

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
PO Box 667 Honey Brook, PA 19344
www.alleghenysaf.org
Editor: Susan Lacy (ansaf@comcast.net)

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Cover Photo

Tom Davidson leading Student Forum (Photo by Rich Widmann)

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Chair's Corner – Making the Case for Forestry

Steven W. Koehn



As I sit down to pen this installment of the Chairman's Corner for the Allegheny News, it seems to me that in this season of budget decisions, (the end to the Continuing Resolution which keeps the federal government open in funded expires April 24, the President's "skinny" budget which calls for a 21% budget cut to USDA and similar significant reductions to other natural resource agencies, and the general notion that the states should be expected to step in and start delivering additional services without additional funding), there is no better time to aggressively make the case for forestry as the low cost solution for many of the environmental challenges that we are dealing with today and await us in the future.

Since seventy percent of the land is forested and since fifty eight percent of those forests in the contiguous United States are privately owned, publicly supported conservation programs have broad-reaching effects on trees, forests and wildlife population habitats. These conservation programs generate mutual stacked benefits for state and federal agencies and provide society with clean air, improved water quality, and healthier soil, and protect and enhance habitat quality while keeping farmers, ranchers, and forest owners on the land. Collaborative efforts between state and local jurisdictions, tribes, environmental non-governmental organizations, private landowners, and USDA are important and essential to achieving our conservation goals. These coalitions also provide valuable knowledge, expertise, and resources to federal partners and private landowners participating in voluntary, incentive-based conservation programs.

Over and over again during my career as a forester working primarily with private forestlands, I have heard the familiar reframe, "why should public resources be spent on private forests"? The case for such investments on public lands is easy, but for some, the rationale for publicly supporting private landowners or local communities is harder to grasp. We all know as natural resource professionals that the ecosystem services provided by forests are **public values that we all depend on** and which the lives of all of us immeasurably better. Since 58% of our forests are privately owned, we cannot ignore the necessity to work with the owners of this precious resource to ensure its continued sustainability. "Why should public resources be spent on private forests"? My simple answer to this question is that as long as public values flow from private lands, there is an unequivocal nexus for public funding, stakeholder collaboratives and public-private coalitions.

The fate of the Continuing Resolution or potential appropriations bill, and upcoming legislation like the 2018 Farm Bill are opportunities to improve the design and implementation of conservation programs, as well as increase the benefits to farmers, ranchers, forest owners, and taxpayers. SAF at both the national and local levels stand ready and committed to working with Congress and the new Administration to pass a meaningful legislation and reforms that deliver strong conservation programs from which all of us benefit.

Please see the attached letters that have been circulating among national conservation organizations urging elected officials to be mindful and supportive of programs that support trees and forests and in turn the ecosystem services and public values that flow from them. As you will see, SAF national has signed onto these letters and I feel that local SAF chapters should also consider doing so, as well as using the information contained in these letters to educate congressional delegations and General Assembly members as to the value of trees and forests. ***Now is the time to make the case for forestry!!***

**Written Testimony of the Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition
To the House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
March 23, 2016**

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert, Ranking Member McCollum, and Honorable Committee Members:

The Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC) represents more than 30 national organizations and corporations who care and advocate for sustainable trees and green infrastructure where people live. Collectively, we are asking for your support for several programs under the Interior Subcommittee's jurisdiction that support urban forests and green infrastructure.

Our nation's 138 million acres of urban forests are vital to creating and maintaining healthy, livable communities of all sizes by providing scientifically proven social, economic, and environmental benefits to people living in populated areas. The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council unveiled its Ten-Year Action Plan to advance urban forests nationwide. A key goal of the plan is to improve urban forest management, maintenance and stewardship. Caring for trees and landscapes in cities and towns creates a substantial demand for greencollar jobs in a sector poised for rapid growth. With a projected 90% of Americans living in urbanized areas by 2050, investing in livable communities needs to happen now.

SUFC is conscious and respectful of the federal budget challenges. It is critical that decision makers are aware that the relatively small investment in our funding requests result in a leveraged positive return through matching funds, preventive measures, and community health and welfare benefits.

USDA Forest Service: State and Private Forestry

• **Urban and Community Forestry Program (U&CF)**

U&CF plays an integral part in promoting sound stewardship of our nation's urban and community forests and trees. By providing important technical and financial support, U&CF helps cities, suburbs, and towns across the nation enhance tree and forest cover, prepare for storms and other disturbance events, contain threats from native and invasive pests, and maximize the economic, social, and ecological benefits of their tree resources. In FY 2015, U&CF again increased its impact - reaching over 200 million people in over 7,700 communities across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, US Territories, and affiliated Pacific Island Nations. U&CF is a high-impact program and a smart investment as federal support is often leveraged 2:1 (or in many cases significantly more) by states and partner organizations. As a model federal program, U&CF consistently increases communities served, brings together diverse partners and resources, and shows that federal investment can have huge and lasting impacts on communities of all sizes.

SUFC is very concerned with the significant decrease (16%) in the U&CF program in the President's FY 2017 budget. In testimony before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, USDA Forest Service Chief Tidwell attributed the U&CF decrease to the increase in funding for the Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) program. While U&CF projects have the opportunity to compete for grant funding under LSR, the SUFC does not support shifting funds from U&CF to LSR. LSR is a complement to the U&CF program, not a replacement. The proposed 16% reduction in U&CF will have negative impacts in states and territories across the country, affecting many local public and private partners and collaborative projects in which federal assistance has been essential.

The decrease will erode the capacity that has been developed in cities and towns of all sizes through the technical and financial assistance delivered by state forestry agencies in partnership with the U&CF program. **SUFC recommends the Urban and Community Forestry Program be funded at \$31.3 million in FY 2017.**

- **Community Forests and Open Space Conservation Program (CFP)**

CFP has made substantial progress in preserving forests by increasing opportunities for Americans to connect with forests in their own communities and fostering new public-private partnerships. CFP has supported 27 community forest projects in cities and towns across 15 states and territories. In the latest round of CFP grants, project partners leveraged \$8.7 million in federal funds to secure \$31.8 million in non-federal funding. As a result of these partnerships, more than 14,000 acres of private forestlands have been or soon will be acquired to create new or expand existing community forests. **SUFC recommends an increase in funds to \$5 million.**

- **Forest Health Management**

Forests across the country are threatened by insects and disease pathogens introduced from abroad as an unwanted side effect of international trade. The damage usually starts in urban forests because most imported goods go to cities. As a result, municipal governments across the country are spending an estimated \$3 billion each year to remove trees on city property killed by non-native pests. Homeowners are spending an additional \$1 billion to remove and replace trees on their properties and are absorbing an additional \$1.5 billion in reduced property values. The pests do not stay in the cities, however. They spread to the rural and wildland forests and threaten their many values. Examples include the emerald ash borer – now killing forest trees from New England to the Great Plains; and the polyphagous and Kuroshio shot hole borers now killing trees in southern California riparian areas. While preventing introductions is the desired approach, it is essential that the Forest Service initiate programs countering these pests as soon as they are detected. Forest Health Management program provides essential expertise and assistance to state and municipal agencies and private landowners working to prevent these pests' spread and to develop effective strategies to minimize the damage they cause. **SUFC recommends \$48 million for cooperative lands programs under the Forest Health Management program.**

USDA Forest Service: Forest and Rangeland Research

SUFC urges the Subcommittee to provide funding of \$303 million for the overall R&D program.

- **Urban Forestry Research**

The Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) program provides critical financial support for urban forestry research activities to develop information and tools for understanding conditions and trends in our nation's urban and community forests. Forest Service researchers have made huge strides in recent years through collaborative efforts to develop new tools, such as i-Tree, for mapping current tree cover, assessing trends, developing local strategies, and building greater understanding of the environmental, economic, and social services that trees and forests provide to communities. **We urge the Subcommittee to continue including language in Interior Appropriations reports encouraging the Forest Service to maintain a strong and vibrant urban forest research program.**

- **Non-native Insects and Diseases Research**

Among the major research challenges facing R&D, SUFC believes, is the destruction of our nation's urban forests caused by non-native insects and diseases. People who value urban forests join supporters of rural and wildland forests in depending on Forest Service R&D to develop better tools for pest detection and protective strategies including chemical and biological controls and breeding of trees resistant to pests. Currently, however, R&D provides only about \$5 million for research on non-native insects and diseases—less than two percent of its total budget. **In the absence of a budget line item for invasive species research, we urge the Subcommittee to include language in its Interior Appropriations report encouraging the Forest Service to increase funding for research targeting non-native insects and pathogens.**

- **Urban Forest in Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA)**

The SUFC also wishes to call the Subcommittee's attention to our collaborative efforts with the Forest Service to bring urban forest data into the mainstream of the agency's national data-collection program. FIA has long provided the nation's forest census, but it has not historically included urban areas because of its definition of forests. **We ask the Subcommittee to encourage the Forest Service to continue and strengthen its efforts to integrate urban forest data into FIA so that its critical data-collection efforts address all of our nation's forests, including our current and expanding 138 million acres of urban forest.**

Environmental Protection Agency

- **Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF)**

Green infrastructure, of which urban forests play a significant part, is a cost-effective and resilient approach to stormwater infrastructure needs that provides many community co-benefits: improving water and air quality; reducing a community's infrastructure cost and promoting economic growth. SUFC supports the EPA's goal of strengthening green infrastructure activities by incorporating green infrastructure and enhancing stormwater management. In FY 2016, funding was reduced in the President's Budget but restored by Congress to \$1.39 billion, resulting in only a small reduction for the current fiscal year. In FY 2017, the President's Budget proposes an unprecedented cut to the CWSRF to just \$979.5 million. **SUFC asks the Subcommittee to restore the CWSRF to the enacted FY15 level of \$1.45 billion. SUFC also supports efforts to expand the use of green infrastructure to 20% to meet Clean Water Act goals through the CWSRF.**

- **Urban Waters Federal Partnership**

The Partnership is a unique 13 agency coordinated effort that helps stimulate local economies, create jobs, improve quality of life, and protect health by revitalizing urban waterways and the communities around them, focusing on underserved urban communities of all sizes. Partnership projects serve as a laboratory for developing and implementing innovative approaches to using Federal resources more efficiently and effectively – targeting investments and leveraging local leaders and community partners. **SUFC supports the Urban Waters Federal Partnership, coordinated by the Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water.**

The National Park Service

- **Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLPP)**

SUFC supports robust funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) as reflected in the President's FY 2017 budget. The State and Local Assistance Program provides matching grants to states and localities for protection and development of parks and recreation resources and is the primary federal investment tool to ensure that families have easy access to urban forests in parks and open space, and neighborhood recreation resources. This nationally competitive program complements the existing state and local assistance program by creating opportunities for outdoor play as well as developing or enhancing outdoor recreation partnerships in cities. **SUFC supports the President's FY 2017 request of \$110 million for the state and local assistance program, which includes \$12 million for ORLPP.**

- **Urban Parks Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR)**

The reestablishment of UPARR within the National Parks Service, proposed to be funded through LWCF, is essential to bring nature to the urban communities. These competitive grants focus on engaging and connecting communities, especially young people, to their neighborhood parks through projects that would revitalize and rehabilitate park and recreation opportunities. **SUFC supports the President's FY 2017 request of \$25 million for the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR).**

The Fish and Wildlife Service

- **Urban Wildlife Refuges**

With 101 refuges within 25 miles of 250,000 or more people, the Refuge System is a vital component of our urban forests. FWS also engages with 17 urban communities not directly connected to FWS refuges. SUFC agrees that the more engagement of individuals with their surrounding urban forests, the more they will come to understand and appreciate nature in and around their communities. **SUFC supports the Refuge Visitor Service at \$80.38 million with the additional \$5.5 million above FY2016 enacted level to support the Urban Wildlife Refuges.**

Sincerely,

Alliance for Community Trees
American Forests
American Planning Association
American Public Works Association
American Rivers
American Society of Consulting Arborists
American Society of Landscape Architects
Arbor Day Foundation
Bartlett Tree Foundation
California ReLeaf
Center for Chesapeake Communities
Center for Invasive Species Prevention
International Society of Arboriculture
National Assoc. of Clean Water Agencies

National Association of Conservation Districts
National Association of Landscape Professionals
National Association of State Foresters
National Recreation and Park Association
Outdoor Power Equipment Industry
Society of American Foresters
Society of Municipal Arborists
Student Conservation Association
The Davey Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
Tree Care Industry Association
Trust for Public Lands
Utility Arborist Association
Water Environment Federation

FY 18 Budget – Letter to Congress

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee
on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

The President's fiscal year (FY) 17 appropriations request and anticipated FY18 budget proposal reflect difficult budget decisions. They also reflect the ever-increasing costs of wildfires and the budget constraints that challenge presents. We request that Congress fix the escalating wildfire funding problem. Without a solution to this critical issue, it will be difficult to address the many challenges facing America's forests, including wildfires, insects and diseases. The deleterious impacts to the economies of rural American communities as well as the watersheds and wildlife habitat they depend upon continue to be significant.

In this tight budget climate, the undersigned organizations support investments in key federal key programs that support state and private forestry in our rural communities. Even though we recommend funding levels for key rural programs at levels we've previously recommended, we recognize this is a difficult budget climate and look forward to working with the Committee and with the new

Administration as budget details are released. These programs help to conserve and improve America's forests and are critically important to sustain. Additionally, they enhance and protect our drinking water, contribute to healthy, livable communities, and encourage forest product innovation and utilization which helps the nation to foster strong economic growth.

The USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry Area (S&PF) as well as key program areas in the National Forest System, Wildland Fire Management Forest and Rangeland Research and Capital Improvement and Maintenance, serve as linchpins for the conservation of America's rural forests. Providing this important technical and financial assistance to private landowners and the resource managers responsible for managing more than 60 percent of America's rural forests helps to increase the pace of work and on-the-ground results, improve the resilience of the nation's forests, and protect communities and the environment from forest pests, invasive species, and wildland fires.

In FY 2017 and FY 2018, funding for the following State and Private Forestry and related programs will help improve the health of the nation's rural forests and encourage economic growth in a sector that sustains more than one million jobs in the United States. Our funding level requests include:

- **\$29 million for the Forest Stewardship Program:** Administered in cooperation with state forestry agencies, this program plays a fundamental role in keeping forests as forests. Forest insects, diseases and wildfire know no bounds between federal and non-federal forests. Assisting some of the 22 million private forest owners in managing non-federal forests can help minimize the impacts to federal lands, saving the federal taxpayer millions of dollars. A forest landowner with a forest stewardship plan is almost three times more likely to actively manage his or her land than one without a plan, leading to jobs and rural economic stimulus. Those who have stewardship plans are actively managing their lands for wildlife, clean water and forest products. Ninety percent of the nation's wood supply comes from private lands.
- **\$107 million for the Forest Health Management Programs - \$59 million Federal Lands and \$48 million for Cooperative Lands:** Pests and disease are national problems affecting private and public lands. Nationally, their impact is in the tens of billions of dollars. The USDA Forest Service Forest Health Management Program supports efforts to prevent, contain, and eradicate these costly and dangerous pests and pathogens affecting trees and forests.
- **\$87 million for State Fire Assistance and \$15 million for Volunteer Fire Assistance Programs:** Ninety percent of the nation's wildfires are human-caused and most of these starts are on state and private lands (which often spread to federal lands). Initial attack is the key to reducing large fire costs and these programs are critical to these suppression efforts. State and volunteer fire crews provide much of that initial attack response and are deployed to assist on federal fires and other emergency and disaster situations, in compliance with national safety and training standards.
- **\$23 million for Landscape Scale Restoration:** The USDA Forest Service works collaboratively with states and other partners using State Forest Action Plans to target limited resources to the highest priority forest needs across ownerships to achieve results with meaningful local, regional and national impacts.
- **\$83 million for Forest Inventory and Analysis:** This is our country's forest census, which has been ongoing since 1930. The collection and reporting of this information in a timely manner is

vital for forest industry and others in planning their future economic investments based on availability of forest raw materials.

While not specifying suggested budget levels, we want to also call your attention to the need for funding research, which provides the basis for policies that improve the health and quality of urban and rural communities, including helping expand markets. A combination of responsible forest management combined with a healthy forest market will benefit the forest landscape and the rural communities that live in and around them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adelante Consulting, Inc.
Aldo Leopold Foundation
Alliance of Landowners Associations
American Chestnut Foundation
American Forest and Paper Association
American Forest Foundation
American Forests
American Wood Council
Arkansas Forestry Association
Association of Consulting Foresters
Carbon Verde
Connecticut Forest and Park Association
Florida Forestry Association
Forest Resources Association
Forest Stewards Guild
Forestry Assoc. of South Carolina
Green Forests Work
The Hardwood Federation
IN Forestry & Woodland Owners Assoc.
Intermountain Forest Association
Kansas Forestry Association
Kansas Tree Farm Committee
Kentucky Forest Industries Assoc.
L&C Carbon
The Lyme Timber Company

Maine Woodland Owners
Michigan Forest Association
Minnesota Forest Industries
National Alliance of Forest Owners
National Assoc. of Conservation Districts
National Assoc. of Forest Service Retirees
National Assoc. of State Foresters
Natl. Assoc. of Univ. Forest Resources Programs
National Wild Turkey Federation
National Wildlife Federation
National Woodland Owners Association
The Nature Conservancy
New York Forest Owners Association
Northern Forest Center
Oregon Small Woodlands Association
Rayonier Advanced Materials
Resource Management Service, LLC
Ruffed Grouse Society
Society of American Foresters
Sustainable Forestry Initiative
Texas Forestry Association
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Vermont Woodlands Associations
Virginia Forestry Association
Washington Farm Forestry Association

District VII Board of Directors Report

Rachel Reyna, CF



Greetings Allegheny SAFers!

I trust that 2017 is treating all of you well. It has certainly been a bit overly-eventful for me. Many of you know that I had some surgery towards the end of March to remove a very large cyst from the back of my heart. I can't tell you enough how much I appreciate the well-wishes many of you expressed. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I am very grateful that all went miraculously well and I was back to work after only a few weeks off. My first day back at work

was to attend the SAF Board meeting in Bethesda. There is much to report to you, so without further ado, I will begin...

SAF Budget and Organization Transparency

You may have read the recent *Source* article by President Cubbage (March 2017), and the subsequent letter to the editor (May 2017) discussing the fact that SAF has made some decisions to withdraw funds from the sale of the Grosvenor Estate property in order to close a large operating deficit. This decision was not made lightly and was made only after much spirited debate. I can assure you that each and every decision-maker in the room takes his/her duty to steward SAF's fiscal resources very seriously. In an effort to facilitate transparency, I will attempt to briefly describe the two prevailing schools of thought in the room. In a nutshell, the first concept is to have a balanced budget, and to protect the balance of the reserve funds and operate only off of the interest, making sure to follow the instructions set forward in SAF's Investment Policy. I don't believe anyone disagrees that this is the optimal situation and is what everyone would like to see.

The differences of opinion begin when considering the potential long-term realities of large budget cuts. SAF has seen membership growth in the last few years, right around the 3% range. This is not a huge number, but remember that we have been in significant decline over the last many decades, so any increase is good news and indicates positive progress. Some Board members (including myself) are concerned that, now that we have some traction in gaining new members, there is a substantial risk that financial austerity would put us back on a path of decline due to less resources to invest in member recruitment and retention efforts, which include the variety of member services and benefits that SAF offers. Given our membership demographic, there is great concern that even a few years of diminished member recruitment/retention efforts and services could place us in a downward spiral that could be very difficult, perhaps even impossible, to reverse, especially since our proportion of Golden (50-year) Members is on the increase, and because they are not required to pay dues (though some continue to pay as a donation), financial gaps could continue to widen even more without enough new members coming in. The risks to SAF mentioned in this paragraph are hard to quantify in dollar amounts, but it would have been irresponsible of the Board not to consider them, as they are very relevant to the overall health of the Society.

The Board considered various facets of these two prevailing arguments, and as you might guess, opinions about which scenario presented the greater overall risk to SAF differed among members.

The good news is that the predictions from the investment "gurus" are positive related to interest that could be earned on the reserves this calendar year. If this is the case - and only time will tell whether it will indeed be the case - the financial situation will obviously look much better. Another piece of good news is that, though the Board did approve a significant draw from the reserve this year, we also approved efforts that will take us on a "glide path" that is intended to get SAF back to a balanced budget in a maximum of 5 years, while working to replenish the reserves. Please see the direct language of the motion and related amendment below:

Primary Proposal:

Pass the budget as presented on Table 5 (of budget plan document). Vote to support a \$3.6 million budget for 2017. This anticipates up to a \$719 K draw from the SAF reserve. VOTE: 8-6 motion carries.

Amendment:

Present target of revenue increases and cost cuts for next 5 years to include in a balanced budget plan. Develop a concrete plan to replenish the reserve fund as stated in the investment policy. This needs to be accomplished by the August 2017 meeting. VOTE: 8-6 motion carries

Note: in an effort to increase overall transparency, SAF will be placing its budget and various other financial documents, as well as items like Board meeting minutes, on the members' website within 30 days after approval by the Board.

Please remember that a balanced operating budget is desired by all Board members and we look forward to this becoming a reality, while also continuing to offer the excellent member recruitment/retention and services that keep our Society strong and vibrant.

Diversity and Inclusion

I am pleased to report that the Board unanimously approved a very succinct, yet meaningful, Diversity and Inclusion Policy. State society leaders and other members were included in the development of the policy over the past year. The policy reads:

SAF Diversity and Inclusion Policy:

The Society of American Foresters is committed to diversity and inclusion in our leadership, membership, programs, and activities. SAF seeks to connect with those who value forests and their benefits, creating an abundance of dedicated professionals and volunteers eager and willing to advance the sustainable management of our forest resources. SAF strives to promote an environment designed to embrace our differences in which all community members are welcomed and valued. Successfully engaging people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives strengthens our communities, provides essential resources, and creates thriving forests. Broad participation by diverse people within our membership, the forestry community, partner organizations, landowners, and other stakeholders is essential to fulfilling our mission.

The Board would like to share success stories and highlight positive actions by local units, so please feel free to share anything with me that I can pass along. We have already seen positive outcomes, including the creation of a new Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (which includes several people from District 7) and a Diversity Leadership Award (with 2017 as its inaugural year). I am happy to discuss the policy with you and/or your local unit. The Board is also seeking ideas from local leaders on how to ensure that SAF fosters a welcoming community of forestry and natural resource professionals. In the near future, expect to see several items related to the policy (1) a letter from President Fred Cabbage and CEO Matt Menashes, (2) an article in *The Forestry Source* by Jim Thinnes and myself, and (3) a summary in *The E-Forester*.

New Member-Get-a-Member Campaign

To continue (and even improve) the positive membership trajectory of the last few years, SAF is launching a new "Member-Get-A-Member Program." This program encourages SAF members to sponsor new members by providing recruitment tools and prizes. SAF will begin by rolling out the program to local leaders (via HSD, followed by all levels of local leadership), who will provide staff with valuable feedback so that the program can be tweaked prior to rolling it out to the entire membership.

The program is structured to allow new members to identify a sponsor when they join online at www.eforester.org/JoinNow (paper applications can also be used). Sponsors will receive SAF-branded prizes for each member recruited. There will also be a "leader board" that will encourage friendly competition by showing the sponsors who have recruited the most members. Keep an eye out for these materials in the near future. Ready... Set... Go get-a-member!

MOU Signed Between Allegheny and National Capital SAF

This past January, ANSAF Chair Steve Koehn, NCSAF Chair Rocco Saracina, and I signed an MOU to ensure that NCSAF members have an adequate chance to periodically have one of their members represent District 7 on the National Board of Directors. Please see the accompanying copy of the MOU, which describes why we put this into place and how we plan to carry out the intentions.

Seeking Candidates for District 7 Board Seat

It has been longer than three cycles since NCSAF has had a representative on the National SAF Board of Directors. This means that we now get to test out our newly signed MOU (mentioned above). Since my term is ending at the close of this year, I am looking for candidates to run for the Board – and since our MOU is now instated, I am doing as we agreed and am looking to solicit two nominations from NCSAF. If we can only find one, that is ok, as the MOU plans for that eventuality. If we cannot locate any nominees from NCSAF, I will then reach out to ANSAF for candidates.

I am happy to chat with anyone that has questions or wants to get more of an idea of what the Board experience is like – or if you want to chat about someone that you feel is a good candidate.

New District 7 Student Executive Committee Representative

District 7 welcomes its newest Student Executive Committee Representative: Julie Conway. Julie is a student at Allegany College of Maryland. She is a new SAF member and is looking forward to contributing. Her participation is also very exciting because, to the knowledge of anyone I've talked to, Julie is the very first tech student to represent any SAF district. Please give Julie a warm District 7 welcome!

SAF Office Building

The SAF board continues to consider the physical condition of the SAF office building and options for repair (no decisions have been made to-date). SAF purchased its headquarters building in Bethesda, Maryland, in 1973. The building is 90 years old, and has about 10,800 square feet of office space. An Ad Hoc Presidential Committee was created to review the merits of retaining the SAF national office building or seeking other options for SAF's offices. The committee will evaluate pros and cons using a number of criteria: options for optimal delivery of SAF programs and member services; how various options would affect staff; operating and repair costs versus rental costs; potential impacts on development and fund raising; and maintaining the legacy of initial donors. The committee's goal is to provide a report to the Board by July 2017, which the Board will review at its August 2017 meeting. In order to complete proper due diligence, the Committee will investigate a few selected locations in other cities. The Committee also is obtaining appraisals of the property and advice from experts in office locations, as well as an expert in historic restoration referred by a Board member.

Gottschalk Science Fund

A hearty thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Kurt Gottschalk Science Fund! Members in our district have made substantial donations that are greatly appreciated. The fund continues to grow. There is still a way to go until we reach the \$200,000 goal. The dollar-for-dollar matching opportunity is still available, so please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Contributions can be made online using the following links: <http://www.eforester.org/donate> or <http://tinyurl.com/SAFgottschalk>

Vice Presidential Candidacy

As a final piece of information, I am excited to let you all know that you will see my name on the upcoming ballot for SAF Vice President. I was very honored and humbled to be asked to run. This would not have been possible if I had not had the opportunity to serve all of you throughout the years. I am so thankful to have so many people who encourage and support me – and who provide opportunities to contribute. I am also very thankful to my Bureau's leadership, who supports employees taking roles of responsibility in SAF. Please keep an eye out for my full campaign info, which will be in upcoming issue(s) of The Source. I appreciate your continued support as I work towards this new goal of service to SAF.

Thanks to all of you for what you do for SAF and the forestry profession as a whole.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the
ALLEGHENY SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS,
the NATIONAL CAPITAL SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
and the
SAF DISTRICT 7 REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NATIONAL BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

PURPOSE:

With this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the Allegheny Society of American Foresters (ANSAF), the National Capital Society of American Foresters (NCSAF), and the SAF District 7 Board Representative commit to providing fair and equitable leadership opportunities for the members of each unit, specifically in reference to the District 7 seat on the National Society of American Foresters Board of Directors.

BACKGROUND:

SAF's District 7 seat on the Board of Directors represents both the ANSAF and NCSAF. ANSAF membership is comprised of 700+ forestry professionals from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware. NCSAF boasts 180+ members that work in the nation's capital. Because ANSAF has many times more members than NCSAF, NCSAF candidates for the District 7 Board seat often find it difficult to secure enough votes to win the election when running against someone from ANSAF. This leads to a feeling of inequity and discouragement among NCSAF members, who are very active and have much to offer District 7. Over the years, attempts have been made to ensure that NCSAF periodically has the opportunity to represent the District, but these arrangements have normally been "handshake" situations, and thus are often forgotten through the ongoing succession of leadership.

OBJECTIVES:

- To create a sensible solution ensuring that NCSAF has the opportunity for periodic representation on the SAF Board, on behalf of District 7
- To encode the solution(s), via formal agreement between ANSAF, NCSAF, and the District 7 Board Representative in order to better withstand the test of time

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. At least one year prior to the election year, the current District 7 Representative will contact the chairs of the ANSAF and NCSAF to discuss members from their entity that might be good candidates for the District 7 seat on the National Board of Directors.
2. Ideally, the current District 7 Representative will put forward at least one nominee from ANSAF and at least one nominee from NCSAF; however, it is possible that there would be two candidates from a single entity.
3. If District 7 has gone through three election cycles (a total of 9 years) without a District 7 Representative coming out of the NCSAF membership, the current District 7 Representative will speak with the chairs from both organizations, remind them of this MOU, and will seek at least one or two candidates from the NCSAF membership and zero candidates from the ANSAF membership.

4. If there are no willing candidates from NCSAF in step 3 above, then the District 7 Representative will seek candidates from the ANSAF membership.

EFFECTIVE PERIOD:

This MOU will become effective upon signature. The term of the agreement shall be three years. At that point, the agreement will be reviewed and modified, as appropriate. Should a new agreement not be signed at the three year mark, this document shall remain in effect as guidance until a new document replaces it or until it is otherwise modified or terminated.

MODIFICATIONS:

This MOU can be modified by mutual written agreement among the parties.

SIGNATORIES:

The undersigned individuals hereby execute the MOU on behalf of the parties they represent.

Steven Koehn, Chair
Allegheny Society of American Foresters

Date

Rocco Saracina, Chair
National Capital Society of American Foresters

Date

Rachel Reyna, District 7 Board Representative
Society of American Foresters

Date

**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
2017 Winter Meeting
February 15-17, 2017**

Randall Morin, Valley Forge Chapter Chair (photos by Rich Widmann)



The 2017 Winter Meeting was hosted by the Valley Forge Chapter of the Pennsylvania Division in Wyomissing, PA. Randy Morin, Valley Forge Chapter Chair, opened the meeting on Thursday morning February 16. The quote behind Randy, from Henry David Thoreau, was a thoughtful way to start our discussion of forestry issues in a mixed urban-rural setting: "A town is saved, not more by the righteous citizens within it, than by the woods that surround it..." Southeastern Pennsylvania was an ideal location to bring together a group of professionals from big cities, small towns, and rural areas for a meeting focused around the theme, *Rural and Urban Ecosystem Health in the Mid-Atlantic Region*.

The well attended meeting offered participants an opportunity for networking with other natural resource professionals and provided invaluable information on issues relevant to the forestry profession with the goal of sharing knowledge and resources needed by rural and urban foresters to be successful in the future.



Several training opportunities, including Pesticide Certification and Tree Farm Inspector Certification, were offered on Wednesday, February 15th. Thanks to Todd Hagenbuch of Arborchem Products and Dave Jackson of Penn State Extension for providing the certification opportunities for our members. The Executive Committee meeting followed the training sessions, and the icebreaker reception Wednesday evening offered attendees a chance to socialize with new and old friends.



Steve Koehn, (above left) Allegheny SAF Chair and Director of Cooperative Forestry for the USDA Forest Service, and Al Todd, (above right)Executive Director of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, kicked off the meeting on Thursday with plenary presentations focused on the direction of forest management in rural and urban settings and forestry-related solutions for the Bay, respectively. Matt Menashes, CEO of National

SAF, gave an update about membership trends during lunch. Matt also presented Richard Lewis, one of our Executive Committee members, with his 50 year membership certificate. Thanks Richard for all you do! The rest of a very busy Thursday included 6 concurrent technical sessions covering topics ranging from biomass utilization to community forestry. Our first ever student forum was held on Thursday afternoon.



Tom Davidson of Leadership Nature (and now Chair of Appalachian SAF) led a discussion on leadership and interview preparation (see cover photo).

After the technical sessions, the annual Quiz Bowl pitted teams from Allegany College of Maryland, Penn State-Mont Alto, Penn State-University Park, and West Virginia University against one another in a competition of forestry knowledge. The winning Allegany College team received an award plaque to document their victory. Proceeds from Sponsor-A-Student registrations and the Silent Auction were used to help offset the cost of attendance for student attendees, and the remaining funds can be used for the same purpose at the 2018 Winter Meeting.



Later that evening, awards were presented during the Banquet Dinner. Award winners included Charlie Newlon (below left - Outstanding Service to Forestry), George Zimmerman (Forester of the Year), and Eric Yetter (below right - Student Leadership). An excellent presentation from John Goodall, Brandywine Conservancy, about farmland preservation and water quality followed dinner.



Jonathan Kays with Bob Williams accepting for George Zimmerman



John Goodall at banquet presentation

Friday morning began with the Chair's Breakfast. This was followed by two more concurrent technical sessions covering water quality and forest health. The meeting concluded with a final plenary presentation by Dr. Jim Finley in what was likely his last chance to speak to the Allegheny Society's members as an employee of Penn State. Congrats on a wonderful career Jim!

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the planning committee – Susan Lacy, Bob Girvin, Terry Hoffman, Rich Widmann, Jeff Stuffle, Steve Kalleser, and Mark Buccowich – as well as Jack Perdue, all the speakers, student sponsors, and anyone else I may have forgotten. We also thank our sponsors the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, Arborchem Products, Leadership Nature, and the PA Division of SAF.

**Allegheny SAF Winter Training
Executive Committee Meeting
February 15, 2017**

Attendance: Susan Lacy, Steve Resh, Dave Trimpey, Melissa Thomas Van-Gundy, Richard Lewis, Mike Kusko, Joe Glover, Bob Merrill, Brad Elison, Dick Schwab, Steve Kallessen, Tim Slavin, Randy Morin, Steve Koehn, Brian Seipp, Kip Powers, Terry Hoffman, Dennis Galway
Action items in **bold**.

Minutes from last meeting:

- Committee approves the minutes as published in the Allegheny News (motioned by Steve Kallessen and seconded by Dick Schwab)

Treasurer's Report and 2017 Budget (Steve Resh):

- Total paid out in 2016 was \$20,050.12 and total taken in was \$17,019.54
- Grant to NJ Division (\$2,080) was paid out of the checking account rather than the endowment account due to the endowment fund being below \$50K. As of Jan. 2017 the endowment fund is now at \$56K (gained 16.3% for the year).
 - Committee discussed paying the checking account back out of the endowment fund but agreed to leave the money in the endowment fund for now.
- Steve Resh suggested that the expense of collecting chapter dues (\$1-2 per person) may not be worth the effort of collecting and distributing. A few options were discussed:
 - Raise the chapter dues to something that will generate enough money to make the effort worthwhile
 - Drop the chapter dues completely
 - Collect the "local" dues only at the Division level
- Allegheny SAF needs to complete an audit for 2016. **Steve Koehn will ask for volunteers during the Winter Meeting and/or business meeting.**
- The committee discussed the cost of travel for officers to attend the National Convention. The 2017 budget allows for \$2000 for officer travel (\$1,000 each for 2 people). If expenses exceed \$1,000 per person, the committee can have a discussion about providing more travel funds.

Chair's Report out on National Convention:

- Steve Koehn shared his experience about meeting with Deans. Discussions focused on recruitment and diversity.
- Steve Koehn encouraged committee members to serve as mentors.
- Rachel and Dennis discussed some of the topics from the House of Society Delegates meeting: state societies suggested some issues that need research, new diversity and inclusion policy, membership issues, and non-dues revenue.

Board of Directors Rep Report:

- Rachel shared info about a MOU that has been signed with National Capitol to allow for candidates from their Division if they have not been represented for 3 cycles.

- Rachel's term on the Board is almost up. Based on the time since the last Board member from National Capitol her replacement may need to come from National Capitol.
- Rachel asked for folks to consider making nominations for the Presidential Field Forester award (due date is March 15, 2017).
- Rachel mentioned a couple new awards:
 - Employer Leadership Award – e.g., employer who has been very supporting of SAF
 - Student Leadership
 - Diversity Leadership
- Steve Koehn asks that if anyone in Allegheny SAF submits nominations for national awards should cc the Division Chair and the Awards Chair so that we are all aware of who is getting nominated.
- Rachel reminded the committee that you should check to see if someone is Fellow.

Executive Director's Update:

- Susan purchased some t-shirts that will be for sale during the meeting.
- Susan has been working on getting a sales tax exemption for a non-profit organization. After 15 months the state has denied the request because professional associations have been deemed to not be purely charitable organizations.
- Susan is on track to get the tax return submitted (just waiting on Keystone and Valley Forge treasurer's reports).
- Susan brought up the committees in the Division, many of which are not active. **Steve Kalleser will reach out to committee chairs to check status.**
- Melissa T. and Jaime Schuler are planning to submit a proposal for funding from the KGFSF and asks for the Division's support. The committee members agreed to support the proposal.
- Rachel brought up an idea about augmenting the Executive Director's stipend via extra donations from the Executive Committee.

Program Committee Report:

- Recent work includes revising the Guide for Planning Division Meetings. **Steve Kalleser asks that committee members review the "guide" and give him feedback within 30 days.**
- Steve Kalleser discussed the idea of organizing a mid-Atlantic/northeast leadership training. An email has been circulated to ANSAF, NYSAF, New England SAF, and National Capitol SAF. He is still awaiting responses from some Division/Chapters. Steve Koehn suggested potentially using resources that may be available through FS Grey Towers. Dennis suggested emphasizing student attendance via funding support. **Dennis volunteers to serve as a liaison to this group from Allegheny SAF.**

Report out from Upcoming Summer 2017 and Winter 2018 Meetings:

- Plateau Chapter, Sep. 20-22, 2017, Clarion, PA
 - Dave Trimpey reports that things are going well. Theme is SILVAH.
 - Planning a full-day field tour on Wed, Sep. 20th.
- Keystone Chapter, Winter 2018, Gettysburg, PA
 - Richard Lewis reports that plans are underway.
 - Likely dates are Feb. 21-23, 2018. Dennis suggested that these dates might conflict with a Tree Farm training/meeting.

- Rich is requesting \$3K of funding from the Division or State to hold the banquet at the Gettysburg Visitor Center.

Membership Committee Report (Dennis):

- Dennis reports that Allegheny currently has a membership of 724.
- Steve Koehn asked if membership outreach could be something that the Communications Committee could work on?

Officers for Election (Mike Kusko):

- Election will be held in Oct. Currently working on recruiting candidates.

Chapter Chair Reports:

- NJ – provided a written report
- MD/DE – National Envirothon is in MD this year and the MD chapter is providing some funding.
- WV – Boy Scout Jamborees are coming up in WV. SAF will have some presence.

Kays Awards Proposals:

- Jonathan announced that several awards to do have recipients this year.
- New awards:
 - Allegheny SAF Chair Award – Allows the Chair to personally recognize a member for strong effort in the previous year
 - Early Career Award – Recognizes outstanding leadership by a young forester
 - 5-Year Anniversary Recognition Award – Provide pins and recognize 5-year SAF members at meetings and in newsletter

Charlie Newlon Honored with Outstanding Service to Forestry Award

Following service during the Korean War as a photographer for the U.S. Air Force, Charlie Newlon graduated from Colorado State University with a B.S. in forestry in 1956. That year he was hired as a district forester with the Colorado State Forest Service. He was promoted to marketing & utilization forester in 1964. During his time as district forester with the Colorado Forest Service, he wrote and hosted 85 television programs promoting natural resource management that aired on the Denver affiliate of the ABC broadcasting network.

In 1967, Charlie was hired by the USDA Forest Service as the Director for Public Affairs for forestry research in the Pacific Northwest, and was headquartered in Portland, OR. During the next four years he would narrate weekly radio spot announcements on forestry research for 43 radio stations located in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska. In 1971, Charlie became the Assistant Director of Public Affairs for the USDA Forest Service Northern Region, headquartered in Missoula, MT. While in that post, he was awarded the Superior Award for a TV spot by the National Association of Agricultural Editors (1973).

In 1974, Charlie headed east to become the USDA Forest Service Director for National Public Involvement, Woodsy Owl, and Environmental Education Programs (Washington, DC). Here, he was awarded the Certificate of Merit (Public Affairs) by the Secretary of Agriculture in 1979. In 1984, he became the Director of Public Affairs for the Eastern Region National Forests (Milwaukee, WI).

In 1988, Charlie's career brought him to our region, where he served the Forest Service as liaison between the National Forests of the Eastern Region and the 20 State Foresters in the northeast (Radnor, PA). He received the Civil Rights Excellence Award from USDA Forest Service in 1992. He retired from federal service in 1992. During his time with the Forest Service, he authored over 110 news releases and 150 editions of various newsletters.

Following his retirement, Charlie worked as an adjunct professor at Delaware State University, and as an instructor at the Williamson School for the Trades (Media, PA). He taught dendrology, introduction to forestry, introduction to urban forestry, environmental education, microclimatology, and arboriculture at various times between 1992 - 2004. This work also led him to co-author various articles on forestry matters that were published in journals such as the Journal of Economic Entomology, and the Journal of Environmental Education and Interpretation. Since 2004, Charlie has been self-employed as a forestry education consultant, editing newsletters, producing brochures, planning documents, interpretive signs, and conducting seminars. This includes a period (2006-09) as a part-time research consultant at Rutgers University.

Charlie Newlon joined the Society of American Foresters in 1956. And then he started volunteering with SAF and he hasn't stopped since. During the 54-year-long time period 1962 through 2015, there was less than 10 years where Charlie wasn't an officer, committee chair, or newsletter editor for a chapter, division, or state/multi-state society or serving as a chair of an SAF Working Group, or on a National SAF committee or board.

From 1962-1966, he served as the secretary-treasurer, vice chair, and chair of the Central Rocky Mountains Section (now known as Colorado-Wyoming SAF). From 1968-1969, he served as the Information & Education Chair for the Columbia River Section (now known as Oregon SAF). From 1972-73, he served as the vice chair and chair of the Northern Rocky Mountain Section's (now Montana SAF and Inland Empire SAF) education & communication committee. Between 1973-75, he served as chair of the SAF Education & Communications Working Group. In 1975, he also served on the National Convention Program Committee. He would also serve SAF in 1987 by serving on the Forest Science & Technology Board. From 1980-82, he served as the Program Chair for the National Capital SAF, and also as secretary (1980-81). From 1981-84, he served as chair-elect and chair of National Capital SAF.

During 1985-1987, Charlie served as vice-chair and chair of the Southeast Chapter, Wisconsin SAF. From 1988-1992, he served as the program chair for Valley Forge Chapter, Allegheny SAF; and as the chapter vice-chair and chair from 1989-1991. He was the secretary of the Maryland-Delaware Division in 1993-1994. Charlie served on the New Jersey Division executive committee in 2010-11 and was editor of the Division newsletter from 2007-2015.

At various times between 1995 - 2006, he served Allegheny SAF as the chair of either the education committee or the communications committee. He also was the chair of the Allegheny SAF Reginald D. Forbes Art contest (1992-2015). In 2006, he was honored with the title of Fellow. In 2014, he was presented the Silas Little Award from the New Jersey Division ANSAF in recognition of his outstanding

service to the division. In 2016, the NJ Division established the Charles J. Newlon Forestry Forum as a lasting honor to Charlie's dedicated service to forestry and the profession.

Charlie still serves on several boards, including the NJ Forestry Association and the Delaware State University Herbarium. He is also on the advisory committee to NJ Project Learning Tree. In the past, he was also a board member of Integrated Vegetation Management (2004-10), and vice chairman of the Delaware Community Forestry Council (1995-96). He was chairman of the national advisory council for Keep America Beautiful (1982-83). Charlie is a member of the USDA Forest Service Retirees Association and volunteers his time at the NJ Forest Service's Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson, NJ.

Forester of the Year – George Zimmerman

Compiled by Bob Williams, CF and Steve Kalleser, CF

The Forester of the Year Award is designed to give official recognition to current professional achievements in forestry, to recognize a specific accomplishment or achievement in forestry during the previous year and to demonstrate to the public that the profession is a vital and active part of the total conservation effort. This year, George Zimmerman was selected for his work on the Stockton University Forest Management Plan and his ongoing effort to inform policymakers about the importance of good forest management.

Dr. Zimmerman teaches at Stockton University, a school that markets itself – based on Dr. Zimmerman's words – as a college within a forest, not a college with a forest. Located within the Pinelands National Reserve, the university recently had its Forest Stewardship Plan approved by NJ DEP Forest Service and the Pinelands Commission. Dr. Zimmerman was instrumental in guiding the development of that Plan, and his work has made that one of the most respected Plans within the state. Dr. Zimmerman's research interest is in ecological forest management with a specialty in the ecology of the Atlantic white-cedar. He teaches courses in Dendrology and Ecological Forest Management as well as introductory courses for statistical analysis of spatial and non-spatial data.

During the past year, Dr. Zimmerman has directed various silvicultural treatments on the university forest, following baseline inventories of a broad spectrum of biotic and abiotic resources. Research plots were established for canopy and tree reproduction as well as terrestrial LIDAR measurement and analyses of these permanent plots. Those silvicultural treatments culminated with a series of prescribed burns last fall. University environmental studies students had the opportunity to observe the NJ Forest Fire Service on these burns.

Dr. Zimmerman is passionate about using the university forest to inform forest science, policymakers within the state (especially in the Pinelands region), and the public. The prescribed burns received positive media coverage from four major media outlets. The message conveyed was that forests are dynamic, disturbance-dependent ecosystems that require our careful stewardship through professional forest management.

In addition to his fire research, Dr. Zimmerman has received a NJDEP grant to study the maintenance of long-term deer exclosures in upland and lowland mature stands. The miniature (250 foot perimeter) deer exclosures provide the basis for studying the impact of various treatments including clear cut, low thinning and no treatment as a control.

Dr. Zimmerman is a graduate of Rutgers University and is a long time member of SAF. He has actively worked on public policy issues as well as New Jersey Pinelands Commission forest policy issues for many years. Dr. Zimmerman is currently building a web page for the Stockton Forest management Plan as well as fire research and education web pages. Future plans include the development of educational trails through the fire research and silviculture areas.

Eric Yetter Receives Student Leadership Award

Compiled by Steve Resh

While a student in the forest technology program at Allegany College of Maryland, Eric embodied all the traits necessary to lead students. His entire class recognized him as a leader and turned to him to get the job done. As a member of that class his fellow students knew they could get help from a very patient class mate and that help would be fruitful. As a member of the Forestry Club at ACM Eric would help develop activities for meetings, organize Woodsmen's team practices, help underclassmen develop woodsmen's skills and generally pitch in where needed. Eric was a valuable member of the Quiz Bowl team that competed and won at the Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting. Eric graduated from ACM with a 3.851 GPA and was inducted into the Forest Technology Honor Society for his work. In fact, Eric was tied with another student for the second highest GPA of any technician student in North America and received a cash award for this effort. Eric also agreed to be nominated and was elected to serve as the Chair of the ACM Forest Technology Alumni Association for the next 2 years. This alumni association is the longest running alumni group at ACM.

Eric graduated from Clear Spring High School where he was very active as a leader in their FFA Chapter. He was a source of inspiration and information to younger high school students who had questions about college forestry and natural resource programs. Eric served as a counselor to high school students from across Maryland during the Natural Resource Careers Camp which was held during the summer of 2015. He did such a good job during that camp that officials hired him as "Marketing Intern" for the next academic year. In this capacity, he contacted prior year campers seeking their input as to how the experience and enrollment at camp could be improved and followed up on several of their suggestions.

Eric is now continuing his studies at West Virginia University. He was part of a student contingent that attended the SAF national convention in Madison last fall and he represented the university at a booth in the exhibition hall.

SAVE THE DATE

**ALLEGHENY SAF WINTER TRAINING
FEBRUARY 21-23, 2018**

GETTYSBURG, PA

**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Annual Summer Training
September 20 – 22, 2017 - Park Inn, Clarion, PA**

“SILVAH: 50 Years of Practicing Sustainable Forestry and Counting”

Science Delivery Objective: To celebrate 50 years of science conducted under the SILVAH umbrella by:

- Reviewing its history and use
- Sharing the current state of science and management practice for research stimulated by SILVAH

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM Registration

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Tour of Kane Experimental Forest, Clear Creek State Forest, PA Gamelands and private forestland. Highlighting OAK SILVAH, changes in cherry/Allegheny hardwood silviculture, and SILVAH Wildlife.

3:00 – 6:00 Exec Committee Meeting (transportation from tour to Park Inn provided)

7:00 – 9:00 Icebreaker/Social Reception

Thursday, September 21, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 Registration; Breakfast on your own

8:00 Exhibits open; raffle items on display

8:00 – 8:10 Welcome, Housekeeping & Introduction - Brock Sanner, Plateau Chapter Chair

8:10 – 8:30 “NW PA, Cherry capital of the world” - Sue Swanson, Executive Director of Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group (AHUG)

SILVAH: History and Development

8:30 – 9:00 Keynote Address: “The Origins & Early History of the SILVAH System” - David A. Marquis

9:00 – 9:30 “The Development of Management Science and Community under SILVAH” – Susan L. Stout

9:30 – 10:00 BREAK

10:00 – 10:30 “Managing with SILVAH Support” – Jim Grace

10:30 – 11:00 “Deer and Forests” – Alex Royo

11:00 – 11:30 “Forest Vegetation Management” – Todd Ristau and Steve Horsley

11:30 – 12:00 “SILVAH Oak Prescriptions” – Patrick Brose

12:00 – 1:00 LUNCH

Concurrent Sessions (1:15 to 4:15)

1. SILVAH: Oak, the FIA Connection, and SILVAH Thinning Guidelines

1:15 – 1:45 “Fire in Oak Management” – Pat Brose

1:45 – 2:15 “Preliminary Results of the OAK: SILVAH Assessment” – Laura Leites and Scott Miller

2:15 – 2:45 “OAK SILVAH in Ohio at the Landscape Scale” – Joanne Rebbeck and Matt Peters

2:45 – 3:15 BREAK

3:15 – 3:45 “Taking SILVAH’s Regen Guidelines to the Regional Level” - Will McWilliams

3:45 – 4:15 “SILVAH’s Thinning Guidelines: A Synthesis” – Chris Nowak

4:15 – 5:00 “Sugar Maple Decline and Lessons Learned about Allegheny Plateau Soils and Landscapes” – Bob Long

2. SILVAH: Wildlife, Invasive Plants, NED and related software

1:15 – 1:45 “NED and the NED/SILVAH Coalition” – Mark Twery

1:45 – 2:15 “Silviculture and Bird Habitat” - Scott Stoleson

2:15 – 2:45 “Wildlife Habitat Associations in SILVAH and NED” – Scott and Linda Thomasma, Helene Cleveland

2:45 – 3:15 BREAK

3:15 – 3:45 “Impacts of Operational Herbicide Treatments on Non-Target Plants, Birds, and Beetles” – Todd Ristau and Scott Stoleson

3:45 – 4:15 “Forest Vegetation Management of Invasive Species” - Kimberly Bohn

4:15 – 5:00 “SILVAH/NED Approach to Carbon Management and Climate Change Adaptation”

End of Concurrent Sessions

Final Presentation – Large Group

6:00 Cocktail Hour

7:00 BAR-B-Q Cookout (next door to hotel, 1/4 mile); including drawing for one raffle item

FRIDAY, September 22, 2017

7:00 – 8:00 Chair’s Breakfast with Guest Inspirational Speaker Stephanie Gottschalk (all are welcome)

8:00 – 8:30 Division Business Meetings

8:30 – 9:00 Allegheny SAF Section Business Meeting

9:00 – 9:30 “Changes in Black Cherry” – Bob Long

9:30 – 10:00 “Dominance Probability in Allegheny & Northern Hardwood Stands” – Pat Brose

10:00 - 10:30 BREAK & final offer to buy raffle tickets

10:30 – 11:00 “Fertilizing Allegheny and Northern Hardwood Stands” – Todd Ristau

11:00 – 11:30 “The Next 50 years of SILVAH, Silviculture and Forest Stewardship” – Susan Stout

11:30 Wrap up & announce raffle winner – Brock Sanner

From the Archives – Allegheny SAF History

Allegheny Reflections

By Ron Sheay, Historian

The 1978 Allegheny SAF summer meeting was held in Ocean City, NJ with a theme centered on the New Jersey Pine Barrens. This was a precursor for this region to be designated as the Federal Pinelands Reserve (1978) and the New Jersey Pinelands Protection Act (1979). The gathering of SAF members was to showcase what was being protected in this million-acre forest expanse in the midst of the country's most densely populated region.

After registration was completed, the group was taken to the Christmas tree farm of the late Irv Reigner, SAF member who demonstrated the intensive management practices required for successful Christmas tree production and marketing methods. He also talked about controlling wildfires to protect his Christmas tree operation.

The following day we visited the restored sawmill at Double Trouble State Park. SAF member John Perry explained that the sawmill used the Atlantic white cedar, the Pinelands most valuable tree to make lumber, shingles, mantel pieces and other specialty products. John mentioned that much of the equipment within the mill dated back to the 1870's and illustrated the capability of sawmills of that era. The tour continued to Lakehurst Naval Air Station where intensive forest management was shown and coupled with multiple-use planning demonstrated the value of the forest resource in the pinelands.

We then visited the Haines Bros. cranberry operation in Chatsworth. Although not a forestry related use, cranberry production and bogs are an integral part of agriculture within the pine forest. A clean water source is needed and provided for by the surrounding forest in the harvesting of berries in summer and the protection of the bogs in winter. We watched the harvesting of the berries by men in hip deep water with beating machines that remove the berries from the submerged vines that then float to the top. The berries are "boomed" to one spot where they are scooped up and carted to the packing house where they are sorted and packed. The day ended with an old fashioned clam bake using another NJ product found in the ocean adjacent to the pinelands. In short, the question asked at the end of the day was what is the wisest combination of uses for the pinelands at this time and what portion are we obliged to pass on reasonably intact and unpolluted to future generations?

It is interesting to note that the Allegheny membership in 1978 was 1,454 members. National SAF had over 22,000 members. The 1979 winter meeting was scheduled for Stouffer's Valley Forge Hotel in King of Prussia, PA. The cost to attend was \$20.00 and included the registration fee and banquet.

This information was gleaned from the Winter 1978 **Allegheny News.*

Pennsylvania Foresters and Politics

By Ron Sheay as told by Robert Rumpf

Many younger Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry foresters may not be aware of how Bureau foresters were hired and employed in the 1940's. Bob Rumpf wrote to me of his experience in being hired by the Bureau in 1949. Here is his experience.

I graduated from Penn State in 1949 and at that time the PA Dept. of Forests and Waters was beefing up its ranks of Farm Foresters, as they were known at that time. I applied to the Bureau and before I could

get an interview I had to have the County Chairman of the Republican Party sign my application. I can plainly recall going to the Chairman's home with my dad and having the application signed. At the time I had just turned 21 and was not registered to vote yet so I was approved on the basis of my dad's long standing Republican registration. I was hired and first worked for Bill Moll at Norristown but then was transferred to Caldonia and the Michaux District. In the fall of 1950 was the election for Governor and all young foresters were called into the Harrisburg office and not knowing for what reason we were kind of excited. Well that feeling was soon dispelled for O. Ben Gipple, the State Forester, laid it right out that we were expected to contribute 2% of our salary to the Republican Party. At that time I made \$2,820 per year so \$56 was a big amount for me. As it happened the Korean War came along and since I had missed WWII, I was one of the first to go into the Army so I never did ante up my 2%.

After I got out of the Army, I went back to my job at Caldonia but wasn't too happy and had to make a move. A good friend of mine was in graduate school at Duke University and talked me into attending Duke for a Master's degree in forestry. I did that and had a great experience and made a number of friends who worked for the pulp & paper companies in the south after they graduated and we had some treasured long term relationships. Of course I took the job working for "Hessie" at Glatfelter and I couldn't have it any better. At the time though my old boss at PA F&W wanted me to come back and work with him in the Division of Nurseries. Along with this letter was a form to be signed by my County Chairman. I took one look at that and said this is what I have spent the last year trying to get away from and threw it all in file 13.

In 1954 the Democrats took over State government with the election of George Leader as Governor. He asked M.K. Goddard to be Secretary of Forest and Waters and Goddard said yes if Civil Service status would be instituted for the foresters. Gov. Leader, who was a good man, agreed and that ended the old system. The Democratic political bosses, particularly those from the coal regions, were outraged to lose those political patronage jobs but Gov. Leader held firm and as I recall Goddard took a lot of flak too. The politicians didn't forget and Leader was only a one term Governor. Leader was from York County and old Mr. Glatfelter was on the State Forest Commission at the time and though a staunch Republican he was a strong supporter of Leader. Working for Glatfelter, at the time, we heard a lot of the ins and outs of the whole situation. This was an interesting era.

In Memoriam

Doug Ostergard



Douglas B. "Doug" Ostergard, 81 of Franklin, passed away at his home on April 4, 2017 at 12:15 pm surrounded by his loving family. Doug was born on January 3, 1936 in Warren to the late Gerould and Mildred Jefferson Ostergard.

Doug was a 1953 graduate of Warren High School and the New York State Ranger School. He worked as a forester for Hammermill and then later on at International Paper until his retirement in 1998. He married the former Evelyn Wittenburg on November 30, 1957 in Erie, she survives.

Doug loved woodworking and camping. He was a Boy Scout leader for many years in Erie and Pleasantville as well as a 4H Leader for the Gauchos in Warren County and for a group in Forest County. He was a member of the Shelby Mustang Club, the Lake Erie Mustang Owners Club, the Society of American Foresters, and the Over the Hill Gang. Doug was also a member of First United Methodist Church in Franklin.

Robert H. Rumpf



Robert H. Rumpf earned a BS in Forestry at PSU in 1949. He began his career with the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters, filling several assignments between 1949 and 1953, including a tour in the U.S. Army. After earning a Master of Forestry Degree in Forest Economics at Duke University in 1954, he joined The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company in Virginia. In 1961, Rumpf returned to Pennsylvania to open a District Office in Carlisle. While there, he expanded the woodland acquisition program and installed scientific forest management on company lands. He also encouraged private landowners to recognize the value of management and harvesting on their forestlands. He served as Area Forester, District Manager, Administrative Assistant, and Vice President and General Manager at the Spring Grove headquarters of the Company. He retired in 1993 with 39 years of service.

Rumpf's hard work and keen insights earned him the respect of others both inside and outside of the forest conservation field. A proponent of industrial forestry, he was an articulate spokesman for responsible stewardship on industrial and private woodlands. Rumpf's service to the profession includes being President and Director of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, and Chair of the Association's Policy Committee and Forest Industry Committee; he was Chairman of the Pennsylvania Tree Farm Committee, Chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Communications Committee of the American Forest Institute, Chairman of the Forest Resource Committee of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, and a Member of the National Board of the American Pulpwood Association.

Rumpf's service to the PSU School of Forest Resources (SFR) included being a member of the School's Advisory Board (1991-1995), a member of the Goddard Chair Committee (1992-2000), and a member of the Penn State Forest Issues Group. He also served on the SFR Alumni Group Board of directors for two three-year terms from 1995 to 2000. He was instrumental in establishing the Distinguished Lecture Series in the School in 1993. Rumpf's service to the community included being a member of the North Middleton Township Planning Commission for 10 years, activity in the Presbyterian Church, and leadership in the Boy Scouts of America. His awards included the Joseph T. Rothrock Conservationist of the Year Award in 1996 from the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, the 1993 Maryland Governor's Proclamation for leadership in Maryland Forestry, and in 1993 his election as a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters.

Allegheny Society of American Foresters

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(o) 202-205-1389
stevenwkoehn@fs.fed.us

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(o) 908-696-9133
dgalwaydsl@verizon.net

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(o) 717-783-7934
sushupp@pa.gov

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(o) 301-784-5307
sresh@allegany.edu

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(h) 717-263-8030
mikekusko@gmail.com

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Karen Sykes
(o) 304-285-1532
ksykes@fs.fed.us

Richard Lewis
(h) 717-398-2485
rlewis7575@aol.com

Kip Powers
(o) 410-860-2978
saf215@comcast.net

Brad Elison
bcelison@hotmail.com

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Susan E. Lacy, CF
(o) 610-273-0118
ansaf@comcast.net

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(o) 717-783-0385
rreyna@pa.gov

Division Chairs

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(o) 410-461-8323x3206
bts@cwpa.org

New Jersey
Steve Kalleser
(o) 908-781-6711
steve@gracieharrigan.com

Pennsylvania
Joe Glover
(c) 570-326-3761
joseph.glover@fwforestry.com

West Virginia
Jamie Schuler
(o) 304-293-3896
jamie.schuler@mail.wvu.edu

Chapter Chairs

Keystone
Craig Houghton
(o) 717-749-6239
cth2@psu.edu

Northern Hardwood
David Andrus
(h) 814-274-7204
davidrus70@hotmail.com

Pinchot
Richard Schwab
(c) 570-240-5714
rischwab@epix.net

Plateau
David Trimpey, CF
(o) 814-723-5414
dtrimpey@collinsco.com

Rothrock
Dave Jackson
(o) 814-355-4897
drj11@psu.edu

Valley Forge
Randy Morin
(o) 610-557-4054
rsmorin@fs.fed.us

Western Gateway
David Babyak
(o) 724-465-8345
babyakforestry@comcast.net

Coming Events

September, 2017

20-22 Allegheny SAF Summer Training
Clarion, PA
SILVAH – 50th Anniversary

February, 2018

21-23 Allegheny SAF Winter Training
Gettysburg, PA

Future SAF National Conventions

2017: Albuquerque, NM Nov. 13-19

2018: Portland, OR Oct. 3 – 7

2019: Louisville, KY Oct. 30 – Nov. 3

2020: Providence, RI Oct. 28 – Nov. 1

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