

The Allegheny News



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Fall 2019**

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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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Cover Photo

Photo – Dave O’Barto. Flight 93 Memorial, Shanksville, PA

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Advertising in the Allegheny News

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

Chair's Column

By Dennis Galway



The old adage is “time flies when you are having fun”. I have been having tons of fun most of my life. My life is great. I have everything a man, a human being, could want from life. Donna is a more understanding, supportive, sharing, life partner than one could ask for. A family that includes 5 children, 11 grandchildren, and very recently a great grandson! Friends I have many, for sure. Some lifelong friends and I continue making new friends. And a job I love.

I have reached the age when a common question asked of me is “when will you retire”? I reply, never. Oh sure, I will cut back, someday I won’t be able to use a chainsaw safely, or lift a 100 pound log onto the splitter or walk up a mountain without stopping (I guess that happens now with my bad leg), but I will always walk in the woods with my clients. I walk in the woods with the grownup sons and daughters of some of my older clients now. I will mark trees for FSI and write some plans.

I have been a volunteer most of my adult life. I find it satisfying and rewarding albeit very time consuming. And eventually it’s time to move on to find something different and challenging and let someone else hopefully younger and with more energy and new ideas to continue the work of helping others. We have a great and passionate executive committee coming on board in the New Year to continue to successfully guide ANSAF. It has been my honor serving the membership of ANSAF and the SAF in general. And I will continue to do so as long as I am able and needed. I have been recognized for my commitment to my profession and my professional organization and have been received with friendship and respect by my peers. I have always considered SAF and Tree Farm as my second families. Although I have not always agreed with certain policies and much to the chagrin of the powers to be voiced my opinions. It has always been my passion for the forests, the environment, and the people that live and work in the forests that has guided my voice. I have and willingly continue to support both organizations and sustaining our natural resources with my body and soul and what I can financially.

I hope to continue to serve SAF, ANSAF, and the NJDSAF in other leadership and volunteer roles for the foreseeable future. I hope that my quest to see the SAF National Convention be hosted by ANSAF in 2022 for our 100th Anniversary is successful and will do whatever it takes as Immediate Past Chair to help make that a reality. If it does come to fruition it will truly be a shared adventure by all the Divisions and Chapters of ANSAF. I look forward to continue to help clarify the role and need of foresters and forest resource management to the general public. I definitely look forward to maintaining my relationship with all my “old” fellow foresters and continuing to make new friends and help mentor our future young foresters and leaders.

Wishing you all a safe and fun holiday season and a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year! See you at a winter or summer training meeting, convention, or somewhere unexpected.

Board of Directors Report

District 7 Representative – David Gwaze



I just got back from a very successful 2019 SAF convention, which was attended by over 1,400 people. Kudos to the planning committee, presenters, session organizers, exhibitors and attendees, especially students. Students attended the convention in large numbers due, in part, to the hiring events at the convention.

The Board and national committees have been working on many issues, and below are some of these issues.

Committee on Professional Recognition (CPR): As chair of the CPR in 2019, I worked with the Committee to propose a new national leadership award – the Outstanding State Society or Chapter Award. This award was approved at the HSD meeting held in conjunction with the 2019 SAF convention. We believe that this award will encourage excellence in our state societies or local chapters. We hope this award will be approved by the Board soon, so CPR can develop criteria for this important new award.

SAF Headquarters: SAF has received an offer for the headquarters building. There is a lease back agreement allowing SAF national staff time to locate and move to new headquarters.

Committee on Forest Policy (CFP): Four position statements are currently under review:

1. Regulation of Genetically-Modified Trees
2. Herbicide Use on Forest Lands
3. Forest Management and Climate Change
4. Loss of Forest Land - Conservation Financing

CFP is exploring white papers on four additional areas of concern. The four topics are:

1. Forest Research and Development
2. Water Resources
3. Sustainability of American Forests
4. Recreation

Anti-Harassment Statement: As you are aware, SAF developed an Anti-Harassment Statement, which establishes the rules for acceptable behavior of its membership. Unacceptable behaviors outlined in this statement are subject to the SAF Code of Ethics. This policy was discussed at the HSD meeting, and is on the SAF website (<https://www.eforester.org/Main/About/Policies/Anti-Harassment.aspx>). Please read it, and discuss it in leadership academies and workshops.

The Governance Committee: The Committee is working on an affiliate agreement. The purpose of this agreement is to outline the relationship between the SAF National Office and the State Society. The agreement was discussed at HSD at the Convention. The next steps will involve adjustments to the agreement based on HSD discussions prior to seeking Board approval.

The Committee conducted a HSD Professional Development Training at the convention. The purpose of this session was to provide state society and local leaders with leadership training on the dual topics of ethics and diversity and inclusion.

Membership dues: SAF is looking into offering monthly (instead of annual) membership credit card payments for members.

Publications: Dr. Scott Roberts is the new Editor in Chief of Forest Science.

Student Representative: Brittany Church from Washington State is the Student Representative.

House of Society Delegates Chair: Jeanne Kavinski of District 7 (National Capital SAF) will be the HSD Chair for 2020.

District Representative: My term as your district representative ends December 2020. A new district representative will be elected to fill my position in October of 2020 for a three-year term of 2021-2023. If you are interested or require information about the job responsibilities and duties assigned to a district representative on the Board of Directors, please contact me.

**Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting
Johnstown, PA
August 21-23, 2019
Meeting Summary**

The PA Western Gateway Chapter of the Society of American Foresters hosted the annual summer meeting on August 21-23, 2019 in Johnstown, PA. The theme for the meeting was *Restoring Scarred Landscapes and Preserving a Hallow Site*. To begin the event, a business meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon attended by division executives discussing SAF, the state of the industry, the future of SAF and membership.



On Thursday, attendees took a bus field trip to the Flight 93 National Memorial Park in Shanksville, PA where Scott Eggerud, a forester with the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement explained the reforestation goals and vision of restoring the land back to its forest cover type prior to mining. Since 2012 there have been over 130,000 tree seedlings planted primarily through volunteer help from the public as well as site preparation, maintenance and monitoring.

In addition to touring the landscape the group also toured the Visitor Center, Memorial Plaza and Wall of Names recalling the sacrifice of those people aboard Flight 93 on September 11, 2001. Thursday concluded with a buffet style dinner and musical entertainment.

The last day attendees heard from 3 speakers: John Hudson, Consulting Forester presented on the Pennsylvania Act 38 ACRE Law; Neil Itle, Assistant Regional Forester PA Game Commission, Southwest Region discussed using prescribed fire for oak regeneration; and Bryan Rose, Vegetation Management Specialist, Arborchem Products presented on regenerating forests using herbicides as a tool.

ANSAF Summer Executive and Business Meeting Agendas and Minutes 21 & 23 August 2019

Begin: 2:05 PM begin Executive Meeting 21 August and at 8:30am begin Business Meeting on 23 August 2019

Attendees: Dennis Galway, Brad Elison, Susan Lacy, Jonathan Kays, David Trimpey, Sarah Wurzbacher, David O’Barto, Mike Huneke, Paul Erickson (not enough for Quorum; votes occurred during ANSAF Business Meeting)

1. Approval of 20 February 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve 2019 Winter Meeting Minutes	Approved by	Seconded by
21 August 2019	N/A	N/A
23 August 2019	David Trimpey	Brad Elison

2. Treasurer’s Report—Business Meeting begins with Treasurer’s Report review

- a. Steve Resh, ANSAF Treasurer
- b. \$26,168.95 checkbook balance
 - i. No dues have been distributed to Chapters or Divisions at this time
 - ii. Have approved *the dues increase from \$15-\$20 to occur in 2020*

- iii. Checking account includes \$12,000 grants from Forester’s Fund received for the Leadership Academy
- iv. Checking account does not include “student savings account” balance of \$883.74
 - 1. Important to keep these funds separate and for identified student expenses only
- c. Reminder to Chapters to cancel fees <\$2
 - i. Note: Plateau Chapter has attempted to return chapter fees multiple times and fees were not accepted
- d. Susan Stout donations of \$4685 sent to Susan (Warren Community Fund)
- e. Franklin Fund Stock account with balance of \$64,917.93 as of 31 July 19
 - i. What are we investing this for?
 - 1. Could use to offset cost of ongoing projects
 - 2. Cost of participants to Leadership Academy
 - 3. Invite proposals for certain project ideas with focused objectives
 - 4. Fund projects for outreach and education purposes
 - 5. Where are the initial guidelines for the fund? Work off of these.
- f. Audit Chair Report—Paul Erickson
 - i. Numbers being finalized
 - ii. NEW CHAIR NEEDED! Thank you, Paul, for your years of Service.
- g. Approval of Treasurer’s Report

Motion to Approve Treasurer’s Report	Made by	Seconded by
21 August 2019	N/A	N/A
23 August 2019	Dave Trimpey	Paul Erickson

- 3. Executive Director’s Report
 - a. Contract extension approved
 - i. \$8500 through end of 2019 to increase to \$10000 in 2020
 - ii. Maintenance of membership contact information
 - b. Currently finishing federal tax filing, extension good through 15 November 2019
 - c. Only 35 hard copy newsletters mailed out last cycle
- 4. Program Committee Report
 - a. Chair, Jacob Schultz
 - b. Wyndham Garden State College (Former Elks Club)
 - c. 26th-28th February (4th week of Feb)
 - d. Summer 2020: Pinchot Chapter—Brad Elison. Chapter needs help and can confirm if they can plan logistics upon further communication
 - i. PA Division can help financially
 - e. Winter 2021—NJ
 - f. Summer 2022—where next? Possibly Plateau
 - g. National Convention—2022
 - i. 100-year ANSAF anniversary

- ii. Looks promising for ANSAF Hosting (bid has been placed)
 - iii. Possible locales, Philadelphia or Baltimore, reasoning:
 - 1. Ability to reach the five states for technical tours
 - 2. Original SAF members in ANSAF; robust history of Pinchot, Dock, Rothrock, Chesapeake Bay, Gettysburg, etc.
 - 3. Large population masses in Mid-Atlantic to New England
 - h. New program idea: At future meetings, recommend having a session on “SAF organizational structure and how ANSAF members can participate”
5. Leadership Academy Update and Nominations
- a. 2018—First Year
 - i. \$260 for 2019 academy; Costs vary per student, but costs very low overall
 - b. 25 slots total
 - c. NY-5; NE-5; ANSAF-15? (only 3 names have been submitted, 1 alternate)
 - i. Rankin Smith
 - ii. Kimberly Linette
 - iii. Alexander Kelchner
 - iv. Shane Brenneman and alternate from Plateau (Bob Lavrick)
 - v. Others on Chapters Shortlists—submit candidates!
 - d. Location may be limiting people attending (Grey Towers; Federal)
 - i. Suggested alternate locations (talk with Jonathan Kays or Dennis Galway)
 - ii. Possibility of having it back at a National level (discussed with Nat'l Leadership Development Committee)
 - e. Is a focus of the academy, partaking in Leadership position at Division and National levels?
 - 1. Recommend a requirement for entry be: a sustainable commitment to your Chapter or Division, a proverbial handshake commitment of membership/leadership commitment
 - 2. Folks attending the Academy, are capable, and trusted to attend and nominated for reasons
 - a. trust they can handle other advanced position
 - b. this is necessary for SAF membership retention
 - 3. Do we articulate our expectations as a society for the students?
 - a. Question to offer students: Given your specific skills and gifts, where can we place you?
 - b. 6 month or post year follow-up survey
 - c. Jonathan Kays and Sarah Wurzbacher will come up with 1-pager on tips for being an active young leader within SAF and then follow-up within Chapter and Division
6. Nominations for Elections (Steve Koehn)
- a. We need folks to stand up in leadership roles! Contact Steve Koehn
 - b. Past Chair responsible for recruiting
 - c. Chair-elect candidate seat still open
 - d. Steve Resh—Treasurer; need to confirm

- e. Su Ann Shupp—Secretary; willing to serve and/or willing to resign
- f. Richard Lewis—Good
- g. Melissa—Good
- h. Brad—Good
- i. Mike Schofield—need to confirm?
- j. Big commitment to ANSAF
 - i. Time
 - ii. Energy
- k. Dialogue Regarding ANSAF Volunteership
 - i. They are the same that volunteer for everything and are already overcommitted
 - ii. The essence of volunteerism is receiving of time (in educational experience) and giving of experience
 - iii. Can we identify or detail ways in an Action Plan the needs of SAF volunteers for Exec Committee?
 - iv. Why not engage new members and members at the highest level for other advanced opportunities (e.g. exec committee, or Board)? (Expectation of needs vs. Reality of Circumstances)
 - v. Ask for some intentionality of the members to consider all positions and leadership opportunities
 - vi. Chapters must be responsive and take on accountability to retain and/or recruit new members
 - vii. Communication breakdown has occurred but must be mended. Communication and follow-up are key!!!
 - 1. Comradery between and within Division is key
 - viii. Expectations are muddled (need to be customized per member); high expectations need to exist, but do not need to be imposed on all members
 - 1. Must be realistic (even to grant writing, how to follow-up, who are volunteers, expectation of need vs. reality of circumstances)
 - ix. Recommend more engagement from Chapter chair of active members

Break at 3:50pm for Exec. Committee Meeting

Resume at 4pm for Exec. Committee Meeting

7. Awards Committee Report

- a. Positive recognition of recipient's efforts
- b. Forester of the year submissions only
- c. Field Forester
- d. Student Leadership Award
- e. Deadline 5 December
- f. Put a note in the Newsletter for nominations
 - i. ANSAF Field Forester
 - ii. Bob Bauer Outstanding Service Forestry Award
 - iii. Create list of candidates (have alternates ready)

- iv. Re-nominate recent nominees
- g. National awards deadlines past
 - 1. Forest Science Technology Transfer awards
 - 2. Communication Awards
 - 3. Professional Development Awards
 - 4. Leadership Awards
- 8. Other Committee Reports
 - a. Audit Chair- Position will be vacated—NEEDS FILLED!
 - b. Communication Chair—helps w/ feedback & awards recognition—NEEDS FILLED!
 - c. Science Chair—NEEDS FILLED!
 - d. Program Chair
 - i. 100-year ANSAF Anniversary summary report needed
 - e. Comment: with dwindling numbers: do we need to focus our Program Chairs?
- 9. Committee Structure and Leadership (eg. Those in our by-laws, inactive)
 - a. If roles are committed to, accountability is necessary
 - b. At each meeting, recommend having a session on “SAF organizational structure and how members can participate”
- 10. 5-year anniversary pins
 - a. Effort began in NJ
 - b. Important for morale and appreciation
 - c. Responsibility of Chairs/Chapters/Division (make it personal=do not mail or delegate) to hand deliver to members
 - d. \$4.95/pin
 - e. *First 2019 ANSAF Summer Meeting Recipients—Patrick Hulle and Sarah Wurzbacher*
- 11. Division/Chapter Updates
 - a. Western Gateway Chapter (Dave O’Barto)
 - i. 36 registered for 2019 Summer ANSAF Meeting
 - ii. One bus trip to Flight 93 tour
 - b. MD/DE (Matt Hurd)
 - i. Attached at end
 - ii. Hosted 1 meeting (Claiborne Arboretum)
 - iii. Anticipates Leadership Academy (1 primary; 2 secondary)
 - iv. State FAP Update
 - v. Membership: 102
 - c. NJ (Tim Slavin)
 - i. No report atm
 - ii. Industry atm: involved in Farmland Assessment
 - iii. One SAF hosted Woodland Stewards Program
 - iv. *Dennis Galway—2019 District VII Presidential Field Forester Recipient*
 - d. Pinchot Chapter (Brad Elison)
 - i. <half a dozen active members
 - ii. Open discussion on Chapter consolidation

1. WV mentioned they credit for licensing which helps attendance
 2. PA Division recommends potential shared responsibility for joint meetings
 3. Valley Forge Chapter is in a similar situation as Pinchot
 4. Northern Hardwood and Plateau occasionally works together now
 5. Division doesn't feel it within authority to mandate consolidation
 6. Many reasons for decline
- e. PA Division
- i. Notes attached at end
 - ii. Involving students at upcoming meetings
 - iii. Division meeting at end of May with video conference
 1. Discussion on chapter consolidation
 - a. Overall consensus is 'no'
 2. Change the configuration of PA membership regions (into four) to host meetings
 3. Consideration of statewide committee to work on hosting meetings (PA Division Program Committee and rotate responsibilities)
 4. Request to post rotation of hosting duties for next several years on ANSAF website
 5. Can we still do joint SAF/TWS meeting?
12. Old business
- a. *Hall of Fame needs a lead!*
 - i. Need a chair to begin committee and start process
 - ii. Recommend working with Ron Shea for institutional knowledge
 - b. Utilizing donation account for student quiz bowl
 - i. Assist and accommodate membership for all student members of quiz bowl
13. Updates New Business (Updates Continued)
- a. Membership Report Update (M. Huneke Lead; Data from Nat'l website)
 - i. Trends from 1 Aug 2018 (690members)-18 Feb 2019 (695)-14 August 2019 (660)
 - ii. Every chapter or Division is showing some reduction except NJ
 - iii. Student Division (PSU down, WVU up)—student populations same in total; gender demographics vary
 - iv. Review of SAF Nat'l Charts for ANSAF: Type of Membership, Age of Membership (highest 60-69; lowest 30-39; 10% under 30), Employer Type (130 retired~23%), Gender of Membership (504M;45F); based on slightly incomplete data/inaccurate
 - v. Requires help from Chairs to assess accurate picture of membership
 - vi. Need to assess active/inactive members
 - vii. Continue encouraging students to join as professionals and post-college
 - viii. No numbers on of deceased members
 - ix. Question: Any numeric comparisons of charts between years (e.g. gender)?
 1. Margin of error in responding members (55 did not respond)

- b. Boy Scout International Jamboree (M. Huneke)
 - i. SAF Representation (ANSAF, Appalachian)
 - ii. 40K-45K people in attendance
 - iii. SFI & USFS, wood products industry representation
 - iv. Plan accordingly for next event National Jamboree (WV site) Summer 2021
 - v. Girls will be incorporated into the program by the next festivals, encouraging diverse membership
 - vi. After Action Review being completed (anyone with notes please email Mike)
 - vii. Hopeful for SAF involvement in 2021 (M. Huneke will be Conservation Development Team Chair)
- c. Donation account for facilitation of membership transition
 - i. Facilitation of Quiz Bowls bringing 4-6 schools to table and students
 - ii. Funds kept separated and dedicated for students
 - iii. In 2018 motion passed to fund Quiz bowl students
 - iv. Motion carried into 2019
- d. Reminder: *Need to fill positions for Committee Chairs!*

Adjourn:

5:08pm for Executive Committee Meeting 21 August 2019

9:30am for Business Meeting 23 August 2019

**PA Division – Summer Update
Prepared by Kimberly Bohn, Chair
For ANSAF Executive Committee Meeting – 8/21/2019**

1. Membership Report:

- a. As of 8/19/2019, membership in PA is 367.
- b. I don't have an estimate of student chapter #'s for this year. I plan to contact Student Chapter chairs (or their advisors) towards the start of the semester and ask to make a presentation/visit to one of their meetings this fall.

2. Chapter meetings/reports

- a. Keystone by C Houghton
 - i. No meetings since the last report; will plan a meeting for Fall
 - ii. Keystone chapter covers 10 counties; currently has 58 members
 - iii. Age of membership may be factor in low attendance
- b. Northern Hardwood by K Bohn
 - i. Winter meeting held in March- topics focused on invasive species with presentations by Jody Groshek (on regional invasive plant cooperative) and Bryan Rose (on latest herbicides for invasive plants)
- c. Pinchot
 - i. No report provided

- ii. Note: Chapter chair recently stepped down. Secretary/treasurer keeping up with chapter communications
- d. Plateau by S Wellington
 - i. Winter meeting provided by Penelec “Call before you cut”
 - ii. Summer meeting was just recently held in early August,
 - iii. Both meetings well-attended
 - iv. Also trying to involve student chapters in upcoming meetings
- e. Rothrock by D Jackson and P Lupo
 - i. Winter meeting held with Ellen Shultzenburg as main speaker
 - ii. P Lupo reported on attendance to Leadership Academy last November, and as a result will be assisting with ANSAF Winter meeting
 - 1. ANSAF Winter 2020 meeting scheduled for late February at Wyndham Garden in Boalsberg just outside State College**
- f. Valley Forge by R Morin
 - i. Chapter has been inactive since last division meeting, and currently has 41 members
 - ii. Summer meeting held July 9 with PA Game Commission (current forestry and invasive species issues). Invitation extended to Keystone chapter. Over 15 attendees participated- one of the best attendances in a while.
- g. Western Gateway by D O’Barto
 - i. Hosting Summer 2019 Training at Johnstown Holiday Inn on August 21-23
 - ii. Paper registration only, available in early June

3. PA Division Executive Committee Meeting

- a. Held by video conference on May 29. Well attended with all but one of the chapters represented. Topics and discussion that were addressed include:
- b. Increasing chapter membership, attendance, and participation/leadership:
 - i. Wrapped up discussions from last executive committee meeting in April 2018. Concluded that merging of chapters (discussed at last meeting) is not a solution (but merging hosting duties for ANSAF trainings was discussed- see New Business). Additional suggestions for increasing attendance at meetings: share meetings between adjoining chapters, try delivering meetings by video conference/webinars.
- c. Combining chapters/regions for hosting duties for ANSAF trainings
 - i. Some chapters still struggle with hosting duties for ANSAF, both in terms of finding volunteers to step up to responsibilities and financial burdens. Suggestion proposed by K Bohn to combine chapters into regions for hosting and limit PA’s commitments to hosting the regional ANSAF trainings. Currently, in a 5 year period- PA hosts 7 trainings, whereas other states (NJ, Maryland/Delaware, WV) only host 1 in that time frame. **Perhaps PA could be divided into 4-5 regions for the purposes of hosting ANSAF trainings, but this would have to be discussed at**

ANSAF Executive level since this would increase the rotation time for other states.

ii. K Bohn also suggested that planning for ANSAF trainings could be carried out by a 'state-wide' program planning committee. Local chapter responsible for local hosting duties such as finding hotel/conference location and field sites for tour, but others from outside chapter could assist with program and speakers. This may alleviate some of the burden from PA chapters discussed above. Also could build in some "institutional memory" for planning if have a standing program committee where members serve for 2 years and rotations are staggered.

iii. **Chapter chairs asked if Susan Lacy could post rotations for ANSAF hosts for next several years on website.**

d. Creating PA Foresters Directory website like Ohio SAF has

i. Website was displayed by video conference. Executive committee suggested this might be best done at the national level than by state. Bring to the attention of Dennis Galway.

4. Current goals and objectives:

a. Much of the work for the PA Executive Committee will follow up on the issues identified above in Section 3:

i. We will continue to discuss assisting chapters with ANSAF hosting duties

ii. I will continue interacting with the Student Chapters and engaging them with other local chapter activities.

Save the Date

Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting

February 26-28, 2020

Wyndham Garden

Boalsburg, PA

Theme

“Leveraging Tensions in Forestry”

WOW program helps female forest owners branch out

- *By Holly May on October 23, 2019- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*



WV WOW workshop attendees make introductions, talking about their land and experiences with forestry and land management. (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)

WOW: a palindrome that behaves like a verb, an interjection or a noun and is typically associated with great excitement, admiration or success.

For landowners in West Virginia, this word serves all three functions: the WV Women Owning Woodlands program, or WOW, is a budding group that provides opportunities for female landowners to learn about sustainable forest management, communicate their experiences and inspire natural resource stewardship on private lands.

Women live an average of 4.8 years longer than their male partners, and the percentage of family-owned forests where a woman is the primary decision maker doubled from 2006 to 2013. But women are significantly less likely than men to participate in land management activities, mostly for lack of knowledge. Female natural resource professionals throughout

the United States, in an effort to cut through this unnecessary doubt, are establishing a new generation of informed landowners through WOW and other similar trainings.

In West Virginia, the WOW program is taking root and branching out under the steady leadership of Barb Breshock and the support from key partners, including private forestry consultants, environmental organizations, the state Division of Forestry, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the West Virginia University Extension Service.



Barb Breshock, WV WOW organizer and leader, demonstrates how to take an increment bore to determine tree age. (Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay)

Breshock, a retired assistant state forester for the DOF, said that “there was likely a need for women landowners to have resources to draw from and the means to connect and share their experiences. I hope I can convey my expertise and forestry knowledge to other women.” She has had experience with other women-focused trainings, and “has seen the benefits.”

The kick-off workshop, which took place in late May 2019 at Watoga State Park in Pocahontas County, provided the perfect backdrop for appreciating the woods, water and wildlife of West Virginia. Female forestry professionals provided an introduction to forest ecology, bird watching and a shiitake mushroom propagation workshop.

The introductory chainsaw safety and operation course was led by Johnny King, service forester and chainsaw safety instructor for the DOF, and its participants wholeheartedly agreed that he was the right man for the job. A field tour through the nearby Calvin Price

State Forest gave attendees a chance to practice tree identification, measure the height and diameter of trees and check out different forestry treatments for wildlife habitat improvements.

During my 20 years in the field of natural resources, the majority of my professional relationships are networked through the family patriarch. As one of the instructors for the weekend, I found our conversations insightful and meaningful — strong and intelligent women looking for solutions to overcome barriers and accomplish land management goals on properties that they control. VW WOW, and other comparable programs, will help cultivate an emerging group of women who are ready to make educated decisions for their families and their land.

Breshock's intent is to develop a dynamic series of workshops, adapting to meet the educational needs and operational challenges of female forest landowners. In addition to the plants and animals on their properties, workshop surveys indicate that women want to learn more about the financial side of forestry; from estate planning to timber sale contracts to negotiations with consultants and contractors.

The second workshop took place in August at the Zero Grade Trail in Tucker County's Fernow Experimental Forest. Attendees observed the results of decades of applied forest management and learned about basic management systems, types of timber harvests and the role of prescribed fire in oak forest types.

WV WOW aims to create a safe, friendly and nurturing environment, as well as promote communication networks for women who make land management decisions. The workshop design considers inclusivity and equality. The active, and private, Facebook group serves as a platform for education, encouragement and positive action. Examples of Facebook posts include plant identification, herbicide application, grapevine control, wildlife pictures, potential workshop topics and new state and federal assistance programs.

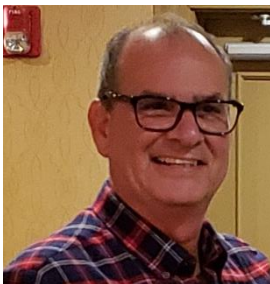
The overarching WOW program is a collaborative project of the National Woodland Owners Association and the USDA Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Office. The project "strives to bring topical, accessible and current forestry information to woodland owners and forest practitioners through news articles, blogs, events, resources and personal stories. We support women in forest leadership, women who manage their own woodlands, and all who facilitate the stewardship of forests." For information, visit womenowningwoodlands.net.

Our own Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay staff member, Jenny McGarvey, shadowed a WOW-TELE (Tools for Engaging Landowners) workshop in October 2017. In fall 2018, both Breshock and McGarvey attended the Women and their Woods Retreat in Pennsylvania hosted by the Delaware Highlands Conservancy and their many partners. Each walked away with new strategies and approaches for engaging landowners. For Breshock, it helped hone her approach to the WV program. For McGarvey, it included adopting a cognitive mapping exercise to help visualize land management goals and adapting the practice for a wide variety of audiences. Breshock has been pleasantly surprised by the wide age range of attendees — from 20-somethings to multiple generations of mothers and daughters — as well as their willingness to travel for the chance to improve stewardship and encourage fellowship.

In the future, she would like to incorporate more demonstration and solution-oriented workshops on private forestlands. As word of WV WOW reaches other areas of the state, Breshock hopes to provide scholarships to cover the travel, food and registration costs for some participants. Size does not matter for WV WOW — participants need not own big tracts of land; they need only bring their questions, sense of humor and enthusiasm to learn. For information about the WV WOW program, visit wvforestry.com/landowner-assistance or contact Breshock at breshock@hotmail.com or 304-934-6777. For information about WOW programs in other states, visit womenowningwoodlands.net.

Holly May is the watershed forester for the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. Views expressed by columnists are not necessarily those of the Bay Journal.

Dennis Galway Named District 7 Presidential Field Forester



Dennis Galway began his forestry career in 1979 for the City of Newark as an assistant forester in the Newark Watershed. Following two years there, he became a section fire warden for the New Jersey Forest Fire Service as he completed his bachelors of science degree in natural resource management from Cook College at Rutgers University in 1981.

In that year, he started Galway Forestry Services, where he continues to practice. Dennis conducts forest inventories, writes management plans, marks (and often cuts) forest stand improvement, conducts competing understory vegetation control and pruning, and participates in other wildlife habitat–management activities.

Dennis has a reputation for serving private landowners well and having a fiercely loyal client base. His devotion to quality field forestry is best illustrated by his leadership in the American Tree Farm System, where he currently serves as chair of the New Jersey Tree Farm Program Inc. Under his leadership, the program has focused on quality on-the-ground educational programs for private landowners, and is where best practices can be shared for each other's benefit. Many of Dennis's clients have hosted Tree Farm Day events, and Dennis's quality silvicultural prescriptions have served as well-regarded field tours.

Although Dennis has held a wide variety of positions within Allegheny SAF and its New Jersey Division, he is clearly his most passionate when engaging in program work (specifically educational programs for field foresters) and policy work (where he is able to provide a voice for field foresters).

National Awards

Barrington Moore Memorial Award – Mary Beth Adams



The Barrington Moore memorial Award recognizes outstanding achievement in biological research leading to the advancement of forestry.

Mary Beth Adams is a research soil scientist at the USDA Forest Service's Northern Research Station. Her work ranges from basic research that has led to a better understanding of the fundamental processes in soils, applied studies on the ecosystem response to anthropogenic disturbances and forest management practices. The long-term project she designed, implemented and managed on the effects of nitrogen deposition in watersheds in the Fernow Experimental Forest is recognized as one of the premier forest ecosystem processes in the world. The study examined the impacts of elevated nitrogen levels in large watersheds that enabled Adams and her team to link soil and hydrologic processes with forest ecosystem response. Many scientists around the world have used a similar approach based on her pioneering work. She edited the book *The Fernow Watershed Acidification Study* (Elsevier, 2006), which has earned a reputation as one of the definitive references on the subject.

Adams has been the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI on grants totaling more than \$3 million that have facilitated collaboration with leading scientists throughout the US. She has published more than 140 journal articles, book chapters and technical reports. The quality of her research is demonstrated by the prestigious journals in which she has published, such as the *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*; *Forest Ecology and Management*; *Water, Air, Soil Pollution*; *Journal of Environmental Quality*; and *Soil Science Society of America Journal*.

Throughout her career, Adams has participated in numerous collaborative research projects with university scientists and currently is a visiting research faculty member at West Virginia

University. This has allowed her to work with and mentor graduate students at numerous universities including Howard University, Marshall University, University of Pittsburgh, West Virginia University, and Virginia Tech, where she has had positive impacts on the careers of more than 20 graduate students.

H.D. Hagenstein Communicator Award – Robert Beanblossom



The Hagenstein Communicator Award recognizes an SAF member who leads innovative and exemplary communications initiatives and programs that increase the general public's understanding of forestry and natural resources.

Robert Beanblossom worked for the West Virginia Division of Forestry and Department of Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation over his 43-year career. Since he retired in 2015, he has held the unofficial title of ambassador for the Cradle of Forestry, the birthplace of scientific forestry in America.

Beanblossom has used his vast knowledge to communicate the value of forestry to diverse audiences. He has led programs and tours ranging from elementary school groups to graduate level collegiate groups.

Regardless of the audience, he has demonstrated tremendous skill in delivering messages that can be easily understood by the target audiences. His research into the lives of our forestry pioneers has yielded an abundance of authentic stories that enrich our heritage and make our historic site come alive. His stories allow modern day visitors to understand the contributions of Pinchot, Schenck, Brandeis, and others, for the purpose of increasing appreciation for today's forests and the living legacy created by our early foresters.

Beanblossom has written numerous articles for local, state, regional, national and international publications that have brought welcome attention to the Cradle of Forestry and the significance of the forestry profession. He has spoken to Rotary Clubs and other venues where forestry is not a common topic. In all his presentations, Beanblossom's unassuming personality and unique style capture the interest of the respective audiences. His sincere enthusiasm for forestry is contagious to anyone who hears his presentations or reads the stories or articles he researches and writes. He has contributed to the *West Virginia Encyclopedia*, *Wonderful West Virginia Magazine*, and *Goldenseal*, a publication of the state's Division of Culture and History.

On numerous occasions, Beanblossom has served as a public information officer and/or fire prevention specialist for local, regional and national wildfire incidents. These assignments are completed under challenging conditions and his dedication to providing accurate information is readily apparent.

Congratulations Dennis, Mary Beth and Bob!

In Memoriam

Tim Pierson



Dr. Timothy G. Pierson, 69, of Barden Brook Road, passed away on Friday (July 12, 2019) in his home following an apparent heart attack. Born April 21, 1950, in Norristown, he was a son of Raymond and Caroline Taglieber Pierson. On Aug. 18, 1983, he married Bernice Anne White, who preceded him in death on Aug. 29, 2012. Later, on Sept. 9, 2017, on the Kinzua Skywalk surrounded by their family and friends, he married Theresa Bacha Robinson, who survives.

Tim was a 1968 graduate of Bishop Kendrick High School in Norristown. He was a veteran of the Vietnam era, having served in the [U.S. Air Force](#) in Germany assigned to the 36th Special Ranger Squadron. While stationed in Germany, Tim was an All-Star soccer player for the European Team. He then went on to [Penn State University](#), where he earned a B.S. in forest science in 1977, an M.S. in Agricultural Extension Education in 1982 and a doctorate in agricultural education in 1993.

Tim had been employed as an instructor at Penn State University in the Department of Agriculture and Biological Engineering prior to his moving to Eldred to take the position of extension educator in forest and natural resources for the Cooperative Extension in McKean County. He was very proud of his work on the Kane Quality Deer Cooperative, the Donald J. Comes Natural Resources Learning Center, and the Smethport Woody Biomass Demonstration Project. He was a member of the North Central Forest Landowner Association (NCFLA), PSU Alumni Association, the National Park Foundation and the NRA. He was a steward of the environment enjoying nature photography, fishing, hunting, and was a true conservationist.

Tim lived his life with love, caring and devotion to his children, wife, students and nature. Surviving are three daughters, Abigail (Kole Bromley) Pierson of Leon, N.Y., Sarah (Ryan) Schauder of Huntingdon Valley and Meghan (Chris) Dillon of Pittsburgh; two grandchildren, Isabella and Beau, as well as a grandson on the way; two step-children, Eric (Amanda) Robinson Jr. of Pittsburgh, and Tracy Robinson of Brooklyn, N.Y.; a brother, Richard "Dick" Pierson; and a sister, Judy (Larry) Rowe.

In addition to his wife Bernice and his parents, he is preceded in death by two brothers, Raymond "Sonny" Pierson Jr. and John "Jack" Pierson; and two sisters, Caroline "Sis" Evans and Ruth "Bootsie" Fox Fisher.

A celebration of Tim's life will be held at a date and time to be announced in a future edition. Memorial contributions may be made to the NCFLA or a wildlife conservation group of the donor's choice.

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Coming Events

February, 2020

26-28 Allegheny SAF Winter Training
Rothrock Chapter

Summer, 2020

Allegheny SAF Summer Training
Pinchot Chapter

February, 2021

Allegheny SAF Winter Training
NJ Division

Future SAF National Conventions

2020: Providence, RI Oct. 28 – Nov. 1

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