Integrity Award to Katahdin Lake Coalition

Si Balch, Ron Lemin Receive Awards

Three separate organizations unified their efforts to protect Katahdin Lake and 6,000 acres adjacent to Baxter State Park in Maine. The Maine Department of Conservation, the Trust for Public Land, Maine Office, and the Baxter State Park Authority formed a single team to forge a complex conservation land transaction. These three organizations share the 2008 NESAF Integrity in Conservation Award.

Baxter State Park began in 1931 when former governor Percival Baxter donated 6,000 acres and Mount Katahdin to the state. Over thirty years, Percival Baxter bought 28 parcels and donated more than 200,000 acres to the state of Maine. Yet the Katahdin Lake tract, still bearing some trees present in 1921 when Baxter first planned the park, remained in private hands. In 2002, the Katahdin Lake parcel was offered for sale. After an intense year of negotiations to conserve it, the land was sold to the Gardner Land Company (GLC), a logging and development firm.

The Maine Department of Conservation (DOC), the Trust for Public Land, Maine Office (TPL), and the Baxter State Park Authority (BSPA) redoubled their efforts in what had become a tense struggle. The pressure increased as GLC, having invested millions to purchase the land, began harvesting in some of the areas believed to contain "old growth" timber.

In 2005, a complex compromise emerged that was acceptable to the diverse entities involved. Recognizing the nature of GLC’s business, the state agreed to exchange other public land for the Katahdin Lake tract. A 2/3 vote of the legislature was needed to approve the disposition of other public lands. The product of many hours of hearings and work sessions was a bill approving the land swap and appropriating $2.5 million for additional land purchases. The bill passed with 90% of the legislature voting in favor.

After winning legislative approval, the team launched a fund-raising campaign that brought in $14 million in private contributions to pay for land to be acquired by the state. In a brilliant compromise, management of the much-sought acquisition will be split between two state agencies. The BSPA, careful to respect the wishes of Percival Baxter, will manage most of the Katahdin Lake tract under the same "forever wild" principle as the land donated by Baxter. The DOC will manage nearly 2,000 acres under its own integrated-use policy.

(Continued on page 8)
Thank You...Thank You So Much! - Brad Wyman
This issue, volume 69, is my 30th and last.

My tenure as editor has been highly rewarding and it is an honor to have been entrusted with this work.

Forty-five years ago, as I contemplated my career options, I had an epiphany, and it had surprisingly little to do with the forest and the trees. I realized that of the people I knew, as a group, it was the foresters whom I admired and liked. It was the foresters with whom I wanted to work and associate. And so I set my compass bearing and followed it into the woodlot. When circumstances led to my premature retirement, and Gary Salmon, my predecessor, stepped down, I saw this as an opportunity to serve and stay involved with my colleagues. It was a good call. Now, Susan, my life partner for over 40 years is retiring (not so prematurely) and it is time for me to relinquish this job in favor of our new life-style.

I am pleased to introduce your new editors, Maggie and Scott Machinist, of Island Pond, Vermont.

Thank You...Thank You So Much!
- Brad Wyman (aka Ed.)

Scott, works for Land Vest, in Vermont and is Green Mountain Division Vice-Chair. Maggie is a forester with New Hampshire’s Division of Forests and Lands, out of Lancaster. In early February they inquired about what is involved and at the meeting in Saratoga Springs they affirmed their interest in taking it on. Their appointment was promptly confirmed by the executive committee and they and I have begun their introduction to the job. I am looking forward to their editorial discretion to keep the News Quarterly fresh and vital.

I know you will welcome Scott and Maggie with the same warmth and enthusiasm you have shown me for the last seven years.

Which brings me to the headline of this column... Thank you. Thank you so much for the opportunity and the warm collegiality you have accorded me. Thank you for your friendship. Thank you for your contributions, your suggestions, your criticisms, which have inevitably been constructive. And I want to thank in particular the News Quarterly correspondents, theme editors and their collaborators, and the Chairs’ and Councilors’ contributions.

Thank you for the opportunity to extract maximum benefit from my membership in the Society of American Foresters.

Sincerely,

Brad Wyman (aka Ed.)

News Quarterly Editors
James D. Curtis 1940-1941
Arnold D. Rhodes 1942
James D. Curtis 1943-1945
Austin H. Wilkins 1946-1948
Arnold D. Rhodes 1949-1951
Robert I. Ashman 1952-1956
Fred Holt 1956-1957
Raymond T. Foulds 1958-1960
John H. Noyes 1960-1963
Richard Pardo 1963-1964
Lester A. DeCoster 1964-1965
David Crosby 1972-1978
Russell Reay 1979-1985
Gary Salmon 1986-2000
Bradford Wyman 2001-2008
Scott & Maggie Machinist 2008-

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.
Helping Alaska Communities Find Renewable Energy Solutions - USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry

DURHAM, N.H.—USDA Forest Service units on opposite coasts of North America worked together recently to show Alaska communities how to reduce fuel-oil dependence and derive alternative energy from their local renewable resources.

The Forest Service introduced Alaska officials to processes and equipment used to produce and utilize energy from woody biomass and cellulose-based household waste, such as paper and cardboard.

The Forest Service’s Pacific Northwest Research Station brought the group from Thorne Bay, Alaska, to New England, where the Forest Service’s Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry branch led them on tours of seven local facilities involved with biomass. The technical assistance tour ran Jan. 22-24.

Station Research Forester Allen Brackley led the trip to explore available biomass technologies in use outside of Alaska. He said he was very pleased with the results of the trip.

“When you look at some of the facilities we visited, you can tell there’s a lot of potential for using similar facilities in Southeast Alaska,” said Brackley.

Facilities toured across New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut varied in function and design. Site visits included a wood pellet production plant, a special needs educational facility, a biomass energy power plant, a college campus, paper and cardboard densification materials production plants and a hospital. All either produced wood-based fuel or utilized bio-mass for local heating, cooling, and power.

“This trip proved to them that it’s possible to use biomass from local, renewable resources for energy production,” said Rob Clark, a forest resource management group leader from the Forest Service’s Durham, N.H., field office. “Instead of shipping their paper and cardboard to Seattle for recycling, we showed them options to recycle it locally into fuel to heat buildings or produce electricity. That saves money and makes sense.”

Tour participant Keith Rush, of The Nature Conservancy, built on Clark’s comments. “We believe healthy forests and healthy communities go hand in hand. The Nature Conservancy is working with the Forest Service and community partners, exploring how the byproducts of restoration and forest thinning can generate local economic benefits. The tour provided ideas to investigate further.”

Eight of the tour participants were from Southeast Alaska, including Thorne Bay Mayor Jim Gould.

“In Thorne Bay we’re looking at this more for the development of jobs,” Gould said. “We do know, though, that a lot of Southeastern Alaskan communities could benefit from a regional solid waste disposal facility. We’re also looking at the biomass side of things, to get a biomass market started here in Southeast Alaska, in particular, near Thorne Bay.”

Gould saw many technologies in New England that applied to Southeast Alaska, and encouraged members of other communities in Southeast Alaska to participate in similar orientation trips if they were offered the opportunity.

Walter Bitterlich 1908 - 2008

Austrian forester Walter Bitterlich died on about 9 February, 2008, just 10 days short of his 100th birthday. It is often said that he is probably the only forester in the world who is known to virtually every other forester, principally because of his invention of Variable Plot sampling. A nicer man would be hard to find, and a larger contribution to Forest Inventory would be impossible to imagine.

He managed to live through the Russian Front in WWII just in time to be shipped to Normandy to face the allied invasion. Even during the fighting he was inventing and thinking. It was not just Variable Plot Sampling that he offered the world, but inventions of snowmobiles, garden tools and machines to produce pleasant curves for furniture. The Relascope, of course, is the invention that so many of us know best, and it was made possible by the manufacturing skill of his life-long friend Benno Hesske. Walter’s book “The Relascope Idea” is full of credit to other people, which was typical of our experience with this extraordinary man.

He lived for much of his professional life in Salzburg while he raised a family of 4 and taught at the forestry school in Vienna. He took up ice dancing when he was 70, as part of his life-long fitness regime. He did that until he was about 90 when, as he said “I could not longer lie convincingly to my lady partners about my age – they worried I would fall – how silly”. During his last few years he moved back to Reutte, Austria where he was born, and near where several generations of foresters in

(Continued on page 22)
Ecological Forestry: A Paradigm We Should Embrace or Incompatible with Our Mission? - David Ray¹, Robert Seymour¹, Laura Kenefic¹,², and Jessica Leahy¹, ¹School of Forest Resources, University of Maine and ²U.S. Forest Service, Northern Research Station

We conducted a survey of forester perceptions of Ecological Forestry (EF) at the New York – New England SAF Winter Meeting in February, 2008. The survey was presented with a poster that asked participants to provide demographic information and answer ten questions about EF by indicating opinions on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Respondents (n=55) were primarily male (94%) and early (25%) or mid- (58%) career. Most had a forestry degree (85%) and were SAF members (95%); they were employed by private (30%), public (28%), and academic (28%) institutions. We provided this introduction:

“The idea that Ecological Forestry is something new may be greeted with skepticism by some foresters because they have always viewed their approach to forestry as ecologically based. Others believe there are a number of features that distinguish this paradigm from the way commodity oriented forestry has traditionally been taught and practiced. Perhaps foremost is the stated goal of sustaining biodiversity, which proponents argue may be achieved by more closely matching harvest intervals and spatial extents with regional natural disturbance regimes. Other distinctive elements include the maintenance of legacies from the prior community, and provision for coarse woody debris.”

Most respondents (79%) considered themselves knowledgeable about EF, though 57% of those expressing an opinion (not neutral) either agreed or strongly agreed that large-scale disturbances are common in the Northeast (Fig 1A). This suggests either that they were not familiar with the natural disturbance regime in the region, or that the question was poorly worded (it did not specify the disturbance category as ‘natural’).

Questions were asked about the scientific underpinnings of EF and whether it falls within the realm of traditional forestry (Fig 1B). Nearly three-quarters (72%) of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that EF is science-based and 99% agreed or strongly agreed that implementing EF requires silvicultural knowledge. Similarly, few respondents expressing an opinion (18%) agreed that EF is synonymous with restoration ecology, suggesting this group views EF as the domain of foresters.

Questions were also asked about the types of landowners compatible with EF practices (Fig 1C). While 72% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that EF can be applied at the stand level, only 28% expressed the same opinion when asked if EF was best suited to public and conservation organizations. These findings suggest that the group views EF as viable on small holdings, which is of particular relevance given the character of northeastern forest ownership.

Within the context of emerging issues (Fig 1D), 78% of respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed. (Continued on page 22)
Random (Maybe wild and crazy) Thoughts Following Upon the Joint NY-NE SAF Meeting - Jim Coufal

First, the meeting was a great success, and many thanks need to be given to co-chairs Jerry Milne (NE) and Andy Hayes (NY), and the good folks who worked with them. The program was timely and stimulating, the facilities were spacious and accommodating, the food was excellent, the city was neat, and the snow was….snow. It was exciting to be part of history, the first ever (in the collective memory of those present) joint NY/NESAF Winter Meeting, and with nearly 500 in attendance it will be a tough act to follow. Many people suggested that we need to have such joint meetings on a regular basis, another sign of the success of this meeting.

What follows can only come from the sessions I attended and knowing what was on and hearing a little about the rest of the program. It’s also being written because I remembered that a few years ago, following a NY Winter meeting I wrote a perspective that might have been seen as a bit negative, suggesting that there were certain topics that we had chewed over like an old bone, issues like property taxes, non-industrial private landowners, deer management and forest regeneration, the beechn problem, etc. Some of these were covered in the Saratoga meetings and others noted in passing, but it struck me that many of the topics discussed were not even twinkles in any of our professors eyes. Who would have though not too many years ago that we would be talking of carbon sequestration and carbon credits, of conservation easements, of cellulosic ethanol/bio-refineries, of the cost and benefits of forest-based ecological services of forests, of managing forests for disabled people, and of the high tech forestry tools shown by the vendors? The presentation on state forests even noted they were managed, including timber harvesting, without need to turn a profit! Perhaps we’ve turned a corner.

Perhaps the most challenging issue was presented in the keynote. Dr. Schlesinger, a noted biogeochemist (try that in one sentence with cellulosic ethanol/bio-refinery) predicts that by the end of the current century, or before, our beloved northern hardwood forest will be replaced across the northeast by oak-hickory forests. What does that mean for how we practice forestry today? This hit home the morning after the convention when I sat in as a member of the Village of Cazenovia Tree Commission looking at what tree species to use in the village tree replacement/enhancement pro-gram. Currently sugar maple is the dominant village tree; it has worked well and people love it. But if we plant it now and Schlesinger’s predictions are true, what costs do we incur for our successors? In the broader field of forestry, how should this prediction influence our practice of good silviculture? I suggest that a future joint meeting look more closely at the predicted changes and explore how our current practice should anticipate them.

Today’s Sunday Parade magazine offers readers the chance to start from the old saying that “The best things in life are free,” cut it back to and complete “The best things in life…” The meeting proved to me again the most valuable reason for being a member of the SAF; “The best things in life aren’t things, they’re people.”

Meeting old friends and swapping lies and telling war stories, mingling with current students and having those who once were my students greet me and hearing of their success, feeling the enthusiasm of presenters like Brett Butler and the joy of Dave Forness, sharing more coffee than needed, honoring fellow NY and NE foresters, and seeing the troops rally around a fallen colleague with the Jude Zicot fund drive, these are the things that make my memories of such meetings.

On the drive home I had a few silly revelations that I’ll share with you in closing. Not having to slog through it, shovel it, clear the windshield of it, etc, I realized that in the bright sunlight and dry road the snow had suddenly regained its pretty. Ain’t things relative?! I also kept passing a new roadside feature seemingly just every several miles apart. Not using social critic George Carlin’s hilarious distinction between “stuff” and “crap” (My stuff is stuff, your stuff is crap) it occurred to me that it’s crazy that we Americans have so much stuff that we must have “Self Storage” units here, there, and everywhere. And now the feds are going to give us back the money they took from us and want us to run out and buy more stuff (much of it made in China, Korea, or whatever).

Finally, as I drove I heard stirring renditions of “The William Tell Overture” and of “Scheherazade,” conducting with one hand and driving with the other (is there a law against that too?) and marveled for the umpteenth time at the power of music and the wonder of technology. What’s this got to do with forests and forestry? Music adds much great pleasure to life; forests are life. We have a load of responsibility.
2008 Joint NESAF/NYSAF Annual Meeting Makes History - Jerry Milne, 2008 NESAF Meeting co-chair

This year’s annual meeting was a meeting of firsts. It was the first time we had a joint annual meeting with NY.

It was the first time we had online registration through the National SAF website. For $5 per person, Amy Ziadi of the National office kept track of registrations, made name tags, printed tickets for tours, and acted as an informational clearinghouse. It also allowed members to use credit cards, which most folks did.

This meeting had the first Fellows-Students breakfast. It had the first Job Fair geared to students. It had the first concurrent session devoted solely to graduate student presentations. It was the first time the Hotel and local Convention Bureau advertised in the News Quarterly. It was the first time the SAF email list was used to publicize the meeting. It was the first time the NESAF Quiz Bowl was won by a New York school (hopefully they’ll come to Maine to defend their championship in 2009, or we may never see the trophy again!).

It was the first meeting with a predawn fire drill in a snowstorm. It was the first time I saw my fellow SAF members in pajamas (and hopefully the last)!

Registration exceeded 415, another first.

By most accounts, the venue was terrific, with free wi-fi and dozens of restaurants within an easy stroll of the Hotel. The evaluations indicated that over 90% of the NESAF attendees would like to meet in Saratoga again.

I think both NESAF and NYSAF learned from each other and took home some new ideas. Maybe we should plan to have joint meetings more often.

Early Wakeup Call - On Wednesday, February 27, at 3:35 A.M., individuals attending the NE/NYSAF meeting in Saratoga, New York awoke to fire alarms ringing throughout The Saratoga Hotel. The heavy snowfall of the previous day had ended but the snow that collected on the trees was the possible cause for the fire alarm sounding in the early morning hours.

Hotel guests, who gathered in the lobby, were ushered outside into snowy surroundings by the fire department. An inspection of the hotel found no evidence of fire and guests were allowed to return to their rooms by 4:10 A.M. For some, a night’s slumber returned; however for others, the disruption ended a night’s rest and caused the day’s activities to start earlier than expected. The whole affair made for an interesting start to the first joint meeting between the New England and New York State societies.
Austin Cary Award - Si Balch

Si Balch is Director of Forest Stewardship for the New England Forestry Foundation (NEFF). He directs consulting foresters who provide forestry services on 120 properties across New England, manages 22,000 acres of demonstration forests, supervises conservation easement monitoring of 1.1 million acres, and provides public outreach and educational programs. Balch established a continuous forest inventory system for all NEFF land. Like Austin Cary, Balch devotes considerable time to sharing his expertise. He currently serves on the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands silviculture advisory committee, the Maine Forest Service post-harvest assessment advisory board, and on the boards of the Northern Forest Alliance, Master Logger, Maine Technology Institute, and Massachusetts Forestry Association.

Balch started as a field forester for Oxford Paper and Boise Cascade in Rumford, Maine, in 1970. He quickly rose through the ranks to become district supervisor, then operations manager, responsible for 400,000 acres and fifteen employees in three districts. As corporate ownership of the land he managed changed, Balch emerged as Mead-Westvaco’s forestry technical and planning manager, guiding forestry, harvesting, and research on 640,000 acres. He pursued inventory and growth projection systems, green certification, biodiversity indexing, and geographic information technologies.

Balch has been an SAF member for over 30 years and has served as chair of both NESAF and the Maine SAF.

Balch graduated cum laude from New York State College of Forestry and Syracuse University.

James W. Toumey Award - Ron Lemin

Ron Lemin joined SAF when Max McCormack asked him to fill a crucial role in planning the 1995 national SAF meeting in Portland, Maine. In 2000, Lemin served as member-at-large for the Maine SAF and in 2001 became chair-elect. He advanced to chair and past chair, then volunteered to be general chair of the 2005 NESAF annual meeting.

Lemin concurrently served as membership chair of NESAF and Maine division representative to NESAF from 2003 to 2006. Faced with the challenges of changing land ownership, corporate down-sizing, and declining student enrollment, Lemin continues to develop new and creative strategies to recruit and retain members. He revived the noontime lecture series for the University of Maine student chapter and proposed waiving the first year membership fee for students. Lemin also proposed mileage compensation for travel to executive committee meetings, thus making service to NESAF feasible for more members.

Not content to rest on his laurels, Lemin volunteered to again lead Maine SAF, becoming chair-elect for the second time in 2007.

Lemin earned a B.S. in forest science from Pennsylvania State University and an M.S. in forest biometrics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is currently a market specialist with UAP Timberland, LLC.
expensive to measure. The forest floor can change rapidly, but is generally a small amount of the overall carbon stock. Down dead wood may be a sizeable carbon pool in some forests, and standing dead trees could also be important if recent disturbances have occurred. Carbon in live trees is one of the largest forest carbon pools, can change fairly rapidly, and is influenced by management actions. So, we often focus most of our efforts on quantifying carbon in live biomass.

There are two main approaches to calculating live biomass carbon. The volume-based method involves converting merchantable volume to carbon, while the biomass approach uses equations to calculate the biomass of each stem. The volume approach will underestimate the amount of carbon in smaller stems, but needs less data. The biomass method is generally more accurate, but requires more data. The approach chosen is often determined by the amount and quality of available data. Regardless of the method used, a manager needs to be mindful that carbon is calculated as 50% of dry weight.

Once you have chosen and applied a method, you have an estimate of the standing stock of live biomass at a point in time. This is usually expressed on a per area basis: either metric tons of carbon per hectare or tons of carbon per acre. Since carbon reporting is almost always in metric tons, but foresters in the US do not work in hectares, you may also see the hybrid unit of metric tons of carbon.
How Much is that Tree in the Forest? Charismatic Megacarbon - Kenneth M. Laustsen, Biometrician, Maine Forest Service, Augusta, ME

Just like the doggie in the window with the waggly tail, trees have value; stumpage value represents the preferred and implied marketability of a live standing tree based on size, quality, and demand. Traditionally, stumpage value has been estimated for products of sawtimber, pulpwood, and whole tree chips (WTC); but the pending marketability of carbon sequestration will be reviewed, and may yet provide an alternative income stream for forest landowners.

A recent addition to biodiversity metrics is something called a Late Successional Old Growth (LSOG) forest. These forest stands are typically beyond silvicultural or financial maturity and are approaching ecological maturity. Based on continuing research by John Hagan and Andy Whitman at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, a LSOG stand can be simply represented as the stocking of live large diameter trees that are 16.0"+ DBH.

I accessed the recent 2003 Maine dataset maintained by the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Forest Inventory & Analysis (FIA), and selected all live trees of this minimum size and larger. Standard FIA volumetrics were used to estimate net volume in sawtimber and pulpwood products. The volumes were then averaged for 6 softwood species groups and 10 hardwood species groups. Separate allometric equations were used to derive a full suite of components that make up above and below-ground biomass (Jenkins et al. 2004). These values were used to quantify a merchantable volume in WTC. The same allometric equations were then used to estimate a final desired product, sequestered carbon, the total conversion of above/below-ground biomass into MTCO2e (Metric Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent).

For determining tree values, we used stumpage pricing for the specific products:

- **Common Cull** – estimates the tree value as coming from volume in the bole, limbs, and top; being turned entirely into WTC and valued at the WTC stumpage price.
- **Preferable Pulpwood** – estimates the tree value as coming from a sum of parts, the pulpwood quality bole is priced as pulpwood, and the limbs and top are priced as WTC.
- **Superlative Sawtimber** – estimates the tree value as coming from even a larger suite of parts, the lower high quality bole is priced as sawtimber, topwood is priced as pulpwood, and the limbs and top are priced as WTC.

Maine’s 2005 Statewide Stumpage Price Report was used to estimate an average tree’s value for the three traditional products. For instance, the average White Pine LSOG tree, if cull has 2.59 green tons in WTC @ a stumpage value of $1.63/unit for an average tree value of $4.22; if pulpwood, it has 0.4 cords @ a stumpage value of $6.60/unit and 0.43 green tons in limbs and top for a combined average tree value of $4.15; and if sawtimber, it has 0.269 MBF @ a stumpage value of $175/unit, with 0.08 cords of topwood, and 0.43 green tons in limbs and tops for a combined average tree value of $48.52. Similarly, the average Beech LSOG tree, if cull has 3.33 green tons in WTC @ a stumpage value of $1.63/unit for an average tree value of $5.43; if pulpwood, it has 0.20 cords @ a stumpage value of $13.50/unit and 0.67 green tons in limbs and tops for a combined average tree value of $3.74; and if sawtimber, it has 0.124 MBF @ a stumpage value of $75/unit, with 0.09 cords of topwood, and 0.67 green tons of limbs and tops for a combined value of $11.56 (Table 1.)

Consummate Carbon is a volume estimation that converts all above ground (bark, bole, limbs, top, and foliage) and below ground (stump and coarse roots) of the LSOG tree into a single total estimate of sequestered carbon (MTCO2e). MTCO2e is the international standard for expressing carbon storage, because we really want to know how much CO2 is removed as a greenhouse gas.

These respective product values are then divided by the Consummate Carbon estimate to determine a hurdle rate for each product. The hurdle rate is the derivation of the minimum carbon market value required to make a landowner neutral in deciding whether to sell that tree for its traditional product based stumpage value and letting it be harvested, or be paid to retain it as a live tree due to its sequestered carbon stumpage value.

For those species and products above the hurdle rate, the landowner may soon be able to choose to retain that tree and be paid for that decision. This receipt of a new income stream, in effect reducing to some small degree global climate change, will also retain a relic that represents the ecological desirability of LSOG, assuredly a win-win-win for all interested parties. So I will end with a well-known and paraphrased nursery rhyme, “to market, to market, to sell a fresh log, home again, home.
Table 1. Average Tree’s Stumpage Value, by Species, by Product

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>LSOG Common Cull Tree Value</th>
<th>LSOG Preferred Pulpwood Tree Value</th>
<th>LSOG Superlative Sawtimber Tree Value</th>
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<td>$19.52</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>$5.28</td>
<td>$28.79</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$3.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspen</td>
<td>$3.96</td>
<td>$6.33</td>
<td>$15.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Hardwood</td>
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<td>$6.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Hardwood</td>
<td>$5.35</td>
<td>$6.25</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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Table 2. Minimum Hurdle Rate to offset Stumpage Value ($/MTCO2e)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Tree Sequestered (MTCO2e)</th>
<th>Preferred Pulpwood</th>
<th>Superlative Sawtimber</th>
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<tr>
<td>Common Cull</td>
<td>$1.52</td>
<td>$1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred</td>
<td>$1.52</td>
<td>$3.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
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<td>$3.58</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1.53</td>
<td>$2.62</td>
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Opportunities for Forest Carbon Management and Carbon Market Participation in New England - William S. Keeton, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Forest Ecology and Forestry at the University of Vermont. He is co-director of the University of Vermont’s Carbon Dynamics Laboratory (www.uvm.edu/cdl).

Cap and trade carbon markets are developing rapidly around the world. This is in response to a rising sense of urgency surrounding climate change and the need to stabilize and then reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The European Carbon Market led the charge, followed in the U.S. by the voluntary Chicago Climate Exchange, the California Registry, and the northeastern Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). These initiatives have looked to forests as a potential carbon sink and for this reason reward – through revenue generating credits – activities that sequester carbon or otherwise offset emissions. As has oft been stated, forests and forestry are not a silver bullet solution – stabilizing the climate system will absolutely depend on dramatic emissions reductions – but they can help.

However, the more people have explored this possibility, the more they have realized the devil is truly in the details. What seemed at first relatively straightforward is, in fact, exceedingly complicated due to the dynamic nature of carbon storage both in forest ecosystems and in wood products. Determining if forest management actually results in a net increase in carbon storage – as opposed to just a simple increase in rates of uptake – requires accounting for the carbon cost of increased uptake rates (i.e. carbon harvested from a stand to free up growing space) and all of the possible fluxes in and out of both the forest system and the wood products stream over decades or even centuries. And getting the math right is essential. We have to be certain that we are not just changing flux rates (e.g. uptake), but rather increasing net carbon storage in the terrestrial biosphere with associated reductions in carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere.

Perhaps this is why carbon markets first allowed for carbon credits from reforestation or afforestation. This option was certainly the easiest to quantify in terms of carbon sequestration benefits, and was a vital element in climate change stabilization since about 20 to 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions have come from deforestation, mostly in the tropics. More recently the discussion has turned to awarding credits for “avoided deforestation” as another tool for slowing or reversing emissions trends. According to the FAO about 13 million hectares are deforested annually, although net global deforestation rates have decreased from about 8.9 million ha/yr. in the 1990s to 7.3 million ha/yr. over the last decade. Much of this decline relates not to a significant slowdown in tropical deforestation but rather to reforestation/afforestation (including fiber plantations) in eastern Europe, subtropical South America, and elsewhere.

In New England there are fewer opportunities for reforestation since our landscape has largely recovered from 19th century clearing. But there are important exceptions. In the Lake Champlain Basin of Vermont, for instance, there are huge opportunities for riparian restoration and these comprise an important component of watershed restoration efforts. While a precise number is not yet available, the total linear area available for riparian forest restoration is at least several hundred kilometers. Restoration of mature forest cover in riparian buffers would represent a sizable carbon sink that might be incentivized, at least in part, through participation in carbon markets. Even avoided deforestation is now relevant, since forest recovery trends in the region turned the corner in the 1990s. In many areas we are now losing more forest from sub-urban and exurban development than is recovering through secondary succession. Hence an opportunity for carbon market participation through land conservation activities and programs.

Most recently carbon markets and the RGGI process have experimented with the idea of awarding credits for a third category of forest carbon sequestration, called ‘improved forest management.’ Steven Ruddell and colleagues made a persuasive argument for this option in the September 2007 issue of the Journal of Forestry. IFM carries great potential but will be tricky to pull off. First, we need mechanisms like easements to ensure “permanence” of carbon storage. Next it will be important to certify that IFM does not simply displace carbon losses to other properties (termed “leakage”). And finally there is the challenging issue of how to create and quantify “additionality.” This concept refers to the added carbon storage accrued over time through IMF compared to a “baseline” scenario. The difference between the two is the amount of carbon storage that would qualify for credits. But the proper baseline is still in question. Should this be a business as usual scenario, or a regional average for a specific forest and site type, or a “gold standard” representing best management practices? Each option carries pros and cons in terms of registration and certifica-
Active managed forests provide carbon sequestration benefits both within the forest ecosystem and in harvested wood products. Biomass fuel produced as a by-product of forest management activities can help offset greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels. On-going research is exploring how to design forest management strategies that optimize storage among these sinks, thereby enabling a landowner to demonstrate additionality. Rapidly growing, younger or well spaced forest stands may have higher rates of carbon uptake, but they have lower biomass per unit area compared to older or less intensively managed forests, and thus actually store less carbon than high biomass forests with lower or stable rates of carbon uptake. Research has shown that as forests age they store more carbon, due to very high levels of accumulated above and belowground biomass. This potential represents an important benchmark for some forest carbon management scenarios, particularly in reserves. Different management approaches, such as frequency (e.g. rotation length) and intensity (e.g. amount of post-harvest structural retention) of stand entry result in different amounts of average carbon storage over the long term. Thus, choice of harvesting approach directly affects not only emissions offsets (i.e. from biomass fuel) but also long-term carbon storage dynamics.

The assumption that harvested wood represents a significant and long-lasting carbon sink can be highly uncertain, depending on product type, processing efficiency, etc. For instance, recently published US Forest Service data show that on average the residency time of carbon declines rapidly and exponentially in products made from both northern hardwood sawtimber and pulp logs. Less than 10% of a tree’s carbon remains in use 60 years following harvest, the rest having fluxed to landfills or back to the atmosphere. For this reason, preliminary analyses suggest that intensified regeneration cutting actually reduces net carbon storage. Conversely extended rotations or entry cycles, high levels of post-harvest retention, expanded use of intermediate treatments (thinnings) that enhance biomass accumulation, and practices favoring production of durable wood products may enhance average storage over multiple rotations or entry cycles. These results are preliminary and do not include all possible management scenarios, such as certain types of plantation forestry like high

(Carbon Management 101 (Continued from page 12) est in northwestern Pennsylvania. All stands were thinned to the same relative density, but one stand was thinned from below while the other was thinned strictly from above (the control stand was untreated). The first figure shows the standing stocks of carbon in 2000, while the second shows the average annual change in carbon stocks from 1975-2000 (the stands were thinned twice). This example includes carbon in harvested wood products, as well as standing and down dead wood, although estimating those carbon pools was not discussed here.)

To sum it up – carbon sequestration is another value of forests than can be considered side-by-side with other management objectives. The key points to remember are: decide which carbon pools you need to measure and whether you want to consider short-term or long-term results. Then, compare your carbon "yield" – average annual change – just as you would any other variable in the management equation.

For more information on the example above, see Hoover, C. M. and Stout, S. L. 2007. The carbon consequences of thinning techniques: Stand structure makes a difference. Journal of Forestry 105: 266-270.

For additional reading and useful carbon tools, visit http://nrs.fed.us/carbon/tools
All Things Wood Expo - The Forest For Maine’s Future will host the second annual All Things Wood Expo on Saturday, April 26th at 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at the Portland Exposition Building in Portland, ME. The Expo’s objective is to publicize the vastness of the Maine forest, the ecological benefits and recreational opportunities the forest provides, and the importance of the forest to the economic well-being of the State of Maine. The Expo is family oriented and many activities are planned for children. It is anticipated that more than 60 exhibitors will participate in the Expo. Information about the Expo can be obtained at www.maineTREEfoundation.org

Department Consolidation - In response to the budget shortfall in the State of Maine, the Governor’s Office has proposed to consolidate the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Marine Resources, into two departments. The commissioner of each department is charged with submitting a plan for reorganizing the department and to help implement legislation that will be presented by January 1st, 2009, to the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Many natural resource based organizations have raised concerns with the consolidation of the four departments and the limited time frame available to accomplish this task. MESAF will respond to the Governor’s Office concerning the proposed consolidation and will seek opportunities to have input into the process.

Project Learning Tree Teachers’ Tours - PLT will host teachers’ tours on July 15th-18th in Aroostook County and the Baxter State Park Region and on July 29th-August 1st, in the Moosehead Lake Region. Each tour begins with a PLT workshop, with curriculum materials that link with the revised Maine Learning Results. The tour then moves into the field with visits to timber harvest operations and related forest management activities.

Foresters are encouraged to participate in the Teachers’ Tours to discuss forestry issues with members of the public and education community. Your personal horizons broadened through such interaction and your expertise will add to the discussion and better understanding about forest management activities. Information about PLT and the Teachers’ Tours can be found at www.mainetreefoundation.org

Plum Creek Development Plan - On March 14th, the Land Use Regulation Commission ended the public comment period on Plum Creek’s development plan in the Moosehead Lake area. Over 400 individuals presented testimony during the four public hearings held around the state. By May 7th, LURC is scheduled to summarize the testimony it received and draft a report by late summer with LURC’s recommendations concerning the project. The public will have a 30-day period to comment on LURC’s recommendations. A final decision on the project is expected by year’s end.

University of Maine Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center - Since the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center opened in 1996 at the University of Maine, the center has developed numerous products that have resulted in obtaining nine patents. In 2007, the center collaborated with Hodgdon Yachts of Boothbay Harbor, Maine on construction of an all-composite patrol boat for the U.S. military. The center also developed a wood-composite armored tent for a Maine National Guard unit stationed in Afghanistan and a blast resistant building for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

Granite State - Jon Nute

2008 GSD/SAF Meeting - More than 125 foresters attended the winter meeting at Waterville Valley on February 15. Chair Pat Hackley introduced a variety of speakers for the annual forestry update. State forester Phil Bryce introduced Don Kent, the new director of the Natural Heritage Bureau, but announced a state hiring freeze will influence 6 other vacancies. In 2007, 19 timber sales on state lands produced 11 mmbf of timber. Activities are being planned for the 100th anniversary of the Division in 2009. PLT director Esther Cowles thanked the many forester volunteers for their work and GSD for contributing $2,200. A federal 3 year grant was also recently received for teacher
training in a “Math Science Partnership” effort. NHTOA director Jasen Stock provided a legislative update. Steve Wingate reported on Timber Harvesting Council activities. Go to www.nhtoa.org for a list of upcoming training sessions and the Oct. 25 Loggers and Truckers convention in Plymouth. SPNHF president Jane Difley praised the funding of LCHIP at $5 million, filed a friend of the court brief with the state supporting the WMNF timber sales and hopes to raise $2.8 million to protect the “CT River Forest” project in Clarksville. Sarah Smith, Coop. Ext. Forest Industry Specialist reported on the difficulties of the forest industry as the national economy slows. Coop. Ext. Program Administrator Darrel Covell introduced new staff members Fred Borman, Deb Goard, Kristina Ferrare, Emma Carcagno and Andy Fast. WMNF spokesman Wayne Millen thought that litigation on timber sales will begin next month at the federal court in Concord. Approximately 24 million cubic feet of timber was harvested in 2007. Ground breaking for the new WMNF headquarters at Exit 27 on Rt. 93 is imminent.

At lunch, student awards and $1,000 each were presented to Annie Rueb of COLSA (unable to be present), and Corey Johnson of the Thompson School. The Forester of the Year Award was presented to Tom Hahn. John O’Brien made the NH Tree Farm report and awards. In 2007, 334 inspections were made from a total of 489. There were 37 foresters that had completed all their assigned inspections. Brian Johnsen was recognized for his 2 years as state Tree Farm chair.

The afternoon panel on wood markets was moderated by Sarah Smith. NELMA president Jeff Easterling gave an overview of softwood lumber markets. Housing starts in 2007 down 25% from 2006 and are expected to be 50% less in 2008. Dan Harrison of Cer-

sosimo Lumber discussed the gloomy hardwood markets. Rising transportation costs have shrunk procurement areas and made it prohibitive to truck low grades. Tony Lyons, from New Page (previously Mead Westvaco), expects annaul 3% growth. New Page makes 36% of the coated paper in the US. Biomass Energy Resource Center spokesman Adam Sherman discussed demand for wood heat systems at schools, hospitals and similar applications. He reported that the average cost to heat a school is 41 cents a ft$^2$ for wood chips and $1.25 a ft$^2$ for oil. Champlain Valley VT high school saved $65,000 in 06-07 and Hartford VT high school saved $50,000. He anticipates a shortage of clean chips as sawmills downsize in the slow economy.

Black Fly Breakfast a Sellout - More than 150 attended the 10th annual black fly breakfast at Canterbury Woods Country Club. UNH Coop. Ext. Forest industry specialist Sarah Smith sought views on forest products markets from attendees. The saw-log outlook was dismal for but pulpwood and chips were OK. FSC lumber was moving well, but demands no price premium. State Forester Phil Bryce introduced new Natural Heritage Administrator Don Kent who expressed a desire to work with the different audiences in cooperation and to resolve conflicts. State entomologist Kyle Lombard announced a Canadian import permit requirement on hemlock logs after May 1 due to the woolly adelgid presence in NH.

Four speakers discussed recent wood energy developments. NHTOA Director Jasen Stock explained the renewable portfolio standards adopted by the state in 2007. Charles Niebling, publicity manager for New England Wood Pellet Co. (www.pelletheat.com) described the market as 150,000 homes in New England, increasing 10% each year. About 350,000 tons of pellets are consumed in New England, but only 200,000 tons are produced. Most are sold in 40 lb. Bags. Europeans deliver mostly in bulk. PSNH procurement forester Rich Roy spoke about the Northern Wood Power project at the Newington plant, which began operation last year. They plan to use 500,000 tons of chips each year. NH loggers provide 73% of the chips. Peter Bloomfield, vice president of Concord Steam Corporation described their plans to build a new facility in Concord to produce steam and electricity. They use 40,000 tons of chips per year, but the new plant will use 250,000 tons/yr. They are also working with the Budweiser brewery in Merrimack to install a steam and electricity plant there, which is expected to be in operation in 2011.
**GREEN MOUNTAIN -**

**Winter Meeting** – Despite difficult weather, over 50 foresters and natural resource professionals met in Montpelier to attend the 2008 Green Mountain Division winter meeting. The day was kicked off with an update of the status of the endangered Indian Bat by Vermont Fish & Wildlife biologist Scott Darling. The annual business meeting followed. The audience then received updates from Commissioner Jonathan Wood on proposed legislation at the state house and the restructuring of the Agency of Natural Resources. An update on the Current Use program was then given by Current Use Advisory Board Chair, John McClain.

Following lunch attendees heard presentations on forest carbon. Although the weather caused several speaker cancellations, a wonderful stand in performance was given by Sandy Wilmot of the FP&R introducing everyone to forest carbon. The day was ended by Will Price of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation discussing regional cap and trade systems.

**GMD Seeks to Increase Student Support** - Green Mountain Division is actively seeking to increase support of student SAF members in the state. There is currently an active student chapter at the University of Vermont and potential for the development of a new student chapter at Green Mountain College. The division is in the process of developing a Support a Student project where professional members would volunteer to cover annual dues for a student member.

The division has also voted to institute an annual $750 grant in the form of a Student Award. The award will be issued through an application process. To be eligible the student would need to be an SAF member, an upper classman forestry student at UVM or a Vermont resident attending a forestry school in New England, and will have demonstrated leadership and professionalism during their student career.

**RC&D Forestry Letter Series** - The Northern Vermont Resource Conservation & Development Council is sponsoring a forestry letter series. The target audience is forest landowners with ten or more acres in Franklin, Grand Isle, and Chittenden Counties with emphasis on folks who do not have forest management plans. Six letters will lead the landowners through basic forestry topics from forest ecology and wildlife habitat to silviculture, all while emphasizing the importance of professional resource management. The Green Mountain Division will sponsor the fifth letter on forest management. The series will end with a field experience day for participants.

**Use Value Appraisal** - The Vermont Use Value Appraisal program continues to be a topic of discussion in the state. Currently there are bills in the legislature proposing changes to the program. Any changes to the UVA program would have the potential to impact foresters and forestland owners across the state.

**New FP&R District Manager in Essex Junction** - Bill Baron has recently been hired as the new District Manager for District III out of the Essex Junction office. Previously Bill was a state lands forester in the Essex Junction office. Best of luck to Bill!

**MASSACHUSETTS -** Randy Stone

**Departments of Conservation and Recreation and Agricultural Resources** - Commissioner Sullivan recently announced the awarding of $1.5 million in matching funds for improvement and enhancement projects in state parks and other facilities across the Commonwealth. The money, allocated through DCR’s Partnership Matching Funds Program, will support 37 projects.

**Forestry Internet Seminars Focus on Ecology and Management** - The ecology and management of northeastern family forests underpin the value that forests contribute to owners, the community and the region. Internet seminars are offered the third Wednesday of each month at noon and again at 7:00 PM for approximately one hour. This spring the topics include: “Ecology and Management of Emerald Ash Borer – preparing for an infestation” by Jerry Carlson of NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. March 20th, “Selecting Trees Landowners Can Cut versus Leave For Forest Improvement” by Peter Smallidge, Cornell University Cooperative Extension. April 16th “An Introduction to the Ecology and Identification of Common Northeastern Conifers” by Peter Smallidge, Cornell University Cooperative Extension. May 21st The Forest, Connect Internet Seminar Series is an interactive web conference and was the first of its kind in
Dr. Zhao Ma has recently joined the Family Forest Research Center (FFRC) as a post-doctoral research associate. The FFRC is a collaborative effort between the USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station and the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Department of Natural Resources. In her new role, Ma will help conduct the National Woodland Owner Survey and will be responsible for further research related to the social and economic dimensions of family forestry in collaboration with Drs. Brett Butler and David Kittridge. Ma has a doctorate in natural resources science and management with a minor in statistics from the University of Minnesota and a master’s degree in sustainable international development from Brandeis University. Before joining the FFRC, Ma’s research mostly focused on family forest certification policies and outreach programs in Minnesota, and on the policies and practices of environmental review and cumulative environmental impact assessment across states.

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
January Meeting - The CT Chapter held its annual meeting at the Middlesex Extension Center in Haddam, on January 8th. The meeting was well attended, with over 50 members present. Following the theme of “Applied Ethics for Forest Practitioners,” three speakers gave talks on issues related to professional ethics and regulations in the field of forestry. Following the chapter business meeting at 11:30 and a quick lunch, chapter chair Ian Branson began the meeting with a welcome and introduction of new officers Valerie O’Donnell and Richard Campbell. Adam Moore, Chairman of the Ad-hoc Committee on CT Forest Practices Regulations and Director CT Forest and Park Association, then spoke on work being done by the Ad-hoc committee to improve forestry regulations within the state. Following this, Doug Emmerthal of the CT DEP Division of Forestry, discussed updates to the Conduct of Connecticut Forest Practitioner Regulations. Finally, Lloyd Irland, Visiting Professor of Forestry at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, spoke, comparing the SAF Code of Ethics to the new CT conduct regulations, as well as provided ideas for increasing the stature of professional forestry through stronger ethics mandates and education.

May Meeting - The Chapter will hold its summer field meeting on May 29 at Naugatuck State Forest. The Forest was designated as an Important Bird Area by the Audubon Society because of its early successional and young forest habitat created by forest management. Habitat structures to be featured at the meeting include 14-year old clears, final shelterwoods, fields maintained by the use of fire, and powerline right of ways. Thanks to the efforts of the CT DEP Foresters, golden-winged warblers, a State endangered species, have been observed within the last two years, as well as two species of special concern – whip-poor-wills and brown thrashers. For more information and to request a registration form, contact Valerie O’Donnell at ctsaf_sec_treas@hotmail.com.

Forest Conservation and Forestry Research Forum - Plans are underway for the Annual Connecticut Forest Conservation and Forestry Research Forum to be held on November 25, 2008 at the Rome Ballroom on the UConn Campus in Storrs. Look to future articles for further details.

Opportunities (Continued from page 14)

yield biomass farms. However, the science is getting closer to identifying a set of IFM options relevant to working forests in the northern forest region.

Economists have also done their math. A recent paper demonstrated that as carbon credit prices increase, participation in carbon markets may become attractive economically despite opportunity costs (e.g. modified timber harvests) and transaction costs (e.g. certification and enrollment expenses). Where this includes managing for structurally complex, high biomass forests there will be co-varying ecological benefits, such as provision of high quality late-successional wildlife habitats and riparian functionality. In this sense forest carbon management could provide an indicator for other sustainable forestry objectives. Carbon markets will offer one more incentive to keep forests as forests. Forest managers in the 21st century will increasingly become carbon managers, and our profession will play a vital role in climate change mitigation efforts.
IN MEMORIAM

Ethan Victor Howard III, 57, died on Tuesday, July 10, 2007, following a valiant battle with cancer. Ethan graduated from The University of New Hampshire, with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management. He received his degree in Forest Biometrics, in 1973, from Duke University. He returned to New Hampshire, and began his 34-year career with the Manchester Water Works. He was well known for his deep love for the Lake Massabesic Watershed woods. He spread that enthusiasm to all he touched. Ethan also served on the Rockingham Woodland Owners chapter of the NH Timberland Owners Association for many years as Director and past president. He also sat on the Board of Directors of the NHTOA. He was a 32-year member of the Society of American ForestersThe Auburn Conservation Committee, the Forest Communication Council, Friends of the Massabesic Bicycling Association, Rockingham Trails, The Safety Review Board, and many more. He had a deep passion for Dog racing, and was a dog sled musher for 12 years. He was also a Member of the NH Snowsledders, and loved cross-country skiing.

Kenneth Ingram Sutherland Jr., 58, of Plymouth, NH, died suddenly on Dec. 22, 2007, at his home. Son of the late Kenneth I. Sutherland Sr. and Phyllis (Coombs) Sutherland, he graduated from Plymouth High School and from the University of New Hampshire, with a degree in Forestry Science. He also earned his master's degree in Business at Plymouth State College. Ken was Grafton County Forester for many years and was a licensed forester for King Forest Industries in Wentworth. He owned and operated Bald Mountain Enterprises, which was a forestry consulting service. He served on the Pemi-Baker School Board for many years. He loved the outdoors and was an avid fisherman and hunter. He had a wonderful sense of humor that will be remembered by all.

Joseph W. Sposta, 80, died January 10, 2008 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington. He has been a Pittsford resident since 1970. He was a US Army veteran serving during WWII. He was a graduate of the University of Conn. and a member of the Theta XI Fraternity. He was a 50 year member of the Society of American Foresters. Joe was a lifelong conservationist, employed by the U.S. Forest Service for 30 yrs. from which he retired. After retirement he enjoyed traveling the world with Elder Hostel. Joe served the Town of Pittsford as Auditor and a special officer for the Pittsford Police Dept., and was always active and interested in town affairs and activities. In 2005 he was honored with a Vermont Public Service Award for his many years of service to the Town of Pittsford and the State of Vermont.

Roger F. Taylor, 89, University of Maine forest superintendent, emeritus, died peacefully March 5, 2008. He was born May 30, 1918, and lived on a farm in North Amherst, Mass. He graduated from Amherst High School and Stockbridge School of Agriculture at Massachusetts State College. Roger was appointed superintendent of UMaine forest in Orono in 1946 and held the position until his retirement in 1983. He continued his studies at UMaine and became an alumnus in 1951. From 1949 until 1975, Roger served as a volunteer member of UMaine Fire Department, serving as chief for much of that time. He was a registered land surveyor, licensed professional forester, member of the Society of American Foresters, member of Orono and Old Town Kiwanis Club and other community projects, including maintenance and distribution of health aids for the Orono Health Association. During his tenure at UMaine, he received a number of honors which included dedication of several yearbooks in his name, receipt of a Distinguished Professor Award from UMaine College of Forest Resources and several citations for his assistance to the UMaine Woodsmen’s Team and other campus organizations. He was an honorary member of Xi Sigma Pi, the forestry honor society.
### Chair’s Column — George Frame

What a whirlwind! So many folks came up to me over the three days of the NE/NY SAF Joint Winter Meeting and said...’We need to do this again!’ I agree. We don’t often get the opportunity to mingle and trade stories with our brothers and sisters from across the lake.

The one thing I noticed, and I think most who attended would agree, is that wherever we live, we are all facing the same big challenges. While the legislative climates may vary from State to State and the local irritants may vary by township or county, when it comes to forestry in New England and forestry in New York; the big things, those that really impact our livelihoods are the same for all of us.

I heard people talking about mill closures, energy costs, alternative fuels, global markets, climate change, professional respect, parcelization, changing landowner demographics, education, preservation, privatization, the slowing economy, scary insects and the 3 AM fire alarm. It didn’t matter whether the folks in the conversation were from New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, a Canadian province, Colorado, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont or Connecticut; everyone had a piece to add. It was a symphony of forestry.

Conducting all 450 participants, organizing the stage, and paying the bills, were Jerry Milne from New England and Andy Hayes from New York. These two guys cannot be thanked enough. If we do pull off another Joint Meeting there will be some very high standards in place for the next organizers to match.

I hope everyone who attended took the opportunity to bend Tom Thompson’s ear at some point during the event. It is rare that we share the company of the SAF President for three full days. He seemed to enjoy himself and was ready to listen or speak whenever approached.

We also honored 10 Golden members, 5 from New York and 5 from New England. That’s 500 years of SAF membership. Again, I hope you had some personal opportunity to speak to these folks. They are the corporate memory of the organization and the builders of that from which we reap so much professional satisfaction.

(Continued on page 22)

### Councilor Report — Roger Dziengeleski

**Membership Survey Update (Making SAF National Better)**

The 2007 comprehensive member survey provided council with a wealth of information. This survey found the overall value of SAF to be rated fairly high by the survey participants, even though discontent over the cost of membership was an issue for a large number of members. It also found that other organizations were not putting competitive pressure on the Society (for members) and that information and skills that foster job and career success were highly valued by members. There were other key findings of course but now that we have them, what do we do with them?

The answer is: train the council how to run an effective organization and how to be better board members. And we began that process at the March 8th and 9th council meeting with a primer training course. Actually, the training started before the meeting although we didn’t know it. Every council member was interviewed by Dr. Stephen Carey, the lead strategist for your SAF consultant on member issues. Dr. Carey used the results to fashion our training at the meeting and here is what we learned.

First, that your council should spend the bulk of its time on understanding the core purpose and vision of the Society; and on how to achieve that purpose and the mission. In other words, we are supposed to be looking at the big picture and making decisions accordingly. It turns out that the 2007 member survey is the first step in defining that big picture for us. In essence we have been flying, not blind, but definitely through some fog due to a lack of information. Despite numerous communications from National to local units and visa versa, we really have not done a good job of quantitative and qualitative data collection. To make good decisions your council needs good information, sometimes more than just our qualified staff and dedicated volunteers can provide. Most associations do formal member surveys every three to five years and SAF will be doing this from now on. It is the statistical base that will be used to provide the vision and leadership to accomplish the core purpose as defined by the membership.

(Continued on page 22)
**Councilor (Continued from page 21)**

There was one thing I found troublesome and a bit embarrassing at this Joint Winter Meeting; NESAF only presented 3 awards out of the 6 available each year. Where are the nominations? We know that there are highly deserving foresters in every state of New England for each award. And these are not the type of folks who are self-promoting or pushy so they need your help to get them nominated. The next time we have a Joint meeting, and in fact, the next time we have a winter meeting all to ourselves, we need to fill the ranks of awardees. If you figure that with 1000 members and only 6 awards it takes 166 years to cycle through if each award is given each year, well, lives and careers are both too short to keep putting off nominating someone until ‘next year’.

**Ecological Forestry (Continued from page 5)**

agreed that climate change will render EF irrelevant, suggesting they believe that it will remain valid in spite of the potential changes to natural disturbance regimes. Yet 57% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that EF is *not* compatible with carbon credits; this may be because many schemes for crediting forests are currently limited to afforestation. Surprisingly, 74% agreed or strongly agreed that EF is consistent with biomass/bioproducts; these respondents may have been considering the potential of forest biomass a direct substitute for fossil fuels.

Though a more comprehensive study would be required to extrapolate these findings with confidence, we offer these preliminary observations: (1) respondents consider themselves familiar with EF, but this is not entirely supported by responses to questions testing their knowledge; (2) EF is perceived as having a strong scientific basis and as being achieved with silviculture; (3) EF is seen as viable on small holdings; and (4) EF principals are viewed by many as robust in the face of climate change and compatible with forest management for biomass/bioproducts, but less well suited to carbon credits.

**Bitterlich (Continued from page 4)**

his family had worked.

It has been said that “the mark of genius is not perfection, but originality”. In our experience the originality of Walter Bitterlich was unmatched, and the practical affect is well appreciated by anyone who has had to put in fixed plots instead of swinging a prism or Relascope. He changed forest sampling forever. *(Adapted from www.proaxis.com)*

**Councilor Report (Continued from page 21)**

We also learned that most of our strategic planning to date has been too detailed. A good strategic plan should be no longer than one and a half pages. Being in the paper business this wasn’t a fact that I enjoyed on a personal basis and I don’t even want to tell you how many pages (single spaced) our current strategic plan is. Suffice it to say that not a lot of people have read the whole thing without losing some to mind drift!

The big picture also involves streamlining the Society so that we can be more like a cruiser than an aircraft carrier in reacting to future trends and forming collaborative partnerships when they are called for. Since council currently is closer to that aircraft carrier, this one point explains one Achilles heel of the SAF; the slowness of reaction on the national level exaggerates disconnects between that office, the state/multi-state societies and other local units. We’ve known this for a while but now we are moving on a path to correct it, thanks to the membership survey.

Some of the changes you might see in the future and which have been occurring at other associations over the last fifteen years include a reduction in board size. Most association boards are now in the sixteen to twenty member range. Actually, SAF is doing well in this category as its council is eighteen members in size when you include non-voting members. We may also see a move from geographical representation to large representation on the council. The goal here will be to get the most creative and visionary thinkers on the board. Many other associations have moved in this direction over the last ten years. We may also see more of a partnership relation between staff and council.

The point to be made here is that council and the National office are as ever working on improving the value of services for the members. To that end most of the June Council meeting will be spent on training council and staff despite the fact that the 2007 member survey showed that the SAF has a very positive rating amongst its members.

In closing, the council took a test to see how it rated when compared to other association boards. The results of the test gave us a score of minus one and three quarters. A little bit better than the average score for association boards (minus two and three quarters) but still showing the need for a lot of work. My purpose in reviewing this subject in this column is that most of these points are valid for local unit leadership as well!
CFE Update

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<td>Upland Invasive Plant ID &amp; Control – 6/7/08, Veazie/Orono, ME</td>
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<td>Cooperate Forest Research Unit Workshop – 5/14/08, Orono, ME</td>
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<td>Upland Invasive Plant ID &amp; Control – 5/10/08, New Auburn, ME</td>
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<td>Upland Invasive Plant ID &amp; Control – 4/29/08, New Auburn, ME</td>
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<td>Invasive Pests – Past &amp; Present – 4/1/08, Hillsborough, NH</td>
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<td>Climate &amp; Forest Changes in New England – 3/18/08, Hillsborough, NH</td>
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<td>Foresters Guide to Web Soil Survey – 3/13/08, Caribou, ME</td>
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<td>Impacts of Wildlife on the Forest Industry – 3/10-11/08, Orono, ME</td>
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<td>Green Mtn. SAF – Forest Carbon – 2/1/08, Montpelier, VT</td>
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<td>NH-VT Christmas Tree Assoc. Winter Meeting – 1/29/08, Barre, VT</td>
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SAF Continuing Sessions Assigned—For listing of CFEs check www.safnet.org
For other, upcoming NH Forestry workshops/meetings, check www.extension.unh.edu

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NE SAF Membership Trend