

New England Society of American Foresters

# News Quarterly

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## New Horizons Project NE SAF & Siberian Foresters to Collaborate?

Would you like to meet your Russian counterparts in Tomsk, Siberia?

Would you like to see firsthand why the Siberian forests are called the “lungs of the world?”

Would you like to help preserve that sensitive ecosystem 12 time zones away?

If the New Horizons Project (NHP) is granted funding, you may well be one of the foresters to take such a trip. NHP, a non-profit organization that facilitates educational programs and seminars between Americans and Russians, is now building a coalition, including the Tomsk Regional Authority and the New England Governors' Conference, for a region-to-region forestry exchange. The constituency will include policy makers in government, foresters, environmental NGOs and forestry related businesses.

NHP's Director William King (past president of the New England Forestry Foundation) attended the NE SAF Executive Committee meeting at the Sheraton Hotel in Nashua, New Hampshire on April 3 to discuss the program and to propose that foresters join the coalition. Participants would share information and best practices in Forest Stewardship, economic development and scientific research. A fellowship program would develop a network of relationships that bridge cultural barriers for the global good.

The project will build on the rich heritage of forest science developed by Russia over the centuries, and the more recent American experience, managing private forests in ways that are sensitive to the host communities and to the environment. The Tomsk region represents twenty percent of the Western Siberian hemiboreal forest land. Reserves of mature and over-mature growth in the area are estimated at 1.8 billion cubic meters. A large part of this region consists of commercial forests in which coniferous species such as pine, cedar, spruce and fir predominate. A broad base of forestry-related industries have developed, but illegal logging and burning have had a negative impact on the area.

Russia is now at a crossroads, considering a change in its laws regarding the transfer of state owned forestland to private ownership or leaseholds. If managed properly this transition to private control has the potential to bring about needed reforms and the reversal of the destructive trends now in evidence. If not, nearly one fourth of the world's forests—the forest in Russia—will be in jeopardy.

Readers interested in this project would also have found the keynote address by Dr. Mila Álvarez of equal interest (page 7, April, 2006 News Quarterly). Dr. Álvarez highlighted privatization of forest ownership, and illegal logging around the world, as key issues in global forest resource management.

NE SAF members interested in participating in this project should send their curricula vitae to William King, NHP, 238 Main Street, Suite 401, Kendall Square, Station, Cambridge, MA 02142-0003.



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**LETTERS**

To the editor:

In the opinion/editorial page of the April NESAF Quarterly, Mr. Mongan of LandVest, Inc. discusses in general terms his firm's "investment return oriented forest management". While I heartily endorse reasonable action by a landowner to obtain a return from forest management, which is necessary in our capitalist society, I can not help but feel that Mr. Mongan has omitted much in his analysis. The unknowns that are obvious to me after 45 years in the forestry profession are items like meeting the tax burden, paying for non-commercial intermediate cuts to achieve this "new forest", costs of building and maintaining necessary roads, and establishment and maintenance of boundaries.

Also, while TIMO's are an important part of our present forestry situation, how many of the parcels they manage have had the development rights stripped off for a quick infusion of cash; cash often from the public purse? There is more to this issue than the past and present price per acre of land.

Yes, we do need to have the discussion Mr. Mongan suggests NESAF undertake, but it needs to be open and all inclusive. Will LandVest, Inc. volunteer to lead such a serious discussion? Personally, I would whole heartedly support and look forward to their action in this arena.

David C. Stevens  
Morrisville, VT  
Green Mt. Division

fires, etc. I explained that as foresters we manage forests, grow trees, prepare forest management plans, plan and supervise harvests, plan regeneration of the forest, plant if necessary, etc. She was seemingly impressed with learning what foresters do and asked if there were ways that foresters could meet with school children and have them learn about forests. I related that was definitely possible and that members of our SAF, and other foresters, who work for a variety of organizations are willing to arrange visitations with students. She has young children in school who seem to respond to learning in a variety of settings outside the classroom and planned to follow up on this prospect. This woman grew up in Maine, lives in Mass. and works in NH. I suggested that if she sees a Mass. Dept of Forestry office in the vicinity of her home, stop in and inquire, or find one of their offices in the phone book and give a call, that she would ultimately be directed to someone willing to help out.

You never know when you will make a connection, plant a seed, and be greeted with a smile.

When returned home after the meeting there was a letter and card from MESAF describing a new program of having a list of foresters, MESAF members, interested and willing to visit school classes or possibly lead a field trip and help students learn about the forest environment. I immediately indicated a willingness to do this, filled in and returned the card. I am sure many others did the same and in time we will meet with many students and share with them what we do in studying forests and managing them for a variety of uses.

To the editor:

I had an interesting meeting on the Thurs morning of the NESAF meeting.

I went to the hotel pool with Kay and on the way out chatted with the woman at the desk who issues keys to locker, towels, etc-- a very nice pool by the way.

Somehow I mentioned to her that I was there for the meeting of our SAF, that I was a forester. She was interested to learn more, what do we do, fight

This is a human interest experience , if you have extra space in a newsletter it may be of interest to others and --who knows !!

Peter Hannah  
Bristol, ME



Shop at the  
SAF Store!

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.

**USDA FOREST SERVICE— *Helen Thompson***

**Two Temporary Stream Crossing Designs Showcased**—Nearly 250 logging professionals from across the Northeast and as far away as West Virginia and Ontario recently attended four workshops in Maine on building temporary stream crossings. The workshops discussed two temporary structure types—wooden cant bridges and plastic arches—used for crossing streams.

Hancock Lumber hosted three half-day seminars on wooden cant bridges at its Casco, Pittsfield, and Bethel sawmills, with instruction provided by the Maine Forest Service. According to one of the instructors, Chris Martin, a Maine Forest Service senior planner and water resources forester, the seminars started out with a conversation about the use of bridges in logging. Participants shared their experiences with bridges and compared the rough costs of materials. “From there they went to the actual assembly of the bridge,” said Martin. “It was 16 feet long and used 8- by 10-inch and 10- by 10-inch cants, logs that are squared off. We used a wooden template to drill the holes through the cants for the bolts. Then we took threaded bolts and passed them through the drilled holes to receive bolts on either end to tie the cants together. The drill bits we used were large enough to allow us to pass the bolts through the cants easier.”

New York logger Clifford Glover said the temporary wooden cant bridge design compared favorably to permanent bridges. “This [temporary bridge] is a lot better. They’re easy to set up. They’re portable. Once you pull it out, you hardly notice anything was there before.”

A seminar on the high-density plastic arch stream crossings was held for about 60 Wagner Forest Management foresters in Grafton, Maine. Martin said the plastic arch is a lightweight temporary option for crossing streams that has been proven to work in Canada. “The company that makes them doesn’t use them for arches, they make them for plastic pipes. We just cut them in half and use them for bridge construction materials,” he remarked. The pipes can be transported in pickup trucks and installed by hand, they weigh a few hundred pounds compared with a few thousand for permanent bridges, and they’re light and convenient to set up. “These plastic arches won’t work everywhere,” said Martin. “You need to have firm ground and a well-defined stream channel.” Logs are used to fill in the gap between the arch and the

stream bank, in turn reinforcing the arch and helping to distribute the weight more evenly. The arches can support a variety of forestry equipment, including skidders, processors, and forwarders. “They’re an effective tool that’s been proven in Canada and we want to field test them in Maine,” said Martin.

The wooden cant and plastic arch temporary stream crossing designs achieve the same end goals. “The result is a temporary stream crossing that reaches from bank to bank, helping you cross the stream bed while keeping the stream bank stable and preventing erosion,” said Martin. The stream crossing designs have many positive attributes. “One quality of them is environmental compliance. It’s illegal to dirty the waters and introduce sediment into streams. These are temporary structures that are often in place for approximately 7 months. They are environmentally friendly, and they help to maintain a natural substrate in the stream bottom. Loggers like the design because it reduces their risk of impacting the environment. Temporary bridges are also less expensive to set up and maintain.”

Dave Welsch, a USDA Forest Service forester/watershed specialist, said temporary wooden logging bridges are growing in popularity in the Northeast. “The use of timber bridges has increased in New England over the last 5 years because they are an efficient and effective tool for the protection of water resources during timber harvesting operations,” he said. Martin added, “The fact that the stream crossings are temporary helps to reduce their complexity of construction: the bridges do not require engineering, the materials needed to put them together are readily available at sawmills and local hardware stores, and they are relatively low cost.”

The seminars also incorporated best management practices (BMPs) for Maine’s timber industry. “The BMP for Maine is an outcome-based, non-prescriptive approach. The strategy enables loggers to select the BMPs that are most appropriate and effective for the desired outcome, which is maintaining water quality,” said Martin. “BMP is like a toolkit for loggers,” said Martin, “and these temporary bridges are two more tools they can use.”



## **WWW.NESAF.ORG—Mariann Johnston**

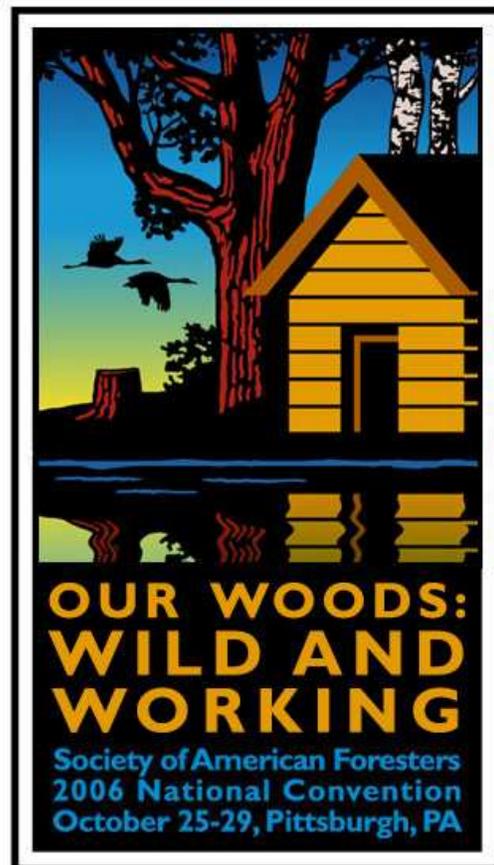
Want to know how to contact your current SAF officers or maybe become one yourself? Find out about upcoming events? Request a position statement on important, cutting-edge forest policy issues? Suggest a News Quarterly theme? Apply for a grant? Look for a job or advertise for a new employee? You can do all this and more by visiting the newly redesigned NESAF website at [www.nesaf.org](http://www.nesaf.org)!

The website redesign process has been an arduous but rewarding one. NESAF Executive Committee members have worked long and hard to select useful and relevant website content that will benefit NESAF members as well as enlighten the general public. Chair Ken Laustsen did an outstanding job of pulling together all of this information into a comprehensive outline that became the basis of the revised website. Webmaster Jim Oehler took on the daunting job of incorporating text, pictures and pdf files into the newly redesigned website.

The new website is comprised of nine major pages. The first is the **Home/About Us** page, that contains information on Executive Committee officers and business, position descriptions and nominations (interested in becoming an officer? check here!), Winter Meeting information and business (both past and current), Division and Chapter information and a downloadable pdf file containing the NESAF Bylaws. We will be adding a link on NESAF History in the near future. The **Calendar** page will list upcoming forestry-related events. The **Awards** page has information on the various awards given by the NESAF as well as the nomination process and past recipients. A listing of NESAF Fellows is also provided on this page. The **Grants** page discusses the grant monies available to NESAF Chapters and Divisions, as well as provides information about the grant request process and a list of current grant-funded projects. Ever need quick access to a Membership application? Just click on the **Membership** page and you will find a link to the National SAF Membership page, as well as a pdf file of a Membership application. For those who'd like information about current NESAF position statements, the **Policy** page will provide an overview of the position development process and access to NESAF's current positions. Need to know more about forest science and technology? Visit the **Forest Science & Technology** page and learn more about the activities of our Working Groups on a variety of topics, as well as a list of past News Quarterly themes. Suggestions for new themes are always welcome! The **News**

**Quarterly** page provides information on how to submit articles to the newsletter, as well as access to current and past editions. We will also be offering a new member service, **Job Listings**. This will contain a listing of current regional job openings, as well as information on the posting policy and procedure.

Part of our mission in providing the website and appointing a designated Website Administrator is to provide solid information that is accurate, current, relevant and useful to the NESAF membership. To that end, **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** Please take some time to visit the new website, and give us your thoughts and opinions. Is there some additional information you would like to see added? Errors or omissions in the current information? Do you have an upcoming event to include in the calendar? Any and all comments and criticisms (preferable constructive!) are welcome. You can contact Website Administrator Mariann Johnston directly (email [marianng@uidaho.edu](mailto:marianng@uidaho.edu)), or for Chapter- and Division- specific news and information, contact your Chapter or Division representative. So next time you're on the web, check out [www.nesaf.org](http://www.nesaf.org)!



## A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Fellow Foresters, the NESAF Meeting held this past April in Nashua, NH was underwritten by our sponsors, exhibitors and donors and was an overwhelming success. It is important to recognize these individuals and their companies; they supported SAF through their actions and pocketbooks as underwriters of our winter meeting. The best recognition anyone could ask for is to do business with them whenever possible in the course of your daily activities. I know that they would appreciate it. - *Harold Cook*

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**Thank you all!**

*Speaking of which...*



## DONATE AN ITEM - HELP THE FORESTERS' FUND!

"Our Woods: Wild and Working" is the theme of the SAF National Convention being hosted by the Allegheny Society in Pittsburgh, PA, October 25-29 and we hope many members will come and participate. The Foresters' Fund is "wild & working" as well. Created in 1962 to promote education and enhance public understanding of the role of professional foresters the Fund is still working well. Thanks to generous members and previous fundraising activities, the Fund will provide \$40,000.00 this year to SAF units to carry out the Funds' objectives.

**You can contribute to the continued success of this work by donating items for the Foresters' Fund raffle and silent auction.** We can use any item your state society, division or chapter is known for, books, clothing, local products (non forestry), paintings, forestry tools (old or new), equipment...in a word **ANYTHING!** You donate the item and the Allegheny SAF volunteers will make money with it.

Items can be sent or brought to the convention and we will accept them during registration hours. We will need the name and address of the donor. Or send your item as soon as possible to:

Sue Thompson/Jason Shuey  
 PA Biodiversity Partnership  
 16 Terminal Way  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1209  
 Tel. (412) 481-4100

**Ken Laustsen, George Frame & Leo Laferriere have volunteered to deliver your contribution for you.** (See page 2 for contact information.) If you decide to bring your contribution to Pittsburgh, please email Tim Kaden with: Name & address of the donor and a brief description, including approximate value, of the item. Donors will receive an acknowledgement letter from SAF that can be used for tax purposes.

Questions? Contact: Tim Kaden (302) 739-9238 (email) [timothy.Kaden@state.de.us](mailto:timothy.Kaden@state.de.us)  
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## TREES AND PEACE

Wangari Maathai has accepted SAF's invitation to deliver the keynote address to the National Convention this year in Pittsburg. The following has been excerpted from an article By Jan Cottingham, World Ark Editor, Photos by Darcy Kiefel. The full text can be found at <http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFiG/b.1453531/> - Ed

### THE WOMAN WHO PLANTS PEACE

**NAIROBI, KENYA**—Professor Wangari Maathai, the woman once denounced by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi as a “mad woman” is the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner. She also is Kenya's assistant minister for Environment and Natural Resources. The activist who fought the government has joined the government, and she's having to learn a different way of doing things. And if it's not quite true that everyone knows of her, it's certainly true that millions more do than before the October 2004 announcement of her selection.

The “Tree Lady,” as some call her, is the first African woman and the first environmentalist to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Maathai is a strong woman who has had to be strong, who has faced conflict bravely and whose very selection as a Nobel laureate generated controversy. Why, some asked, did the Nobel Committee select a woman best known for founding the Green Belt Movement, a nonprofit grassroots organization that focuses on environmental conservation, primarily through planting trees, to receive this highest of honors—the Nobel Peace Prize? What, these people asked, do trees have to do with peace?

It's a relationship she's had to explain many times. It's a relationship that the Nobel Committee explained this way: “Peace on Earth depends on our ability to secure our living environment. Maathai stands at the front of the fight to promote ecologically viable social, economic and cultural development in Kenya and in Africa. She has taken a holistic approach to sustainable development that embraces democracy, human rights and women's rights in particular. She thinks globally and acts locally.”

This outwardly gentle woman, a daughter of farmers, has endured what has come to seem a rite of



passage for many Nobel Peace Prize winners: scorn, ostracism, beatings, death threats, imprisonment. She has had to spend time in hiding and to move around the country in disguises. Some of her colleagues have been killed. None of this horror seems to have registered on her round, shining face, a face serious when discussing issues but always on the verge of a wide smile whenever her eyes meet those of another.

Wangari Muta Maathai was born in Nyeri, Kenya, on April 1, 1940. Taught by Irish and Italian nuns, Wangari excelled in school, and, through the efforts of the Kennedy Foundation and other groups seeking to help prepare African nations for independence by educating potential leaders, she received a scholarship to Mount St. Scholastica College (now Benedictine College) in Atchison, Kansas. She then entered the University of Pittsburgh, where she earned a master's degree in biological sciences. The more than five years she spent studying in the United States during the throes of the civil rights movement was a formative experience. Maathai saw the fight for equal rights for African-Americans as a demonstration of the power of activism and the power of democracy. In 1971, she received a doctorate in veterinary anatomy from

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Special Feature

### **Planting Peace** *(Continued from page 7)*

the University of Nairobi. She was the first woman in East and Central Africa to earn a Ph.D., as well as the first woman in the region to head a university department and teach at a university.

Maathai didn't become involved in deforestation issues until 1974, after her husband decided to seek a seat in Kenya's Parliament. She saw a pattern in the problems expressed [by constituents]. The main difficulty: no jobs. Politicians promise jobs. Wangari Maathai suggested a tree-planting project. Maathai, the scientist, saw these [problems] as symptoms and looked past the symptoms for the disease. The disease was environmental degradation, deforestation. She proposed to the council a tree-planting project. Trees prevent soil erosion. Trees could protect water sources. Trees could provide fuel and building material. Fruit trees could provide food. Trees could provide fodder. Planting trees could provide jobs and income.

Maathai says, "Even at a global level or even at a national level, many wars are fought over resources. So I think that when you think seriously we can see that if we were to be able, if we were to accept as a human family to manage our resources more sustainably, more responsibly, more accountably, if we were to agree to share them more equitably, we would be able to reduce conflict."

"Now to be able to manage our resources in that way and to share them in that way, we need democratic space, a space which respects the rule of law, a space which respects our rights. And such a space is often not available in areas where we have conflict, where we are either dealing with dictators or we are dealing with absolute rulers or we are dealing with people who do not want to respect the rule of law."

As leader of the Green Belt Movement, [professor Maathai] came into frequent conflict with President Daniel arap Moi, Kenya's president from 1978 to 2002. In 1982, under Moi's leadership, Kenya became a one-party state. The Green Belt Movement sought not only to establish "green belts" of trees throughout Kenya; it also fought the increasing privatization and destruction of Kenya's forests. The country's forests faced threats from several directions. Powerful elites engaged in unrestricted logging or clear-cutting for development. Tree farmers replaced indigenous trees with non-indigenous, sometimes invasive species that grew quickly and could be harvested for income. Poor Kenyans raided the forests for fuel and building material.

Landless, often desperate citizens cleared the forests to grow crops. And the government either looked the other way or even assisted its cronies. Corruption was rampant.

During the late 1980s and early 1990s, Kenyans, seeing the democratic revolutions of Eastern Europe, grew restive under Moi's autocratic regime and began calling for a multiparty democracy. Hundreds of people were arrested, some were tortured, some received long prison terms, and some were simply held without charge. In 1991, Moi agreed to permit other political parties, and elections were held in December 1992. The president and his party retained power, but opposition groups won almost half of Parliament's seats.

In the middle of this, in March 1992, mothers of the political prisoners organized a hunger strike and requested Professor Maathai's support. The women, most of them in their 60s and 70s, marched to Uhuru Park, where they remained, demanding that their sons be released. In an effort to force the unarmed women to disband, on the fifth day of the strike the police attacked the encampment, firing tear gas and beating the women. Maathai was knocked unconscious and spent a week in the hospital. The hunger strike and protest continued, however, this time in All Saints Cathedral. After she was released from the hospital, Maathai rejoined the other women. Finally, in early 1993, the hunger strike ended. Fifty-one out of the 52 political prisoners had been released.

For protesting illegal logging, Maathai has been arrested numerous times, received death threats and once, with her children, had to flee to Tanzania. In 1999, while she was replanting a forest illegally cut down by property developers, security guards beat her. She signed the police report in her own blood.

In December 2002, Kenyans elected as president Mwai Kibaki, a member of the opposition party the National Rainbow Coalition, who ran on an anticorruption platform, and President Moi finally stepped down. Maathai was elected to Parliament with 98 percent of the vote, one of 18 women elected to the 222-member governing body. The next year, Kibaki appointed Professor Maathai to his cabinet as assistant environmental minister. The outsider had become an insider. (Despite Kibaki's election, corruption remains a problem and reforms have been slow in coming.)

Over the years, Maathai's activism had grown to

*(Continued on page 9)*



# IN MEMORIAM



Newport, NH – Walter F. Breckenridge died on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, at the Woodlawn Nursing home. He was 97.

Walter was born December 1, 1908, in college Point, NY, the son of Clarence and Eleanor (Ferguson) Breckenridge.

He served as the first Sullivan-Cheshire County Forester and also worked for the Davis & Symonds Lumber Company, before becoming a self-employed forester and land surveyor in Newport. About 10 years ago, Walt donated a number of his many survey maps to the Sullivan County Registry of Deeds, for which area surveyors and foresters

have been very grateful!

Mr. Breckenridge is survived by two sons, Walter C. Breckenridge, of Oregon, and John A. Breckenridge of Arizona; eight grandsons; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia E Twitchell; and by his two brothers.

There are no calling hours and there are no services. Affordable Funeral and Cremation Services, Inc. is in charge of the arrangements.

He is also survived by a very close friend, Bonnie Avery of Newport.

## Planting Peace *(Continued from page 8)*

include issues other than the environment: human rights, women's rights, good governance and peace. From the start, however, the Green Belt Movement had emphasized community-building as integral to its mission. Asked this day in 2005 whether community-building helps lead to democracy, Maathai makes use of one of her favorite metaphors: the traditional three-legged African stool. The image of the stool illustrates the holistic nature of Maathai's years of work. It was this holistic approach that the Nobel Committee recognized as creating an atmosphere in which peace could be achieved.

"If communities would manage their resources," she says, "in a way that they can respect the rule of law and they can respect each other, we would have fewer conflicts, and it is to that extent that the environment becomes one of the pieces in the puzzle. The three things, or the three pillars as I like to call them, are very linked. It is not as if you can deal with one and not the other. In fact, I have been using the three-legged stool, the traditional African stool."

The three legs of the traditional African stool, she says, holding up a wooden carving of a miniature stool that rests on her desk, "represent the environment, democracy and peace." Lacking any of those "legs," the stool cannot stand; it cannot provide support. For Maathai, the seat of the stool represents "development, because the citizens who occupy that space feel secure; they can create; they are sitting on a secure base. ... That to me is the relationship. And I think that is the linkage that the Norwegian Nobel Committee saw.

"Well, I think it is very important for us to understand that until we get to heaven, I guess, life will always be a struggle. Life is a struggle whether you are living in a very industrialized country, very rich country, or if you are living in some of the most desolate places on Earth. Ask anybody in the industrialized countries and they will tell you life manages to give you challenges wherever you are. So the important thing for us is to take advantage of the opportunity that life gives us and try to use those opportunities to improve our own life and, if we can, to also help to improve the life of others."

She reflects for a moment, and then says, "Quite often happiness, real happiness, for us human beings comes when we go beyond ourselves and we serve others. Real unhappiness quite often is found in people who are too preoccupied with themselves."

## QUARTERLY THEME?

Due to the short "quarter" between April and June, combined with some personal exigencies on the part of the editor, we have postponed the publication of the **Global Warming** issue.

The enormity of the subject, and the probable far-reaching consequences for our profession warrant a more thorough examination than we were able to elicit in the short time we provided when soliciting contributions for this issue.

We have two excellent articles which we hope to supplement with others in October.

Meanwhile, we hope you have enjoyed our Peace "Offering." The full article at <http://www.heifer.org/site/c.edJRKQNiFIG/b.1453531/> is worth reading.—Ed.

# DIVISION NEWS

## MAINE - Marc Johnson

### China School Forest Day Well-represented by Foresters

The fourth biennial China (Maine) School Forest Day on May 19 was a complete success in spite of the gray and threatening overcast skies. All 600 China Schools students, their teachers and about 40 volunteers spent the day in the 40-acre China Schools Forests. Foresters joining forces with the other volunteers were Bill Livingston of the University of Maine, Tony Filauro, consultant, Ken Laustsen of the Maine Forest Service, Vickie Gammon of International Paper and Marc Vannah of Robbins Lumber Company. Other volunteers and organizations represented were a Maine guide, Project Learning Tree, Small Woodlands Owners Association of Maine, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, China Region Lake Alliance, Unity College, parents and others.

Teachers Anita Smith and co-coordinator Elaine Philbrook, noted that the mix of various presenters from the forest community and local leaders is to show students that all can co-exist if things are done correctly. The day includes a wide range of hands-on lessons, both indoors and out, incorpo-



Tony Filauro, MESAF Communication Chair, at the China Forest Day says, "The students received a diverse educational experience, considering the number of presenters and the subjects covered. It speaks well of the school that the students are exposed to such a broad array of forestry topics."

rating aspects of numerous school subjects including science, math and art using the schools' forest and wetland environment as the key subject matter.

Bill Livingston demonstrated species tolerance.



Ken Laustsen, Chair of NESAF, presents a SAF Certificate of Appreciation to the two teacher-coordinators for the China Schools Forest Day, Elaine Philbrook (left) and Anita Smith (right).

Marc Johnson

Ken Laustsen did a session on "Forest Choices" offering choices among silvicultural system, high-grading or doing nothing.

Vickie Gammon, gave a presentation from a large wooden deck encircling a massive white pine, much like the Crusoe Family tree house. She taught about tree structure and function designating each student a different part of the tree. "We talked about the parts

of trees and some of them just blew me away with what they knew", Gammon said. Mark Vannah talked about the differences between red and white pine and their uses.

China Forest Day means much to the students as they take away the lessons taught by foresters. These students go on to become voting citizens with a better understanding of the forest environment, its uses and harvesting systems.—*Source of part of story from Waterville Morning Sentinel, May 20, 2006, Keith Edwards, Staff Writer.*

### Welcome Jake Metzler to MESAF Executive Committee

Jake Metzler, forester with the Forest Society of Maine, was chosen to fill out the member-at-large position vacated by Mark Leathers, who was transferred to Wisconsin. We wish Mark well in his new position in Wisconsin and that he can help the SAF division there with his leadership.

### The Maine Student Poster Contest Reinvented

A small group of foresters led by Sue Aygarin is making steady progress in reinventing the former

poster contest into the Forestry Awareness Program. MESAF sponsored a very successful meeting of the forestry education community in late 2005, and the demand for foresters to help in the public schools continues to grow. Sue cannot run this program alone! If you have not already done so, please take a minute to let Sue know of your intent to help, so we have a better sense of member's interest in the program. About 25% of the MESAF membership has responded to date. Check out the [www.mesaf.org](http://www.mesaf.org) for specific opportunities to get involved in your area. - *Bob Seymour, MESAF Chair.*

### Wood Market

Peter Lammert, Project Forester, Maine Forest Service, wrote in the May 2006 Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine newsletter "For thirty years I have tracked mill delivered prices for veneer logs, saw logs, pulpwood and other forest products. During that time, I never saw the drop in price that the red oak veneer log market has experienced during the past year." Peter recalled the historical high red oak demand even exceeding supply creating more price inflation. Today, the market has gone to other "white woods" which this time turned out to be sugar maple. Some furniture makers have switched to red maple due to the high price of sugar maple.

Peter cautions woodlot managers to stay in touch with market prices and with log scalers at the different log yards. He noted, "Scalers usually have a 'heads up' on what's coming as they talk with the truck drivers who haul logs to the different mills." Be careful on what you plan to harvest from the woodlot without checking the prices and demand ahead of time.

This correspondent notes that determining the value of a lobster or clam dinner at the restaurant is easier than pricing wood, as the menu will say priced according to market. If only we could learn about wood payments at the mill that way prior to cutting.—*Partial source SWOAM News, May 2006.*

### New Fish Passage Cost-share Program in Maine

The Maine Forest Service announced enhanced incentives for forest landowners to upgrade stream crossings that may be acting as barriers to fish passage specifically within eight listed important Atlantic salmon watersheds, the Eastern Coastal rivers and the Penobscot drainage. Funding from the Maine Atlantic Salmon Conservation Fund and the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund will provide cost-share up to 75% for projects prioritized as provid-

ing the greatest benefit to Atlantic salmon. The program is administered through the WoodsWISE and Project Canopy programs at the Maine Forest Service. For more information call (207)287-2791 or go to: [http://www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/fpm/water/small\\_stream\\_crossings.html](http://www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/fpm/water/small_stream_crossings.html)

### Plum Creek Submits Draft Concept Plan to Maine

Plum Creek recently submitted a re-draft of its Concept Plan for its lands in the Moosehead Lake region to the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC). LURC, the planning and zoning agency for the 10 million acres of unorganized territory in Maine, allows landowners to submit for review overall long-range concept plans. If approved, much of the guesswork of what a landowner can do with their land is removed for a period of time. In Plum Creek's application the time period it is asking for is 25 years.

Part of the Plum Creek concept plan seeks to place conservation protections on about 400,000 acres of land and waterfront, snowmobile and hiking trails. Other parts of the plan provide for development of up to 975 lots in the region including two resort sites. A CD and/or further material on the Plum Creek concept plan re-draft is available from LURC at (207) 287-2631.

### New Forester at SWOAM

Maggie Burke, a May graduate from the University of Maine with a B.S. in Forestry will join the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM) as its new full-time forester. She interned at SWOAM last summer and also spent three summers working as a forest technician for the University of Maine. The University of Maine-College of Natural Resources, Forestry and Agriculture just presented her with its Distinguished Student Award. To fill in her time at UMaine, she was also captain of the Woodsmen Women team and served as co-editor of *The Maine Forester*, the college forestry yearbook.

At SWOAM, her duties will include outreach to members and other landowners with questions, assist SWOAM chapters, and provide support to SWOAM's Land Trust, Forest Certification and monthly newsletter. She fills the position that Paul Miller formerly held, (see last NESAF News issue) having moved on to consulting forestry.—*SWOAM News, April 2006.*



## GRANITE STATE - Jon Nute

### **White Mountain Forest Plan Approved**

The White Mountain National Forest can proceed with its new 15 year Forest Plan. Released last November, the Plan has been awaiting public appeal, which was not forthcoming. Late in March, Forest Service officials in Washington, advised Forest Supervisor Tom Wagner that the plan will be operative.

The Plan, in process since 1997 and having received over 6,000 written comments, bans most ATV activity and retains the current level, if not the prior ceiling, on timber harvesting volumes. It also calls for an additional 34,500 acres of Wilderness, which must be designated by Congress to take effect. About 47% of the almost 800,000 acre Forest will be available for intensive recreational activity, the balance being reserved for non-motorized, dispersed recreation.

In the convoluted and contentious arena of National Forest Planning, the installation of a plan with no appeals is a notable achievement by Supervisor Wagner and his staff.—*Source: Concord Monitor, March 28, 2006, Katharine Webster, AP*

### **Geoff Jones Honored by Northeast Logger's Association**

Once again, Geoff Jones, of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, has been singled out for recognition of his work in resource management. On May 23 the Northeastern Loggers' Association (NELA) announced that Jones is the 2006 recipient of their



Outstanding Management of Resources award. NELA Board Chairman, Jack Frost presented the award at the Annual Loggers' Banquet and Cruise off the shores of Burlington, VT in a ceremony attended by over 325 members of the Northeast's forest products industry.

"For 26 years, Geoffrey Jones has distinguished himself as one of the most respected foresters and forest managers in New Hampshire and throughout the northeast" said Frost.

In April, Jones was the recipient of the NE SAF Austin Cary Practicing Professional Award (page 5, News Quarterly, April, 2006).

**The Forest Guild NE regional meeting** was held in Keene on May 19 and 20. The Friday indoor session was attended by 120 natural resource professionals, approximately half of whom were Guild members. The Guild began 10 years ago as the Forest Stewards Guild, with representation mostly from New England and the Pacific north west. See their WEB site at [www.forestguild.org](http://www.forestguild.org). The 13 speakers presented research and observations on a wide range of topics regarding ecologically based forest management. U Maine PhD candidate Erika Rowland discussed her research at TNC's Big Reed Forest Preserve north of Baxter Park. She used 20m by 250m plots to investigate regeneration dynamics for the past 1,500 years, finding a frequency of varying levels of disturbance, but none catastrophic. USFS silviculturist William Leak reviewed 50 years of plot analysis from both the Bartlett Experimental Forest in NH and the Massabesic Experimental Forest near Sanford, ME. He discussed the influence of soils, climate and disturbance on stand establishment and the use of different forest harvest practices to guide these changes. Yale professor Mark Ashton proposed a distinct rotation frequency and harvest strategy whether the site was at the valley floor, mid-slope or ridge top. Guild official Bob Pershel was concerned about ensuring sustainable forest management on conservation easement properties and outlined 11 criteria that could be included in the easement stipulations on the larger properties.

Scattered showers the next day, Saturday, did not deter 70 of the registrants from touring 3 forests in the Keene area. The 83 acre Massin Lot in Swanzy is privately owned and has been managed by forester Charles Koch for 20 years. The 650 acre Taves Forest in Roxbury is owned by SPNH and has been managed by forester Jeremy Turner. The 415 acre Horatio Colony Preserve in Keene and Swanzy has been used as a research site for Antioch New England Graduate School since 1985, with 51 permanent plots established. Except for two small areas, no harvesting has occurred since 1892.



## GREEN MOUNTAIN - Ray Toolan

Things here in the Green Mountains are pretty quiet overall. The legislature is done for the year and all have gone home. The so called "Ancient Roads" Bill was probably about the biggest issue up this year that might affect forestry. As I understand the compromise bill that was sent to the governor, towns have a certain amount of time to identify on town maps those "ancient roads" that are to remain in the public right of way. Once I have a chance to see if it has been signed into law I will come up with some better details.

My wife and I just got back from England and Wales. I mention this because I gained a new appreciation for our forests here in the north-east. England with 60 million acres and 60 million people has a surprising amount of undeveloped land. These lands are mostly in moors and dales. There are no forests to speak of so the views go on forever. You do not see wood frame houses as every-

thing is made of brick and/or stone. The forests were all cut, I was told, to create grazing land for sheep as well as for wood products and the production of coke. There are some forests in Great Britain. The public owned lands are about 400,000 acres in all. Although some trees are being planted in green belts and Crown lands the overall ratio of open to forested is not likely to change. Needless to say their wildlife and various plant communities have been impacted by this sort of land use. The views in England were spectacular but I am happy to be back in my little tree covered mountains.

Getting back to Vermont I will be interested to see how our wood markets develop over the summer. On a final note the new Clean and Clear Initiative is well under way in developing strategies for maintaining water quality here in Vermont. That's it for now. Have a good summer.

## MASSACHUSETTS - Anne Marie Kittredge

### "A Call to Action" to Maintain our Forest Heritage in Massachusetts

Following 3 years and including 5 separate day-long "Forest Forums" designed to bring together representative foresters, mill owners, timber harvesters, landowners, and environmental advocates, 14 groups signed on to *A Call to Action for Massachusetts' Forests* in a coordinated display of agreement and support for the 5 stated goals for Massachusetts' forests. Led by Secretary of the Environment, Steve Pritchard, each group signed the document at a ceremony at Harvard Forest in Petersham, MA on May 18, 2006. The 5 goals include: (1) **Conserve the Forests of Massachusetts** - Protect a sustainable base of forestland to ensure the ecological integrity of Massachusetts' forests and support fundamental public values, uses and ecosystem services. (2) **Sustain the Economic Viability of our Forests** - Ensure the economic viability and sustainability of working forests, the forest products industry, and local rural economies in Massachusetts. (3) **Strike a Balance between Working Forests and Forest Reserve** - Create a balanced, comprehensive matrix of sustainable working forests and forest reserves to ensure the ecological and economic integrity of Massachusetts forests (4) **Protect the Health of our Forests** - Pursue priority in-state actions to minimize the threats to forest ecosystems. (5) **Educate Key Groups about Forest Values** - Increase the

people of Massachusetts' understanding of and connection to our forests. The following 14 organizations signed *A Call to Action*:

- ✓ Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary, Executive Office of Env. Affairs;
- ✓ MA Audubon Society;
- ✓ Forest & Wood Products Institute;
- ✓ MA Chapter; The Nature Cons.;
- ✓ Worcester Co. Cons. District;
- ✓ The Kestrel Trust;
- ✓ MA Chapter, Sierra Club;
- ✓ Appalachian Mountain Club;
- ✓ MA Farm Bureau;
- ✓ MA Assoc. of Conservation Commissions;
- ✓ Harvard University Forest;
- ✓ MA Chapter, The Forest Guild;
- ✓ Taunton River Watershed;
- ✓ Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst;
- ✓ MA Forestry Assoc.
- ✓ MA Woodlands Cooperative

### MA DCR hosts Forest Resource Program Leaders (FRPL)

More than 50 staff from the 20 northeastern states attended this meeting in Hancock, MA including representatives from the USDA-Forest Service, Northeast Area State Service Forester Program Supervisors, and Extension. The meeting highlighted Massachusetts' forest management practices and initiatives.

**Congratulations, Sam C. Schneski!**

Sam leaves the MA Div. of Fish & Wildlife this month in order to begin a new county forester career with the VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation in Windham & Windsor counties. Mass-Wildlife staff and the MA SAF Executive Committee will miss you, Sam!

**MA DCR Service Forester, Jennifer Fish** completed the first edition of a newsletter designed to provide current information to forest landowners who participate in the state's current use program. The newsletter will focus on forest and tax related topics and opportunities.

**Four MA SAF Foresters design and present GPS training at TWS Conclave**

University of MA Extension Forester, David Kittredge and MA Div. of Fish & Wildlife staff, Sam Schneski, Brian Holt Hawthorne and Anne Marie

Kittredge joined more than 100 student members of The Wildlife Society who traveled from various northeastern state universities for this weekend training session in southwestern MA.

**FSC audit of private forestlands**

The MA Department of Conservation and Recreation FSC audit of approximately 360,000 acres of private forests with Chapter 61, 61 A and Forest Stewardship management plans was recently awarded to the Rainforest Alliance/ Smartwood Program. The initial audit will be conducted by June 2006.

**A list of Continuing Forestry Education (CFE)**

opportunities and other continuing educational activities are compiled at: <http://forest.fnr.umass.edu/foresterlicense/texts/upcoming.htm>

## CONNECTICUT – William Bentley

The Connecticut Chapter is holding two summer meetings this year. The first, on June 22, will be a tour of the Yale Myers Forest in Union CT. It will be followed by a Bar BQ and lecturers on the Forest's research program.

The second meeting will be a day-long gathering in early September at UConn' Haddam Extension Center to discuss the Connecticut Forest Practice Act. A number of controversial local issues have brought this state-wide policy issue back to the front burner. Speakers will include several practitioners, agency leaders, and others concerned with effective oversight of forest harvesting practices. For more information, contact Bill Bentley at [bill-bentley@cox.net](mailto:bill-bentley@cox.net)

**State-Wide Forest Resource Plan**

A major research meeting on Connecticut's current forest science programs is planned for September 28, 2006, at the UConn West Hartford Campus. It is sponsored by the Connecticut Forestry Council (CFC) Research Committee, and Jeff Ward is the chair. A broad natural resource research symposium is planned at UConn Storrs in March 2007.

The next Connecticut Conservation Forum will be November 14, 2006, at the University of Connecticut West Hartford Campus. The theme will be: *Working towards Solutions: How to Sustain Connecticut's Woodlands*. The morning will be three outstanding speakers on forest fragmentation, balancing property rights and the public good, and experiences of several town planners with preserving forests and other open space. The afternoon agenda includes ideas and solutions emerging

from the various committees of the (CFC) and other groups concerned with Connecticut's forests.

Along with the *Connecticut State-Wide Forest Resource Plan*, statewide plans were issued in 2005 by DEP for wildlife and outdoor recreation. DEP Commissioner Gina McCarthy is likely to direct efforts be made to integrate these three plans for the state at the landscape level.

**Coverts Workshops**

Two mini-Coverts workshops were offered on April 29. A session was held on the Holcomb Farm, Granby CT, for five local land trusts, the Farm, and Connecticut Forest and Park Association to help land stewards improve their understanding forest and wildlife management. Foresters Tom Worthley, Rob Rocks and Bill Bentley were joined wildlife management specialists Judy Wilson and Peter Picone. Considerable time was spent on a major issue for local land trusts – control of invasive plants.

Foresters Stephen Broderick, Lawrence Rousseau and David Kittredge were joined by wildlife biologist Laurie Fortin of the Connecticut DEP to teach the basic principles of woodland management at a seminar held in Norfolk on April 29. After the instructional sessions, the 47 attendees went on site walks to see actual examples of management plans in action, guided by the instructors, additional foresters and other experts. The seminar, put together as an Coverts program outreach project by seven 2005 graduates, won this comment: "My husband and I came away with lots of inspiration for what possibilities there are for managing our

forestland, and feel that we know now where to go for advice. "

**Goodwin Center News**

Several Connecticut activities are tied to the Goodwin Forest Conservation Education Center. The main building, which was James Goodwin's farm house, is being renovated and all the record reviewed and reorganized. According to Steve Broderick, the part time director of the Center, "We are blessed with a small but wonderful library of historic forestry and wildlife volumes, some dating to the dawn of the forestry profession in America. Some beautiful new oak conference tables and chairs are also now in place, so we now have the ability to host up to 16 people around a conference table in the house, in addition to the museum facilities."

Progress continues in the native plant/backyard habitat demonstration area. The Goodwin Center is now officially a focus site for the UConn Extension System's Master Gardener (MG) Program. Windham County MG Coordinator Kim Kelly is working closely with Barbara Yeager, a new landscape architect, to implement Barbara's plan. Working with them are Peter Picone (DEP Wildlife), Steve, and others. A wonderful crew of volunteer MG's has spent over 100 hours to date pruning, preparing beds, fertilizing, liming, planting, mulching, etc. the Goodwin garden area.

The Board of Directors of the Eastern CT Forest Landowners' Association held its May meeting at Goodwin, and they are co-hosting with us a twilight forest tour here for their full membership and the public on June 14.

Goodwin's first chainsaw safety program for the novice and amateur operator, co-sponsored by the Southern New England Logger Safety Program, will be on June 3. This full-day program includes the opportunity for each participant to fell trees themselves under the instructors' watchful eyes. The program was oversubscribed despite the \$125 price tag and will be repeated in the fall.

May 18 was the final day for most recent 4-day Game of Logging training for Connecticut certified loggers at Goodwin. This is the second such training held here to date and Steve is working on evaluation and impact data. Since he marks the trees which the loggers fell, hosting these programs enables the Center to make some no-cost progress on implementing the stewardship plan on the Center Forest.

Plans will soon be underway for a six-part Forest Stewardship Short Course for landowners which Steve and his colleagues will offer at Goodwin in the fall.

Emily Getz, a PhD Candidate in Ecology at UConn, will be returning May 19 for her third tour as our summer conservation educator. Two "Forest Forensics" programs are scheduled for June 5 & 6, and Emily will soon be adding significantly to that schedule. At least two scout groups scheduled to utilize the over-night camping area. The girls will be pulling garlic mustard and doing other service projects in exchange for educational presentations by Center staff.

On April 26, 55 members of the "Experiment Station Associates" arrived from New Haven by bus for a tour of the Center and surrounding forest. Jeff Ward and Steve gave presentations on the history and management of the Goodwin Forest, and cooperative research efforts underway here.

On March 17, Steve taped a ½ hour program for Charter Cable Television on the Center and its programs, following up a program that Diane Joy (DEP Kellogg Environmental Center – Goodwin Center reports to her) taped a couple months earlier. Both have aired numerous times in northeast Connecticut.

**Connecticut Forest Facts**

Connecticut went from being over 90% forested when Europeans first arrived to less than 30% under forest cover in 1865, according to Don Smith in his paper, *Connecticut's Forested Lands at the Turning Point – or not?* (It will be in forthcoming proceedings of 2005 Forest Conservation Forum). The forest steadily came back to a high of about 64% forest cover in 1960. Development caused land use changes and forest cover is under 60% in 2006.

Connecticut had the first State Forester – Walter Mulford in 1900. He was appointed by Governor George McLean, who later became a US Senator from Connecticut and wrote the first Migratory Waterfowl Act. Mulford acquired the first purchased state forest in 1903, but Pennsylvania created the first state forest earlier from public lands.

NEWS QUARTERLY Publication Calendar		
Issue	Submission Deadline	Publication Date
January	December 22	January 15
April	March 22	April 15
June	May 22	June 15
October	September 22	October 15

## RHODE ISLAND - Gregg Cassidy

### **Envirothon**

Ten teams participated in the annual Envirothon held at the Aperia Foundation in Coventry. The team from Narragansett High School won the competition. The RI chapter of SAF is cosponsored the event and assisted with the helping with the Forestry component of the competition. Paul Dolan coordinated SAF participation in this event.

### **New Forest Stewardship Publication**

A new publication, "*Forest Stewardship: Rhode Island Landowners Discover New Strategies in Forest Conservation*," is available for download from the DEM website <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/bnatres/forest/pdf/forstew.pdf>. This is part of an effort to increase landowner awareness about forest management opportunities that

prevent fragmentation of forestland by providing a way to pay property expenses so the land does not have to be sold for development.

### **Seedlings to Promote Forestry**

The RI Chapter received a grant from NESAF to distribute tree seedlings to promote forestry. White spruce seedlings were given to members of the RI General Assembly as well as distributed at One hundred year celebration of Rhode Island Forestry and an Arbor Day ceremony held at DEM/Forestry Headquarters in North Scituate.

### **Champion Tree Grant**

The RI Chapter of SAF has received a grant from NESAF as well as funds from the Wald Science Foundation produce a publication highlighting champion and notable trees in Rhode Island.

## NOVA SCOTIA - Edwin Swift

### **Report Available on the Forest Industry in Nova Scotia**

The Atlantic Provinces Economic Council has recently published an updated economic report on the forestry industry in Nova Scotia, Canada. This report is very similar to the publication titled "Current conditions and factors influencing the future of Maine's forest products industry" that was prepared for the Maine Forest Service and Maine Technology Institute in March 2005. Both reports deliver an interesting account of the cur-

rent restructuring in the forest industry for eastern North America. The report on the economic impact of the forest industry in Nova Scotia not only provides the current profile of forestry in Nova Scotia, but also reports the major challenges, recent economic trends, and sustainable forest management issues in that province. The report titled "The economic impact of the Nova Scotia forest industry", can be viewed and downloaded from the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council's website at [www.apec-econ.ca](http://www.apec-econ.ca)



### **NESAF Officer Positions Open this Fall**

Fall, 2006 Nominations needed for following positions and drawing from the respective member locations. To be nominated and serve in a NESAF office, a member has to be in good standing, i.e. dues are paid up and be considered a voting member according to the SAF constitution.

- 1) Vice Chair - All NESAF members
- 2) Eastern Canada Provinces Representative - NESAF member from the province of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, or Quebec
- 3) ME State Representative - ME Division member
- 4) MA State Representative - MA Chapter member
- 5) VT State Representative - Green Mountain Division member

**Contact Paul Dolan or any other EC member for details and nomination form (see page 2).**

# NE SAF AFFAIRS

## CHAIR'S COLUMN— *Ken Laustsen*

First off I would like to inform members of a prospective project that NESAF is taking on. Merv Stevens, a recently elected Fellow, approached the executive committee with some thoughtful viewpoints back in January and wondered whether his idea had merit and whether the EC had the energy to follow-up. The answer was a qualified yes, in that Merv had to serve as Project Manager and had to submit a funding proposal by the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for the SAF Foresters Fund.

The proposal "Future Challenges for Foresters" was submitted and approved for a \$1,500 matching Foresters Fund grant. The project will start with a facilitated retreat to initiate a serious dialogue on the future challenges facing professional foresters in both the New England and New York State Societies. Emphasis is on what foresters must do to adapt themselves to meeting society's needs now and forward to year 2020. An intermediate development will be a white paper, drawing on the retreat content and describing how foresters can plan to meet the "Race for the Resources" challenges in managing land in the northeast into the future year of 2020. The white paper can also serve as a discussion topic at upcoming chapter/division meetings. The final opportunity will be to have a workshop/discussion at the 2007 NESAF Winter Meeting in Vermont, allowing the engagement of the broader membership before publishing a strategy/policy focused on implementation, sort of a home-grown strategic plan.

The retreat is planned and scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup>, with about 20 attendees representing the range of existing and future SAF leadership from within New England and New York. It will be a productive day, resulting in benefits and outcomes for all members to use in planning their professional future.

Back in January, NESAF advertised for a volunteer website editor/administrator to serve in an appointed position on the executive committee. Dr. Mariann Garrison-Johnston, a recent transfer from Idaho and the Intermountain State Society to the Granite State Division, stepped forward and has been hard at work over the last several months. Both she and Jim Oehler, NESAF webmaster, have been working diligently on shepherding the EC through the thinking process of creating a new

*(Continued on page 18)*

## COUNCILOR REPORT— *Leo Laferriere*

The Quarterly deadline just precedes the June Council meeting. Some agenda items are:

**The Forest Science and Technology Board**, through its Working Groups, is preparing three white papers to inform and support the development of future SAF position statements. Topics include invasive species, biotechnology, and the use of herbicides. A white paper on forest biomass and bioenergy is also being developed, largely as a grass roots effort by key SAF members.

**Finances:** This year our major sources of revenue are membership dues (49.2%), publication sales and subscriptions (19.3%), advertising (10.0%), grants and contracts (6.2%). As of the end of April, both income and expenses are under budget but the net is close to projections. The net gain in the value of investments is \$209,000.

**Proposed changes to the SAF Constitution:** Governing Code: SAF is currently governed by the District of Columbia Charitable, Educational, and Religious Associations statute. In 1962, the D. C. Nonprofit Corporation Act was enacted. Upon advice of counsel, SAF can elect to operate under the new Act, which among other benefits will enable conducting national elections via electronic ballot.

Council changed the name of the National Student Assembly to the National Student Congress. The proposed change to the Constitution will add a student representative to The House of Society Delegates.

Acting upon the recommendation of the Forest Science and Technology Board, Council proposes an amendment that creates a Forest Science program with the objectives set forth in the VOS Task Force recommendation and preserves the organization of the FS&TB to the Bylaws consistent with all other SAF boards and committees.

These proposed changes will be subject to approval by the membership through the voting process.

**Ethics:** Council members will discuss Council's oversight role for the Committee on Ethics. Council's role in the Ethics process is difficult, due to confidentiality requirements and Council's role as an appellate body in cases where the Ethics Com-

*(Continued on page 18)*

**Administrative Services for NESAF –  
Kenneth M. Laustsen**

During my tenure on the executive committee, NESAF has transitioned from a full-time Executive Director, to a part-time Administrative Assistant, and now to contracted administrative services.

In January I signed a 1-year renewable contract with the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association (NHTOA) in which they agreed to provide fee-based administrative, secretarial, and mailing services for the NESAF. That contract had the approval of the Executive Committee and has since been reviewed by a pro bono legal counsel that SAF uses. Annual services consist of both personnel costs, estimated to be a maximum of 100 hours per year, and supplies/direct cost items such as computer sharing, copying, and postage.

All requests for services are to be directed to and then through the NESAF Chair. The single source contact is intended to maintain control and timing of requests and provide timely monitoring of that specific line item in the budget. The administrative services options are probably most helpful to the NESAF nomination/election and award committees in providing for the timely mailing of ballots and award nomination packages.

The annual demand for administrative services is expected to vary depending upon the backing and support that the current chair and various standing committee chairs receive from their respective employers. The EC feels that this service contract is another way of continuing to “Break Down Barriers” and give any interested member the chance to serve on the NESAF Executive Committee in a capacity of choice.

If a chapter and/or Division have a need to contact all NESAF members in a mailing or a promotional event such as a meeting, workshop, or conference, please get in touch and I will assist in getting that service and benefit provided in a timely manner.

**CHAIR** *(Continued from page 17)*

NESAF website design. While those efforts are not quite 100% complete, the bulk of changes are done, and the new website is open for business. So, please go sneak a peek at [www.nesaf.org](http://www.nesaf.org) and let us know what you think. Also, Mariann is the main contact and is available to help both chapter and divisions get desired material posted on the NESAF site.

Enjoy the summer, whether at work, home, or play!

**COUNCILOR** *(Continued from page 17)*

mittee administers disciplinary measures. Council will be considering a change in the Bylaws which requires that the Ethics Committee asks those signing charges to provide any additional relevant information the Committee should consider after reviewing the information submitted by the accused, and provide the accused with one additional opportunity to respond to the charges.

The Ethics Committee provides a discussion guide, and is working on producing case studies of actual cases (with details removed) that would provide some level of instruction. However, the Committee is finding this very difficult to accomplish.

**Certification Review Board:** Our own Carol Redelsheimer, co-chair of the Certification Review Board, will be making a presentation regarding the Certified Forester program. Currently SAF has 2,591 Certified Foresters. The program managers are active, and the Certified Forester website has been updated and redesigned. Thanks to Carol for some fine work!



## CFE Update

<u>Activity/Date/Location</u>	<u>Hours/Category</u>
Living with Invasive Species...6/16/06, Springfield, Vt.	3.0/I
Controlling Invasive Woody Plants...6/12/06, Hadley, Ma.	2.5/I
ME Summer SAF Meeting...6/8/06, Jackman, ME	2.0/I
Northeast Utilization & Marketing Council. 6/4-8/06, Killington, Vt	13.5/I
Aroostook National Wildlife Refuge, 5/18/06, Caribou, ME	1.0/I
Forests & The Environment, 5/17/06, Portland, ME	6.0/I
ME Land Conservation Conference, 5/5-6/06, Brunswick, ME	8.0/I
National Communities Symposium, 4/1/06, Easton, MA	3.5/I
Growth & Regen. Of N. White Cedar in ME, 3/30/06, Caribou, ME	1.0/I
Forestry Investments & Risk Mgmt, 3/30/06, Old Town, ME	4.5/I

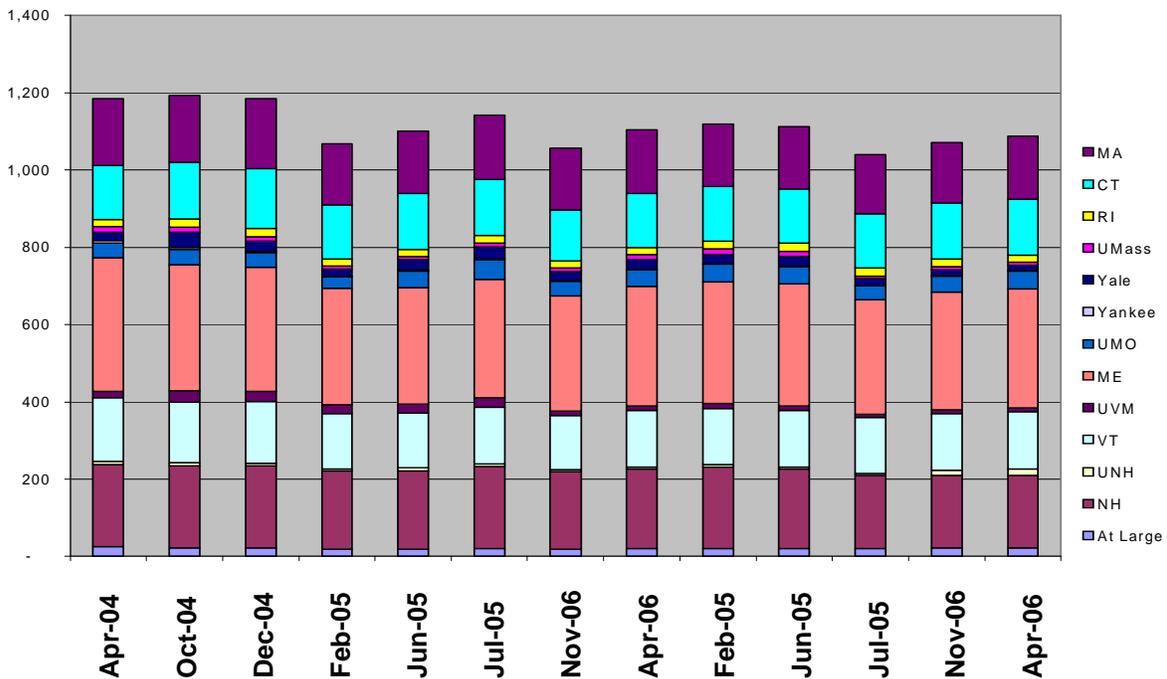
SAF Continuing Sessions Assigned—For listing of CFEs check [www.safnet.org](http://www.safnet.org)  
 For other, upcoming NH Forestry workshops/meetings, check [www.extension.unh.edu](http://www.extension.unh.edu)



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## NE SAF Membership Trend



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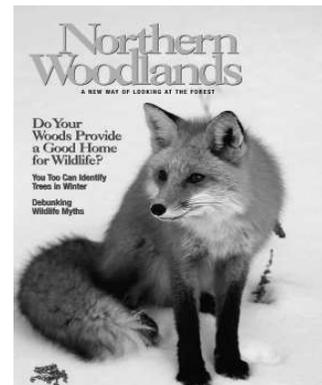
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