

Maine Division
NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

**Maine
Division
Officers 2013**

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May 22, 2013

I am still decompressing from the recent and successful NESAF Spring Meeting at Sunday River Resort that the Maine Division hosted on May 15 – 17, 2013. Members of the executive, organizing, and program committee, provided yeoman service in facilitating the meeting over the course of the three days. I want to add my thanks to a great crew. If we count up all the unique names of attendees and speakers, there were 234 people on-site for some portion of the program. Evaluations were complimentary and strongly encouraged that a similar field meeting structure be repeated again at some point in the future.

Not resting too long on our respective laurels, your members-at-large have lined up two additional field tours for early summer, and detailed information is enclosed. Eli Shank and Ron Lemin are the organizers of the next field tour. This is a June 28 agenda with a focus on Northern White Cedar and presented by research scientists from both the USDA Forest Service and the Canadian Forest Service. Even though it is centered in Ashland, ME area; a charter bus starting in Old Town will be available for group shuttle service. Bob Cousins is in the process of scheduling a once in a career opportunity. As a follow-up to the enjoyable and entertaining presentation made last fall by Bill Jarvis, this field tour will offer a barge ride on Moosehead Lake to view firsthand the harvesting operation being managed by Bill on Deer Island. If interested, don't delay, this one will fill up fast. Also, in the initial planning stages, MESAF is assisting with several other groups (SWOAM, MFPC, and MFS) on the scheduling of two workshops with a focus on Oak management. Tentative locations are Bangor and Gray, with possible dates in late July or early September; the formal announcement will be widely distributed.

Please mark your calendar for the MESAF fall meeting, it is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15th and will be held at the Wells Conference Center at UMaine in Orono. The major theme will be "Local Wood," investigating approaches for energizing and developing sources, processing, and delivery of wood products along the lines the increasingly popular "Community Sustainable Agriculture" farm operations and member shares.

The executive committee is seeking interested members for nomination and to stand for election this fall, serving as either vice-chair (a 3-year commitment) or as a member-at-large (1-year term). This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your local Division and to help manage the Division and offer programs that meet expressed continuing education needs, and the final carrot is that you also receive free registration to all MESAF meetings and field tours.

Earlier this year, on January 25th, the Board of Licensed Foresters (board) and the Maine Forest Service (MFS) submitted a report to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry (ACF) summarizing their joint findings and recommendations as directed by Resolve 2011, Chapter 130 to examine forester licensing requirements, with the purpose of streamlining. The Resolve directed that the board and MFS develop recommendations that:

1. Simplify the education, testing, and experience requirements for obtaining a license as a forester; and
2. Allow a person who meets specified experience levels and demonstrates knowledge of forestry law to be exempt from the education requirements of Title 32, section 5514, subsection 2.

As of this date, ACF has not taken any action on the report recommendations. A copy of the report is available from the MESAF website.

At NESAF, the vice chair position needs a nomination this fall, and both grant applications for funding local SAF projects and award nominations are taken at any time, but are due by the December 1st deadline.

Enjoy the spring, I hope to see most of you at one or another of several field tours, and then in October at our annual fall meeting,

