



May 2020

As spring unfolds the swelling of buds, emergence of flowers and leaves on the trees, resumption of bird song, and climbing arc of the sun reassure me that some things are still normal in the world. Many of you may share my feeling of gratitude for having learned in forestry school and in our careers that adaptive management is simply part of what we do. Whether it's figuring out how to teach field labs on-line, adjusting to working from home while other family members are also working and/or going to school from home, continuing to venture out to make sure essential work can continue, or honing the art of negotiation via Zoom rather than over the hood of the pick-up, I hope this finds you adapting well.

Welcome! to our new members in 2020 so far: Anil Raj Kizha, Alex George, Libin Thaikattil Louis, Sarah Spencer, and Jeffrey Williams.

Cancellation of the 2020 NESAF Winter Meeting was disappointing on many levels, including the missed opportunity for deserving award winners to receive recognition for their achievements in person. Please join me in congratulating our Maine members recognized by NESAF this year: **Barrie Brusila** - Austin Cary Practicing Professional Award; **Kris Hoffmann** - James W. Toumey Award; **Laura Kenefic** - David M. Smith Award; **Amanda Mahaffey** - Mollie Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award; **Steve Pelletier** - Integrity in Conservation Award. We also offer congratulations to **Trevor Jones**, who received the 2020 Maine Student Chapter Award. Trevor will be a senior in forestry this fall and is being recognized for his excellent work with consistent and effective communication, organization, and leadership for the UMaine SAF Student Chapter in 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Your Executive Committee has been meeting regularly since January. While video conferencing isn't quite the same as getting together, we are finding it saves time and travel, since we are geographically dispersed around the state. Although uncertainty persists about in-person meetings even into the fall, we are planning optimistically. On that note, we have decided to offer only two, rather than three field tours this summer – *Managing a Woodlot with an Invasive Species Component: What Can I Do?* in Bangor and *Deer Wintering Areas in Maine: What You Should Know as a Forester* near Bingham. To help us economize, we have decided not to mass mail flyers this year, but you can read about and register for these tours at mesaf.org. Thanks to our Members-at-Large, for their efforts in organizing these tours.

Our annual fall meeting is currently scheduled for October 13th on the topic of *Climate and Carbon*. We hope to incorporate information about large landowner projects, emerging initiatives to help family forest owners participate in carbon projects, and a discussion about northern hardwood decline. We will continue to pay close attention to the Governor's orders regarding public gatherings and keep you updated on the status of these tours and the fall meeting as summer progresses.

Speaking of the ExCom, opportunities to volunteer abound! We hope you will consider contributing your expertise to help keep MESAF current and relevant for the forestry community in Maine. Thank you for your consideration as well as for your continued membership in SAF, which helps keep us strong.

I certainly missed seeing many of you at the NESAF meeting and am very disappointed that the SAF national convention in Rhode Island has had to be converted to a virtual event. Nonetheless I look forward to seeing you (perhaps) on a summer field tour or at the fall meeting in Orono. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if you have concerns, suggestions, or just want to say hello.

Thank you for all you do for our profession,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carol L. Reddick".

MESAF seeks interested parties to run for election in the fall of 2020.

Contact information for current officers can be found on mesaf.org.

The **Treasurer** is elected to a two year term and thus will serve from January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022. The MESAF Treasurer:

- acts as custodian of the Division accounting records and accounts;
- receives and deposits all monies and disburses all monies authorized by the Chair or Executive Committee;
- prepares and presents a report of the Division's financial status at the fall business meeting, including an income and expense statement for the year's operations and a balance sheet as of the end of the fiscal year;
- provides all information required by IRS Form 990 and, if needed, Form 990-T to the Chair of the New England SAF; and
- serves as a member of the Executive Committee.

For more information on the time and tasks required in this position, please contact Bill Livingston.

Members-at Large are elected to a one-year term and thus will serve from January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. MALs:

- serve as a member of the Executive Committee; and
- organize the summer field tours.

For more information on the time and tasks required in this position, please contact Tom Coleman, Bob Cousins, or Ron Lemin.

The **Chair-elect** is elected to a three-year term and thus will serve in 2021 as Chair-elect, in 2022 as Chair, and in 2023 as Immediate Past Chair. The Chair-elect, Chair, and Immediate Past Chair work together to:

- identify business to conduct and conduct the Executive Committee meetings
- organize and execute the annual meeting each year
- coordinate nominations for NESAF and National awards
- coordinate communications with the members
- seek and encourage volunteers
- other necessary business incident to the office

For more information on the time and tasks required in this position, please contact Kirby Ellis, Carol Redelsheimer, or Nicole Rogers.

MESAF also seeks parties interested in serving a 2-year term as the **Division Manager**. This is an appointed position with an initial term of January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022, which may subsequently be renewed. The MESAF Division Manager receives a quarterly stipend and:

- serves as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, taking and distributing minutes of Executive Committee meetings and the annual Business Meeting;
- maintains the MESAF pages (mesaf.org) on the NESAF website
- prepares and distributes MESAF meeting announcements;
- runs registration for MESAF meetings and, every 4th year for the NESAF meeting;
- collects candidate materials for annual elections and conveys these to NESAF;
- prepares the coming-year roster of officers at the end of each year and conveys to the national SAF office; and
- works with the Chair and other officers to coordinate correspondence with the membership.

For more information about the time and tasks required in this position, please contact Laura Audibert.

If you have an interest in communications, social media, member engagement, the Forestry Awareness Committee, or even perhaps something new, please let us know. We welcome your thoughts and feedback.