The State of New Hampshire’s Fox State Research Forest, is celebrating it’s 75th year. Caroline A. Fox donated the land known as Fox State Forest over the course of 6 years, but it wasn’t established as a research forest until 1933. She created a trust for the purposes of forest research and demonstrations of forestry. In 1933, Henry Baldwin was hired as the first Research Forester, a position he held until 1963. In his 30 years at Fox Forest, he published many books as well as Fox Forest Notes, a publication about his research on the forest. Henry Baldwin felt that Fox was ideal to “serve as a demonstration of how log grade pastured woodlands in southern New Hampshire can be improved in quality by careful culture.” Henry Baldwin not only created over 50 Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) plots, but also established many plantations on Fox and other state forests, and created a charcoal business as a means of utilizing low grade wood. Dr. Baldwin’s CFI plots are still utilized and are due to be re-measured in 2009. After Henry Baldwin left his position, he was followed by Peter Allen and then Phil Verrier before the program was suspended for a period of 18 years, and Fox Forest became part of the Community Forest Bureau. In 1999, Fox Forest joined the Forest Management Bureau and Ken Desmarais became the Program Forester. Ken’s recent work included work on growth and yield of pine/oak types, Red Oak seedling improvement and release of White Pine and Red Oak. Ken is perhaps most notable for his analytical tools, including Fox Den, and his DS Cruiser and double sampling method. Ken has moved on and is now chief of the Forest Management Bureau. Will Guinn, during his short time at Fox, did much work on Red Maple crop tree release, as well as Modified Diameter Limit Cutting. Many of these studies continue with Inge Seaboyer, the current Research Forester, as well as looking into future research with exotic invasive species.
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CREIGHTON, G.W.I. "Wilf" - Wilf Creighton died Sunday, August 17, 2008, as he had wished, at his home in Halifax. He was born in Halifax in May of 1904 and attended the Halifax Academy and then Dalhousie University. In 1926, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dalhousie. He then studied forestry at UNB in Fredericton and graduated in 1929 with a B.S. in Forestry. Between 1931 and 1934 he pursued postgraduate studies in forestry in Germany at the University of Munich and at the Schools of Forestry at Eberswalde and Tharandt. Before his appointment with the Province of Nova Scotia, Wilf had worked with the International Paper Co., The Dominion Forest Service and the Canada Power and Paper Corporation.

In 1934 he became Provincial Forester and in 1948 the Deputy Minister for the Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forests. He had a knack of solving problems by walking to the source and dealing with these using wit and common sense.

Wilf was very active in a number of professional organizations over his life including the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Canadian Forestry Association, Society of American Foresters, Forest Products Association of Nova Scotia, Maritime Lumber Bureau and Lunenburg Christmas Tree Producers Association. He served as national president of the Canadian Institute of Forestry. In 1952 he received an honorary D.Sc. degree from UNB and in 2004 an honorary doctorate from Dalhousie University.

In his later years he was still very interested in and concerned for the environment. After his retirement in 1969 he spent a great deal of time at his woodland and blueberry fields near Middle Musquodobit. He was a longtime member of the Gyro, Halifax Curling and Probus clubs and was a 33rd degree Mason. He also was a member of the Halifax Wildlife Association.

Wilf was the last surviving member of the family of the late Catherine and Graham Creighton. He is survived by his daughter, Beth McGee, and son, Hugh Creighton; and by grandchildren, Dana McGee, Andrea McGee (Mike Baxter), Victoria Creighton, along with his great-grandson, Peyton McGee-Baxter. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen, and his son, Bob Creighton.

JAMES WILKINSON JR, Died June 27, 2008 as a result of Alzheimer’s disease. Jim was born in Glenside, Penn., in 1918 and grew up in Wenonah, N.J. He graduated with a degree in forestry from Penn State University in 1939, having first become a member of the Society of American Foresters (SAF) in 1932.

Jim piloted 38 B17 bombing missions in WWII, then served in the Air Force Reserves achieving the rank of Lt. Colonel. He was hired as an assistant forester by Perry Merrill in the Vermont Department of Forests and Parks, where he worked from 1946 until retiring as its Commissioner in 1979. His professional contributions were many, including being involved with the creation of the state’s pioneering Act 250 legislation, sustainable forestry and recreational practices, current use tax policy and wood-energy development. He gave leadership to the Vermont Natural Resources Council, the SAF, the UVM School of Natural Resources, the Green Mountain Club and other groups and mentored dozens of foresters. He gave advice and expertise to many political leaders in Montpelier and Washington.

He met and married Betty Walker Wilkinson in Chelsea, Vt. They raised their family in Chelsea, Proctor and Barre, then moved to South Burlington, Vt., in 2004. He served in many Presbyterian Church leadership positions and was chair of the school board in Proctor, Vt. When faced by the challenge of mental illness in his family, Jim and Betty joined and became leaders of the National Association for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). Jim later chaired the Board of Washington County (Vermont) Mental Health.

He loved J.S. Bach, dahlias, history, Camel’s Hump, good public policy, Thelonious Monk, reading, Vermont, tennis, black dogs, his family and more.

Jim is survived by his brother Robert (Milly), sister Mary, his children Jay (Karen), Jo-Ann (Bill), David, Philip, Michael (Cindy) and Jon (Deb), eight grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.
UR 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, NESAF WILL PROVIDE THE LEADERSHIP TO ACHIEVE ITS MISSION.

IN MEMORIAM (Cont.)

ALLISON GRAHAM CATHERON II, 84, died June 15, 2008, at an Ellsworth health care facility. He was born Dec. 12, 1924, in Boston, the son of Robert Scott and Myra (MacLaren) Catheron. He and his wife, Shirley, moved to Franklin in 1972. He was active in the Soil Conservation Service and National Rifle Association. He was also a member of the Society of American Foresters. Allison enjoyed gardening, fishing and hunting. He loved Scottish music and reading books on military history. He was a member of Franklin Baptist Church. He is survived by his beloved wife of 51 years, Shirley of Franklin; son, Kevin Catheron and wife, Robynne, of Virginia Beach, Va.; grandchildren, Scott, Sean and Amanda; and great-grandchildren, Isabell, Belinda and Julianna. He was predeceased by his son, Lloyd Catheron.

So tell me, what season is it?
By: J.P. Barsky, Connecticut Representative to NESAF, and your grants coordinator.
There are several ways in which we mark time. Planting and harvest season, mud season, football season, hunting season… you get the idea. Today, I’d like to take a moment to talk to you about a different season… one you won’t find on store-bought calendars. It is a great season, open to first and long-timers alike. There is no need for special apparel, tree stands, licenses, and best of all, doesn’t even require a registration fee! I should inform you that this is a season which does require a little effort, creativity, a solid idea, perhaps a little help from your colleagues, and skill with pen and paper. What is this mysterious seasons you ask? It’s Grant Season! A few of you are quite familiar with it, and through the years have had a few successful seasons. For many of you, this may be your rookie year, and that is great. All of us at your NESAF Executive Committee extend our wishes to you, invite you to give grant season a try, and as your grants coordinator, I will help you get your season started (without any further glib humor.) Moreover, what do you have to do? First and simply, have an idea that enhances the public understanding of professional forestry and the forestry profession. Second, visit the grants section of the new NESAF website, and download the application form. Here’s the link: http://www.nesaf.org/society-american-foresters-grants.asp. Third, contact your state representative to NESAF. I am sure they would be happy to help you out, and offer guidance (that’s why we are here). Lastly, contact me directly, if I can be of any assistance. My contact information is found in the current issue.

Now get going! Grant applications must be received before the next Executive Committee meeting on December 10, 2008. I look forward to talking with you, and have a great season!

This year we have $1600 to give away for Grants.
**Forest Products Markets in Maine**

By Peter Lammert, Project Forester, Maine Forest Service

Round wood products from the forest provide one of the finest examples of the law of supply and demand. When demand is low, the price is low, and conversely, when demand is high, so is the price. At this time in Maine, the markets for forest products are almost upside down as compared with how the markets normally operate. Veneer and saw logs are bringing the lowest prices in years while the cost of pulp and firewood stems are reaching new highs.

Demand for high quality veneer is way off what it was two years ago. The price of red oak veneer logs is almost $800 less than it was two years ago; other species fall in a descending line. Birds eye and tiger anything still have a respectable value, but I wouldn’t harvest them until cold weather returns.

With the housing markets doing a flat line, the mills that produce dimension lumber for framing and the particle board for sheathing are doing some very creative marketing to keep running. White pine mills have reverted to 1000 board foot packages instead of 4000 and some real time deliveries to keep lumber yards stocked.

Usually when the veneer markets are off the log and pulpwood markets are doing enough so that loggers can put more product into them. This time around, both the veneer and log markets are soft but the hardwood pulp market is experiencing the true drama for supply and demand brought on by what has been until now, a relatively distant cousin to the wood market: Oil. With the price of oil affecting everything, particularly home heating oil, the resurgent popularity of firewood has been monumental.

The market for firewood has been gaining over the past few years with some folks explaining that the resurgence to stick wood for home heating was part of the back to the land or green movement with recent retirees wanting to try out this old fashioned way of heating. Over the last seven or eight years, firewood dealers evolved in areas where there was a demand, many shifting from doing firewood with chain saws and small splitters to full blown firewood processors cranking out 10 or more cords a day. Several even went the final step and installed dry kilns. The reason for this creative activity was the demand for dry wood that arose from February on when wood burners ran out of seasoned wood and were searching for anything that would burn. They found out that burning green wood wastes up to 10% of the heat value of a cord. Also, the smoke produced by a fire...
Slump in Wood Markets Provides Opportunity
Sarah S. Smith, Forest Industry Specialist
UNH Cooperative Extension

All one has to do is drive around to see the number of houses on the market. The news media seems to have a report on the housing crisis at least once a day. So it is no surprise, The US Dept of Commerce statistics reveal that housing starts fell 29.6% over the last year. Home improvement spending, which represents 70% of Home Depot’s business, is also suffering. Home Depot reports a drop of 25% in earnings and its competitor, Lowe’s, an 8% drop. While these two mega-stores do not represent the entire wood products market in the Northeast, these statistics do reflect the economic conditions and consumer behavior—and it is not rosy for the building products sector. Former Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Alan Greenspan, is quoted in the Wall Street Journal as predicting that home prices will likely stabilize in the first half of 2009 which should bode well for both the home construction and home improvement industries—perhaps, a glimmer of hope.

There is no doubt that the lumber industry, both softwood and hardwood, is suffering through a debilitating economic cycle. The Weekly Hardwood Review reports that US hardwood production has decreased 20% from last year’s level. Jeff Durst at Hull Forest Products, a hardwood mill in Pomfret, Connecticut says that they are changing species often and that “log supply is dictating what we saw, not necessarily the lumber markets.” Jeff Easterling, President of the Northeast Lumber Manufacturers Association (NeLMA), reports that softwood production is down 6% for the year among NeLMA members, with a further decrease predicted for 2008.

The good news is that white pine lumber producers are continuing to expand their markets. Some mills are exporting white pine, taking advantage of the weakened US dollar. Others are sawing different thicknesses and products. Sawmills with flexibility seem to be withstanding the tough market conditions. Those who used to have a folder full of orders now scramble for every partial truck load. Most say they are not necessarily making money, rather that they are just moving product. Other conditions of sale are shifting as well. Buyers are fussier, and want mixed loads of product. Those with export orders are now finding the cost of shipping and the complexity of it discouraging. Shipping containers destined for China, which cost hundreds of dollars a few years ago, now cost thousands and the availability of containers is unpredictable.

The region has seen a few mills close, a few stop running the sawmill end of their business, and a few operating shortened hours. Some of this is due to poor markets and some can be contributed to a lack of log supply. Loggers, in addition to being shut down by soggy weather, are particularly hard hit by fuel cost escalation. A typical logging operation can expect fuel to represent 10% of operating costs. A chipping operation uses at least one gallon of fuel for every ton of chips produced at the landing. Forest products truckers estimate that fuel now represents 40% of their business cost.

With all of this depressing news some foresters may feel that landowners should wait out the downturn thinking that weakened lumber markets equate to poor log markets. Makes sense, doesn’t it? Others feel that if the landowner’s objective is to harvest timber then that is what they will do and the market is not a decision driver. Regardless, now may be a great time to harvest timber.

Tough winter logging and heavy rains throughout the summer have caused a lack of wood supply in all markets—sawlogs, pulpwood, whole-tree chips and the new/old, kid on the block, firewood. This has created a strong demand and, particularly in the low-grade markets, a price escalation. Folks are reporting up to $50 per ton pricing for pulpwood and prices approaching $40 per ton for fuel chips. Firewood is in short supply going into the cold months. Green wood is fetching over $250 per cord and dry wood over $350. And, despite the shaky economy, stumpage prices have remained relatively competitive according to Ken Desmarais at the NH Division of Forests and Lands, who averages a timber sale a week. “Oak had a slight decline but has come up in recent bids.” Other foresters are also reporting competitive bidding on timber. “With the jump in low-grade markets, it is a great time to improve woodlots.”
The Creative Forest: Artisan Use of Non-Timber Products

Allaire Diamond is a student in the Field Naturalist graduate program at the University of Vermont. Her research is supported by the Vermont Land Trust.

Forests inspire hands and minds. Just ask the basketmaker who has woven a basket from the split growth rings of black ash, the knitter creating socks from wool dyed with mushrooms, or the bowl-turner who has transformed a twisted and fungus-infected chunk of tree scar tissue into a beautiful family heirloom. These people see the woods with an artisan’s eye, finding possibility in species and products that the timber cruiser passes by or views as a nuisance. As non-timber forest product (NTFP) users, they offer intriguing ways to use New England’s forest resources. Their time and energy results in items that are value-added on many levels, the value coming not only from careful processing but from the human creativity that turns a natural material into a unique piece of functional art. Markets for artisan products and materials derived from non-timber species are as diverse as the artisans themselves and hold considerable potential for a well-rounded and inclusive forest economy in our region.

Non-timber forest product markets operate on a different scale than timber markets. Artisan gatherers often use micro sites with specific conditions, harvest small amounts of materials on a seasonal basis, and operate through individual, often non-monetary, relationships with landowners. The seventeen artisans I have interviewed, with support from the Vermont Land Trust and the University of Vermont, use over 30 species of trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, mushrooms, and lichens to create baskets, bowls, and natural dyes. Their harvest sites vary considerably: A weaver in central Vermont has gathered black walnuts, precious for their deep brown stain, from the same tree in a rural cemetery for decades; a mushroom dyer combs a small red pine plantation in a southern New Hampshire state park every fall for the tiny, red-gilled and red-pigmented *Cortinarius semisanguineus* mushrooms; a couple in southwestern Massachusetts cuts a few black ash trees every year from a neighbor’s land trust-conserved land and thanks the neighbors in baskets; a group of Abenaki basketmakers harvest paper birch bark in late winter from trees fated for harvest in the White Mountain National Forest. These practices have developed from the ground up, based on long experience and awareness of where the species of interest grow best and where harvest practices can be worked out satisfactorily for all parties.

Monetary yields from such non-timber forest products can be substantial. Some ash basketmakers estimate that one good 12” diameter tree, with hundreds of hours of labor and a good dose of talent, can yield several thousand dollars. Long View Forest Contracting in New Hampshire buys paper birch bark before timber sales, and landowners often make as much money for a tree’s bark as they do from its wood. However, not every black ash tree is a basket tree, not every paper birch produces suitable bark, not every sandy pine forest hosts the little red mushrooms. Also, not every artisan wants the same thing from a plant. Though four of the artisans I spoke with use staghorn sumac for natural dyes or bowl-turning, each uses a different part of the plant for a different reason, and would describe their ideal sumac tree differently. Those wishing to expand markets for these items must cultivate relationships with artisans to be sure that the material gathered is of the appropriate quality, and then develop an eye for the right site and the right individual plant or specimen.

Management and regulation of non-timber forest products is by nature complicated. With the exception of ginseng, species specific regulations do not exist for these products in New England. No one

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The Creative Forest (Continued from page 7)

process materials themselves, thus supporting the continuation of dynamic artistic traditions. Non-timber species and the people who transform them into works of art thus contribute in priceless ways to the natural and cultural heritage of New England, while creating a truly local economy with roots in our public, private, managed, wild, and urban forests.

monitors staghorn sumac or nannyberry on roadsides or goldthread on forested hummocks. Because the markets for these products are so diffuse, individual, and relationship-based, the responsibility for sustainable and ethical harvest lies largely with the users involved and the arrangements they develop. Under current circumstances, that’s probably just fine. However, expansion of markets for artisan non-timber products in our region would necessitate thoughtful conversations about conservation strategies and the possibility of actively managing for some species. In the Pacific Northwest, for example, the development of global markets that demand very large volumes of wild mushrooms and other products have spurred research and policymaking on the biology, traditional uses, harvest rights, and sustainable management of these species.

Non-timber forest products also hold considerable educational value, helping students engage with the land around them through gathering and creating. Over half of the artisans I’ve spoken with also teach; for a few, more of their income comes from teaching than from selling their own work. Several artisans also process and sell materials, notably black (also called brown) ash splints for baskets. They sell to other artisans and teachers who are unable, physically or geographically, to gather and

Online Voting is Here!

Get out the vote! This year SAF voting will take place online. All NESAF members with a valid email address will receive an online ballot notification around October 1. If you do not have a valid email address on file with National SAF, then you will receive a paper ballot around the middle of October. Paper and online voting closes on November 5. If you have changed your email address lately, please go to http://www.safnet.org/ and click on Address Change in the left column to update it. Note that while all national and state society elections will be online, some divisions will continue to send paper ballots for local elections.

The Creative Forest (Continued)
Quarterly Theme

Forest Products Markets from Maine (Continued from page 5)

struggling to burn green wood, has up to 203 different compounds in it, all of which will readily stick to the cool walls of a tile lined chimney. This material, called creosote, in one of its three forms, builds up until it clogs the chimney or erupts into a 2300 degree torch once a hot fire or spark ignites it.

Currently, with hardwood pulp enjoying strong markets and the firewood sellers who buy their raw material from the same loggers who have been the traditional providers of raw material to the pulp mills, an unforeseen demand has developed for anything resembling a hardwood stem. Firewood processors have equipment that produces high volumes when the stems are big and straight. Loggers can haul 14 cords of these stems on a trailer at one time. These same stems make great pulpwood also. What happens when the demand goes up and the supply doesn’t increase to satisfy that demand? The price goes up.

Right now, loggers are experiencing a demand for hardwood pulpwood and firewood not seen before in Maine. Stems that would only produce low quality saw logs are immediately put in the pulp or firewood pile. Pallet mills must pay more for their raw material because of this. Faced with this unprecedented demand, some loggers have sharpened their pencils and found that the price of diesel and down time dictates where a load of hardwood stems will go. If a pulp mill is an hour’s drive away and the truck has to wait to be unloaded, whereas if there is a firewood producer close to the lot being cut and the owner has a check waiting for the load, guess where the load is going.

There is also a new “kid” on the block to consider this year. Three pellet mills have opened in Maine and are presently running on residue available from saw mills. When this supply dries up with the onset of winter, the mills will have to start grinding round wood for their raw material. Presently this market is small but with increased use of pellet stoves in homes and more commercial operations switching to pellet fuel, the demand will exceed existing supplies and round wood will need to be used.

Now if the weather would only cooperate and the owners of hardwood woodlots would start flagging wood buyers down as they drive by, maybe we could satisfy the demand from both the pulp mills and the firewood producers! I can only speak for what is going on in Maine but it’s my guess, with the economy the way it is, that what is going on in Maine must be going on in the whole region.

Nominate Your Colleague!

Awards Nominations must be in by November 17 this year.

Go to www.nesaf.org for details or Randy Stone, Awards Chair (randall.stone@state.ma.us)
NESAF 2009 Annual Meeting
The upcoming meeting is scheduled for March 18 – 20, 2009 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, ME.

The New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF), the Maine Chapter – The Wildlife Society (ME-TWS), the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine (SWOAM), the New England Chapter – International Society of Arboriculture (NEC-ISA), and the Northeast Region – Forest Guild are co-planning a collaborative meeting with a focus on the following theme:

“BIO: MASS, FUEL, PRODUCTS, DIVERSITY”
Resource Management in a Changing World

The registration options have been established and the fee structure is outlined in the below table:

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<th>Registration Category</th>
<th>Program Category</th>
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<tr>
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<td>1-Day Rate (Friday)</td>
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*A valid membership in SAF, ME-TWS, SWOAM, NEC-ISA, or the Forest Guild allows registration as a member*

Guaranteed rates for hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn by the Bay have also been set with $89 per night for Single or Double, $99 for Triple, and $109 for Quad room occupancies. These rates will be in effect up through February 17th.

SAF will be handling all advance registrations, whether by mail, FAX, or online. *This will allow credit card payments for registration.* Check the NESAF website (www.nesaf.org) on December 1 for a link to the complete registration form.

Volunteers are still needed to assist in the planning and functioning of this meeting, please contact Ken Laustsen (207.287.3135 or ken.laustsen@maine.gov) with offers of help.
**DIVISION NEWS**

**MAINE - Anthony Filauro**

**American Chestnut**
The American chestnut was effectively removed from the eastern forest of the United States by a fungus accidentally introduced from Asia in 1904. Since 1983, The American Chestnut Foundation (ACF) has lead an effort to develop a blight resistant strain of this species that can be reintroduced into the hardwood forest of the eastern U.S. or outplanted in local communities. The Maine Chapter of the ACF currently oversees twelve breeding orchards. Progress continues to develop a resistant strain but more work is needed. Individuals interested about the breeding program being conducted in Maine can contact Glenn Rea at 207-945-9645 or glenrea42@msn.com.

**Forest Trees of Maine**
The Maine Department of Conservation is issuing a centennial edition of the publication, “Forest Trees of Maine”. There have been thirteen editions of this publication since the original issue was published in 1908. The centennial issue has been completely revised and is in full color with 250 photographs of Maine trees. A copy of the publication can be obtained by contacting the Maine Department of Conservation at (207) 287-2791.

**Spring MESAF Meetings**
This year several field tours were offered to MESAF members, in lieu of hosting a single field tour that would focus one main theme or topic. In May a field tour in the Penobscot Bay area was offered on, “Biomass Harvesting: Enhancing or Depleting Our Forest Resources?” In June, a field tour was conducted in the Telos / Penobscot River Corridor area that focused on, “Maintaining Working Forests Through Conservation Easements: The Katahdin Forest Case Study”. On August 28, a field tour was offered in the Carrabassett Valley / Bigelow area on, “Nature-Based Tourism and Forest Management: Conflicts or Opportunities?” The field tours were favorably received and were each attended by 20 to 40 individuals.

Multiple field meetings have the advantage of offering MESAF members a variety of themes or topics of interest, at different locations in the state and on a variety of dates. The multiple meetings format will continue if MESAF members favor this arrangement. Members can express their views on this matter during the business session of the MESAF meeting scheduled for October 14th, at the D.P. Corbett Building, University of Maine, Orono.

**China School Forest Day**
On June 6th, China School held its biennial forestry field day. Students from Kindergarten through middle school (8th grade) participated in the program. A total of 39 volunteers presented information on topics ranging from forestry, forest products, wildlife, geology, environmental sciences, GPS, compass & map work, journalism, paper making, etc. The students derive much from this program, as do the volunteers. More participants are always needed. Information about the program can be obtained from Anita Smith at China School asmith@chinaclippers.org.

**Multi-Resource Harvest Assessment Protocol**
The University of Maine recently issued a report to the Maine Forest Service that assesses harvest characteristics and silvicultural outcomes in partially harvested forest stands. The report is issued as a component part of the Multi-Resource Harvest Assessment (MRHA) protocol being developed by the Maine Forest Service. The MRHA protocol is intended for use in conjunction with the Regional Water Quality Best Management Practices protocol that assesses water quality issues on harvested sites.

The MRHA protocol will help to better understand...
the silvicultural development of partially harvested stands. This protocol is an outgrowth of the Forest Harvest Classification System that was developed by the Maine Society of American Foresters Task Force and presented at a field MESAF field meeting held in June 2006.

**Discovery Channel**
The Discovery Channel is filming harvest operations conducted by Gerald Pelletier Inc. in the Te- los area, on lands managed by Katahdin Timberlands LLC. Mechanical harvest operations are being featured, as well as supporting activities. Filming of operations began during the summer months and will be completed in January or February of next year. Several programs will be aired. The first program will be aired in March 2009.

**Invasive Species**
Invasive species remain a concern to the well being and productivity of the Maine forest. Recently, the Asian Longhorn Beetle has been identified in Worcester, MA. Its proximity to Maine is a concern to forest resource managers. In addition, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has been identified in southern Maine. Control measures have been taken; however further expansion of this insect into the state is a possibility. The Emerald Ash Borer remains a more geographically distant concern; however this insect has the potential to significantly impact Maine’s forest resource. Foresters should be on the lookout for these species and observe any quarantine procedures that are enforced by the state.

Picture on Left: The 2008 NESAF Integrity in Conservation award was presented to the three agencies involved in the Katahdin Lake Campaign: Baxter State Park Authority, Maine Department of Conservation and The Trust for Public Land.

Left to Right
Jensen Bissell, Director, Baxter State Park (SAF Member)
Sam Hodder, The Trust for Public Land – Maine Office
Roland Martin, Commissioner for the Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife and a member of the Baxter State Park Authority
Steven Rowe, Maine State Attorney General and a member of the Baxter State Park Authority
Alec Giffen, Director, Maine Forest Service, and a member of the Baxter State Park Authority (SAF Member)
Patrick McGowan, Commissioner for the Department of Conservation
Kenneth M. Laustsen, NESAF Past-Chair

**Granite State - Jon Nute**

**State Forester Moves On**
NH State Forester Phil Bryce has left his post to work for Fountains America (aka Fountain Forestry) based in Pittsfield, NH. A nation wide search is underway to find his replacement. For 11 ½ years Phil headed the NH Division of Forests and Lands, with a staff of 104 and a $6 million budget.

**Outdoor Wood Boilers Regulated by New Law**
NH HB 1405 says that outdoor wood boilers installed in NH after January 1, 2009 must meet EPA “Phase I” reduced particulate matter smoke emissions. Further, after April 1, 2010, all units installed must meet the stricter “Phase II” reduced emissions. These boilers also have restrictions on placement near property lines and adjacent buildings, as well as requirements for smoke stack heights. Provisions of this law also regulate other outdoor wood boilers installed after August 10, 2008. An information page can be found at [www.des.state.nh.us](http://www.des.state.nh.us).

**NHTOA Awards Local Foresters**
At the 97th annual meeting of the NHTOA, held at Gunstock Rec. area in Gilford, SAF members Hunter Carbee received the “Outstanding Forestry Activist” award and John O’Brien received the Kendall Norcott award.

**Hubbard Brook Celebrates Two Anniversaries**
On a sweltering hot July 7, more than 100 natural resource professionals gathered to celebrate the
45th anniversary of the Hubbard Brook Ecosystem Study as well as the 15th anniversary of the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation. Dr. Ann Bartuska, Deputy Chief for R & D for the USDA Forest Service, was the featured speaker. Located within the White Mtn. National Forest, the experimental forest is the longest running and most comprehensive ecosystem study site in the world.

**PSNH Receives Award**
The EPA presented a Clean Air Excellence Award in the “Community Action” category to the PSNH Northern Wood Power project in May. PSNH converted one of the coal boilers to wood chip consumption at their Portsmouth power plant.

**Paper Mill Receives Grant**
The NH Community Development Finance Authority pledged $1 million to install a wood fired biomass burner at the Fraser Papers mill in Gorham, NH. The total cost of the project is $16 million. The mill laid off 80 employees in April after high energy costs forced it to close one paper machine. The grant will replace oil fired boilers with two biomass boilers in an effort to sustain the mill with lower energy operating costs.

**Lawsuit Rejected**
A June 6 decision by Federal District Court chief justice Stephen McAuliffe denied a lawsuit filed in opposition to timber harvests in the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF). He found that the WMNF procedures were correct in planning for the harvests and that the process was appropriate.

**New Ranger Hired**
The NH Div. of Forests and Lands hired Matthew Apgar in June as their newest Forest Ranger. Matt lives in Epsom, has an Associates Degree from the UNH Thompson School and a BS from UNH. He has extensive experience as a consulting forester and forest fire control. He joins 12 other Rangers that operate in districts around the state.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN - Vacant** (News from the executive committee)

**Award Re-Named**
In recognition of Jim Wilkinson’s contributions and his commitment to encouraging student SAF members, the GMD has renamed the recently established annual student award, the James Wilkinson Jr. Student Award. Even during retirement, many forestry students received invaluable mentorship from Jim. For more on Jim’s contributions to the society please read the article on page 15.

**Continued Student Support**
In an effort to continue support of our student membership GMD is initiating a Sponsor a Student campaign. Current student membership cost is $35 and the GMD is asking members to contribute $20 to cost share this investment. In addition to the active student chapter at UVM, we also have approximately 20 new student members at Green Mountain College. Contributions can be sent to GMD treasurer Dave Stevens at 1402 Randolph Road, Morrisville, VT 05661.

**2008 Fall Meeting**
GMD held its fall meeting on September 25th at Mt. Philo State Park in Charlotte. The topic for the day was Tools for Managing Our Forests for Wildlife..
Asian Longhorned Beetle Found in Massachusetts.
From UMass Extension.
The Asian Longhorned Beetle *Anoplophora glabripennis* (ALB) has been positively identified in an infestation in the Greendale section (northeast sector) of Worcester, MA. Personnel from the USDA PPQ and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) inspected the site on Saturday August 2, 2008 and discovered the infestation. The inspection was prompted by the keen observations and persistence of a local resident who suspected the presence of this exotic invader.

Positive verification occurred on Tuesday (8/5/08) from the authority at the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory in Beltsville, MD. The USDA APHIS and Forest Service, MDCR and MDAR have been meeting frequently with Worcester City officials to formulate the plan for the management and eradication of this pest population. A press conference was held in Worcester late Wednesday (8/6/08) to announce the find. As result of the detection, portions of Worcester and portions of the towns of Shrewsbury, Boylston, West Boylston, and Holden are now a regulated area for the movement of woody plant material. A Federal Order will be issued soon that parallels the state regulated area. As part of the process of eradicating the ALB from Worcester, the movement of woody debris, lumber, firewood, and nursery stock that could host ALB infestations will need to be contained. This will keep the beetle from moving via human transport. Companies that work with host material will be contacted by officials. Only cursory surveys have been conducted thus far and the exact area regulated would change if more infested trees are found. Organized and thorough survey work will begin soon. The estimation, right now at least, for how long this beetle may have been active at this location is thought to be 5 years given its range and visible damage. Affected trees will be cut down and either chipped or burned in the regulated area. This will not begin until after the first hard frost kills any remaining adult beetles. To take trees down before the hard frost risks spreading the infestation. This is a sound practice, as adult beetles tend to stay on the same tree unless that tree is severely infested.

Once the exact details of the federal quarantine are published a link will appear at this web site (www.umassgreeninfo.org). UMass Extension will remain on the forefront for the dissemination of information as it becomes available. MDAR will continue to respond to any reports of suspected new findings and the City of Worcester has set up a Hotline FAQ, see below: Resources for Asian Longhorned Beetle Information in Massachusetts: Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) Report ALB sightings at: www.massnrc.org/pests/albreport.aspx or call 617–626–1779 (Pest Alert Hotline) City of Worcester: Office of the City Manager http://www.ci.worcester.ma.us/cmo/beetles.htm 508–929–1300; UMass Extension www.umassgreeninfo.org

DCR Stewardship Council Votes to Halt Timber Harvesting for 90 Days.
At an August 7th meeting at Harbor Islands State Park in Boston, the DCR Stewardship Council voted to enact a temporary pause in timber harvesting on DCR lands. Beginning on August 7th, DCR will not proceed with any new timber harvesting projects on DCR forest lands for a 90-day period. New timber harvesting projects are specifically defined as any and all timber harvesting projects posted for public comment on or after July 1, 2008. Timber harvesting projects posted for comment prior to July 1, 2008 may proceed during the 90-day pause period.

Information about DCR’s proposed timber harvesting projects can be found at http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/manage/.

The following activities within DCR forest lands may qualify for exemption from the temporary pause: (1) removal of hazardous trees for public safety concerns, (2) routine maintenance of landscaped areas and trails, (3) ecological restoration activities or (4) a determination by the Secretary of Environmental Affairs. From Massachusetts Forest Update, September 2008.

A list of Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) opportunities and other continuing educational activities are compiled at: http://www.masswoods.net/
Plant Science Day
The CT Chapter was a participant at the Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Stations annual Plant Science Day on August 6th. Held at Lockwood Farm in Hamden, the Day provides the public the chance to learn about current research being performed, as well as seeing technical lectures and demonstrations relating to horticulture, agriculture, and forestry. This November 25th, the Chapter will be partnering with the Connecticut Forest & Park Association, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, and the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension to present the 4th Annual Connecticut Forest Conservation and Research Forum, entitled, Public Benefits of Forests: What are They Worth? For more information on the Forum, please visit the Connecticut Forest & Park Association’s website at www.ctwoodlands.org.

SAF loses long time member and friend
Long time SAF member and Vermont forester, James E. Wilkinson Jr., passed away on June 27, 2008. Anyone involved in NESAF and GMD activities will remember Jim as a dedicated and tireless SAF member, involved in local, regional, and national forestry issues.

Jim was a leader in the formation of the Green Mountain Division in 1956. This action was preceded by a substantial amount of work by him in the several years prior to 1956. At the same time in the 1950’s, Jim was involved in a regional and national forester registration issue. This matter is one still being debated among foresters in Vermont. This was of importance to Jim and others because it was felt that such action would increase the professional standing of foresters.

Jim’s forestry career began in Vermont in 1946 with his employment by the State of Vermont following his World War II service as a bomber pilot in Europe. Jim’s career included serving as Orange County Forester, Southern District Forester in Rutland, Chief of Forest Timber Management, Director of Forests, Deputy Commissioner, and Commissioner of the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. Jim retired from state service in 1979 and continued to work as a consultant on many of the properties he first worked on as the Orange County Forester. Jim faithfully attended Green Mountain Division meetings until his move to a retirement home in 2004. His professionalism and dedication to forestry, both in practice and policy matters, will be remembered by all those who were associated with him over the years.

His professional activities and contributions extended beyond SAF matters and included involvement with Act 250 legislation, current use tax policy, and statewide sustainable forestry and recreational policies. Jim followed, and made his views and position known on forestry and natural resource issues right through the turn of the century. His involvement and participation contributed to, and formed the foundation for many of the accomplishments in Vermont forestry over several decades. Even a cursory review of issues and events reveals Jim’s involvement in any and all that affected forests and foresters in Vermont. His past work and contributions will continue to affect forestry and foresters both directly and indirectly well into the future.

Visit www.safnet.org for more info
Chair’s Column — George Frame

If my counting is correct, this is the last time you’ll have to sit through a News Quarterly article by me, in the Chair’s column anyway. My past seven articles have dealt with volunteerism, mentorship, forestry issues of the time, and reports of various forester/forestry activities. I wonder, as I head for the door, if they were the cause of any change, or even the cause of the thought of any change. I take heart by remembering that a forester is only second to a pastor in the amount of faith required to do their job.

Foresters plant seeds, steward the resulting crop and reap for a multitude of benefits. This applies whether the seeds are trees, or ideas, or deeds. We have no false notions that everything we plant will grow, but it is the faith of a forester that an action in a stand of timber will be beneficial to that stand even if the benefit isn’t realized until the forester is working in “that primeval forest that stretches further than the eye can see.”

So I leave the Chair position hoping that some seeds have been planted in fertile soil and that sometime in the future, perhaps within my knowing or perhaps not, they will grow to provide benefits to someone, somewhere.

I have had the opportunity to work with and learn from many outstanding forestry professionals during my two years as Chair of NESAF. Your Executive Committee has been populated by you, with a diverse assortment of intelligent individuals. This composition guarantees spirited yet thoughtful discussions, circumspect decision making, and wise stewardship of the organization’s resources while keeping a focus on the future.

My looming job as Past Chair somehow doesn’t carry the psychological weight that the Chair’s position did, nor the anticipation associated with the Chair-elect seat. As I understand it the Past Chair is supposed to show up at Executive Committee meetings and support the Committee deliberations with wisdom and a sense of historical perspective.

There is no doubt I’ve got the age (the talent is another question) to be both wise and histori-

(Continued on page 17)

Councilor Report — Roger Dziengeleski

To High-Grade or not To High-Grade?

That is the question on some of our member’s minds. No, I don’t mean that they are debating whether or not to practice high-grading, but rather, whether or not SAF should have a national policy addressing the use of this practice that is almost synonymous with poor forest management.

There was an article in the March 2004 issue of The Forestry Source titled “High Grading: Easy to Define, Difficult to Determine” (check it out at www.safnet.org) that addressed the issue of the SAF Code of Ethics and the difficulty any member would have in defining and identifying high grading. This difficulty means that the odds of charging an SAF member with a violation of the “code of ethics” for not managing land “for both current and future generations” would be for all intents and purposes impossible. So OK, we get that, but does that mean we should or should not have a national position statement opposing high grading? Certainly this is an issue in the northeast where 70% of commercial forest land is owned by family forest owners and where some foresters think high grading is the “silviculture” of choice on as much as 85% of all harvest operations.

I’ve been given six reasons why SAF should have a policy on high grading by a few members in New York. They are:

1. High grading and diameter limit cutting adversely impact millions of acres of forest land in the northeast alone.
2. The SAF is a professional society that concerns itself with long term forest stewardship.
3. Studies have shown that high grading is not sustainable and that the practice decreases forest productivity.
4. The absence of a position statement implies that SAF condones high grading.
5. An official position statement against high grading will help to discourage the use of this practice.

(Continued on page 17)
SAF should be a leading voice in opposing high grading in this era of sustainable forestry.

So, what do you think? Should there be a national policy on this subject? My personal view is that the practice of high grading is the worst type of “silviculture” you can do in the forest as it seems so counter to the natural selection process. Seldom does a natural event, whether fire, wind or ice, remove only the dominant and co-dominant crown classes from a stand; but high grading does. By the way, SAF defines high grading as “the removal of the most commercially valuable trees (high grade trees), often leaving a residual stand composed of trees of poor condition or species composition.”

I’d very much like to hear from you on this subject. Please email me at rdziengeleski@finchpaper.com to express your thoughts and give me the benefit of your advice on whether a national SAF policy on high grading should be pursued. Thanks for your help!

Councilor (Continued from page 16)

6. SAF should be a leading voice in opposing high grading in this era of sustainable forestry.

Chair (Continued from page 16)

1933, Henry Baldwin opened the big barn doors at the property given to the state by philanthropist Caroline Fox. Since then, 128 Fox Forest Notes have been published and distributed worldwide. These are now available at www.dred.state.nh.us.

Forest entomologist Kyle Lombard discussed research on how quickly blue stain fungus invades storm fallen white pine. For trees tipped over, with the roots and tops still attached, blue stain is not a serious problem and harvesters have years to salvage these trees. However, for white pine trees snapped off or sawed from their roots, blue stain degrades the logs after 5 months of summer exposure.

Jeff Ward of the Ct. Ag. Experiment Station introduced his research on crop tree release. Select trees with good potential, then release them on 3 sides. The old adage “spend 90% of your time growing 10% of your trees” applies, with only 50 crop trees needed per acre. Even large red oak (22” DBH) will increase growth after release. The goal is to grow superior quality trees with much higher merchantable value, over shorter rotations.

Retired Quabbin Reservoir forester Bruce Spencer related how 1/5 acre permanent plots were established in 1960 on a ½ mile grid over the reservoir forest and have been remeasured 6 times. Originally established with a map and compass with a locust stake at the plot center, now the plots can be found with a GPS. White paint was used to number the trees and mark the DBH line. The real value is documenting changes in the forest and providing scientific information to decision makers.

Ken Desmarais, Administrator of the state Forest Management Bureau, described his creation of a double sampling spreadsheet for mixed stands. This will be available on their WEB for the public to use after January 1, and an introductory class will also be scheduled. He uses a 20 factor prism to determine the basal area and also an 80 factor prism to choose which trees to measure. He plans on 1 point every 200’ along the cruise line (2 points/acre). He creates his 80 factor “prism” from a black binder clip and string because they are not available commercially.

The afternoon was a field excursion to different research sites at the forest.

By: Jon Nute
NESAF Email List Serve Now Operational

In conjunction with our re-designed and newly launched website, the NESAF EC has implemented a new Members-only email list service. This is a news dissemination list only, and will be used to disburse timely information in a quick, user-friendly format. We plan to send messages on an as-needed basis, and don’t expect to exceed 1-2 messages per month at this time. This is NOT a discussion list, and recipients will therefore be unable to respond or post their own messages to the entire group.

The first message using the new list-serve was sent out on July 28, 2008, to the entire NESAF membership. If you did not receive the first email, this means that your current email address is not registered with National SAF, or perhaps is registered but contains typographical errors. To check and rectify this, go to the National SAF website (www.safnet.org) and log in to the ‘Members Only’ section. Once your email address is updated and correct in National’s database, then we will receive and incorporate your address the next time we get the list from National. This is not an ‘opt-in’ or public list, therefore we will only include you in future mailings if you maintain your preferred and current email address with National.

Want to opt out? Every email message will contain an opt-out link. Once you opt out, that email address will not receive any future emails from us, even if we re-download the address from National in the future. If you register a new address with National, however, that will be considered active and you will receive email from us. In that case, you will again have the opportunity to opt-out the new address.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact list-serve Administrator Mariann Johnston (mjohnston@esf.edu).
Need a place to post events? Want to know what’s going on? Check out our Calendar of Events on the website.

Now you can post an event any time you want. Let the forestry community know of all upcoming workshops, classes or anything else of interest.

This is currently up and running, but very under utilized.

So, Get the word out about your next event!

www.nesaf.org

NE SAF Membership Trend
THE EARLY BIRD DOES CATCH THE WORM

And the Discount!

Don’t Miss the 2009 NESAF Meeting
March 18-20th
Portland, ME

Check our website December 1st
for a link to sign up
www.NESAF.org