda Andreani by May 2. For additional information, contact Linda (landreani@safnet.org) or Nadine Block, National Nominating Committee chair (Nadine.block@forests.org).
- Young Professional Board Representative
 - At the Allegheny meeting in February, I described some of the very active work happening at the national level with a focus on young professionals in the organization and asked the young professionals in the room to identify themselves. Many hands were raised. Among those hands is a person I would like to submit for consideration as next year's Young Professional representative to the Board, whose one year of service begins January 1, 2023. If national work in support of younger members of our profession, both students transitioning to the workforce as well as developing mid-career professionals, is of interest to you, please consider reaching out to me to put your name forward. I need to submit one name from our District by August 15, so work with me in advance of that date. More information can be found on the [Elected Leadership page](#) on the SAF website.
- Student Executive Committee
 - One student representative from each SAF District is appointed to serve on the Student Executive Committee (SEC), which meets throughout the year to discuss issues and communicate with student members. The SEC also assists with student activities during the SAF National Convention. A term on the SEC runs from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023. Undergraduate and graduate students are eligible. If you are a student interested in leaning in to leadership work at a national level, or if you work with students and know someone who could do this work well, reach out to me as soon as possible; help me match an excellent student with an excellent opportunity.

Recent Advocacy/Policy Work by SAF

As usual, there is continuing work from SAF in this area, so I wanted to briefly recap a few recent announcements. Click through the links for more on any specific item. [The E-Forester and Forestry Source](#) are the best places to keep an eye on emerging news in this area.

- [Comments on Proposed Revision of WOTUS Definition](#): SAF joined 33 forestry associations and partners to provide to the Environmental Protection Agency and the US Army Corps of Engineers on the proposed revised definition of water of the United States

(WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act. Led by the National Alliance of Forest Owners, the letter encourages the agencies to codify pre-2015 rules and establish clear, objective, and workable standards for evaluating jurisdictional waters.

- **Comments on National Climate Assessment:** As co-chair of the Forest-Climate Working Group's Science and Research Task Group, SAF provided input into the US Global Change Research Program's National Climate Assessment #5 - Forests (Chapter 7). Because the NCA is an update on the state of science, SAF framed comments as questions to call for key science findings, uncertainties, and implications to be addressed in the final report in 2023. This is not a call for particular new science, technology, or investments, but there will be other venues for SAF to advocate, especially with a strong base of clear and compelling priorities. SAF's comments encourage the chapter authors to consider the important roles of private forests and active management in their synthesis.

2022 National Convention

Convention registration opens for attendees on May 1, 2022. For many SAF members, attending the national convention is a rare and important opportunity. Take advantage of the proximity. Attend; be a present and active representative of the Allegheny's work, the region's forest's issues and opportunities, our region's managers' ingenuity. I hope to see many of you there.

Science Update

Contributed by Melissa Thomas Van-Gundy

USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station

The findings and conclusions in this publication are those of the authors and should not be construed to represent any official USDA or U.S. Government determination or policy.



Forest of Unintended Consequences

I have always admired the long-standing, productive collaboration among the Forest Service, other public agencies, and private industry in northwest Pennsylvania. While I'm sure part of the success can be explained by the personalities involved and their drive and commitment, having a well-defined and focused research question is also helpful. Since the creation of the Kane Experimental Forest in 1932, deer impacts have been a part of the Forest Service research program, along with research on another iconic species of the northern unglaciated Allegheny Plateau region, black cherry.

A recent (February 2021) article in the journal *BioScience*, *The Forest of Unintended Consequences: Anthropogenic Actions Trigger the Rise and Fall of Black Cherry*, led by Alex Royo of the Forest Service's Northern Research Station and the Kane Experimental Forest, chronicles the regional story of black cherry establishment. Foresters in the region know this story well, but it's worth our time to review and consider these insights for the future.

Black cherry, a light-loving species, benefitted from the exploitative timber harvest era of the early 1900s. A series of partial harvests, followed by nearly complete tree removals for the chemical industry resulted in black cherry abundance above that estimated for pre-European settlement forests. Black cherry abundance defined the second-growth forest, as Royo and co-authors put it in the publication: “The regional dominance of black cherry was so pronounced that the Allegheny hardwood forest type was defined to differentiate it from the broader northern hardwood forest type.”

Within the last 15 years, various measures of black cherry health and dominance have indicated some serious problems. FIA data show that mortality rates for black cherry have risen, crown health has declined, and black cherry basal area growth has declined by 29%. The region’s forests have also experienced a 60% decline in black cherry seedling density, with this decline more pronounced in northern unglaciated Allegheny Plateau, at 76%. The authors argue that this rapid decline is not simply the result of succession given that there was advance black cherry reproduction in these forests under low-light conditions for decades and black cherry regeneration reliably responded to even-aged harvests in the recent past. The authors go into some detail on five possible causes for the declines in black cherry including: variability in climate, deer browse, tree senescence, increased soil pathogens, and changes in nitrogen inputs. The northern unglaciated Allegheny Plateau is near the center of black cherry’s range. Therefore, the effect of a changing climate would be expected to be less than at the edges of the range. In fact, models show little expected change in the suitable range for black cherry with northward shifts of just 22 to 33 miles. To investigate the potential effects of changes in weather or climate, weather records were examined for trends in the region. Weather station data from 1950 to 2019 were summarized for July temperature and growing season precipitation. Over those 70 years, the authors found that the region has experienced warmer and wetter conditions.

Deer numbers in the core of the Allegheny Plateau region have declined by as much as 45% over the past 20 years. This is the same area and timeframe where black cherry seedling numbers have declined. Black cherry is not preferred by deer and past high deer densities have favored black cherry in both relative and absolute densities. This suggests that the reduced deer browse pressure has resulted in greater competition between tree species more recently in regenerating forests.

As for this decline being a result of tree age, recent work in the region has shown that various measures of tree crown health in a 110-year-old stand were better than a 70-year-old stand. Older stands are still producing seed, although the timing of bumper crops has shown greater variability. And while individual trees may be reaching physiological and financial maturity, most of the black cherry-dominated forests in the region are still relatively young. The authors find more likely explanations in plant-soil microbe interactions and changing regional nitrogen deposition. These factors may themselves be linked and influenced by the other possible causes like warmer and wetter growing seasons.

There are many feedback loops in a forest ecosystem, but a plant-soil microbial community feedback may be negatively impacting these forests. Tree species influence their soil microbial community, and this can result in high loads of pathogenic fungi under high densities of trees impacted by the pathogen. This high pathogen load then reduces regeneration and recruitment of

host tree species. There is support for this idea in nursery settings where high densities of black cherry seedlings are associated with infection risk and mortality from cherry leaf spot. In forests, there is a documented feedback loop between black cherry density and root rot fungi. These soil microbe-plant interactions are hypothesized to intensify as trees mature and root systems spread.

The documented decline in black cherry seedlings and increase in size of overstory trees documented in FIA data support this prediction that negative microbial effects are intensifying. The Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 worked well, as there has been a dramatic decline in nitrogen and sulfur deposition in the United States including the northeastern United States where deposition rates were historically high. Nitrogen, particularly as nitrate, is necessary for black cherry germination and growth, making it likely that the species benefitted from high nitrate deposition compared to other species. With the decrease in nitrogen deposition causing a change in the ratio of nitrate to ammonium levels in the soil, further alterations in soil microbial communities occurs. The changing ratios may slowly create conditions where species with ectomycorrhizal communities that prefer ammonium as a nitrogen source increase at the expense of arbuscular mycorrhizal associates that are more efficient with nitrate as the source. Black cherry forms arbuscular mycorrhizal associations, so there may be fewer of those fungi available in the future forests.

The species composition of these black cherry dominated forests will change and as those working in them have probably already seen, what used to work for cherry reproduction is not guaranteed. Well-timed fungicide and fertilizer applications have been shown to increase the success of black cherry reproduction, but those treatments are expensive. The paper concludes that these observed declines are not temporary and acknowledges that the community of practice (that public-private collaboration I've admired) helped spot this trend and supply data for research efforts. A formal collaborative entity called the Allegheny Forest Health Collaborative emerged from early meetings on black cherry and now has formal working groups and regular meetings and tours to share with each other, regardless of agency represented, attempted silvicultural methods including what has worked well, and what has not worked well.

For those of us not working in the Allegheny Plateau region, we are likely dealing with similar "forests of unintended consequences" and emerging species mixtures not characteristic of the past. As we know, there was little to no silvicultural considerations in the creation of our second-growth forests, but we can manage with intention in these emerging mixed species forests.

Citation and link -

Royo, Alejandro A; Vickers, Lance A; Long, Robert P; Ristau, Todd E; Stoleson, Scott H; Stout, Susan L. 2021. The Forest of Unintended Consequences: Anthropogenic Actions Trigger the Rise and Fall of Black Cherry. *BioScience*. 2021: biab002. 14 p.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biab002>. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/treearch/pubs/62065>.

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting Executive Committee Meeting February 16, 2022

Attendees: Cecile Stelter, Susan Lacy, Mike Huneke, Howard Wurzbacher (for Sarah Wurzbacher), Shane Brenneman, Kimberly Bohn, Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy, Champ Zumbrun, Sam Gardner, Steve Resh, Brad Elison, Joe Glover, Bryan Rose, Dave Trimpey, Jonathan Kays, Bud Reaves (virtual), Sara Fitzsimmons (minutes)

1. Approval of Minutes from August 25, 2021

There was a motion to accept the minutes. A second was made and approval was unanimous.

2. Outgoing Chair Comments

Mike Huneke remarked on having a great 2 years as chair despite the challenges w/ COVID. He thanks the committee and SAF for support over the past couple of years, especially that from Susan Lacy and Cecile Stelter. Mike outlined the three biggest accomplishments of ANSAF during his time as chair:

1. Significant change to the by-laws through which we've enabled a student member to attend.
2. Creation of the Hall of Fame, led by Champ Zumbrun who is chair of that committee.
3. Secured the National Convention in the region, based in Baltimore, MD for 2022. That timing is especially important for coinciding with the 100th Anniversary of ANSAF.

3. Welcome Sam Gardner, first voting student member of the ANSAF Executive Committee

The group welcomed the first official, voting student member of the board, Sam Gardner. Sam is a student at Allegany College. The student member position is annual appointment. The committee will need to come up with a rotation so that each institution would provide a student member on a regular basis. There are between 4-6 student chapters/schools in the Allegheny SAF. At this time, all attendees gave brief introductions.

4. Treasurer's Report and 2022 Budget

ANSAF Treasurer Steven Resh outlined the numbers contained within a handout detailing his treasurers report. The Society began 2021 with 10,417.56. Through 2021, ANSAF spent \$20,657 with an income of \$17,150. ANSAF also spent more than it brought in in 2020. The current checking account balance is \$6,910.97.

The Plateau Chapter never spent their \$44 check from 2020 and it never got cashed. There is a check to Mike Huneke which he never received. Steve will void that one and create a new one. There are 3 different accounts: checking, an endowment stock account, and then a student account (money folks have given the division to support student membership, etc). The endowment account had \$50,000 invested 7 years ago and now sets at \$81,911.80 for excellent return on that investment.

Steve reports that 2021 was "mundane" year with relatively little movement in or out of accounts.

Cecile called for questions. Susan wants to know about payment for the Leadership Academy to which Steve noted he has sent a check for the 2022 session. That check was for \$2500 went to Ken Laustsen in Maine. (New England SAF, a pre-payment). No other questions.

Kimberly motions to accept the Treasurers report. Howard seconds. No further discussion. Unanimously passes.

5. Executive Directors' report – Susan Lacy

a. Chapter Reports

There are quite a few Treasurer's reports still outstanding. Susan strives to file taxes by April 15, but needs all reports ahead of time to fill out an 18-page IRS form. This will be the first year ANSAF taxes must be filed entirely on-line. Susan will file for an extension if necessary.

Susan remarked that all Chapters in ANSAF should be using the same Tax ID as ANSAF and also should have at least 2 if not 3 signatories in place with their banks.

b. SAF Chapter, Division, and Society Business Practices

Based on a review of business practices in the Appalachian SAF (Carolinas and Virginia), SAF is now doing a more thorough review and revision of practices across the organization:

- i. Insurance: SAF has available a comprehensive general liability policy. If you're planning a meeting, and your venue needs one, the Dan O'Leary at Preferred Insurance Services in Leesburg, VA will provide a certificate. SAF National covers that cost.
 - ii. Directors and Officers Insurance: SAF now has a new policy to cover the Directors and Officers of all SAF units. Mike Huneke was instrumental in ensuring those costs were covered by National SAF and not by the individual units. This \$2 million policy provides additional protection for volunteer leaders, including officers and those serving on committees.
 - iii. Incorporation of State Societies: National SAF is a single nonprofit. Some state societies are their own individual 501c3 and some are not.
 - a. There is talk within SAF to have all state societies be their own 501c3 with the internal units then all operating under a single bank account. There would be many challenges in that arrangement.
 - o ANSAF is a 5-state society and will likely incorporate in PA. The cost to do this will be \$100/year and there will be some additional reporting responsibilities. Jonathan expressed apprehension about this idea, suggesting ANSAF not incorporate. Mike noted the change is not voluntary and there is no opportunity to opt-out. SAF is requiring this change at the state society level in order to meet current legal requirements and reduce legal liability at the National level.
 - o There were questions about how Chapters within Societies, including the student Chapters, would be affected by this change. That question would be posed to SAF Director Terry Baker who was to be in attendance at the meeting.
- c. *Allegheny News*: Susan is scanning in back issues of Allegheny News. There was no objection to her recycling all but 1 printed issue. The Committee suggested some number of full sets be archived at Mont Alto, PSU Pattee, the PA State Archives, or the Forest History Society in Durham, NC.

6. Membership Committee report – Bud Reaves

COVID hit membership numbers hard with reductions across SAF, ANSAF, and individual Chapters. As the pandemic wanes, 2022 now shows an upswing in membership in almost all divisions with all but 2 chapters increasing over 2021 membership. Unfortunately, demographics are not changing and the membership continues to age. There is very much a need to regenerate recruitment that we need.

7. Program Committee – Dave Trimpey

On the ANSAF website, under documents, there is a PDF called “ANSAF Program Schedule” which projects upcoming ANSAF program through 2027.

<https://www.alleghenysaf.org/s/ANSAF-Program-Schedule-Mar-2021.pdf>

New Jersey is next up in the winter, and Dave will work with them to start planning ASAP. Pinchot is on deck for Summer 2023 and Richard Schwab is agreed to chair and potentially have the meeting at Grey Towers.

The Committee recognized the hard work and perseverance of the Plateau chapter for hosting the 2022 ANSAF Winter Training. They started 2 years ahead and faced multiple challenges, primarily related to the ongoing COVID pandemic. The great news is that the meeting will enjoy one of the largest registrations ANSAF has had with over 150 registrants and a strong student showing.

The take-home message from the success of the Plateau Chapter is that you need a large and varied programming committee, good leadership, and that the ANSAF society is there to help Chapters as they need it.

8. 2022 Leadership Academy

The ANSAF, NYSAF, and NESAF hold an annual leadership academy for nominated members. This year, the academy will be held on March 21 and 22 in South Portland ME. The speaker on Tuesday afternoon will be Dr. Marianne Patinelli-Dubay from SUNY-ESF who will be speaking on ethics. Ken Jolly and Susan Lacy will discuss the organization and structure of SAF. Tom Davidson is doing a general leadership discussion as he has done in the past. Terry Baker will be there Tuesday morning then Marianne. Registration from ANSAF is low with only 4 people nominated for a total of 25 seats.

9. Award Committee – Jonathan Kays

Jonathan Kays outlined the awards which would be announced during the banquet on Thursday night.

- Forester of the Year = Marian Keegan
- Robert W. Bauer Award = Anne Hairston-Strang
- There were no nominations for Student leadership
- Hall of Fame Award = Jim Finley (posthumously)

Jonathan is retiring on 4/1 and is stepping down from the Awards committee as of December 2022. Jonathan reminds the group that there are many national awards including the Young Forester awards, Fellows, Presidential Field Forester Award, etc. It can be a lot of work to put together, but is helped by working with the nominee. These awards should not be seen as a

surprise to the nominee. Tell the person you want to nominate them and then have them help with that nomination. Person doing the nominating just coordinates the accumulation of information. If the nominee doesn't win in a given year, keep the nomination and re-submit - don't just throw it all out.

10. 100th Anniversary Update

Jonathan and his staff created a sharp-looking logo for the 100th Anniversary of ANSAF. All Chapters and Divisions are encouraged to use it wherever they can. Let's celebrate this 100th year at every meeting and showcase the logo at every opportunity.

Cecile is working on creating a 100th Anniversary bulletin documenting the history of ANSAF, it's Divisions and Chapters. The goal is to have this published in some form by the National Convention, if possible. ANSAF was not the first multi-state society, but it was one of the first ones. Gifford Pinchot was a driving force behind the formation of ANSAF.

PA Chapters were mostly created in early 1960s. PA Division was organized in 1982.

There was a motion to print a 100th Anniversary Booklet using funds from the Forestry Endowment. The motion was seconded but failed upon discussion. The consensus is to first gather the contents of the book, then decide the best method of delivery.

11. National Convention Update – Kimberly Bohn

Kimberly distributed two documents profiling the work she's done as General Chair for the SAF National Convention. ANSAF will receive a total of \$10,000 to go toward organization of the meeting, distributed in two installments: \$5000 by end of March and another \$5000 by the end of October. The funds may be used for anything related to the meeting including promotional items. The society receives 8 free registrations and distribute them as it sees fit. Kimberly proposes they be given to local coordinators who are doing all the organizational work for the meeting. All the local committees have excellent local leadership, and also have support from SAF. All items are on-track and moving forward.

- Tours are going strong and awaiting bus company quotes.
- Steve Resh is heading up Quiz Bowl activities.
- Rachel Reyna is coordinating the raffle and auctions.
- Abby Jamison is a recent PSU grad who wants to add in more informal get-to-know-you activities as part of the meeting.
- Local publicity – Agnes Kedmenecz works at UMD Extension and will help SAF with marketing, posters, flyers. They are really trying to advertise to organizations that don't but could have a strong SAF connection. How can we make this more appealing to a larger audience. She is trying to generate a database of organizations or where they advertise and work. Would like to get some info from WV and NJ.
- Sponsors are the biggest current focus. Range of sponsorships is \$3K - \$30K. On the table in the conference room there are some sign-up sheets to write things down and collect information.
- Opening Ceremonies: ANSAF has an opportunity to open up the meeting. The group agreed to work on a 2-3 minute video celebrating the 100th Anniversary of ANSAF. Champ and Jonathan have both worked with Cheryl Francisca. Mike will help Kimberly and Jonathan put together this video. Howard notes there would be excellent footage on the Jim Nelson video the Society did some years ago.

- 100th Anniversary Birthday Party? Mike suggests we also have a separate meeting room at the convention to celebrate together.

12. Committee Structure and Leadership – vacancies

ANSAF has current openings on the committee for the following committees: Educations, Forest History, Endowment, and Communications, and two member-at-large positions.

- Membership chair automatically goes to the Chair-elect.
- Nominations automatically goes to the past Chair.
- Tim Slavin is going to do that audit as long as Steve Resh is treasurer.
 - o Steve will step down after this term. Will therefore need a treasurer and audit chair for 2023.

The Society doesn't have a lot of bench strength for officers. Cecile asks that all the EC members and Chapter and Division Chairs find someone new to be involved with the committee. We need not only names, but people who will come to meetings and engage.

For the 2 member-at-large positions, Cecile would like to have representation on the EC from WV and NJ. The hope is to identify those members during this meeting. They can be appointed and approved electronically by the executive committee.

13. Hall of Fame – Champ Zumbrun

Champ Zumbrun has worked through the society to create an ANSAF Foresters Hall of Fame. This is somewhat modeled after a similar program in Florida which has been ongoing for 25 years. The first recipient will be Jim Finley, receiving it posthumously, with his widow, Linda Finley coming to the meeting to accept that award.

This new award seeks to honor outstanding contributions to the state, national and/or international forestry, living or deceased. The differentiation between the SAF Fellow award is that the contribution can be made at any geographic level and is not necessarily based on longevity in SAF. To commemorate recipients, Florida puts up a plaque at a forestry university, where they have a large wall of recipients.

The Committee agrees that in addition to a physical location where accumulated plaques would reside, there should also be a page on our website with bios, a pictures, etc.

Champ is the current committee Chair. The rest of the committee will be made up of immediate past chairs of each state division. Anyone can nominate. Really need to start getting emeritus folks inducted as well. Cecile notes this is a great time to launch this for the 100th anniversary and recognize those who go us to this point.

14. Chapter/Division Reports – including any changes to officers

- *MD/DE* –The division has a spring meeting for 5/19. They have 2 candidates going to Leadership Academy, the current chair and their education chair. The division was awarded a Foresters' Fund grant for engaging legislation.
- *WV* – The Division has a meeting slated for March 23/24, one which will be focused on white oak. There will be a tour of cooperage through a WV barrel company in Lewisburg, WV

- *PA – Keystone*: The Chapter has been relatively inactive. The current chair, Craig Houghton, retires soon and will need to find a replacement upon his move to NH in June.
- *PA- Northern Hardwoods*: A recent meeting was held to elect a new secretary/treasurer
- *PA - Pinchot*: Dick Schwab is back to chair. Abby Jamison is now in the Pinchot Chapter and the committee will be working with her to involve more younger audiences.
- *PA – Rothrock*: The Chapter held a winter meeting in December to bring in Paul Lupo as Chair and elect members of the Executive Committee. The EC then coordinated a Zoom meeting with Eli Sangor. Author of the Midwest Silviculture Library. Paul would like to see a similar database for the northeast/midatlantic region.
- *PA - Valley Forge*: No updates
- *PA – Gateway*: No updates
- *PA – Plateau*: The committee has been focused on the Winter Training, especially Joe Glover. The chapter held a meeting this fall/late summer at Dave Trimpey’s tree farm and enjoyed good attendance. There will be another meeting in a next couple months to elect new leadership. The Chapter is especially proud of the work toward engaging young professionals during this meeting, and deliberately set up the panel right before the quiz bowl to encourage interaction between students and other SAF members. The group again complements the Plateau Chapter on all their great work.
- *Students*: With a focus on engaging young professionals, the group asked Sam about the prognosis for keeping student members after they graduate. Sam noted all the students he talked to want to know “Why should I join?” and there’s not really a good answer.
 - The group noted the value of networking is extremely important, especially early in one’s career. That intangible value is difficult to illustrate to a 19 year old student. SAF is losing people annually from student to professional category. Members of the committee all noted they enjoyed that value. Need a way to showcase and make that value more concrete to student members. It can be a grind to go to meetings, but the opportunities are worthwhile.
 - Possible suggestions for better engaging young foresters:
 - Career sessions at ANSAF meetings
 - Young professional panels at ANSAF meetings
 - Pay student registrations and/or travel to National Conventions
 - Time ANSAF/Chapter meetings for when school is in session
 - Donate funds to student Chapters – need to find out from the student Chapters what would be most useful for retention.

15. Old Business

Mike Huneke remarked on the ease of electronic voting for Executive Committee leadership elections. Sarah Wurzbacher facilitated the voting through Qualtrics and the results were very successful and easy. The group agreed to using that method in the future elections as long as it was feasible to do so.

16. New Business

a. Budget

The Executive Committee worked through balancing the 2022 budget.

Susan Lacy noted that printing costs for the Allegheny News has significantly increased. There were new items included for hosting the National Convention. A balanced budget was proposed showing \$25,000 income with \$20,190 in expenses.

Joe motioned to accept the budget. Mike seconded. The 2022 budget was approved unanimously.

b. *Boy Scout National Jamboree*

The Boy Scout National Jamboree will be held from 7/19 – 7/28, 2023. SAF Has had an exhibit there the last 2 times, partnering with the WV State Dept of Forestry. Usually 40,000 people over 10-day period. A broader invitation to SAF members to participate is forthcoming.

Mike motions to adjourn the meeting. Bryan seconds. Meeting adjourned unanimously at 6:06PM

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting Summary

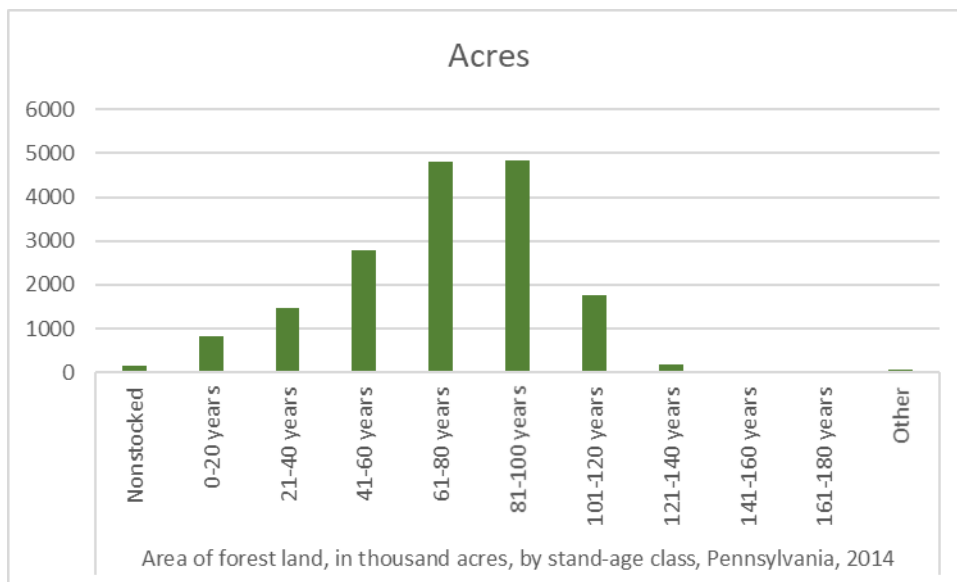
February 16-18 Clarion, PA



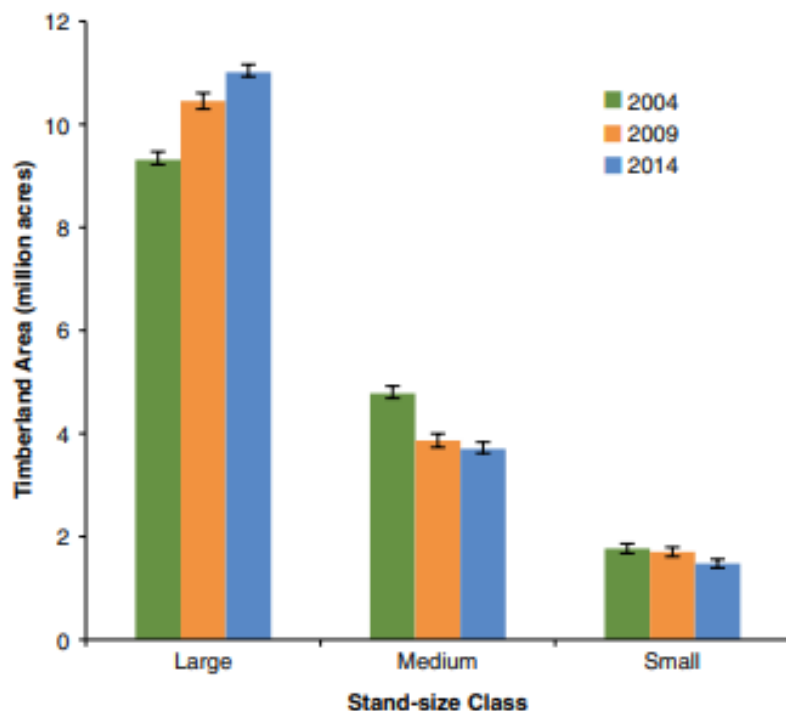
During February 16-18, 2022, The Plateau Chapter of the Society of America Foresters hosted the 2022 Allegheny SAF Winter Training Conference entitled “*Young Forests and Young Professionals,*” at Clarion University, in Clarion, Pennsylvania. The focus of the meeting was on the critical need to create more young forest habitat for a variety of wildlife species and to

create a mosaic of diverse age classes across the landscape. Also, focusing on what is needed to help inspire development of young professionals within the field of forestry.

For a little bit of background, when it comes to Pennsylvania's forest resource, it is growing older. Most of our forest landscape came out of the clearcutting of vast stretches of the state in the early 1900's.

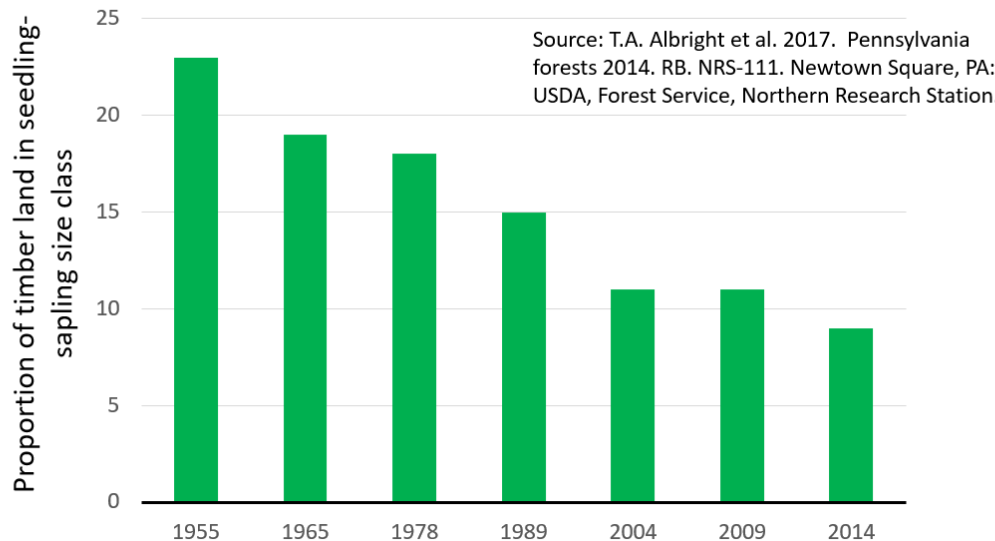


Those forests are now approaching one hundred years old and older. As they have grown older, many species that depend on young forest have decreased as the habitat has grown older.



1. Acres of timberland by stand-size class, Pennsylvania

Area in young forest in Pennsylvania by year



With this change in forest structure to more mature forest, species that rely on young forest have declined sharply over the last several decades. Many migratory bird species are dependent on young, brushy forested areas to rear their young after they fledge.

Prior to the presentations, a field tour to Cook Forest State Park was led by Dale Luthringer, environmental education specialist with the PA DCNR. The hike focused on the old-growth Cathedral Forest located within the park, which is home to some of the largest hemlock and white pine in the state, including the tallest tree in Pennsylvania. A 171' tall white pine. While icy weather conditions prevented viewing of the record white pine, several other record contender white pine & hemlock were viewed including the second largest hemlock in the state in terms of board foot volume. In addition to demonstrating the features and attributes of an old-growth forest, Dale also noted the intense inter-tree competition that takes place in these old forests as he pointed out a 4" hemlock and 36" white pine growing side by side that were both approximately 125 years old.

Scott Stoleson, Research Wildlife Biologist with the USDA Forest Service Research Station in Warren, PA, comments that young forests are lost across the landscape constantly because it grows very quickly. A forest is only considered young for about 20 years. Early successional bird species use young forests starting after establishment cuts and use these areas for 1 to 15 years. This is of concern because annual breeding bird populations are dropping. Young forest habitat is critical to young fledging and adult birds during the molting process because of the cover and an abundance of food from insects and forage. Songbirds can hide and gain weight prior to the fall migration.

Lisa Williams, Ruffed Grouse Specialist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission spoke about her work with Pennsylvania's state bird, which has also declined severely over the last several decades. This is due to not only loss of habitat, but also a lack of quality food, predators, and

West Nile Disease. Through research, PA Game Commission has developed a tool for helping to establish habitat in areas that reduce the risks of West Nile on grouse and give them the opportunity to recover. Recovery is dependent on increased young forest cover and available winter food sources. Higher elevation areas of the state have less of the mosquito that carries West Nile Virus. Habitat should be increased in these areas that mitigate those risks. This grouse management mapping program can be found at <http://bit.ly/PGCG-Past>.

Jeff Larkin, Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at Indiana University of Pennsylvania also echoed earlier talks by Williams and Stoleson regarding the forest birds and age classification. “Addressing threats and balancing age classes are not only important to forest-bird conservation...they’re also goals of foresters and forest managers, in general.” “Lack of diversity in age classes and successional stages, changing overstory species composition, threats from biotic and abiotic vectors, as well as poor management practices reduce the health and resiliency of the forest and produce poorer habitat for native species.” Dr. Larkin made the analogy of comparing forest bird species to a sailor. Water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink. For many bird species, forests, forest, everywhere, but none with a place to raise our young.

Eric Zenner, Associate Professor of Silviculture at Penn State spoke about what he sees as issues that will be faced by young professionals and those who are already seasoned professionals. There is an ongoing issue of “dualism” within forestry the profession. Our society has placed us into a dichotomy. Preservation vs. conservation, managing “for the good of the land” vs. “for the good of people,” dominant use vs. multiple use, professionalism vs. societal values. If we are to communicate more effectively, we need to use less technical terms for most audiences we interact with. In the future, we will manage more for societal needs and ecological resilience. We will always be called upon to adapt to the changes our stakeholders place upon us. Ben Larson with the Ruffed Grouse society and the American Woodcock Society discussed working with the forest products industry to create large scale forest habitat restoration work. “Not only do healthy forests increase vitality of wildlife habitats, they also support and reinvigorate rural economies. For communities that rely on timber, paper, furniture, construction, and tourism, having healthy, diverse forests will positively impact these regional economies now and in the future.”

Halie Parker, Wildlife Biologist with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Indiana University of Pennsylvania brought attention to the influence of white-tailed deer browse and its effects on avian communities. Halie focused her study on areas in which timber harvests were conducted then either fenced or left unfenced post-harvest. While the benefits of deer fencing on developing forest structure after a timber harvest are well documented, Halie found that 6 out of 9 avian species studied also benefitted from the additional forest stand structure provided by deer fencing after a timber harvest.

Emma Keele, a master’s student in Biology at the Indiana State University shared her thesis research, which was to assess if monarch butterflies, and other pollinators, benefit from early successional communities that have been managed for the golden-winged warbler in the Western Great Lakes Region. She found that monarchs had a positive relationship with pasture/hay fields and emergent herbaceous wetlands, while having a negative relationship with woody wetlands

and mixed forest types. However, she also found a beneficial relationship between monarchs and the skid trail and landing areas utilized in mixed forest type timber harvesting and suggested that using a pollinator seed mixture to retire skid trails & landing areas would be of benefit to monarchs and other pollinator species.

Jeffery (JT) Larkin, a graduate student in Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, remarked on the influence of within-stand and landscape factors on eastern whip-poor-will occupancy to a variety of forest management practices. To achieve sampling counts of this nocturnal specie, JT relied on autonomous recording units (ARU's) which are placed in specified locations and programmed to record at a time suitable to the activity of the whip-poor-will. He found that increased stem density, increased forest cover and increased shrub cover all lead to increased whip-poor-will occupancy. Or, in other words, the eastern whip-poor-will is benefitting from forest management and especially from early successional forest management.

Pat Brose, Research Forester at the USDA Forest Service's Northern Research Station relayed his preliminary findings on controlling sweet birch in post-harvest environments, which was actually 3 combined talks about birch. The first, a study about the dominance of birch, which increased from 46% to 74% stand dominance over a 3-year period showing that birch gets ahead of, and out-competes many other species. The second is a 60-year study of the developmental history of Allegheny hardwood stands where black cherry was compared to birch on similar sites and of similar size. He found that after 60 years, birch remains of major importance in the study. The third study was a comparison of treatments to control birch in young stands. This study compares herbicide, mechanical and non-treatment methods. Preliminary findings are that all treatments have positives and negatives. No treatment type is perfect. The summary of all 3 studies to this point are that birch is accelerating its proliferation and, as foresters, we will be dealing with birch in the rotations to come.

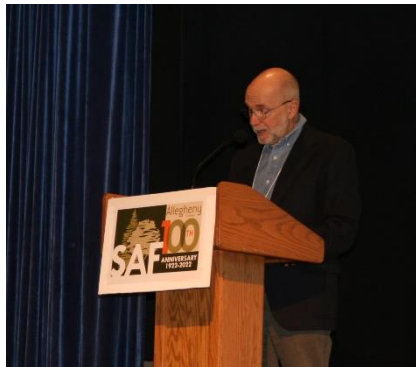
Aaron Cook, (Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service), Sarah Wurzbacher, (Penn State Forestry Extension), Kenny Kane (Generations Forestry) and Ben Larson (Ruffed Grouse Society & American Woodcock Society) all participated in a panel discussion which focused on what role the Society of American Foresters has played in each of their careers and lives from the student level up to their current positions. Each member openly shared their experiences and thoughts, not only to the benefit of the young professionals attending the training, but for all attendees.

This year's Student Quiz Bowl featured teams from Penn State Dubois Wildlife Technology Program, Allegany College of Maryland, West Virginia University, and Penn State University Park. Allegany College won their first round against Penn State Dubois. West Virginia University won their round against Penn State University Park. Allegany College was the winner this year.

Ben Jones, President, and CEO of the Ruffed Grouse Society & American Woodcock Society (RGS/AWS) gave the banquet dinner presentation titled "The Bellwether of Forest Health", where he tied together the main theme of several prior presentations to reiterate that our forests are getting older and are severely lacking in diverse stand structure leading to a decline in forest

wildlife habitat, not to mention, several avian communities. To combat this, the RGS/AWS has started an initiative to combine several billion dollars of funding, dedicated to the improvement of forest habitat, and a screening process to administer these funds to worthwhile forest management projects that meet the program guidelines.

The Reginal Forbes Art Contest which is held annually at the Winter Training Meeting had some wonderful photography, drawings, paintings, and three-dimensional works.



Sanford "Sandy" Smith, Professor, Penn State Cooperative Extension, asked "What's Your Inspiration" as his topic for the Chair's Breakfast. After polling some audience member's sources of inspiration, he then elaborated on some sources of inspiration that have been instrumental to his life and career noting that having inspiration is as important as the source of the inspiration itself.

Tom Kase, Resource Manager at Kane Hardwood, spoke about planning and creating young forests on a large scale in reference to managing 118,000 acres of FSC certified Collins Forest land. He stressed that in long-term forest management, natural processes take time, and they are subject to many obstacles. The only way to surpass these obstacles is with good planning, execution, and reevaluation. This type of approach allowed them to adapt their forest management when a 2003 derecho and blowdown damaged approximately 15.4 MBF of Collins timber or to facilitate ash removal due to Emerald Ash Borer or even when working toward a major shift in age class distribution across the entire forest. Develop, implement, and follow the plan, then revisit the plan and adjust the model if changes are needed, or new threats arise. "Good planning and good execution leads to good results".

Emily Thomas, Assistant Professor at Penn State University Dubois delved into the status of today's young professionals in natural resource education and careers. Noting that forestry admissions at accredited schools in our region are either flat or on the decline, Emily shared her findings when this question was posed to her students. Factors such as work environment and job/life balance may be more important than traditional factors such as salary, to young professionals, when choosing a position and/or career field. In addition, she also found that many young professionals are more passionate about social & environmental issues or want to make a difference in the world and will factor these concerns into their career choices much more than prior generations.



Terry Baker, CEO of the Society of American Foresters brought the meeting to a close with his thoughts on “Growing with SAF”. He asked the attendees to question their pre-conceived notions about what it means to be a part of the SAF and that from time to time, we need to change or modify those notions to remain current. He also stressed the importance of SAF working groups, staying connected to the organization and looking for opportunities to volunteer within the organization. Furthermore, he suggested that we engage others outside our organization that need our help and guidance, even when we don’t want to, as this engagement with others is very important to promote sound forestry principles and the values associated with the SAF.



Anne Hairston-Strang Receives Outstanding Service to Forestry Award



Anne has led the Maryland Forest Service's (MFS) efforts to achieve the Chesapeake Bay restoration and sustainable forest management implementation goals. Anne has personally competed for, coordinated and managed over \$6.8 million of federal, university and local funding, building partnerships for State priorities in sustainable forestry, healthy watersheds, and hazard reduction. She has developed and sustained watershed forestry and forest health programs to address watershed restoration commitments, forest health and harvesting BMPs. Anne has championed tree planting in riparian forest areas including Maryland Stream ReLeaf which planted over 1500 miles of buffers.

Her consistent work to acquire grants for the Maryland Forest Service led to the hiring of many contractual employees, some of whom have gone on to have permanent positions with the MFS, which have jokingly been referred to as "Anne's Army". Anne is the Associate Director for programs in the MFS, but is currently serving as the Acting Director/ State Forester. She was responsible for formulating the MFS State Forest Action Plan Strategy in 2010 and 2020, that developed and refined the goals of the entire MFS.

Anne is committed to excellence, having acquired Bachelors and Masters degrees in Forestry and a Ph. D in Forest Engineering. For her work on Chesapeake Bay restoration, she was honored as a Chesapeake Forest Champion in 2018 by the Chesapeake Bay Program. Anne's work has directly contributed to the improvement of the health and sustainability of Maryland's forests and Chesapeake Bay.

Over the course of her career, Anne has consistently been involved with SAF and has held leadership positions in the organization. She has been a member of SAF since 1984 and while working on her Ph. D at Oregon State University, she served as the Student Chapter Chair from 1994 to 1995 and the OSU Chapter was honored as the Student Chapter of the Year.

Anne is currently serving as the Secretary of the Maryland/Delaware (MD/DE) Division's Executive Committee since 2014; however, she has consistently assisted the MD/DE Committee with event planning and presentations over the course of her career. She previously served on the Committee from 1998 to 2000. She was honored in 1998 as the MD/DE Forester of the Year. She is currently serving as the Technical Tours Chair for the SAF 2022 National Convention in Baltimore.

Outside of her professional endeavors, Anne has also been active in leadership roles at Christ Episcopal Church, PTSA – Matapeake Middle School, and Girl Scout Troop 1334.

Congratulations Anne!

Forester of the Year Awarded to Marian Keegan



Marian's interest in forestry began with a love of nature and a passion for protecting the environment. For 17 years, she has served the community of Hemlock Farms as the Director of Community Conservation. She manages the natural resources under the community's stewardship and addresses a range of environmental challenges. She extends her influence and expertise beyond this community to the broader northeastern Pennsylvania Community.

As the Director of Community Conservation, Marian developed and implemented a departmental model that employs contractors, consultants and resources of other departments, as needed. The model necessitates strong and flexible relationships. Marian's positive attitude is effective when interacting with service providers and her efficiency simplifies the complexity and completion of bid specifications, contracts and reports. Her department is recognized for improving the environmental image of the community with awards such as Pennsylvania Rural Water Association 2010 Water System of the Year and Gold Star Community for Communications.

The Hemlock Farms community and its forests were severely impacted by too many deer. This emotionally charged and controversial issue and problem needed to be resolved. Marian brought a series of seminars about deer biology and management options to raise awareness of the issue and educate community members and leaders, and then collaborated with a public relations consultant to assist in developing scientifically-based and accurate messages, brochures, and posters to provide members an informed basis to make a decision. Though member's responses ranged from supportive to objective to complicit to outrage, Marian carefully engaged with respect and in a way that their opinion mattered. Year after year, Community members vote overwhelmingly to actively and sustainably manage the deer herd. Marian describes her project and accomplishments in the book, "Deer Management for Forest Landowners and Managers".

Marian has honed her skills as a scientist and forester, and broadened her impacts to the whole of ecosystems and environmental protection. She leads communities through complex and sensitive challenges to viable solutions. Her influence and expertise have been felt in Pennsylvania within federal and state agencies, commissions, non-profit organizations, and municipalities. She has grown forests, stewarded lakes and ponds, cleaned and protected streams and rivers and added her voice to the call for addressing climate change.

Congratulations Marian!

The Connection between Leadership and Fishing

By Tom Martin, NY SAF

In early March 2022, I had the delightful experience of fishing with my wife and SAF Past President, Gene Kodama, on the Santee Cooper. This system, located between Columbia and Charleston, SC, includes inter-connected rivers, lakes and canals. We fished one day on the 96,000 acre Lake Marion and one day on the 60,000 acre Lake Moultrie. We were targeting landlocked stripers and big flathead and blue catfish. The stripers were totally uncooperative but we were able to boat some nice cats. Gene and his wife Karen were the consummate hosts for this memorable trip.

In late March 2022, I participated in the 3rd Northeast/Mid-Atlantic SAF Leadership Academy held in South Portland, Maine prior to the New England SAF Annual Meeting. Since 2018, a committee of Steve Kalleser, Kenneth Jolly, Susan Lacy from Allegheny SAF, Ken Laustsen from New England SAF and Corrie Magee and Tom Martin from New York SAF have developed and delivered a Leadership Academy for our region. The latest Academy was presented in partnership with Tom Davidson of Leadership Nature. Nineteen attendees from eight States participated.

Day One was presented by Davidson and covered leadership definition and styles, listening and asking questions, motivation, decision-making and learning to lead. The attendees were thoughtful and engaged and I heard many conversations late into the evening discussing the topics covered that day.

The morning of the second day started with a discussion with SAF CEO Terry Baker and District 6 Board Representative Karen Bennett. The remainder of the morning covered SAF specific topics presented by members of the Leadership Academy Committee: Communication and policy, disseminating science and technology, awards and recognition, and treasury and record-keeping. The afternoon session, “Practical Ethics for Natural Resource Managers” was presented by Marianne Patinelli-Dubay, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Attendees evaluated the training positively. On a 10-point scale, all evaluations ranked the training at 8 or above. Two comments stood out: 1) “I had high expectations for this training and the training exceeded them” and 2) “I got much more from this training than I thought I would”. An additional measure of success is that many prior Academy attendees have stepped into leadership roles within SAF.

Attendees were asked for their one definition of leadership. Their responses were:

Responsibility
Action
Fair
Innovation
Flexibility
Sharing

Motivate
Accountability
Pragmatic
Example
Communication
Integrity

Trust
Listening
Support
Humility
Hardworking

In Breaking New Ground, Pinchot used similar words to describe leadership by stating, “Over and over again, I have seen men of moderate intelligence come to the front because they had courage, integrity, self-respect, steadiness, perseverance and confidence in themselves, their cause and their work”.

So, what does fishing on the Santee Cooper have to do with leadership? Simply, the Foresters Fund. Gene Kodama generously donated the fishing trip as a Convention auction item to raise money for the Foresters Fund. The Foresters Fund in turn award a grant to make the Leadership Academy possible.

Allegheny SAF Establishes Foresters Hall of Fame

The Allegheny Society of American Foresters (ANSAF) Hall of Fame honors foresters who have made outstanding and significant contributions to the forestry profession.

Any member, or past member, living or deceased, of the ANSAF who, in the opinion of the nominators, has made outstanding contributions to the forestry profession can be nominated. The nominee must be, or have been, a resident of the States of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, or West Virginia.

Nomination Procedure

A dated, formal nomination stating the nominee's current address, telephone number, and email address (unless deceased) must be presented to the Chair, ANSAF Foresters Hall of Fame Committee by December 31st of each year to allow distribution to the Hall of Fame Committee members for their review, consideration and decision before Award Ceremony conducted during the Winter Allegheny SAF Meeting traditionally held each February.

The nomination must be signed by the principal nominator and include their address, telephone number, and email address. An additional minimum of four supporting signatures must follow that of the principal nominator. Additional signers are encouraged. All signers must be current members of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters.

A professional work biography and other statements, not exceeding 1000 words in total, emphasizing the nominee's professional contributions must accompany the nomination.

Following are some guidelines for nomination content.

Description of Achievements and Contributions to Forestry

Election to the Allegheny SAF Foresters Hall of Fame requires a record of outstanding contributions in the broad field of forestry. These contributions should be documented in a concise straightforward manner in those areas of activity pertinent to the nominee's professional career.

Listed below are several criteria or activities which may be helpful in compiling this information. The list is not inclusive, and it is intended only as a guideline for your use.

Contributions to Professional Forestry in One or More Categories

- Widely recognized leadership role in the application of knowledge and service to forest resources.
- Superior performance and service in the development and implementation of quality forestry programs at local, regional, or national levels.
- Recognition of service and contributions through other awards, honors, citations, offices, commissions, etc.
- Participation and service in various SAF activities or governing structures at the local, division, or national levels.
- Documentation of efforts directed toward meeting forestry challenges and opportunities.
- Conscientious concern and effort in promoting professionalism among foresters, including examples of advising and assisting young professionals in achieving their career goals.
- Noteworthy contributions and support of forestry/conservation/wildlife/environmental organizations through volunteer service, political activity, or philanthropic giving.
- **Note:** The question has been asked about the difference between the SAF Fellow Award and the Foresters Hall of Fame Award. The primary difference is the Fellow Award focuses on what one has contributed to the SAF. In contrast, the Foresters Hall of Fame Award focuses on what one has achieved in the profession of forestry. Currently, Francis “Champ” Zumbrun is the ANSAF Hall of Fame Award chair. If anyone has any questions or nominations, please contact him at Champzumbrun@gmail.com.

James C. Finley Becomes First Allegheny Society of American Foresters Hall of Fame Inductee

Contributed by Dave Jackson

The Allegheny Society of American Foresters (ANSAF) Hall of Fame Committee selected James C. Finley as their first official inductee into the newly created ANSAF Foresters Hall of Fame. The award honors foresters who made outstanding and significant contributions to the profession throughout the course of their career. The ANSAF includes the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Selection to the ANSAF Foresters Hall of Fame requires a record of outstanding contributions in the broad field of forestry.

After a long career at Penn State, Jim retired as Professor Emeritus of Private Forest Management and Human Dimensions and Natural Resources in 2017. In 2011, Jim co-founded the Center for Private Forests at Penn State, serving as its inaugural director and following retirement, serving as the Center’s Council Chair until the time of his death. He was also the

Pennsylvania State Extension Forester and dedicated his life to working at the intersection of people and forests. For decades, Jim shared his knowledge and deep understanding of the woods with peer volunteers attending forest stewardship training programs. Jim suddenly and tragically lost his life on October 2, 2021. His legacy will live on, as will his decades of work which helped shape the forestry community's understanding of forests and the people who own them.

Dr. Kim Steiner, a longtime Penn State colleague of Jim's, presented the award to Jim's wife Linda during the February 17 Awards Banquet at the 2022 Allegheny SAF Winter Training in Clarion PA. In accepting the award on behalf of Jim, Linda shared the following comments from Jim's heart and soul as a forester.

"Thank you for inviting me to join you. Jim would be so very honored to receive this recognition. His membership in SAF was important to him and he always encouraged others, especially students to become members.

Jim always said from the time he was very young, the only thing he ever wanted to be was a forester. His early vision of being a forester was to work in the woods every day and have his lunch by a stream. Although his childhood vision faded, and his career took a different path from being in the woods every day, he was always very proud to say he was a forester.

Jim was, and you are, part of an honorable profession. You deserve the highest respect. Being a forester can take many different paths, and every path is so important. What you do is special, and essential. You are stewards and caretakers of the natural resources that are vital to the well-being of all humanity. Thank you for what you do and be very proud to say you are a forester."

Jim touched innumerable lives with his passion for the woods. This profound loss will echo through personal and professional relationships. His induction into the Allegheny Society of American Foresters Hall of Fame will help his legacy to live on.

Jim Finley Selected for Allegheny Society of American Foresters Hall of Fame

Contributed by Kim Steiner and the Finley Family

Jim Finley
(1948 - 2021)

B.S. in Forest Science from Pennsylvania State (1970)

M.S. in Forest Resource Resources at Penn State (1975)

Ph.D. in Extension Education at Penn State (1991)

Jim Finley enjoyed a forty-seven-year career as a forester, the largest part spent in Penn's State's extension program. Jim started his career with the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station

in Broomall, Pennsylvania. He did this to gain “dirt forestry” experience. While with the Forest Service, Jim and a colleague were among the first to estimate the population of private forest landowners in the United States, setting him on his path to understanding and engaging woodland owners.

Penn State joined the Cooperative Extension Service as an area Extension educator working out at Dushore, PA. While there, Jim helped organize and initiate what would become a statewide network of woodland owners associations, which educated and connected woodland owners to professionals who could help them fulfill their hopes on their land.

In 1981, Jim joined the School of Forest Resources faculty at University Park. His work here focused on advancing research and Extension education programs on sustainable forest resource management, especially on private forests. In this role, Jim created and served as a leader of several innovative programs that included the creation of the Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship education and outreach program; the creation and leadership of Penn State’s intercollege graduate program in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment; and in 2011, the creation of Penn State’s Center for Private Forests. This Center continues his pioneering work on private forestlands and landowners, exploring innovative ways to provide landowners with the inspiration, skills, and advice needed for effective stewardship. Jim also published ground-breaking research that had an enormous impact on many undergraduate and graduate students through his teaching and mentorship. The Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship program became a national model for technology transfer to private forest landowners.

By training hundreds of citizen educators to spread the message, and through his webinars, publications, newsletters, and woods walks, Jim reached hundreds of thousands of people with his simple but profound message of forest stewardship.

For this work and other contributions, Jim’s advice and expertise were sought both regionally and nationally by government agencies and non-governmental organizations. Jim was a Conservation Senior Research Fellow at the Pinchot Institute for Conservation. Jim co-chaired the USDA Forest Service’s National Roundtable on Sustainable Forestry. He served on the boards of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Foundation for Sustainable Forestry, and the Policy Council for WeConservePA.

A very committed environmentalist, but an environmentalist who understood the need for management, Jim understood that cutting trees is sometimes necessary and even good. Jim revered

the icons of our profession, people like Pinchot and Leopold, and he was a strong proponent of stewardship, which he practiced both in his demonstration woodlot at Penn State and on his property. Jim retired in 2017, but continued to volunteer in forestry-related activities up to his passing.

- Ph.D., Ibberson Chair and Professor Emeritus of Private Forest Management, Human Dimensions, and Natural Resources, Penn State in 2021.
- Co-founder and Council Chair of the Center for Private Forests, Penn State, 2011 to 2021.
- Active member in SAF since 1970.
- SAF National Technology Transfer Award in 2000.
- SAF Elected Fellow in 2003.
- Allegheny Chapter of the SAF Hall of Fame - 17 February 2022

In Memoriam



Charles Joseph Newlon (1931-2022), CF retired USDA Forest Service, a very interesting fellow. He was a Friend to everyone he meets, a Kind family man, a Forester, and a Great Storyteller who lived a long wonderful happy life.

Charles Newlon was born in Berkeley, California in 1931.

Charlie is survived by his wife Barbara Jones Newlon (married June 1, 1957, Denver, Colorado), son, Douglas Wilson (wife Deb), daughter, Kathryn Lynn Sonnenfeld-Squires (husband Rick

Squires), grandchildren U.S. Navy First Class Petty Officer Jake Sonnenfeld, and Jessie Sonnenfeld.

He loved his **mother**, Jessie (Jess) Margaret MacCornack Newlon; his **father**, Wilson (Bill) Earle Newlon; and “now his **big brother** John Wilson Newlon has a playmate”. He was also greatly loved by nieces and nephews (Pahl, Rudy (wife Kathleen), Wilson, Cindy (husband John), Rick (wife Ruth), Nancy, Larry, Brian, and Karen) and all their 14 children and 9 grandchildren.

As Charlie requested, we have gathered some of his stories and highlights, and accomplishment of his life during his 90 years a shared below: These along with other stories and experiences provided by family, friends, and colleagues will be shared in a video obituary that is being collected and archived.

If you would like to contribute to the video program called **“Travels with Charlie”, the adventures, the legend of the “Big Kahuna”**. Please send your story or experience(s) along with any photos (if available) about Charlie to his son doug.newlon@gmail.com. Doug will then work with you to capture an audio record (preferably in WAV or MP3 formatted file) to go with photos (if available).

Charlie was an adventurous young man spending his summers balancing both work and play. He used his Boy Scout wordsmanship skills on many occasions. He found joy and accomplishment the day he strapped on his trusty backpack and canteen filled with refreshment when he hiked up the back side of famous **“Half Dome”** mountain located in Yosemite National Park in California. Despite the temperature at the top, he celebrated his victory by camping close to the summit. Frequently, the young lad traveled by train alone from Berkeley, California to visit his mothers’ kin, *The Staples*. His Uncle Walter Staple, a railroad man himself, was the **“Mayor of “Dog Patch”**; a log cabin he built in the 40’s which is in Red Feather, Colorado. This homestead getaway is still in the Newlon family. **“Dog Patch”** is still well cared because of the generations of forest service families that Charlie and Barbara cherish as very special friends.

On one trip to **“Dog Patch”** Charlie learned valuable listening skills the hard way. In the story **“Fifty Minutes in Ogden”**, Charlie writes:

“I asked the Railroad Porter twice, to be sure, “How long do we stop here?” His answer was a bit garbled, so I again asked him. Again, he answered, “about 50 minutes.” I ran back through the railroad coach to announce to my newly found friend and seat partner Jose’ Rojas, “Hey we’ve got 50 minutes.” That was time enough before the train leaves Ogden to find a cheap place to eat and to take that picture of the old engine that Tom Lewis (a close childhood chum) wanted. After all, I was an “experienced” traveler, having made the trip from Berkeley, CA to Cheyenne, WY the year before to spend the summer with my Aunt Ethel and Uncle Walter at the cabin in Colorado cutting firewood. Of course, I wasn’t about to get off the train that summer. I was just a green 14-year-old kid then” ...stay tuned eager readers, to hear the rest of this story.

Chaz was a studious fellow starting his advanced education at Santa Rosa Junior College. Here he learned how to write and hone his public speaking skills by acting and cheerleading in his spare time. He was not a shy fellow but one who was always thinking outside the box. Demonstrated in a story he often told his son Doug. About how he used his charm to become the favorite, most successful vendor at his college football games, where he was able to sell more peanuts and soda pops than his fellow hucksters. His secret was to entertain the spectators. To

get their attention of his would-be hungry customers, he was known to shout at the top of his booming voice, “*Get your double-jointed goobers here.*” Now captured, he could easily sell them liquid treats and hot steaming “*tube steak sandwiches*” finishing the ensemble of yumminess, he offered to his eager sports fans.

Charles’ brother Captain John was an accomplished pilot for the U.S. Air Force in the Korean War. Following in his big brother foots steps, Charlie also joined the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War becoming an Airman, but serving stateside in California. Private Newlon was assigned to the Photographic Squad, learning more about being a “*shutter-bug*” to capture “images in time” to enhance his forestry work and accompany his stories for his audience. Charles rounded off his formal education in **1956** by obtaining a Bachelor of Science in Forestry at the Colorado State University (CSU). But his training and skill development never stopped. Charlie wrote an interesting story about his summer break from CSU. The “**Wyssen Skyline Cable Logging**” story is about the summer he set up and operated a revolutionary new overhead cable logging method known as the “Wyssen System” for moving trees that saved time and timber in 1955. The principles are still used by logger today. He also worked summers planting trees, managing lumber yards and sawmills, learning the hard knocks of the trade! Taking a break from all this hard work, Charlie was one of five forestry students that rafted through the Colorado River rapids of the Grand Canyon. He later wrote the story called “**Log of the Vinegaroon**” of this quest. The Vinegaroon (a harmless Scorpion) was the name of the six-man World War Two US Navy surplus inflatable rescue raft the crew had to patch up before it could be inflated. Charlie wrote: “It was NOT the safest way to spend spring break, but the river rats’ thought it was sure exciting!” He captured many other classic stories during this time of his life including: “**Grubbing Ribes – The First Day**” – started with “*It was the first day on the job in July 1950 at the Twin Springs Blister Rust Control (BRC) in California. It was in the Plumas National Forest in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I thought I’d be fired.*” ...friends you will have to wait to hear the rest of this story.

For the next 8 years, Charles was a **Colorado State Forester**, who took pride in work dealing with all aspects of State and Private Forest Land Management, Timber Management, Fire and Disease Protection. During his watch he would gladly jump in his state issued jeep crossing miles of fields and rough terrain to battle over 100 forest fires. He fought many a spot fire by himself before they become nasty wildfires. He couldn’t carry a substantial amount of water and he was frequently challenged by weak radio signals for help. But armed with true grit and his trusty multi-function (fire fighters’ best friend), all mighty “Pulaski”. He was always determined to prevent any fire from getting out of hand on his watch. But this duty meant spending many days away from home getting filthy and stinky. When he finally got a change to clean up one

day, it ended up in the story “**The 4-Inch Bathtub Ring**”, about a cattle rancher who was so grateful to Charlie for saving his land. He rewarded Charlie, by letting him use his bathtub to clean up! To reach some of these hot spots, Charlie sometimes had to cut down fences to clear a path to reach his foe. After extinguishing the flames, the challenge was not over. Charlie would later need to retrace his tracks so he could repair the fence before any cattle had time to escape! For 5 years he educated his fellow Coloradoans’. Weekly, Charlie got up at the crack of dawn and schlepped an hour each way from Ft. Collins to a Denver TV station. Here he hosted a live TV program called “**CSU Outdoors**” promoting forestry that was broadcasted in black and white. Our trusty storyteller wrote another one called “The Bridge and the Burro Song”. This one is about his time managing a crew of high school students. Their mission was to spray down trees with a brew of ethylene dibromide and diesel fuel that were infested with Bark Beetles. These little buggers were fixed on destroying the forested mountain sides that Charlie was charged to protect. The challenge was a broken-down bridge on the South Platte River near Deckers, Colorado was in the way of completing their mission and a Burro who determined not to cross that broken bridge. The only solution to get his tree saving supplies and crew was to wade across dragging the stubborn old Burro. Friends, you will have to stay tuned to hear how a song helps Charlie save his trees. Later, for the Colorado State Forest Service, he was charged with Forest Utilization - improving best use and production of forest products.

The USDA Forest Service caught wind of Charlie’s accomplishments protecting State Land and Forests. They recruited Charlie to help raise public awareness and protect Federal Lands. His first charge was from the Portland, Oregon Office. He was assigned to support **Public Affairs and Forest Research in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska** traveling to numerous research station in each state.

Next it was off to **Missoula, Montana** for more public involvement assignments in **Forest Management and Protection** efforts. For one assignment, C J Newlon prepared and narrated several volumes that contain scores of Public Service Announcements, called “*New-from the Forest Service*”. Theses 15 to 30 second segments were broadcasted on radio stations reaching listeners throughout the Northwest FS regions.

Charlie then moved his family to Fairfax Virginia as he was now assigned to the Washington D.C Office where he worked on National level **Public Involvement and Environmental Education Programs**. This included the very popular and successful **Woodsy Owl, Smokey the Bear** and **Keep America Beautiful** programs. Charlie traveled a lot in the Eastern FS Region which resulted in, you guessed it, a story called “**The Orange**”. While driving home attending

the summer Allegheny Society of American Forester meeting in State College, Charlie took a break when he saw a trail head for the Appalachian Trail and grabbed the chance for a walkabout in the woods. The friendly forester of course made a new friend on the trail. He meets a fellow who was trekking the entire trail from Georgia to Maine. Charlie writes *“He stood bearded, in shorts, and sturdy boots with a heavy looking backpack. His name was Matt but his told me that his “trail name” was “Monkey” and he was from Boston, MA”* Charlie offered Monkey an orange and he eagerly accepted it. Thus, Charlie made a new friend in the woods and found another story to tell. ...friends you will have to wait to hear the rest of this story.

Charlies’ kids had just left the nest for school and careers, when he gets the call to pull up roots once again. This time he was assigned the role as the **Director of Public Affairs, Eastern Region**, stationed in Milwaukee, WI. Charlie and Barbara loved Milwaukee and soon meet lots of new friends. The people in Milwaukee were all very friendly and loved to get together and have fun, and Charlie and Barbara fit right in. Charlie found a new kick in his step and spent time in the northern forest playground camping, hiking, cross country skiing and canoeing in the outer boundary waters with his new friends.

Charlie’s next gig brought him back to the east coast to the Forest Service Office located in Broomall, Pennsylvania where he became a liaison between the **Eastern Region National Forests** and 20 NE State Foresters. Later he became an **Adjunct Professor**, sponsored by the Forest Service, at **Delaware State University** at Dover, DE. He taught **Dendrology, Intro to Forestry** and **Intro to Urban Forestry**. Later, in Pennsylvania, he taught **Arboriculture**, at **Williamson College of the Trades**.

Also, over the years he built a vast library of books, drawings, and tree identification artifact to support his work and teachings. So much so, that in 2008 the Delaware State University Herbarium established **“The Newlon CORTICARIUM”**, a collection containing over 1,000 specimens of ca. 3” x 5” bark that are curated and accessible to the scientific community. To improve the educational experience for his students he and wife Barbara collected many specimens from various trees for his classroom lectures. Including the leaves, bark, fruits, pictures, drawings from the tree. He donated these to the DESU Herbarium **“XYLARIUM” collection**. Please visit the following URL to find out more about DESU Herbarium <https://herbarium.desu.edu/collections>.

Charlie **“The Professor”** had the ability to not only absorb knowledge in all thing’s forestry and other disciplines; but he also had a unique way to articulate them in interesting ways for others

and his students could relate. He took immense pride in helping, sharing, mentoring, and teaching others. When his son was in grade school, Charlie came to Doug's school several times. Not just for attending parent-teacher after hours meetings. Charlie took off work to help Doug's science teacher by guest teaching. Charlie's efforts helped the students understand some "difficult to learn" topics. Truth-be-told, his son was very embarrassed at the time that his father was teaching his class. But in the end, the young son later in life was able to better understand scientific topics because of the "The Professor's" unique teaching approach.

For his loving daughter he spent time supporting her artistic talents. He once framed her artwork using the wood gathered from barn wood, from a painting she made of the same barn. He enthusiastically attended all her piano and dance recitals, including when she returned to the stage to dance as an adult. Along with his wife, they supported her Girl Scout days escorting the troop on camping outings. He would help both his kids with scouting events and 4-H projects that won prizes at county and state fairs. He taught them how to ski, build kites that fly, catch fish, ride bikes, build/fix things, work hard and care for others. Building the foundations to be strong, independent, and successful children.

Charlie was very active with the Society of American Foresters (SAF), and the International Society of Arboriculture. He retired from the USDA Forest Service after 40+ years but continued his forestry work. He became a self-employed Forestry Consultant in Environmental Education, National Resource Interpretation and Management. Lucky for us he also used the time to download his experiences from his photographic memory and put pen to paper creating his many stories.

Charles Newlon was also very active with New Jersey State Forestry Service, NJ SAF, and NJ Forestry Association, where he was highly respected by his peer. So much so, his colleges honored the man and his work by establishing the **"Charles Newlon Forestry Annual Forum."** A program of the Good Stewards Coalition and venue created where speakers are invited to share ideas and discuss important NJ Woodlands Stewards program topics. As one of his fellow colleges wrote:

"Charlie was an integral part of the NJ Woodland Stewards Program since its beginning in 2011. I first met Charlie at the 2015 NJWSP along with state Forester Lynn Fleming and Dr. Mark Vodak, Rutgers Cooperative Extension Forester. Charlie made the program what it was, an informative and wonderful weekend absorbed in the woods. He was an instructor for several sections of the program. His favorite contribution was with tree identification and the field

sessions. But his most memorable contributions in addition to his photographic documentation was his stories by the fireside that entertained us in the evenings.

As the Editor of the NJ Woodland Stewards Program Newsletter, Charlie, and Barbara, interviewed 14 Woodland Stewart landowners – from Cape May Point to High Point – to feature their stories in the newsletter.

Charlie announced his final retirement late in 2016 and moved to Maryland with his family. Charlie was also editor and founder of your NJ Woodland Stewards Online Newsletter before passing the responsibility to me in the spring of 2017. Please join us in remembering Charlie for his contributions to forestry over his long career. As an extension of his family, his forestry family sends condolences during this time of loss.” – John Hooven, Editor, NJ Woodland Stewards Program Online Newsletter.

But Charlie was **NOT** just a forester, he was a close friend and mentor to many, and a very devoted family man. He was a faithful loving husband to Barbara Jean (Best Mom ever) sharing a close relationship thru 64 years of happy marriage. A lot of the work that Charlie accomplished during his career as a **“Professor”** and during his post retirement forestry consulting service was only possible because of the dedicated support of his wife and partner Barbara. Her attention to detail, and artistic skills enhanced his work with her white glove touch dressing their work with a big red bow.

As all Forest Service families know, a US Forester is expected to embrace the opportunities of relocating to support the overall mission of the organization. That said, Charlie, supported by his loving wife Barbara – with kids in tow – moved quite a few times and lived in many different states across the country before, during and after his career. He lived in many wonderful cities in Colorado, Oregon, Montana, Virginia, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. You would think that all that moving his family that many times would be stressful on his family – changing friends, schools, and homes every few years. But that was farther from the truth. His kids and wife loved to **“Travel with Charlie.”** Every place they relocated was an opportunity for new adventures, meeting new friends and gather experience for stories to tell around a campfire. Frequently on weekends the family would throw a dart at state map they were living at the time. They would then take the road less traveled to explore the “tagged” destination and places along the way with eager anticipation of the treasures they always uncovered...friends you will have to wait to hear the rest of these stories and experience in a program called

“Travels with Charlie”, the adventures, the legend of the “Big Kahuna” that we are producing in honor of Charles’ great life of adventures and accomplishments.

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Coming Events

No ANSAF Summer Meeting due to hosting National Convention in September, 2022

Future SAF National Conventions

2022: Baltimore, MD
September 20-24

2023: Sacramento, CA
October 23-28

2024: Colorado

2025: New England

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