Made In Vermont

RANDOLPH, VT — The Vermont Wood Products Marketing Council released its new logo and brand position statements at a secondary wood products industry-wide conference held in November at Vermont Technical College. Jeff Parsons, the Council Chair and co-owner of Beeken/Parsons in Shelburne, said that the brand was developed based upon extensive consumer research. “We learned that people buy Vermont wood products because they believe that each one is carefully crafted.”

The Vermont Wood Products Marketing Council was formed in December, 2002. Since then, the Council has guided the development of products brand and awareness-building activities.

According to Mary Jeanne and Executive Director of the Vermont Wood Manufacturers' Association, some of the planned activities include developing and distributing collateral materials, planning and conducting demonstrations of wood working, and holding a Vermont wood products showcase event and design competition. The Council is planning to prepare an informational poster for distribution at state visitor centers, wood products workshops and showrooms, and other locations, Packer said. In addition, Packer said, stickers and labels with the new two-color Vermont Quality Wood Products logo will be available for purchase by participating companies for use on their packaging and other applications.

The mission of the Vermont Wood Products Marketing Council is to promote the quality and craftsmanship of Vermont wood products so that residents and nonresidents may increase their awareness of the outstanding design of the products, the environmental sensitivity of the manufacturers, and their commitment to customer satisfaction. (Vermont Forest Exchange & Information Bulletin, November, 2003)
Members Serving You In 2004

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Opinion

National Convention, One Forester’s View

First, if you want to highlight a program and give it value, show it off and associate it with colleagues. An excellent example is the quickly growing Certified Forester Program. During the entire convention every forester was given the post-script “CF” when he or she was introduced for an award or as a speaker. What an effective technique, especially if you are not a certified forester. By the end of the meeting I knew many foresters who are considering it. Nearly 4,000 SAF foresters now have CF attached to their names.

Buffalo has history. The Erie Canal opened up trade corridors for wood products and many other items also made Buffalo grow. The canal is still there if you look for it and so is the early urban forestry influence of Frederick Law Olmstead. He designed many of Buffalo’s early streets and parks, which served at the convention as a wonderful field trip to examine the cultural and park history of Buffalo. Again claimed as an “elm city,” Buffalo had the distinct misfortune to lose nearly 100,000 American elms from its streets and parks in the 70s and 80s. Their recovery is wonderful testament to a great city urban forestry program.

The basic value of the National Convention has not changed. The opportunity to hear about cutting edge forestry programs; what is happening nationally (it does affect us local foresters); new research; talks in the field of forestry you are practicing in; networking; and just enjoying a few days amongst friends. All were available in abundance in Buffalo and they will be next year and the year after that.

Gary F. Salmon, Forester/Trails Coordinator
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation

News Quarterly to Expand, Feature Themes

At the December meeting your Executive Committee voted to expand the coverage of the News Quarterly to include theme-based practical information in each issue. The Councilors formed an ad hoc editorial committee of Bob Edmonds Jeff Ward, Ron Lemin and Tom O’Shea to shepherd this initiative.

I look forward enthusiastically to the first issue, which will be in April and will address forest pest concerns. The March meeting in Quebec is being held in conjunction with the Northeast Forest Pest Conference, making this a natural focus for our annual meeting issue.

The new format will expand from 16 to 20 pages, with roughly four pages of theme features in each issue. We will continue to bring you state and NE SAF news in the same quantity and format as in the past. If this change is to be successful, it will require a dedicated editorial committee to plan and schedule the quarterly theme and solicit articles from knowledgeable contributors. If you wish to be on the committee, or if you simply have an idea for a theme or a contribution, your participation in this effort is earnestly solicited.

Please contact me at (603)449-6794 or abwyman@ncia.net if you can help. (Ed.)

From the Montana Forester

Our Montana peers can show us a thing or two about the multiple disciplines of Forestry! From the current issue of the Montana Forester we learn that one Scott Kuehn and his team have (once again!) won the local annual “Punkin Chunkin” competition with a hurl of 3,477 feet.

Congratulations to Scott from New England!
New MBA Program Offers Insight into Global Forest Industry

Last September, I traveled from the west coast to attend the University of New Brunswick’s MBA program in Forest Products Marketing. I feel privileged to have been a member of the inaugural class. It was the most intense and learning-filled twelve months of my life, and definitely worth the trip. I would like to share my experiences with New England foresters.

Intense international competition is forcing North American forest products producers to change. The movement towards larger, more efficient mills being run on 24-hour shifts is familiar to many communities as companies struggle to compete by reducing cost. Lesser known but equally important are other competitive strategies. Today’s forest products must have the right attributes and be delivered at the convenience of the customer. For example, the Japanese market now demands its western hemlock be kiln-dried. American home centre chains are developing long-term relationships with lumber suppliers who provide additional services, such stocking store shelves with their product. The role of the forest products marketer is to innovate: to examine a consumer’s needs, and develop products, distribution methods, and promotion strategies to meet them.

The UNB MBA program is designed to develop both skilled forest marketers and well-rounded forest industry managers. The fourteen business courses cover the foundations of business management; the nine forest products courses introduce students to wood products and processing technologies, international trade and marketing topics, forest management tools, and current forest management and policy issues. I entered the program with an understanding of local forest management issues; I finished with a broad understanding of the global forest products business.

If you wish to learn more about the MBA in Forest Products Marketing, examine the program websites www.mba.unbsj.ca and www.unbf.ca/forestry/graduate/FPMP-cert.htm, or contact Dr. Y.H. Chui of the Faculty of Forestry at yhc@unb.ca.

Project Learning Tree Tests Online Workshops

We are lucky in these New England states. Should we wish to participate in a professional development opportunity, we can drive most places in our own or neighboring states with relative ease. Not so in Alaska. There, the flyways replace our highways.

Since 2001, the Alaska Project Learning Tree program has been refining an online workshop model to address the challenges of distance. These courses are not tutorials, but fully facilitated PLT workshops taking place over a six-week period. They include discussion, peer teaching, and practice with PLT activities. The technology is minimal and includes teleconferences, PowerPoint presentations, email, and websites. This fall, the Alaska course designer expanded the reach of this model with a pilot nationwide training for natural resource professionals. This training further refined the model to better meet the needs of non-formal educators over a more diverse region. New England forester Lionel Chute of the NH Natural Heritage Bureau participated and offers this assessment of the experience:

“This training makes excellent use of the internet to introduce people to PLT methods and teaching materials, including online facilitator information, course syllabus, project assignments, announcements, and even a group discussion board. During the training, we posted our PowerPoint assignments right to the (secure) web site, allowing all trainees to follow along as we took turns presenting to the group via telephone conference calls. Watching the snow fall outside my window, I realized the tremendous potential of online PLT training for bringing PLT concepts to more of the teachers and resource professionals that need them.

"PLT is a unique teaching resource for teachers and schools aimed at connecting young people directly to the natural resources they live in and rely upon. There are hundreds of carefully designed activities to effectively enhance one’s appreciation of natural systems and the goods and services they provide. Activities for kids in

(Continued on page 5)
USDA Forest Service

Stewardship of Woodlands in Urban Areas

The USDA Forest Service, the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, and University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension hosted a workshop in November for 45 State staff members and partners from throughout the Northeast, representing Urban Forestry, Forest Stewardship, Forest Legacy, Forest Planning, Utilization, and other State programs. The 3-day workshop, entitled “Stewardship of Woodlands in Urbanizing Areas,” provided a forum to interact and address an emerging issue common to all program areas. Following presentations on program activity and projects underway in each State, participants interacted with speakers on noteworthy topics ranging from Utilization of Municipal Trees and Fire Wise Communities to Harvesting on Small Woodlots and Alternative Forest Products. Highlighting the event was an afternoon field trip hosted by the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands that included stops at the Creek Farm Project—a Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests case study in protecting and managing land in an urbanizing environment; the Town of Rye, NH, Cooperative Forest Management Project; and a walking tour of the Stewardship Education and Outreach activities at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth.

Participants, many of whom raved about the quality of the workshop, concluded with a brainstorming session on possible future workshop topics. The workshop generated so much interest that the topic will be addressed in a half-day session featuring four speakers at the NE SAF 2004 winter meeting in Quebec.

Regional Stewardship Newsletter

After publishing a newsletter for the past few years addressing stewardship in the Northeast, the USDA Forest Service is expanding its readership and focus to 20 Northeastern and Midwestern states. Intended for consultant foresters and landowners as well as state forestry personnel, the newsletter features articles on a variety of stewardship and related research topics. To be added to the mailing list, please contact Helen Thompson (hthompson@fs.fed.us or 603-868-7701) and indicate whether you would like to receive a hard copy or a Web link via e-mail. Back issues of the Forest Stewardship Information Exchange can be viewed at www.fs.fed.us/na/durham/coopforest/stewardship/text/publications.shtml.

(Continued from page 4)
Prekindergarten through grade 8 are designed to open children’s eyes to the living world around them. More complex activities for high school students tackle many of the challenges related to society’s use of nature, including pollution, conflicting land uses, invasive species, and habitat loss. PLT is a powerful educational method that is doing a great deal of good for today’s children and tomorrow’s society, especially in places rich in natural resources such as New Hampshire.”

For information on the distance learning design, go to www.creative-conservation.com. To reach your state Project Learning Tree coordinator, go to www.plt.org/materials/statecoordinators.cfm.

The Lyrical Forester

There is little to compare with a walk in the hardwood forest of my little corner of the world on a clear starlit winter’s night far from the lights of town. The air is so clear and the stars so very bright you are sure you can reach up and pluck a few from the sky. The snow beneath your snowshoes squeals with the cold and glints in the starlight. As you gaze up through the bare branches into the endless reach of the star filled sky you feel a presence. I certainly do. Exactly what it might be I have no idea but it is good and it does fill me with a sense of peace. With everything going on in the world and in ours lives a little peace is a good thing. With that thought please allow me to wish everyone a good new year. (Ray Toolan)
DIVISION NEWS

MAINE Division — Marc Johnson

MESAF Fall Meeting:

At their November meeting the Maine Division explored "The Changing World of Forest Ownership: Future Challenges and Expectations for Maine Foresters" and highlighted the 100th anniversary of the UMaine forestry program.

William Beardsley, President of Husson College, gave an excellent telling of the history of Maine's Changing Ownership Landscape, noting that the Maine forest has been a human artifact for the past 500 years. He said, "If one thinks what is happening in Maine today is new, they would be wrong. One only needs to look back in history to see continuous change. The century long war over white pine (for masts) that ended with the Revolution has never really ended. Some say only a national park would protect what we have had. This has been a 400 yearlong debate. Before the mid-1800s, one half of Maine was in public ownership. Government ownership under a national park would hardly be a new idea."

Beardsley said, "The big changes, today, are the new ownerships, management and expectations and a huge strategy to prevent development. Large-scale landowners are now a thing of the past. Yet the fact remains, Maine is still the most forested state in the nation." He reported on a brainstorm session on the Maine forest in 2020. In the northern Maine eight counties, this group saw only a small change in private ownership; there was no suggestion of a public takeover. The public sector would focus on special sites. In southern Maine, fragmentation of forestlands would limit large public purchases, yet they could see private/nonprofit joint ownerships happening. Overall, they projected a decrease in the volatility in sales, but not necessarily in changes in land use. He concluded, "The question is, are we entering a post paper era, and if so, who will own these new forests? Yet, we can have it both ways; enlightened forest ownership with multiple users."

Maine Forest Service Director, R. Alec Giffen outlined six points: We need to increase returns from timber management, maintain and diversify the forest product industry, improve the efforts to protect ecological and natural values, improve forest productivity, both its quantity and quality, maintain logging infrastructure and maintain our forest land base. He noted that global competition is probably the largest, current problem we face in Maine's forests. "In spite of challenges to the Maine forest," Giffen said, "..."Our forests, in my mind, epitomize sustainability. We are close to markets and have a diversity of products." He also mentioned studies on wood composites and pyrolysis processes to change wood into oil and gases as new and positive developments."

Charlie Levesque, of Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, addressed forest certification. He said, "People discuss what certification systems are best. In the end, it's all about verification. While certification did not start in Maine, Maine has put a unique twist on it... there are about 6½ million acres and about 20 mills certified. The recent Governor's initiative to get these numbers higher is being talked about everywhere, not just in the U. S., but also in Europe." Levesque continued, "Certification is becoming a part of the cost of doing business without certain monetary returns in the future. It has a lot to do with pleasing the public and policymakers. As for foresters, their work is being scrutinized like never before. Maine's referendum process creates a different climate for change that may be the reason why the State is ahead in certification."

2003 Awards

ME SAFers congratulated the following members with awards for 30 and 40 year memberships:

Anthony Filauro, Member 1973, Fellow 2003
Ronald Lovaglio, Member 1973
David B. Field, Member 1963, Fellow 1999

(Continued on page 7)
They also recognized three newly elected SAF Fellows in 2003:

Anthony Filauro, Member 1973
Fred Huntress, Member 1955
John McNulty, CF, Member 1978

Forest Ecosystem Exchange: Measuring Biodiversity For Forest Sustainability:

The Forest Ecosystem Exchange sponsored by the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences hosted an October conference, on biodiversity indicators. Manomet's John Hagan said that while, biodiversity is a fundamental goal of forest sustainability, we don’t yet know how to manage for it. He asked, "How do we know what the indicators are? Sustainable forestry... needs to be measured and understood. We (Manomet) are trying to develop a biodiversity model."

Keynote speaker, Lena Gustafsson, of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, presented an overview of the model she is working on. Lena said, "We have discovered the importance of retention groups to biodiversity. We also study the cost effectiveness of set-asides for conservation. We will study red-listed species (species of concern), such as beetles, fungi, lichen and butterflies. The critical factor to threatened forest species is the lack of old trees and deadwood (logs and snags)." She went on to outline 15 Swedish national environmental objectives established in 2001. Some of those are: maintenance of forest production capacity and natural functions, protect forest soils, protect forestland, increase deadwood volumes and to increase the deciduous component. She said "We have large research needs to identify and validate the indicators.”

Don Mansius of the Maine Forest Service, called for indicators to be relevant to the criteria, understandable, measurable, cost-effective and sensitive to change. Mike Thompson, of Woodlot Alternatives, offered some recommendations: clear and objective standards with opportunity for updating, clear goals from the conservation community and the public, best management practices could address riparian issues, add focus to upland forested areas, defined habitat conditions that meet biodiversity and rely on remote sensing such as stand type maps. He said, "It is...important to maintain plant and animal populations within their natural range of variability, along with a natural range of age classes and spatial distribution of those classes. It's permissible to clump the resources together, such as, old-growth/riparian/rare plants. Another technique is to mimic natural disturbance regimes." Thompson also cited some obstacles faced by landowners. He said, "Land owners are unfamiliar with the science, often have no ecology person on staff, work with limited staff and often lack clear conservation goals and objectives. Land owners need to see tangible economic benefits to biodiversity and certification."

John Hagan and Andrew Whitman, of Manomet, led an afternoon session to evaluate the Manomet model. Manomet was looking for help from the audience to evaluate and improve the negotiation model. John said, "It's easy to say what the indicators might be, but more difficult to pick the best ones." See www.manomet.org for details.

Forest Stewards Guild Designates Maine's Second Model Forest:

The Forest Stewards Guild recently selected "Wicopy Woods" in Sebec, owned and managed by SAF Forester Ron Locke, as just the fourth Model Forest in the Northeast, one of only thirteen nationwide. Twenty-five participants in a September open house reviewed Locke's lifelong commitment to excellent silviculture and learned about his unique vision for forest management. "For over 30 years on his own land, Ron has been practicing what he preaches to others about forestry, said Barrie Brusila, the National Chair of the 500 member.
Guild and MESAF member. He has taken an average Maine woodlot, studied it thoughtfully, harvested it carefully and spent countless hours working and enjoying it.”

Annual Inventory Report on Maine’s Forests:

For the fourth year, the Maine Forest Service released annual Forest inventory numbers for 2002 this October. The report supports an improved inventory situation than was reported seven years ago. It found that timberland acreage is stable and pulpwood inventory has declined less than 1% annually over the past four years. For a complete copy of this report, call the Maine Forest Service at 1-207-287-2791. This document and other MFS publications can be found at www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/pubs.htm#anninv. (SWOAM News/December 2003)

University of Maine Forestry Program Centennial

In 1903 the first courses in forestry were taught at the University of Maine. In 1906 the first class of four men graduated. Now there are over 3,500 alumni of the Forest Resources program located all over the United States and the world. In celebration of the first one hundred years of forestry education, research, and extension work many events and publications are being planned. A dedicated effort is being made to contact all living Forest Resource alumni, so they can fill out a survey and fill us in on their best memories of their time in Orono. In addition to these responses, old photos, articles, and other memorabilia will be presented in an electronic publication (CD). Some of these materials will be included in the 100th Anniversary edition of the Maine Forester.

For more details and how you can be a part of the 100th Anniversary please visit our website: www.forest.umaine.edu/alumni/ - Jacob Metzler (BS ’00) jmetzler@umit.maine.edu

GRANITE STATE Division— Jonathan Nute

MeadWestvaco Lands

In the June issue we reported that MeadWestvaco had its woodlands up for sale. Last month the sale to an undisclosed buyer was completed. The price exceeded $200 per acre and the land will be managed for the new owners by Wagner Forest Management, Ltd., of Lyme, NH. Tom Colgan, CEO of Wagner, stated that the owners have a 50-year wood supply agreement with the MeadWestvaco mill in Rumford, ME. Furthermore, the land will be managed and certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) standards subscribed to by the American Forest & Paper Association. (Source: Northern Woodlands, Winter 2003)
New England Christmas Tree Pest Course

The 2004 New England Christmas Tree Pest Management course has been scheduled for March 18-19, 2004 at Keene State College, Keene, NH. This is an intensive 2-day series of lectures and laboratories providing hands-on learning about conifer tree health, insects and diseases, weed identification and control. Sponsored by UNH Cooperative Extension, the course brings together insect and disease experts from throughout the Northeast as instructors. Pesticide re-certification credits for all the New England states and forestry continuing education credits are available.

The biennial course has been well received by past attendees from New England and Canada. In addition to Christmas tree grower, foresters and landscapers can benefit by attending. Cost for the two day session, materials and lunches will be $120. Brochures will be mailed in January. Advance registration is required. For more information contact Marshall Patmos at (603) 352-4550 or marshall.patmos@unh.edu.

Small Woodlot Stewardship Meeting

The Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire hosted about 50 people from New England and New York concerned about the Stewardship of Small Woodlots in early November. Over three days the group discussed a wide range of topics which in part included: (1) forest cooperatives – Maine’s Backyard Woods Campaign, Massachusetts’ Woodland Cooperative, and a Group Certification Pilot Project for Maine Small Woodlot Owners. (2) small woodlot Non-timber values – Wildlife in Urbanizing Areas, Ecological/Natural History values, and alternative forest products.

Specific management problems discussed included markets and woodlot size, harvesting difficulties, stewardship in the public eye, and the impacts of “sprawl.”

Paul Doscher (SPNHF), J. B. Cullen and A. J. Dupere (NH Forest Lands Division) discussed the difficulties of small woodlot management on a tour of a SPNHF lot which is less than 50 acres but was one of the very last undeveloped parcels still remaining in the Portsmouth area.

Later Karen Bennett, Phil Auger (UNH Co-opEXT) and Charles Moreno explained the difficulties in managing the Rye, New Hampshire Town Forest, a very small parcel with lots of adjacent landowners interests beyond traditional forest management.

More and more land is being parceled out into smaller and smaller chunks. Managers are being asked to deal with more and more people with an associated interest in what is happening on “their” forest. The meeting allowed one to meet and compare notes with foresters on the front lines of small woodlot management. (Gary Salmin)

Steve Wood Retires

Steve Wood, Sullivan County Forester, retired on December 31. Steve witnessed 30 years of forestry field education, following a stint in the Air Force and as a cowboy on horseback in Arizona. He attended UM and garnered practical experience at Claremont Lumber Co. prior to joining Extension. He subsequently became a leader in New Hampshire’s urban forestry movement becoming active in wood energy, Gypsy moth and other pest management and, ultimately the devastating 1998 ice storm. In his retirement, Steve will be expanding his gig portraying Abraham Lincoln in schools and for special events.
To see the expanded version of the program guide (complete with topic titles and speaker names) go to the NESAF web site (www.nesaf.com).

**TUESDAY - MARCH 23, 2004**

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
NESA Executive Committee meeting

5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Bienvenue au Québec and the grand opening of the Poster Session and Exhibitors (cash bar)

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.
Optional dining at Place Royale (pre-registration required)

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Working Group meetings

**WEDNESDAY - MARCH 24, 2004**

7:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m.
Registration (visit poster session and exhibitors)

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Optional hospitality tour (pre-registration required)

9:30 a.m.
Call to order and welcome
  - Thomas O’Shea, NESAF Chair
  - Jennifer Bofinger, NEFPC Chair
  - Dr. Denis Brière, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics Université Laval, Quebec

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
"FORESTRY ACROSS BORDERS: CHALLENGES, PROBLEMS, AND OPPORTUNITIES"
The Opening Plenary Session

12:00 noon
Box lunch and NESAF business meetings

2:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Visit poster session and exhibitors

2:30 - 5:30 p.m.
**CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (GROUP A)**
Across-Border Management of Industrial Forests
Networking Across Borders: Revitalizing Extension Forestry and Meeting the Increasing Continuing Education Needs of the Forestry Professional
Advances in Urban and Community Forestry

12:30 – 5:30 p.m.
**FOREST HEALTH TECHNICAL SESSIONS (open to all conference attendees)**
- Forest Pest Forum – State/Provincial Updates of Pests (1:00 - 4:30 p.m.)
- Insects as World Travelers (4:30 - 5:30 p.m.)

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
“Getting Involved in Your Profession” – A Student Forum

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Social Mixer (visit poster session and exhibitors)
THURSDAY - MARCH 25, 2004

7:00 a.m. (till 5:00 p.m.)

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

8:00 – 12:00

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
  Session 1
  Session 2
  Session 3
  Session 4

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

10:30 – 12:00 noon
  Session 1
  Session 2
  Session 3
  Session 4

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

2:00 – 2:30 p.m.

2:30 – 5:30 p.m.
  Session 1
  Session 2
  Session 3
  Session 4

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST (visit poster session and exhibitors)

FRIDAY - MARCH 26, 2004

7:00 – 8:30 a.m.

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

11:30 – 12:00 noon

Adjourn et adieu
  • Thomas O'Shea, NESAF Chair

FOREST HEALTH TECHNICAL SESSIONS (open to all conference attendees)

CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (GROUP B)
  Woods Labor - An Adequate Work Force of Competent Professionals
  Intensive Silviculture of the Northern Forest
  Stewardship of Woodlands in Urbanizing Areas
  Emerging Issues in Forest Economics

CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (GROUP C)
  Woods Labor - An Adequate Work Force of Competent Professionals (con’t)
  Intensive Silviculture of the Northern Forest (con’t)
  Stewardship of Woodlands in Urbanizing Areas (con’t)
  Emerging Issues in Forest Economics (con’t)

NESAF awards luncheon (NEFPC members included)
NEFPC business meeting
Break (visit poster session and exhibitors)

FOREST HEALTH TECHNICAL SESSIONS (open to all conference attendees)
(including the Gerald N. Lanier Graduate Student Forum)

CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (GROUP D)
  Programs and Current Projects of the Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada
  Intensive Silviculture of the Northern Forest (con’t)
  Urban Forestry Walking Tour of Quebec
  Emerging Issues in Forest Economics (con’t)

Alumni and Agency Socials
- University of Maine Centennial Social (Panorama Room)
- Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Social (Panorama Room)
- and others

College Quiz Bowl

Continental breakfast

“FORESTRY IN THE NORTHEASTERN U.S. AND EASTERN CANADA: CHALLENGES, PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND SOLUTIONS”
A Town Meeting

THOMAS O'SHEA, NESAF CHAIR
HOTEL RESERVATIONS

HILTON QUEBEC, 1100 Boulevard Rene-Levesque Est, Quebec City, Quebec G1K 7K7 Canada

Reservations 418-647-2411 or 1-800-HILTONS

Conference Rate: $119 CDN per night/ single or double occupancy, plus taxes (the conference rate is also available three days before, during, and following the conference).

Reservations must be made by February 23, 2004.

Tax Refunds: Foreign visitors may apply for a tax refund on purchases they take home with them, as well as on hotel bills and other short-term accommodation expenses. Visitors can mail their applications to Revenue Canada, or if they prefer, ask for a refund in cash at a duty-free shop on leaving the country. For information call 1-800-668-4748 (within Canada) or 902-432-5608 (outside Canada).

Parking: Daily rate $19.50 CDN (visit www.nesaf.org for more hotel details)

HOSPITALITY

I. ELEGANT DINING AT PLACE ROYALE - Tuesday evening, March 23th – 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Place Royale is in the heart of Quebec City and home of French civilization in North America. Samuel de Champlain originally built it as a fort and a trading post. Place Royale's rich history has always had its roots in trade. Today this still holds true with the exception that instead of furs and lumber, Place Royale is now the home of craftspeople, restaurants, and other retail stores. Walking to this unique site (15 minutes) will also provide you with a great opportunity to discover Quebec at night. The $60 US per person fee includes:
- Management and coordination of the evening by a local professional guide;
- 4 course dinner;
- 1/2 bottle of wine;
- and gratuities.

Availability is based on a minimum of 40 paid registrants received by February 15, 2004.

Please sign up using the NESAF registration form under additional options.

II. HOSPITALITY TOUR OF QUEBEC CITY AND ENVIRONS - Wednesday, March 24th – 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Join this daylong fun-filled excursion in Quebec City and the surrounding environs.
- 8:00 a.m. Get-together breakfast at the Quebec Hilton.
- 9:00 a.m. Discover Quebec City – a combined bus and walking tour of both the Upper and Lower town sections, including the famous and desirous Le Petit Champlain shopping district.
- 11:30 a.m. The bus tour will travel to "The Sugar Shack" where you will enjoy lunch in a festive atmosphere representing French Canadian's soul and tradition at its purest.
- 1:00 p.m. Quebec's Countryside Charms – discover rural history and enjoy traditional villages, the main attractions of the afternoon tour offer visits to both the Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre's basilica and Montmorency Falls.
- 5:00 p.m. Return to the Quebec Hilton.

The fee is $70 US (inclusive) per person. Availability is based on a minimum of 40 paid registrants received by February 15, 2004. Please sign up using the NESAF registration form under additional options.

CONTINUING FORESTRY EDUCATION CREDITS / UNITS

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Note: Credits for Licensed Pesticide Applicators will be available for forest pest/health sessions.
Other than a couple of back to back pre-winter snow storms things are pretty quiet here at outpost Morrisville. There are a few items going around that have caught my attention and which I will share.

Recently I was advised of a couple of timber sales not far from the outpost where bids in excess of $700/MBF stumpage for sugar maple were received. I think this is the highest price I have seen for sugar maple ever.

There have been sporadic instances of loggers who have completed the Professional Loggers Program (PLP) through the Vermont Loggers Association or the Loggers Educational Advancement Program (LEAP) through the Vermont Forest Products Association who have been representing themselves as “foresters” while trying to get lots to cut. Since in Vermont there is no law defining “forester,” I am quite sure this is not illegal. I still get calls from landowners after the fact. There are a lot of careful honest loggers in the woods but it only takes a few bad ones to tarnish the whole profession. This is not only true for loggers as I am sure we are all aware.

We appear to be under biological attack. I just received notice of yet another near-eastern coleopteran invader, Chlorophorus strobilicola, which has been introduced through Target and WalMart stores in Scented Pine Cone Potpourri products. These cousins of the Asian Long Horned Beetle apparently originated in India and feed on pine seeds.

Drought, Soil Compaction and Borers Highlight Fall Technical Session

Dealing with Urban Conditions, from soil strategies to trees for tough conditions, attracted nearly 150 people to Vermont Technical College on December 12 for the annual Urban Forestry Technical Workshop. Dr. Tom Smiley of the Bartlett Research Laboratory examined tree root anatomy and physiology and explained how soil compaction affects both. While aeration (getting air back into the soil) is the key to relieving compaction, doing it without destroying the tree roots has always been the key to success. Root trenching, the use of roto-tillers, and new equipment like high pressure air hoses that literally blow soil free of roots are all making contributions to reducing soil compaction. Dr. Smiley returned later in the program to review about 30 common New England tree pests and associated control recommendations.

Dr. Phil Wargo, Plant Health Care Consultant, explained in detail the stresses involved when a tree is exposed to drought. Eight recommendations were provided to help minimize drought impacts. They varied from the effective use of mulch to planting drought resistant varieties of trees.

Mark Starret, UVM Associate Professor of Horticulture, also provided some good tree species recommendations based on the tree’s tolerance of water, lack of water, and salt.

Dennis Suoto, from the Durham USDA Forest Service office, enlightened the crowd on our latest pest of concern – Emerald Ash borer (EAB). This pest, originally found in Detroit, and introduced from China, is feasting on ash trees and expanding its range. Like Asian Long-horned Beetle, early detection will be a key in control because the life cycle of both keeps them well insulated inside the tree for much of its life.

The Vermont Association of Professional Horticulturalists, the Agency of Agriculture, and the Urban and Community Forestry Program have consistently created and sponsored this workshop for several years now. It provides technical, useable, information to a wide range of practicing professionals in the field of trees. (Gary Salmon)

Russell Reay Retires

After 33 years with the Vermont Department of Forests Parks and Recreation, Russ Reay has retired. Following 10 years at the Essex Jct. Nursery and as Assistant Chittendon county Forester, Russell became State Lands Forester in southwestern Vermont in 1978. Coolidge State Forest was 6,876 acres when he arrived.
In October it was 9,966 acres larger and Russell's forestry stamp is on every acre of Coolidge and another 30 or so parcels under his direction. Management plans, prescribed burns, road construction, firewood lots, crop tree release, hemlock management, timber bridges, wildlife forester, heavy cut forester, water quality insurer, and lots of "other duties as assigned." NE SAF members of over 20 years will recognize Russell as "editor emeritus" of the News Quarterly. He is now content to manage his own x-mas tree/landscape stock business and do some consulting work. But as he is quick to point out, he did not die but just changed forestry roles. So you still might see him this spring at Quebec City. (Gary Salmon)

Rhode Island—Gregg Cassidy

Forest Resource Plan

The Rhode Island Forest Resource Plan is part of the state guide plan and directs state and local policy that affects forest resources. The Plan, which was developed in 1985, is being updated to reflect changes in the resource and identify new issues and trends.

A Steering Committee met in July to identify critical issues and provide input on a work plan for the project. The next step is a comprehensive assessment of existing conditions by surveying almost 3,000 forest landowners in 14 rural communities and holding focus groups of landowners, recreational groups, forest industry, environmental organizations, and natural resource professionals.

The RI chapter of SAF is well represented in this effort with members Hans Bergey, Gregg J. Cassidy, Tom Dupree, Bruce Payton, Chris Modisette and Marc Tremblay are on the Steering Committee overseeing this project.

Walk in the Woods

The Rhode Island Chapter of the Society of American Foresters held their eleventh annual "Walk in the Forest" on October 16th to educate the public about the benefits of healthy forests and how foresters care for them. This year's "Walk", which was held at The Aperion Institute for Environmental Living in Coventry and at the Mowry Conservation Area in Smithfield, was attended by 175 students.

Paul Dolan and Rob Macmillan coordinated the event for the Rhode Island Chapter.

Connecticut—David Beers

This past October, CT SAF cosponsored the Northeast Region Watershed Managers conference at the South-Central Regional Water Authority property near New Haven, CT. For two days, attendees were toured between forest workshops in a bus. The diversity and quality of workshops was staggering.

The upcoming CT SAF business meeting, in January, will feature Kathleen Shields as a guest speaker. She will give an overview of the research facilities and current research of the Northeastern Center for Forest Health Research in Hamden, CT. She is the current project leader and research entomologist at the USDA Forest Service Laboratory.

Connecticut Foresters thank JP Barsky (chair) and Jerry Milne (sec/treasurer) for the fine job they have done in 2003. We welcome Tim Hawley (vice-chair) and Gary Haines (sec/treasurer). In early December, the executive transitional meeting took place. There was good energy, enthusiasm, and organization in this meeting for the upcoming year. We look forward to seeing the entire CT forestry community in 2004.
Quebec — Kim Lowell

This is a final reminder that, for the first time, the annual meeting of the New England Chapter of the SAF will be held in Québec City. The meeting is scheduled for March 23-26, 2004 and you can get more details elsewhere in the quarterly as well as on the Web site www.nesaf.org. Come share a cross-border experience as well as soak up the ambience of this very European city.

The province of Québec — except for the forest lands of the Cree people — has recently been divided into 59 new forest management units. This division replaces the 114 territorial units employed previously and was completed only after extensive public consultation and reflection on changes in forest management laws that are increasingly focused on non-economic and economic forest products. Rather than being defined by the ecological characteristics of the forest present in each, the new units are based primarily on the historical use of the forests — a factor that should help achieve the goal of having local populations feel more connected to the forest resource.

A Centre of Excellence of the Economic Development of Wood Chips has been established in Québec. The CEVC (its French acronym) is a partnership among the Centre for Research for Pulp and Paper of the University of Québec at Trois-Rivières, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and Precarn, Inc. In addition, financial and technical support are being provided by the paper companies Kruger, Abitibi-Consolidated, and Bowater. The CEVC has $3 million to undertake a 3-year research program to improve paper quality through the use of thermo-mechanical pulp. Among other tools, the CEVC is employing artificial vision to monitor the process and produce a more uniform product.

The 6th edition of the conference Crossroads of Forest Research was recently held in Québec City. Since its inception in 1997, this conference has grown approximately 30% and in 2003 welcomed some 2,300 people from all regions of Québec. Of people who attended the conference, 20% were from private companies, 19% were university students, 16% were scientists, 5% were from municipal or regional governments, 5% were employed by federal agencies, and 26% were employed by provincial government agencies. Over 600 exhibitors presented applications of results of their research, technological innovations, or various services offered. In addition, approximately 50 speakers made presentations on themes such as Geomatics and Remote Sensing, Man, Industry, and the Forest, and Biodiversity.

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University of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF WOODLANDS AND NATURAL AREAS

Position: Master’s Student Woodlands and Natural Areas Manager

Term: June 1, 2004 through May 30, 2006 half-time during academic year; full-time during summer months

Stipend: $12,500 plus summer stipend plus full tuition waiver for academic year

Qualifications: Candidates must have completed or be completing a B.S. Degree in forestry or closely allied field, and have knowledge of forest resource management principles and practices. Consideration for this position must be preceded by acceptance by the Graduate School to an M.S. Degree program in forestry or closely allied field. It is expected that candidates have an excellent undergraduate academic record, and that they show good promise for successful completion of a graduate program.

Inquiries concerning this position may be directed to the Office of Woodlands and Natural Areas at (603) 862-3951 or www.unh.edu/woodlands/index.html.

The University of New Hampshire is an affirmative action / equal opportunity employer.
NE SAF AFFAIRS

From the Chair — Tom O’Shea

What is HSD?
Sounds like a disease, but it’s actually one your links to the national SAF Council and staff. I hope you consider this system while I’m serving as Chair so that our voice(s) in New England is heard! New England SAF is one of the largest state/multi-state societies in the nation and I think we have a lot to contribute.

One would be amazed at the diversity of opinions and approaches to be heard from the state Councilors. For me, it is a microcosm of the value and perspective differences found in the US Congress. The House of Society Delegates (HSD) is comprised of a delegate and alternate from each state society, the chair and vice-chair of the National Student Assembly, and the chair and vice-chair of HSD. It provides a means for members (as represented by their delegates) to:

1) work with Council and staff on SAF and professional affairs, and to identify and promote forest policy issues;
2) communicate among state societies, National Student Assembly (NSA), Council, and national office staff;
3) exchange and discuss ideas and information to improve SAF and the forestry profession at all levels.

At the HSD meeting in Buffalo, the agenda was framed around these SAF Strategic Outcomes and state societies working towards their accomplishment...

1: Vital, Diverse, Membership
2: Professional Education and Services
3: Enhanced Leadership Capability
4: Effective Engagement in Forest Policy
5: Building Public Support
6: Sound Stewardship of Financial Assets
7: SAF as an Employer of Choice

The 2004 SAF Strategic Plan can be downloaded from www.safnet.org/who/2004_strategicplan.cfm. Take a few minutes to review the strategic outcomes and core values of SAF. Keep in mind that it is a flexible guide that we in New England can use to direct where we want our state society to go.

Councilor’s Report — Leo Laferriere

The first Council meeting went well. An orientation session for new members was followed by the full two-day Council meeting. I was very favorably impressed with the professional quality, dedication, and interest of everyone there. The respect generated from that impression extends to Council members and staff alike. There is much talent and professional capability everywhere and in that regard SAF is in very good order.

In my campaign statement I referenced the functional and financial health of SAF as the top priority, and this indeed was the focus of much discussion. On the functional side the agenda was organized to identify progress on the Strategic Plan, with good gains reported. (The Plan’s seven points are itemized by Tom O’Shea in the adjoining column.) Future columns will elaborate on outcomes desired within these categories.

With respect to finances, concerns included the slowly declining membership trend, a very tight financial budget, and how best to serve the membership given these constraints. Several references were made to the potentially very valuable 24.6 acre parcel of land owned by SAF. Complications exist regarding the nature of agreements with the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation sited on the same land, but nevertheless it is acknowledged the property is of considerable worth.

I was appointed to the Finance Committee and very much look forward to serving there. In that regard, I followed our outgoing Council member John McNulty. John chaired the Finance Committee and earned praise and compliments for his good work. John’s other considerable skills involved leadership in camaraderie, networking, organizing a social calendar and overall good spirits. Everyone acknowledged his very substantial contributions to SAF, and our organization has appreciably benefited from his dedication and work.

Thank you John McNulty!
Executive Committee Notes

The NE SAF Executive Committee met on December 10 with the following results of interest:

- Tom O’Hearn, announced plans to assign the Vice-Chair to oversee sub-committees. This will enable the Chair to assume a more active leadership and visionary function. An essential component of effecting this change will be to complete the long-awaited operations manual. Tom will have a draft for the EC at the January meeting.

- George Frame questioned the deadline requirement for grants, suggesting that flexibility will enable more effective granting.

- Members registered confusion and frustration with the awards nomination process. At this time there were just two award nominations in hand and Rob Rizzo, awards chair, was frustrated with incomplete nominations.

- The Committee appointed an editorial committee to assist the News Quarterly editor with a new theme-based format (see article on page 3, column 2).

- The Committee developed a strategy to get election ballots out in the wake of a mailing house failure to meet the NE SAF election deadline.

- Considerable discussion around the appropriate policy role of NE SAF led to a decision to invite a member and policy consultant to the January meeting to help frame the debate. The Committee would like members to provide their thoughts (see adjoining article).

- A proposal to budget funds to send state chapter leaders to the SAF Leadership Academy will be reviewed at the January meeting.

- Jim Oehler, the new volunteer webmaster for www.nesaf.org was introduced. The meeting unanimously approved an expenditure of $1,780 for a makeover of www.nesaf.org. In addition, members agreed to purchase a copy of “Dream Weaver” software for Jim’s use, to remain NE SAF property.

The next meeting will be on January 22, 2003, 9:30 am at the Conservation Center in Concord, NH.

Policy Committee—Brady Wyman

Should we be lobbying to influence natural resources policy in New England states? To what degree? Which issues do we take on? Can we agree on the answers to these questions? Is our role to simply inform the debate? Do we stick with “just the facts,” or do we tell our policy makers what we believe? What do we believe?

In December, your Executive Committee Representatives agreed that we need to answer these questions before we can hope to recruit a policy committee chair. In an extended discussion it became clear that different chapters have different policy issues and needs. While one state seeks strong policy and enforcement, another uses SAF’s good offices as a forum and source of technical expertise. Which is appropriate? Is there another, different level of policy participation at which we, the NE SAF, should engage?

Your representative needs to hear from you if you have an opinion about the NE SAF role in public policy. This is a discussion that the Committee will undertake in the next several months. Until there is at least a rough consensus around these questions, the Committee decided, it will be pointless to recruit a new policy committee chair.

See page two of this issue to find your representative to the Executive Committee and make your opinion count.

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS 1900

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CFE Update

Activity/Date/Location Hours/Category

Natural Community Mapping Workshop, VT Family Forests Org., Bristol, VT - 9/17/03 3.0/1
Hawks, Eagles & Owls of Northern New England, UNHCE, Fox Forest, Hillsborough, NH - 9/19/03, and 6.5/1
Pack Monadnock, Peterborough, NH - 9/19-20/03 1.5/1
NH Forest Industry Task Force Summit, NHTOA, Grappone Conf Ctr, Concord, NH - 9/26/03 3.5/1
Detailed Ecological Monitoring, Forest Stewards Guild, Quabbin Res., New Salem, MA - 10/6/03 3.0/1
Fundy Model Forest Tour, UMaine CFRU, Sussex, New Brunswick - 10/8/03 2.0/1
Arc View Workshop, Consulting Foresters Assoc. of VT, Barnard, VT 10/17/03 5.5/1
Managing Softwoods for Deer & Other Wildlife, UNHCE, W. Milan, NH - 10/23/03 2.5/1
Ma. SAF & Assoc. Of Pro. Foresters/Joint Meeting, MA SAF, Sturbridge, MA 1.5/1
Changing World of Forest Ownership, Maine Div, NESAF, Wells Conf. Ctr., Orono, ME 11/12-13/03 3.0/1 (12) & 4.0/1 (13)
Mass Tree Wardens Mtg, MA DCR, Urban & Comm Forestry, Brigham Hill Comm Farm, N Grafton, MA - 12/10/03 2.0/1
CRRU/Plum Creek Timber Co., U of Maine, Fairfield, ME 12/16/03 6.0/1

Northam D. Parr,
UNH Cooperative Extension
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North Haverhill, NH 03774-4936
Tel: 603-787-6944 Fax: 603-787-2009
grafton@ceunh.unh.edu

NE SAF Membership Trend

New England Society of American Foresters Membership Summary

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NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS
84TH ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

March 23 - 26, 2004
Hilton Quebec, Quebec, Canada

(A) REGISTRATION INFORMATION (please type or print)

Full-name (First name or nickname for name tag)
Company, institution, or agency ____________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
City __________________________ State/Province __________________________ Zip/Postal Code __________
Office phone ( ) Fax ( ) E-mail ________________________________

(B) REGISTRATION CATEGORY (please check the category appropriate to you)

(1) SAF member □ (2) Canadian participant □ (3) Student □
(4) Other (write-in) ____________________________________________

(C) REGISTRATION FEES

Full-Package Registration Options (includes box lunch, awards luncheon, all coffee breaks, ice breaker and continental breakfasts).

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<th>Sub-total</th>
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<tbody>
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Regular Registration (due by 02/23/04)
Late Registration (after 02/24/04 including walk-ins)
Student (anytime)
* Premium for all other registrants (registration category B4)

Single-Day Registration Options

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</table>

Wednesday only (includes continental breakfast, box lunch and coffee breaks)
Thursday only (includes continental breakfast, awards luncheon and coffee breaks)
Student (each day)
* Premium for all other registrants (registration category B4)

Additional Options

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Box lunch ticket
NESAF Awards luncheon ticket
Hospitality Tour (all-day Wednesday, 24th) (see description for further details)
Elegant Dining at Place Royale (Tuesday evening, 23rd) (see description for further details)

Checks payable in US funds to:
Yankee Division – SAF
Mail to:
Chris Modisette
SNEFCI
P.O. Box 760
Chepachet, RI 02814

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Circle Awards Luncheon Menu Choice: Turkey Breast
Circle Box Lunch Menu Choice: Ham and Swiss

Questions about registration? Call 401-568-1610 or fax 401-568-7874 or email cmodisette@aol.com