

8/28/17

Hello Maine SAF Members,

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer to this point. It is my pleasure to announce that this year's Maine SAF Fall Meeting will be held jointly with The American Chestnut Foundation October 6th at the Double Tree Hotel in South Portland. We will have some great speakers and topics for this year's meeting. The morning portion of the meeting will deal with the proposed changes to Maine's Tree Growth Tax program from several different perspectives. The afternoon will be speakers talking about the post-glacial distribution of Chestnut as well as genetics, orchard management, and breeding programs of American Chestnut. If you stay down in South Portland for the Fall Meeting please consider joining us for our final Summer Field Tour on Chestnut Restoration. The tour will include a visit to one of Maine's largest surviving Chestnut tree! Please see the detailed flyer on both the Fall Meeting and the Chestnut Restoration tour with this letter. Our website, mesaf.org, has additional information and registration links.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Maine Division's Members at Large (Alex Ingraham, Kirby Ellis, and Brian Roth) for organizing our great Summer Field Tours. I would also like to thank the entire Maine Division Executive Committee for all of their hard work this year planning this year's Fall Meeting. They've spent a lot of time organizing these tours and bringing opportunities to different regions of the State this year. If you have ideas on possible topics for future meetings or tours please let the Executive Committee know. Also if you have interest in helping plan these meetings we have several positions on the Executive Committee up for election each year. It's always great to have new faces on the committee with fresh ideas. Positions up for election this year include: Chair Elect, Members at Large (3), and Representative to NESAF. Please be sure to vote when the ballot becomes available. We will also be looking to appoint a new Chair of our Forestry Awareness Committee. I would like to thank Anna Schwarcz for her years of service in this position. If you would like more information on these positions or are interested please contact myself or next year's chair Katie Manende.

Thank you all for your support of Maine SAF. It has been a pleasure serving you as the Maine Division Chair this year. I hope to see you all in South Portland October 6th for the Fall Meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Cousins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Cousins