GSD Celebrates 50 Years of Rock Solid Forestry

BERLIN, New Hampshire – The Northern Forest Heritage Park hosted approximately 80 Granite State foresters and their families on Saturday, September 14, in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Granite State Division. Past State Forester and New Hampshire elder statesman of forestry Ted Natti was on hand to help plant the commemorative Red Oak on the Park grounds. Ted was one of the original founders of what was the Granite State Chapter, SAF, in 1952. Ted was also honored and presented with a plaque in recognition of his half-century of service to forestry in New Hampshire.

The occasion was also taken to recognize the International Year of the Mountains with a presentation to the Mount Washington Observatory of a commemorative plaque from the Governor of New Hampshire for planting the commemorative Red Oak to mark GSD/SAF's '50 Years of Rock Solid Forestry'.

(Continued on page 5)

NE SAF Proclaims Honor Our Mountain Day


Governors of the six New England states jointly supported this celebration and issued a proclamation recognizing the highest point in their state and proclaiming September 21, 2002 as "Honor Our Mountain Day.

The New England Society of American Foresters feel that this is overdue recognition of an often overlooked part of our national heritage. Collaboration of the Society, The States' Governors and those who are responsible for protecting and managing these valuable mountains and forest assets proudly shows the good relationship between private ownership, nonprofit organizations and government agencies that we are fortunate to share in New England. — Bob Edmonds, Chair
Members Serving You In 2002

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The News Quarterly is the official publication of the New England Society of American Foresters. It is published in January, April, June, and October, and is mailed from Berlin, NH under a non-profit organization bulk mail permit. Address all inquiries to Brad Wyman, 53 Wyman Road, West Dummer, NH 03588 603-449-6794 (voice), 449-3312 (fax). abwyman@ncia.net
Opinion

To the Editor:

While Chad Hanson of the Sierra Club chases the Oil obsessed Bush Administration around the forest fires that are rampant now in the country, the matter of protection of vacation homes planted grandly in and around Government Forests of all kinds seems uppermost in both their minds.

What both these preachers are missing in their finger pointing is far more serious to a country engaged in a deadly struggle to protect energy sources in remote and dangerous quarters of the world. To date this year, the wild fires, from lightning and arson, have scorched well over 2.5 million acres of timber. The oil equivalent of the timber/biomass, on the acres burned is 160 barrels of oil per acre, according to US Forest Service sources.

This is like torching almost half a billion barrels of oil, right in our backyard. Recent years have seen as many as 4 million acres of wild fires, but the fire season still has months to go.

With the Bush administration seeing "energy" only in fossil fuels or nuclear power, when they search, and with the Sierra Club and other "Environmenental" groups actively opposed to logging of any kind on our nation's forests, it is most ironic and vastly counter to our ultimate national interests, and our survival, that the 500 million acres of commercial forest land, much of it government owned, is not constructively encouraged by a national energy policy that promotes renewable energy of all kinds, including energy from sustainably managed forests, solar and wind energy.

Only when the enormous costs of protecting our Oil Pipelines from the Middle East and elsewhere, show up at the pump and the oil delivery trucks, or when enough bodies are returned for burial, will we realize that Oil is NOT cheap. Perhaps then the Sierra Club will rethink their course as they see how they have helped to drive us to the Alaska wilderness and Arabia with the Bush Administration, ignoring the real tragedy of the wasted energy on "their" battleground... Well done!

John Calhoun, Forester
Gilsum, NH

New Science?

While on a recent tour of flower gardens sponsored by a local group to raise money for a nearby community project one of the stops was located on a hill overlooking a small New Hampshire valley with a slope that had recently been logged. I mentioned to one of the tour organizers how nice it looked and asked what kind of development was planned. I anticipated hearing about homes that would be built and the spread of urban sprawl. Not so.

The person said "Yes, it does look nice. It is a new technique by forestry to encourage reproduction. No development is planned."

Are we missing something?? It was a clearcut with a few residual saplings.-(Merve Stevens, Walpole, NH)

To Our Readers:

Due to Christmas holidays abroad, the News Quarterly, will be published two weeks behind the normal January schedule. It should be showing up in your mailbox around the first week of February.—Ed

Our mission as foresters is to be responsible stewards of the Earth’s forests while meeting society’s vital needs. The challenge of our mission lies in keeping forest ecosystems healthy and intact while concurrently drawing on their resources. We will meet this challenge by carefully monitoring and managing the effects of natural and human forces on the forest. Our decisions will be guided by our professional knowledge, our compassion for all living things, our desire to improve citizens' lives, and our respect and concern for the entire forest ecosystem. By advancing forestry science, education, technology, and the practice of forestry, NE SAF will provide the leadership to achieve its mission.
An agreement, between The Nature Conservancy and Great Northern Paper to protect 241,000 acres of GNP land northwest of Millinocket and westerly of Baxter State Park is seen as having a new twist to financing conservation easements. The Nature Conservancy will purchase $50 million of the paper company’s debt in exchange for ownership of 41,000 acres in the Debsconeag Lake region and a conservation easement on another 200,000 acres of managed forestlands. The 400 square miles equals a tract of land approximately 40 percent of the size of Rhode Island. Public access uses, such as fishing, canoeing hunting, hiking and snowmobiling will continue. The deal will leave traditional camp leases intact. The agreement does bar clear-cutting and blocks potential development of large residential estates. (Group Gets Forest Land Agreement, Central Maine Newspapers, August 28, 2002.)

Maine Tree Farm Program Celebrated 50 Years at the Arlan and Eleanor Jodrey Tree Farm in Bethel at the Maine Tree Farm Annual Field Day. More than 85 people attended to learn the latest in white pine management and other current forest resource issues.

Multiple use of the forest by the neighboring Bethel Academy for its cross-country ski events showed a working relationship for recreation and forest management. Students also become cognizant of good forest management. Bethel Academy’s forest lands are a certified Tree Farm. The hot topic of the day was with the local fish and game warden, who was besieged with questions on the growing problem of uncontrolled use of ATV’s.

A demonstration of serious pruning of white pine at the annual Maine Tree Farm Field Day in Bethel, Maine, B1/7/02.—Photo by Marc Johnson

Special guests, who made short presentations to the audience were: Stephanie Brown: Deputy Director of the American Tree Farm System, Tom Doak: Director of the Maine Forest Service, and Ron Lovaglio: Commissioner of the Maine Department of Conservation.

Rachel Wadsworth, Miss Maine, and daughter of MESAF member Jack Wadsworth, talked about how Tree Farming has been an important part of her life and was going to use its
message in part of her presentation at the Miss America Pageant.

Maine Audubon selected MESAF member, Ralph Knoll as the organization’s Conservationist of the Year, at its annual meeting May 10th. Ralph is the Director of Planning and Acquisitions for the Bureau of Parks and Lands since 1995. Maine Audubon noted that, “Ralph Knoll has helped ensure that many of Maine’s natural communities will thrive in public ecological reserves. (Habitat, Journal of Maine Audubon, July/August 2002)

The MESAF Fall/Winter Meeting, to be held December 12, 2002 at the Black Bear Inn in Old Town will address the topic of liquidation harvesting. Contact Laura Audibert, MESAF business manager at la4568@sjv.net.

The annual MESAF forestry poster contest is underway for Maine’s sixth grade students. Volunteers to visit schools, to share your forestry knowledge, are always welcome and needed. Please contact Patty Cormier, Maine Forest Service, 536 Waldoboro Road, Jefferson, ME 04348 or call, 1-207-549-9003.

The “Maine Woodsman” after three years, is being revived as a twice-monthly, digital publication that will be sent to as many as 17,000 landowners, loggers, legislators, academics, advocates, foresters, forest-products companies and others with an interest in the Maine Woods. The earlier publication was an interesting assortment of issues, interviews with people associated with the issues and some early forest history. It is reported by the publisher, Andy Kekacs. The publication may eventually be sold for a nominal fee, but currently with funding from key supporters, the Maine Woodsman will be offered free for at least the next six months. To get on the mailing list contact (mewoodsman@att.net).

GRANITE STATE Division—Jonathan Nute

(Continued from page 1)

display in their facility at the summit.

The celebration was funded by profits from the Annual NESAF meeting in Manchester last March. There was a full slate of activities and programs during the day, affording an excellent demonstration of Northern Forest Heritage Park facilities and attractions. Tours of the Berlin’s historic neighborhoods and the paper mill and a boat tour of the Androscoggin River were offered. There were presentations on the Origin of the Appalachian Mountains, Depression Era Berlin, Logging of Yesteryear, Logging Stories, History of Brown Company and Abenaki History. Children’s activities include Project Learning Tree activities, Games of Yesteryear and Face Painting. Throughout the day, two blacksmiths demonstrated their skills in the “smithy”. The Park gift shop of local artisans was well visited as contributing artisans were present to demonstrate their work.

The Northern Forest Heritage Park is becoming a popular tourist attraction featuring northern forest and logging history and education about the working forest and its cultural and economic heritage. It should be on the “must visit” list of foresters throughout the northeast. Their website is http://www.northernforestheritage.org/

Mariko Yamasaki, a Forest Service scientist in Durham, NH, was presented the Chief’s Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer at a recent ceremony in Washington, DC. The citation for Mariko’s award reads: “In recognition of exemplary service to land managers in the northeast by developing and transferring knowledge about forest management effects on wildlife habitat.”

To compete for the award, a nomination was required to address three areas:

1. Demonstrated exceptional creativity and initiative: Mariko Yamasaki is New England’s expert. Throughout her career Mariko has striven to make complex relationships between forest structure and vegetation and the needs of wildlife understandable to professional land managers and the public. In the past three years,
Mariko has been invited to over a dozen conferences and field workshops in the Northeast as the regional authority on silvicultural impacts on wildlife habitat.

2. Significant and tangible benefits: Mariko’s technology transfer efforts have had a positive impact across the region. Working one-on-one and with small groups of managers and decision makers, she has improved habitat management for non-game wildlife on public lands, in New England. Because of Mariko’s participation on an SFI review, one major industrial forest landowner changed management practices to increase vertical structure and lengthen rotations on their ownership.

3. The technology transfer process used by the nominee: General Technical Report NE-144, “New England Wildlife: Management of Forested Habitats”, was a key product that brought Mariko’s skills as a Research Wildlife Biologist to the attention of educators and managers throughout New England. Her talent for explaining complex relationships in lay terms keeps her in demand as a popular conference, workshop and field tour presenter. In addition, her forthright manner, hands-on approach, and in-the-woods savvy make her a favored consultant to state agencies and forest

VERMONT Division—Ray Toolan

Not much to report from here in Vermont. Pulp markets continue to be a problem. Hardwood prices seem to be depressed but softwoods seem to be moving.

The legislature made some changes to the Use Value Appraisal law. Participants in the forest land program no longer need to send an Annual Conformance Report unless there has been activity on the land and the penalty rules have been changed. Previously if a parcel was discontinued due to development a penalty of 20% of the fair market value of the acres so developed was charged to the landowner. Under the new law this remains the same for the first 10 years of enrollment. After that the penalty drops to 10%.

Beetle populations, fungi, exotic invasives, and helpless Butternut populations lured nearly two dozen foresters to the Green Mountain Division Summer Meeting on July 26th. Some came to see the recovery from the ice storm damage at Mt. Philo and were amazed to learn that we had been lured into a false sense of security now that the greening of the forest has returned. A closer examination has revealed beetle and fungus populations that have had quite a residual impact on the present stand as well as some greenery that has “invaded” Vermont’s first state park.

Mt. Philo State Park was so severely damaged by the 1998 ice storm that it was closed for an entire season until the downed and severely damaged vegetation could be removed and people could once again use the park safely. According to Dr. Dale Bergdahl, our leader for the morning, Mt. Philo has become a study

GSD Division officers are calling for executive committee candidates. Policy and Education Directorships are both open. If you wish to serve, please contact Steve Najjar. His contact information is found on page two.
area for: (1) fungal flora associated with early stages of decomposition of fallen hardwood debris; (2) monitoring changes in carabidae and collembola populations; and (3) understory regeneration following the ice storm. Several fungi have been found on most tree species but there appears to be some specificity for many found on eleven species that have developed wood deterioration fungi. Since the ice storm, hardwood stems per acre have ranged from 4200 in plots with no cutting and little storm damage to over 20,000 stems in heavily damaged areas that were not cut.

Josh Ellsworth from U.Mass and Tim Morton and Kathy Decker from the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks enlightened us about invasive plants. Mt. Philo is not exempt from several of them thanks to the abundant light and soil disturbance created since 1998. Because foresters plan and monitor “controlled disturbance” in the form of silvicultural treatments, they can have a direct impact on the spread of invasive plants. Adopting management practices that prevent or slow the spread of these plants should become a priority for foresters. General guidelines for prevention and control of invasive species include: (1) Find them—incorporate their detection into your reconnaissance. 2) Don’t hasten their spread. - keep soil disturbance to a minimum. Seed in skid roads and landings with native grasses, and maintain an intact native understory and shrub layer to compete with invaders. (Gary Salmon, Pittsford, VT)

Two studies on the butternut canker have been ongoing at the Jericho Research Forest for several years. The UVM researchers are interested in determining spatial and statistical analysis of physical site factors on the occurrence and severity of the canker in northwestern Vermont. Current research is focused on whether links between the site and canker virulence exist, and if so, whether changes in management practices could be implemented to curtail its spread. Preliminary analysis indicates that 86% of the butternuts visited within the study area have SCJ and 44% are dead. Another consideration being studies is how the canker is spread. Sherry Halik with Dale Bergdahl have been researching the possibility of beetles as possible vectors of the butternut canker fungus.

After a long-anticipated wait and multiple reviews and edits, the interactive CD “VERMONT FORESTS FOREVER” became available for distribution in mid-September. It is designed for use by 5th and 6th graders and will introduce students to one of Vermont’s greatest renewable resources. Students will learn about the forest environment, balancing the needs of humans and natural forest communities, and the diversity of forest products we use every day.

The idea, conceived by the Green Mountain Division several years ago, became a final product supported additionally by the Northeasterners Loggers Association, U.S. Forest Service, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, American Forest and Paper Association (Sustainable Forestry Initiative), the Friends of Vermont Forests Forever, and the Vermont Department of Education. The actual CD features lively video footage, youth-friendly discussions and activities, and hands-on-learning. Once students become involved in the video they can try their hand at managing a forest by learning first-hand how foresters manage for the needs of human and natural communities. They can take part in the “I Wood If I Could” game show to learn about forest products or tour a virtual forest and meet some of the animals that live there. Students can even take a pre- and post-test to check forest knowledge. Jock Harvey, Beth Ann Finlay, Sara Packer, Leo Laferriere, Bruce Shields, Jay Maciejowski, Ginger Anderson, Bill Samal, Peter Condaxis, Mark Scott, William Sayre, John McClain, Dwight Davis, Jonathan Wood, and Robbo Holleran were instrumental in its production. Contact the Northern Vermont Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council, 617 Comstock Road, Suite 2, Berlin, Vermont 05602-8498 or by calling 802-828-4595. (Gary F. Salmon, Pittsford, VT)

Steven Sinclair, a 27-year veteran of the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, has been named Director, replacing Dave Stevens, who retired in May. Steve began his career as a Forestry Technician and has held numerous and varied posts within the organization. For the past eleven years he has headed the Urban
and Community Forest Program.

After four years of delay induced by concerns for the Indiana bat, the Green Mountain National Forest has approved a harvest referred to as the “Old Joe Project.” The Forest Service announced that it will seek bids from loggers to begin harvesting this winter. Meanwhile, at least one environmental watchdog, Forest Watch, has vowed to appeal.

The 2003 NESAF Winter Meeting will be held March 18-20, 2003 in Burlington, VT. "Private Lands - Public Benefits" will investigate why the public is looking to private forest owners and managers for greater outputs of commodities and services and what opportunities this demand shift provides. Vermont Woodlands Association will cosponsor a half day intensive review of the "tools" available to motivate private forestland owners to manage land more intensively. Mark your calendar now for March 18-20.

RHODE ISLAND — Marc Tremblay

The RI Chapter will be hosting its annual “Walk in the Woods” on October 16th, 2002 at Goddard State Park in East Greenwich, RI. Chapter member Paul Dolan is coordinating the event, and will recruit school teachers through the RI Environmental Education Assn. to obtain several classes for the day of walks. A number of home-schooled students also typically attend with their parents, who belong to a local association of home-schoolers. An effort will be made to generate publicity for the event, both before and after, to get people from the general public to attend, and to increase public awareness of SAF and forestry.

The RI Chapter again this year provided some financial support to the Envirothon effort, and member Paul Dolan organized the forestry component of the competition itself. This included pre-competition training and mentoring sessions for the student teams, and organization of the actual forestry competition during the day of the event. This year’s winning team in the state competition proceeded to the national competition in Amherst, Mass. Again, Paul participated in the forestry component of that national competition, which was organized by MA DEM forester Joe Perry.

RI Chapter Chair Tom Abbott presented a proclamation signed by the governor of Rhode Island to a representative of Brown University and state representative Nick Gorham, as Rhode Island’s participation in the International Year of the Mountain. The event took place on Friday, September 27, 2002, near the summit of Jerimoth Hill in Foster, RI. The governor’s proclamation establishes September 21, 2002 as the day honoring the “mountain” of Rhode Island, which ascends to a lofty height of 812 feet. One can see into Connecticut from here (about 2 miles away). The actual site of this pinnacle is owned by Brown University, and an abutting property owner who does not allow people to traverse his property.
MASSACHUSETTS — Jennifer Fish

Massachusetts has been following the tradition dating to at least the American Revolution of nonconformity. We have a number of competing forest-oriented organizations. These include the Massachusetts Forestry Association, The Massachusetts Wood Producers Association, the Massachusetts State Forestry Committee and of course the Tree Farm Group. We are also blessed with three professional organizations:

1. The Massachusetts SAF Chapter
2. The Massachusetts Association of Professional Foresters which was organized primarily to represent Forestry matters within Massachusetts before there was a Massachusetts SAF Chapter. The members of this group believe it should be continued because it can present state positions without national SAF influence and because dues are substantially less than SAF.
3. Some Massachusetts consulting foresters are joining a new national group called the Forest Stewardship Council.

Among the problems faced in Massachusetts are:

1. The birth pangs of Forestry Licensing.
2. Controversy over the certification of all state owned forest land. Some believe that the State Forests have been very poorly managed and should not be certified at this time.
3. Much dissatisfaction with the application of the Forest Cutting Act. Changes in the regulations are the province of the State Forestry Committee. However the SFC has been nearly inactive, partly because there have been no appointments to the committee following expiration of terms.

Bill Hull of Hull Forest Products (HFC) has acquired of about 10,000 acres of forest land, all subject to conservation restrictions preventing development. HFC has also purchased an abandoned paper mill in Russell, MA as the site of a future saw mill. There has been resentment on the part of some local forest interests of the fact that a Connecticut business has moved into Massachusetts. — (Howard F. Mason, Russell, MA)

CONNECTICUT — Joseph P. Barsky

The Connecticut Division of Environmental Protection is holding public hearing concerning proposed “Conduct of Forest Practitioner Regulations.” The proposal will require all certified forest practitioners to disclose all conflicts of interest, costs and obligations to landowners, accurately represent their qualifications, and prohibit them from engaging in fraudulent forest practices and issuing false information. No comments were sent from the chapter.

The DEP is also reviewing the current Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The proposed revisions would change eight county soil and water conservation districts into five watershed-based districts. It is hoped that the restructuring will improve environmental management on a natural resource basis rather than by county boundaries. Further information at http://dep.state.ct.us/wtr/regs/consbrief.htm

The Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies held a public forum on “Marketing Certified Forest Products: Linking Forest Management and Markets” on Sept. 24. Featured in the discussion were: Eric Hansen, associate professor of forest products marketing at Oregon State University’s College of Forestry, Suzanne Mangino, manager of the American Forest and Paper Association’s Office of Label Use and Licensing, Abraham Guillen, business development manager of the Rainforest Alliance’s SmartWood program, and Samuel Doak, executive vice president of the Certified Forest Products Council, and Dr. Michael Washburn, director of the Program on Forest Certification, as program moderator.
The Division of Forestry mobilized 52 people comprising three crews this summer to assist with fire suppression in Arizona, California, Colorado, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah. Several single resources were also sent, including: Emery Gluck, Ed McGuire, Kevin Grady, Tom Nozzle, Sara Burke, Jill Scheibengflug, and Rich Schenk. In Connecticut as of September 19, there were approximately 96 wildland fires totaling 182 acres.

The application deadline for the Fall Forest Practitioner examinations is February 01, 2003.

QUEBEC — Kim Lowell

In the next two years, a number of important forestry meetings will be held in Québec City. The Crossroads of Research, will take place on February 19 and 20, in Québec for the first time in 6 years. This is a conference for all those working in forestry to have access to the latest Canadian research and technological developments. During the week of September 21-28, 2003, Québec will play host to the 12th World Forestry Conference. The theme will be “The Forest: Source of Life” and is being sponsored by the Ministries of Natural Resources of Canada and of Québec, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. Finally, the annual meeting of the New England SAF is scheduled for March 23-25, 2004, in Quebec.

An historic agreement that will affect forest management in the James Bay territory in northern Québec has been signed by the Government of Québec and the Cree Nation of Québec. The agreement will provide $3.5 billion in community development projects to the Cree Nation over the next 50 years and will ensure that forest management in the region respects the traditional use of forest land by the Cree people. This includes the use of traditional trap-line areas as the basic forest management unit, specific requirements for harvests conducted in areas rich in wildlife, mosaic cutting to preserve a certain minimum forest cover in each trap-line area, and guaranteed preservation of specific sites of interest to the Cree (including archaeological sites and canoe portages). In return, the government of Québec retains certain rights for the economic exploitation of the forest resource and also for the development of hydroelectric power.

The Industrial Research Centre of Quebec has just successfully tested a machine that continually measures the amount of “fluff” on paper as it is produced. The amount of fluff -- or small debris and dust -- is the principle cause of paper machines going off-line. In addition, monitoring the amount of fluff will allow industrial producers to improve the quality of their paper. The machine is completely automated and relies on digital cameras linked to sophisticated software algorithms.

A recent Phone-athon by the Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics at Laval University netted $41,320. The money will be used for a variety of programs offered within the Faculty ranging from supporting Forest Science Week, buying a metal detector, and supporting internships in international forestry. Special thanks are due to the Ministry of Natural Resources and the forest company Kruger each of which contributed $10,000.

New international agreements have recently been concluded between Université Laval and two Honduran organizations devoted to research and education in forestry and agroforestry: the National School of Forest Sciences and the Pan-American Zamorano Agricultural School. These agreements should further the goal of an already established protocol to create joint projects between Honduras and Canada. This effort is being led by Profs. Jean Tomlinson and Luc Bouthillier.

A new professor, John MacKay, has been recruited to the Chair in Forest Genome in the Department of Wood and Forest Sciences of Laval University. Dr. MacKay will contribute to ongoing forest genome research and will focus on the genetic improvement of trees. Before coming to Laval, Dr. MacKay worked at the Institute of Paper Science and Technology in Atlanta, Georgia where he focused in particular on molecular selection of trees for the production of pulp and paper.
NE SAF AFFAIRS

From the Chair — Bob Edmond

A Most Memorable Gift — and it’s free!

We were taught as children the importance of saying thank you. Now that we are adults, the importance hasn’t diminished a bit. As professionals, saying thank you to colleagues has a very special value. The cost hasn’t changed since we were kids. It’s free.

Now is the time to say that special “thank you for all you have done” through NESAF awards and through the national SAF awards system.

The time investment is very low and the gift will last a lifetime in the mind and heart of the recipient. New Englanders like bargains. You won’t find a better one than this.

Please take the time now to nominate someone that you know and respect for an award. The good feeling that the recipient feels will be reflected in your own feelings. Just think of how you would react to having a professional colleague, perhaps one you never realized recognized all that you have done, nominate you. Having your professional society honor you would be a thrill. Why not give that thrill to someone you know who deserves recognition.

With so many outstanding people in NESAF, it is a crime to let an award position go unfilled. Please don’t put yourself in the position where you slap your head at award presentation time, saying to yourself, “I should have nominated... when I had the chance!”

Now is the time. Please nominate that special person. That person will feel great. So will you.

Honor Your Colleague
Submit an Award Nomination

See Page 15 for the Awards Nomination Form

Councilor’s Report — John McNulty

The Forgotten Class
jmcnulty@sevenislands.com

A declining membership has been front and center of the focus of work your Council has been doing for the past few years. Through the concerted effort of many, membership losses were significantly slowed but were not reversed. We believe SAF is taking the steps required to provide programs its member’s desire. Why then...when we built it, do they not come? This may not be the right question. Our efforts may have retained members that otherwise may have left. The larger questions remain...What has fundamentally changed about the way professional societies are viewed in society at large? And...How have cultural patterns changed that influence this view?

I maintain that membership decline is symptomatic of cultural and societal changes at large, rather than a signal of dissatisfaction with SAF. The digital revolution has changed the way individuals view their place in society and how they interact with others. Diverse organizations have given way to specialized groups that work for a similar purpose, like the Forest Stewards Guild. We now have access to a wealth of specialized information that allows us to focus on areas of intense interest rather than working within the larger discipline. If we accept that these changes are at the root of the membership problem, how can SAF remain relevant?

We must emphasize the benefits of membership in the larger group while providing members vehicles to explore their specialties. Our success at attracting and retaining new members for career-oriented membership will determine the long-term health of the organization, rather than focusing on those who have decided that membership no longer serves their needs.

Students are The Forgotten Class...the long-ignored pool of potential members. Understanding the forgotten class is key to constructing the message. Today’s student wants to see
the relevancy of SAF membership. SAF at all levels should build outreach programs for forestry students, designed to leave no student behind. This effort will be founded on the very benefits we derive from membership at the local and state levels...personal connections, networking and relationships.

New England and New York contain some of the finest forestry schools in the nation. We cannot leave the charge of building student membership to the student chapter. As mentors, we have a responsibility to assist them in this mission. I challenge each state society to contact the forestry schools in their state to assist the student chapter build membership. Demonstrate that we care about those entering the profession and that the rewards of participating are large. This will provide students with a tangible connection to SAF membership after graduation...a sense of what the future can be. Other opportunities are sponsorship of membership fees or travel to regional meetings, holding meetings at the schools and utilizing the SAF mentoring program. This initiative will build membership at the base, solidifying and broadening the foundation of the organization. The simple fact that a student has chosen to attend forestry school says a great deal about his/her world view and should make our task rather simple.

Certified Forester Deadline

The deadline for non-exam application for Certified Forester status is quickly approaching. This program has the potential of becoming THE recognized national standard for professional foresters.

Wouldn't it be a shame to realize three years from now that you could have gained Certified Forester status simply by registering and paying a fee rather than having to take this cussed exam? I strongly recommend that all those who qualify, waste no time in sending in your application to avoid the exam. The Society of American Foresters offers much to those who value their chosen profession and see forestry as one's life's work and not simply a means to a paycheck.

Policy Committee — Jonathan Wood

Your policy committee is looking for input from the membership on regional issues. Please contact your policy chair (see page two) with comments or concerns on NESAF policy.

When policy issues that concern you arise let the policy chair know! Also, remember that personal contact with your elected representative is the most powerful way to be heard. A quick email or FAX to your congressional delegation is a great way to make a difference. Contact the NESAF policy chair if you need to know the official NESAF position on any issue or if you need contact information for your delegation. Don't complain about the issues. Get involved and be heard!

Events

A conference on "Forest Owner Cooperation: Balancing Ecology and Economics," will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 1 and 2nd, in Northampton, MA. It is sponsored by a number of public and private organizations. Contact for more information: 1-413-774-7599, extension 114.

Plan to attend a one-day workshop on "Using fire to control invasive plants in the Northeast," with the latest results from a study funded by the Joint Fire Science Program and conducted by co-principal investigators Alison C. Dibble and William A. Patterson III, with Julie Richburg and Mark J. Ducey, plus others from our region and beyond. Urban Forestry Center, Portsmouth, NH, Jan 24, 2003 (save Feb 7 as alternate date). More details will be coming soon, or contact adibble@fs.fed.us

Visit the Tom Rush Forest, Saturday, November 9, 10:00 AM, Deering, NH. Explore the Society for the Protection of NH Forests newest acquisition, a 300-acre mosaic of forest and fields close to historic Deering Village. Moderately strenuous walk.

Saturday, December 7, 9:00 — 4:00, visit the Holiday Open House at the Conservation Center in Concord, NH. Select a Christmas tree from the Rocks Estate Tree Farm in Bethlehem. Call 603 224-9945.
Michael J. Whalen, 53, died June 12, 2002, in Bangor, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born April 13, 1949, in Rome, N.Y., and was raised in Plattsburgh, N.Y. He and his beloved wife, Joyce resided in Sangerville, ME. Mike was the wood buyer for Hardwood Products Co. LP in Guilford. He moved to Maine in 1974 and started his forestry and wood buying career with Diamond International Corporation. He was employed by Hardwood Products Co. in 1985, where he continued his wood buying career. He was involved with many forestry organizations: Society of American Foresters; Maine Hardwood Association, where he served as president from 1987-1989; American Pulpwood Association, where he served as president 1998-1999; and Forest Resources Association, where he served as president 1999-2000. He was also an active member of the Maine Forest Products Council and the local chapter of Small Woodlot Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM). Mike was a dedicated member of the Guilford Area Kiwanis Club, where he earned the honor of Outstanding President in 1989-1990, and Outstanding Secretary in 1990-1991. He was a communicant of Holy Family Church in Sangerville, and a 3rd Degree member of the Dover-Foxcroft Council of the Knights of Columbus. One of Mike's passions was deer hunting in Maine and New York. He is survived by his beloved wife, Joyce (Doore) Whalen of Sangerville. They were married July 13, 1991. Friends who wish may make memorial contributions to Central Maine SWOAM, care of Toby Hall, P.O. Box 25, Sangerville 04479.

Wilfred J. Merrill, 86, died April 15. He was born July 19, 1915, in Solon.

Merrill graduated from the University of Maine in 1938 with a bachelor's degree in forestry. He had been employed at Seaboard Paper Company, Berst Foster-Dixfield, Hollingsworth & Whitney, Quimby Veneer mill, Glenn Wing Sawmill and E. D. Bessey & Son as a forester and a wood buyer for more than 20 years. He also made snowshoes under the name of Holway Snowshoes. He served on the solon school board, was trstee and lay leader of the Solon Methodist Church, was a member, past master and trustee of the Keystone Lodge AF & AM of Solon, a member of the IOOF Lodge of Solon and a membe of the maine Mayflower Society. Merrill has been a member of the Society of American Foresters since 1939.

Financial Update — Larry Rousseau, Treas.

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<td><strong>OVERALL TOTAL</strong></td>
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NESAF Membership Trend

![Graph showing NESAF membership trend]

**Welcome New Members!**

GSD
- Jason K Riggins
- Steven Patrick Lennartz

CT
- John P Toomey
- Morgan E Holen
- Jason R Martin
- Abigail R Kimbell
- Joshua Jason Puhlick
- Andrew I Hubbard
- Megan Mattox

MA
- Stephen DeStefano

GMD
- Chung-Hong Fu

ME
- Jennifer L Brickey
- Aaron R Carroll
- Chris Eckelman

UMASS
- Edgar P Carpenter

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<th>National SAF</th>
<th>Nov-97</th>
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<th>Apr-01</th>
<th>Aug-01</th>
<th>Oct-01</th>
<th>Feb-02</th>
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**CFE Update**

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<th>Activity/Date/Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Malformed Frogs; 8/2/02, Pinkham Notch, NH</td>
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<td>Pinkham Notch, NH</td>
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<td>Looking Below the Surface; 8/16/02</td>
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<td>Hardwood Lumber Grading Workshop; 8/14&amp;15/02</td>
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<td>Brattleboro, VT</td>
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<td>Forest Soils Conf.; 8/27/02, New Salem, MA</td>
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<td>Forest Law Field Training for Municipal Officials</td>
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<td>9/18/02, New Hampton &amp; 9/24/02, Tamworth, NH</td>
<td>6.5/1</td>
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<td>So. New England Forest Conference; 9/25/02, Storrs, CT</td>
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<td>Wetlands, Wildlife &amp; Loggers; 9/27/02, Rumney, NH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tree Measurement Workshop; 10/02/02</td>
<td>5/1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillsborough, NH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tree Farm Inspectors Training; 10/04/02</td>
<td>5/1/2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hillsborough, NH</td>
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**Activity/Date/Location**

Portable Skidder Bridge Workshop; 10/05/02, Hollis, NH 1/1
Tree Farm Field Day; 10/05/02; Epping, NH 1/1
Arborist Tree ID Workshop; 10/10/02; Blithewold Arboretum, RI 4/1
Wood Measurement Training; 10/10/02; Orono, ME 8/1
Basic Logger Rescue; 1/15/02; Brooklyn, CT 6/1
& 10/17/02; Gardner, MA
Professional Chainsaw Operation; 10/16/02 6/1
Voluntown, CT
Ethics & Images for Loggers; 10/18/02; Gerdner, MA 3.5/1
Eastern CANUSA Forest Science Conference 10/1
10/19-20/02; Orono, ME
Forest Owner Cooperation: Balancing Ecology & Economics; 11/1-2/02, Northampton, MA 8/1

You may obtain a chronological list of all evaluated programs that have taken place during the past three years by sending $1 cash (for postage and printing) to me at my office.

Jon Nute
UNH Cooperative Extension
468 Route 13, South Milford, NH 03055
NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

☐ INTEGRITY IN CONSERVATION AWARD: Presented an individual or organization working with natural resources for adherence to principles and demonstration of high standards in the face of adversity. The work may be in process and the effort need not have "won" or "lost" – only that it was conducted in an outstanding manner in an adverse operating environment. Nominations need not be limited to members of NESAF.

☐ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE: The purpose is to give official recognition to professional achievement in forestry; to make known to the general public outstanding contributions of individual foresters to their profession and to enhance the public image of the forestry profession. The criteria include: professional achievement in the field of Forestry or closely allied fields (i.e. working group of the parent society); participation in SAF; and service to the local or regional community.

☐ JAMES W. TOUMEY AWARD: Presented for Outstanding Achievement in Service to the New England Society of American Foresters.

☐ AUSTIN CARY PRACTICING PROFESSIONAL AWARD: Recognizes a member who has shown outstanding achievement recently or over a period of years as a practicing forest manager or consultant forester.

☐ ERNEST M. GOULD, JR. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD: Given to a member who has made outstanding contribution to natural resource science and management through education, extension, or youth service.

☐ MOLLIE BEATTIE YOUNG FORESTER LEADERSHIP AWARD: Presented to a member who is less than 40 years old at the time of nomination and has shown leadership in a program or project benefiting the practice of forestry.

-------------------Please Check the box next to the award for which you are submitting a nomination----------------

YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS:

NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBERS OF PERSON YOU ARE NOMINATING:

-----------------------------------------

NOMINATION PACKAGE

NOMINATION LETTER
Must include a description of how the nominee meets the stated award criteria. Please limit your comments to a maximum of two pages and attach to this cover.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
Please attach to this cover form a one-page biographical sketch of the nominee's education and experience, if available to you.

LETTERS OF ENDORSEMENT
Please seek two (2) letters of endorsement and attach to this cover form.

MAIL ENTIRE PACKAGE TO:
Jennifer Fish -- Awards Committee Chair
115 Nash Hill Road
Haydenville, MA 01039

Awards packages must be received by DECEMBER 1, 2002