New England Society of American Foresters

# News Quarterly

Volume 71, No. 2 April 2010

## Massachusetts Forest Policy Update

**by Chris Pryor and Bill Van Doren**

Many people may have seen the recent front-page article in the Boston Globe on March 4, 2010, "A clear-cut controversy," but the debate about forest management on public lands in Massachusetts has been simmering for over a year. Recent timber harvests received negative publicity in other local newspapers, radio, and the 11 o'clock news on Boston's ABC affiliate. Massachusetts is in the midst of several concerning policy issues with regards to how forests are managed, and they could have implications for its neighbors.

Citizens expressed concerns over timber harvesting on state parks and forests to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Stewardship Council, the DCR's citizen oversight board. In response, in July 2008, the DCR imposed a 90-day "pause" on new timber sales on state parks and forests, which continues today. At the request of the Stewardship Council, the DCR later began the Forest Futures Visioning Process (FFVP), with its first official meeting in March 2009. An 11-member Technical Steering Committee (TSC), tasked with writing the vision, solicited input from a 20-member Advisory Group of Stakeholders (AGS), and later the public. Ten months of meetings, five public forums and hundreds of written comments later, the TSC is revising its draft vision. Controversial recommendations included continuing the moratorium on harvesting until rezoning DCR lands into reserves, parks, and woodlands is complete, aggressively acquiring new land for reserves, concerns over the use of biomass from state lands, and recommendations for private lands (which were underrepresented during the process). Both the Massachusetts Chapter and Yankee Division SAF submitted official comments on these recommendations. The TSC will likely release its final vision later in 2010.

Likely because of the controversy over the permitting of biomass plants in Russell, Springfield, and Greenfield, a group led by EcoLaw filed four ballot initiatives. Three were designed to affect the viability of biomass power plants, and a fourth would ban timber harvesting on state lands. All were certified by the Attorney General, but only one was taken to the next step by EcoLaw. This initiative would require renewable energy producers to emit less than 250 pounds of carbon dioxide per megawatt hour generated to qualify for the state's renewable portfolio standard. The legislature is considering this measure now. It may sign it into law; if not, more signatures must be gathered to place the measure on the 2010 ballot.

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# Members Serving You In 2009

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS**
Chair: Ronald C. Lemin Jr. UAP Distribution, 291 Lincoln St., Bangor, ME 04401 (O) 207-945-3737 (Cell) 207-944-6160 teiron@aol.com
Vice-Chair: Edward O'Leary, 1808 S Albany Rd, Craftsbury Common, VT 05827, (O) 802-241-3683 (F) 802-244-1481 ed.oleary@state.vt.us
Immediate Past Chair: George Frame 65 Beech St., Bristol, NH 03222 (O) 603-224-9945 gframe@forestsociety.org
Secretary: Andrew Fast, 27 Copper Hill Rd, Nottingham, NH 03290 (O) 603-942-5980 andrew.fast@unh.edu
Treasurer: Dana Hachigian: 64 Hadley Street, South Hadley MA 01075 dana.hachigian@waterandsewer.org

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES**
Canada: Donald W. Floyd, UNB Faculty, PO Box #44555, Fredericton, NB E3B 6C2, Canada, (W) 506-451-6866 (F) 506-453-3539 dfloyd@unb.ca
CT: Joseph P. Barsky, CT Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, Box 1106, New Haven, CT 06504, Joseph.Barsky@po.state.ct.us
ME: Spencer Meyer, 84 Summer Street, Hampden, ME 04444-1213, (W) 207-581-2861,spencer.meyer@maine.edu
MA: Randall J Stone, 321 Montague Rd. Shutesbury, MA 01072, (W) 413-323-6921 EXT 555, randall.stone@state.ma.us
NH: J. Peter Howland, PO Box 2291, North Conway, NH 03818-2291, (H) 603-447-5617, howlands3@verizon.com
RI: Paul Dolan, 120 Nipmuc Rd., Foster, RI 02825, (W) 401-647-3367, paul.dolan@dem.ri.gov
VT: Kurt Zschau, PO Box 228, Danville, VT 05828 (H) 802-223-8644 woodlot1@verizon.net
Forest Science: James A. Harding One College Circle Poultney, VT 05764 (W) 802-287-8328 (F) 802-287-8099 hardingj@greenmtn.edu
Policy: J. Peter Howland, PO Box 2291, North Conway, NH 03818-2291, (H) 603-447-5617, howlands3@verizon.com
Membership: Peter Greeno 322 Stillwater Ave, Old Town, ME 04468 petergreeno@live.com (H) 207-951-0955
News Quarterly: Margaret and Scott Machinist, PO Box 9, Island Pond, VT 05846. (H) 802-723-5010 maggieandscott@myfairpoint.net
Website Administrator: Deborah Boyer, 4 Michaels Way, Ashland, NH 03217 (H)603-968-7212 boyer9646@roadrunner.com

**DIVISION/CHAPTER OFFICERS**
**Granite State**
Chair: Kevin Evans, 267 Milan Hill Road, Milan NH 03588, (H) 603-449-3336 (O) 603–449-2049 kevin.evans@dartmouth.edu
Vice-Chair: Scott Rineer – 350 East River Road, Milan, NH 03824 (H) 603-449-6680 (O) 603-482-3851 email: scot@wagnerforest.com
Secretary: Janice Mulherin 2494 Buffalo Rd. Rumney, NH 03266 (H) 603-786-9848 (O) 603-536-6131 mulherin@roadrunner.com
Treasurer: Matt Tansey 172 Pembroke Rd. Concord, NH 03301 phone 603-271-2214 email: mtansey@dred.state.nh.us
News Corres: Jonathan Nute UNH Cooperative Extension, Room 101, 329 Mast Road, Goffstown, NH 03045 (O) 603-641-6060 (H) 603-783-9684

**Green Mountain**
Chair: Scott Machinist, LandVest Timberlands, 5086 US Rt 5 Ste 2, Newport, VT 05855, (O) 802-334-8402, smachinist@landvest.com
Vice-Chair: Sam Schneski 100 Mineral St, Suite 304, Springfield, VT 05156, sam.schneski@state.vt.us
Secretary: James Harding, One College Circle, Poultney, VT 05764, (H) 802-235-1515, (W) 802-287-8328, (F) 802-287-8099 hardingj@greenmtn.edu
Treasurer: David Stevens 1402 Randolph Road Morrisville, VT 05661 (O) 802-888-4374 psteach6@together.net
News Corres: Kurt Zschau, PO Box 228, Danville, VT 05828 (H) 802-223-8644 woodlot1@verizon.net

**Maine**
Chair: David Maass, 4 Gunstock Rd, Scarborough, ME 04074 (O) 207-761-1770 dmaass@maine.rr.com
Vice Chair: Dan Simonds, PO Box 443 Rangeley, ME 04970 (O) 207-864-5025 (H) 207-864-5851 dan@mxwood.com
Sec/Treas: William H. Livingston 5755 Nutting Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5755 (O) 207-581-2990 (H) 207-827-4500 williaml@maine.edu
News Corres: Tony Filauro, 212 Cottage Road, Millinocket, ME 04462, (H) 207-723-9401, filauro@yahoo.com
Div. Manager: Laura Audibert, 11 Leopold St. Fort Kent, ME 04743 (O) 207-834-6773 (Cell) 207-231-0048 la4568@sjv.net

**Yankee**
Chair: John Clarke, 24 St Mary's Drive, Jefferson, MA, 01522, (C), 508-963-2070 clarkforest@msn.com
Vice– Chair– Bill Van Doren, 41 Brookside Ave, Grenfield, MA 01301 (O) 413-296-4546 bill@berkshirehardwoods.com
Sec/Treas: Tom Worthley, Coop Ext, 1066 Saybrook Road, Box 70, Haddam, CT 06438-0070, (O) 860-345-4511, thomas.worthley@uconn.edu.

**Rhode Island**
Chair: Thomas Dupree, 20 Gentry Farm Rd, Coventry, RI 02816-6952, (W) 401-647-3367, (F) 401-647-3590, tomtoak@aol.com
Vice-Chair: Name: Thomas Abbott, 1037 Hartford Pike, North Scituate, RI 02857, (O) 401-539-2356 tabbott@dem.state.ri.us
Sec/Treas: Rob MacMillan 66 Pinecrest Dr, N Kingstown, RI 02852 (H) 401-295-7305 (O) 401-521-6300 ext 7318 rmacmillan@provwater.com
News Corres: Gregg Cassidy, 420 East Avenue, Harrisville, RI 02830 (H) 401-568-3247 gcassidy@dem.state.ri.us

**Connecticut**
Chair: Richard Campbell, 181 Nicoll St., New Haven, CT 06511, (203)-376-4614, Fax: (203)-432-3809, richard.campbell@yale.edu
Vice-Chair: Philip Caspar, 995 Hopmeadow St, Simsbury, CT 06070 philip.caspar@yale.edu
Sec/Treas: Joseph Orefice, 231 Leadmine Brood Rd, Harwinton, CT 06791 Joseph.Orefice@gmail.com
News Corres: Richard Campbell, 181 Nicoll St., New Haven, CT 06511, (203)-376-4614, Fax: (203)-432-3809, richard.campbell@yale.edu

**Massachusetts**
Chair: Michael J. Fleming, 116 Jamestown Road, Leominster, MA 01453, 978-368-0126 ext 114, mike.fleming@state.ma.us
Vice-Chair: Christopher Pryor, P. O. Box 1346, 32 Foster Street, Littleton, MA 01460, 978-952-6856 ext 107, cpryor@newenglandforestry.org
Sec/Treas: Joel E. Dumont, PO Box 105, South Deerfield, MA 01371, 413-665-0267, treetime52@verizon.net
News Corres: Randall J Stone, 321 Montague Rd. Shutesbury, MA 01072, (W) 413-323-6921 EXT 555, randall.stone@state.ma.us

**Canada**
News Corres. N. Brunswick : Edwin Swift, Atlantic Forestry Centre, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5P7, (O)506-452-3175, (F)506-452-3525, eswift@NRCan.gc.ca
News Corres. Quebec: Vacant

**Council Delegate**
Carol Redelsheimer, O 207-723-8194 C 207-731-3621 H 207-944-0736 carol.redelsheimer@maine.gov

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# Winter Meeting 2010

## 2010 Award Winners

### EMPLOYEES of the WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

*Integrity in Conservation Award*

*The Integrity in Conservation Award recognizes an individual or organization working with natural resources who demonstrates adherence to principles and high standards in the face of adversity.*

The White Mountain National Forest (WMNF), established in 1911 under the Weeks Act, encompasses approximately 796,800 acres in New Hampshire and Maine, and is within a day's drive of 70 Million U.S. citizens.

The forest plan was revised and approved in 2005; and adopted without appeal representing a testament to the efforts of WMNF staff and interested parties to work through the many issues and seek consensus and compromise.

Comments from several endorsers noted the following: the development of this plan should be a model for all National Forests; the staff did incredible research, including a comprehensive environmental impact assessment; engaging all stakeholders in an extensive public input process; and the staff was persistent in their work to achieve a balance of uses acceptable to interested parties while managing the land based upon the best available science. Management within the WMNF continues under "adverse operating conditions" as individual timber sales continue to be challenged with injunctions and litigation from national special interest groups.

One endorsement noted, "The natural resource professionals of the WMNF are managing this public resource in an outstanding manner, balancing the competing forces of multiple use management, while under the intense glare of public scrutiny." Another noted, "To bring parties together with differing opinions and points of view takes trust and integrity, something Forest Supervisor Tom Wagner and his staff have."

### LAWRENCE ROUSSEAU

*James W. Toumey Outstanding Service Award*

*The James W. Toumey Award is given for outstanding achievement in service to the New England Society of American Foresters. Toumey was one of the founding fathers of the New England Section in 1920, author of* ***Seeding and Planting*** *and* ***Foundations of Silviculture****, one of the first two regular staff members at the Yale School of Forestry. Henry S. Graves noted in a memoriam* ***"Almost at once he took a prominent place in the forestry movement and throughout his career was in the foremost ranks of the leaders of the profession."***

Larry has provided service to the New England Society of American Foresters (NESAF) at a variety of scales over his career. He served a term as vice chair and chair for the Connecticut Chapter, five years as Secretary/Treasurer of the Yankee Division, and then a seven year stretch as NESAF Treasurer.

As one endorsement noted, "Larry is a consummate professional, bringing the same dedication and skills to SAF positions as he does to his job as the Environmental Protection Forester (Service Forester) for the western third of Connecticut. Larry has worked for the CT Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Forestry for the past 31 years.

The final nomination letter notes, "Larry exhibits the best personal and professional qualities in his daily activities for the State of Connecticut, and has long been an exemplary representative of our profession to the public. I have always found Larry to be diligent, honest, forthright, and thorough both in my professional interactions with him and in the course of SAF business."

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Larry is a graduate of the University of Maine, with a B.S. in Forest Management.

## SUSAN M. AYGARN

*Ernest M. Gould Jr. Technology Transfer Award*

*The Ernest M. Gould Jr. Technology Transfer Award is given for outstanding contributions to natural resource science and management through education, extension, or youth service. Gould achieved wide acclaim for his expertise in analyzing and resolving forest resource policy issues while on the faculty of Harvard University. He was a graduate of the University of New Hampshire.*

Over the last 5 years, as Chair of the MESAF Forestry Awareness Committee (FAC), Sue has transformed its focus from a 6th grade poster contest to a "Forestry Education Network," a listing of sixty-six foresters available to provide a resource and response to individual teachers throughout the state.

Through her volunteer efforts on the FAC, Sue has created a partnership with the ME Project Learning Tree Program, getting foresters trained as facilitators to assist schools in setting up Forest Inventory Growth (FIG) plots, bringing forest measurements into the school curriculum. One endorsement commented, "She trained teachers to set up forestry plots, to ID trees, and to use forestry tools to collect and analyze data. This is where I can honestly say that Sue is an educator!"

These recent efforts by Sue and the longer term efforts by her predecessors were recognized last fall, by the SAF House of Society Delegates as the "2009 Success Story." The culmination of her endeavors is that in the five years of her leadership, the various FAC activities have reached over 5,000 students.

Sue has over 30 years experience in the forest industry, serving landowners and manufacturers. Currently, Sue is the Regional Forest Manager for LandVest's Timberland Office in Bangor, ME. In 1978, she received a B.S. in Forestry with a minor in soils from the University of Maine, and she also holds a ME Real Estate License.

## JACOB W. METZLER & SPENCER R. MEYER

*Mollie H. Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award*

*The Mollie H. Beattie Young Forester Leadership Award is presented to a member of NESAF less than 40 years old who has shown leadership in a program or project benefiting the practice of forestry. Beattie was Vermont Commissioner of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources, and ultimately became Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Beattie was active in SAF. She co-authored* ***Working with Your Woodland****; she is remembered for her tireless devotion to conservation, integrity, and quiet courage.*

For the first time, two individual are being dually recognized and receiving the Young Forester Award. Since there is no real fair way to rank or order their individual accomplishments, they will be presented alphabetically as M&M.

In a 4-year span starting in 2006, Jake Metzler ran through most of the elected MESAF positions; 2 terms as member-at-large, vice chair, chair, and at MESAF behest attended the 2006 SAF Leadership Academy. Jake is currently the Forestland Stewardship Manager for the Forest Society of Maine (FSM). FSM holds 15+ easements that range from 200 to 300,000 acres and Jake's responsibility is to benchmark compliance of the fee owner to their unique easement terms. He is using a new science, geospatial analysis, to bring application to this on-the-ground oversight task.

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## 2010 Award Winners

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Over a similar timeframe, Spencer completed a M.S. degree in Forestry at the University of Maine and began work for the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit, where he now serves as Associate Director. He also served a term as MESAF Member-at-Large, is now into his second 2-year term as the Maine State Representative to the NESAF Executive Committee, and attended the 2008 SAF Leadership Academy.

Together Meyer and Metzler (the M&M boys) were program co-chairs for the 2009 NESAF Annual Meeting. One endorser noted, "I was some glad to have their growing leadership skills in place, and to observe their technology and collaboration talents in providing a diverse program."

They are recognized, respected, and trusted as leaders within SAF, by their employers, and by their professional peers.

**Silviculture Working Goup Update**

The silviculture working group had a successful gathering at this year's NESAF annual meeting in Nashua, NH, thanks to solid planning by outgoing chairman David Hall. He turned the reigns over to incoming chairman, Bill Keeton, of the University of Vermont. Also, UVM professor emeritus Pete Hannah graciously agreed to follow as the new chairman-elect. The group decided to plan and organize two silviculture field trips for the coming year. One, tentatively scheduled for mid August, will take us to the University of Maine's Penobscot Experimental Forest near Orono, Maine to see long-term research by the University of Maine and U.S. Forest Service.. A second field trip is planned for mid fall, when we will visit the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass. Please stay tuned for more details and scheduling updates or please contact Bill Keeton (william.keeton@uvm.edu). Please make contact with Bill if you wish to be included on the working group's email distribution list. Also, please see the NESAF website: **http://www.nesaf.org** for further updates as they become available.

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In response to other vocal criticism of biomass by local citizens and environmental groups, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) commissioned the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences to complete a study, due May 30, 2010, investigating the feasibility and sustainability of biomass power generation in the state. This report comes after four previous biomass availability studies and a silvicultural report on biomass harvesting.

Finally, this February, DCR proposed a change to the Licensed Forester Standards of Professional Conduct (304 CMR 14.06). The change would remove the clause, "Licensed Foresters shall base public comment on forestry matters on accurate knowledge, and shall not distort or withhold pertinent information to substantiate a point of view. Prior to making public statements on forest policies and practices, a Licensed Forester shall indicate on whose behalf the statements are made." This could damage a foresters credibility among an already skeptical public. While the reasoning of the DCR's legal department cannot be explained, this makes it obvious that foresters need to have a consistent, visible message regarding forests and forest management.

**Leadership Tools -March 2010**

Web-Enhanced Meetings – With over 70,000 square miles in New England alone, we've seen a large number of continuing education seminars begin using online meeting tools to provide remote seminars (webinars). In addition to these CFE events, online meeting tools offer the ability to share working documents during traditional conference calls over the phone, expanding our range and making better use of our volunteer time.

Web-enhanced remote meetings are often best held as a traditional conference call over the phone. We have the ability however to share a webpage with all attendees through which they can follow along as the host types or shares documents. As brainstorming sessions occur, all attendees can see the list develop as it is created. There are no microphones, speakers, or other complications.

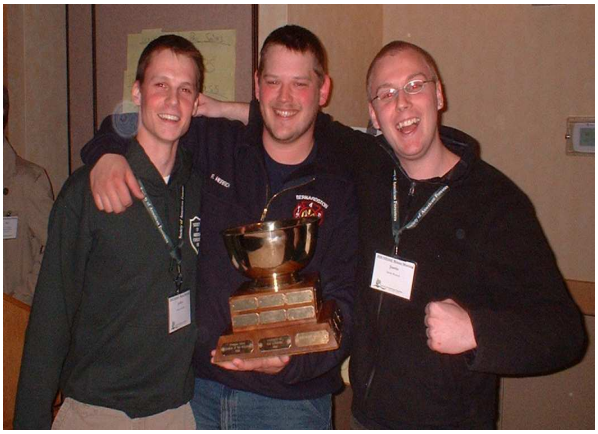
To host an online training event, the speaker alone will need to add a microphone to their computer. Attendees usually listen over their computer speakers, and converse by typing questions to the host. This limits the complications of multiple microphones and helps manage the conversation. The end result is in use by Cornell Forestry Extension, PSU, and others as a primary education tool. NESAF recommends two free options for our units. Both options allow the host to share their desktop, show PowerPoint slides, work on shared documents, and record.

Option 1 – The Society of American Foresters maintains an online meeting account free for use by all units. The system is licensed for 20 seats at a time. Schedule these calls with Christopher Whited, SAF National, at (866) 897 -8720 ext. 110, or whitedc@safnet.org.

Option 2 – For more control over the service, set up a free account at dimdim.com. While the host must complete a one-time registration online with a name and email address, attendees do not need to register. The free edition accommodates 20 seats. View the website at www.dimdim.com.

Leadership Tools is a short-term, recurring column in the New England SAF News Quarterly that highlights tips and tools to common challenges faced by SAF members in leadership roles. Any units or members with interest in sharing are encouraged to contact the NESAF Membership Chair, Peter L. Greeno at (207) 951-0955 or petergreeno@live.com.

## 2010 NESAF Quiz Bowl Winners



Jeff Hutchins, Robert Herrick, and Justin Renaud

UMass went home victorious from the NESAF meeting as the Quiz Bowl Champs. They have they honor of going back to Amherst with the trophy and their heads held high.

**We want to hear from YOU.**

**Tell us your thoughts on SAF, how we are doing, what you are sick of reading about, etc.**

Starting a new segment next quarterly,

**Letters to the Editor**

**Let you voice be heard throughout the organization.**

**Send your comments to the editors:**
**maggieandscott@myfairpoint.net**
**or**
**Maggie and Scott Machinist**
**PO Box 9**
**Island Pond, VT 05846**

Quarterly Theme - Dr. James Harding, Theme Editor

# A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A FORESTER

**Introduction**: Foresters learn early on that to do one's job well means becoming comfortable wearing many different hats. This idea is presented here through the stories of some of our colleagues who share their varied experiences. Not only do each of these stories come from different 'types' of foresters, but they show how multi-faceted each of their jobs is. George Ritz, a public lands forester takes us on a rainy tour of his lands in Maine. Pete Howland, a private company procurement forester describes a wide range of weekly duties that he must juggle. Dana Hachigian, a watershed forester for a Massachusetts utility describes how her forestry training and knowledge helps guide decisions on implementing clean water legislation and providing a high quality source of drinking water for the community. Finally, Bianca Kubierschky, an undergraduate forestry student from UMass, shares her experiences as an intern last summer. While forestry has grown to incorporate many types of foresters, our guiding principles remain the same—thoughtful and careful management of our woodland resources in order to produce the products and benefits that our society needs.

**A typical atypical day in the life of a Public Lands field forester.**
**George Ritz, District Forester with Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands**

It's another Monday morning in Paradise. The alarm sounds at 4:15. The dim light of an Eastern Maine dawn is already beginning to show its drizzly face. Four days of light but persistent drizzle isn't supposed to start until Thursday. The plan for the day was clear in my mind last night: First, in the morning go to the office and do the end of month reports, review stumpage accounting, compose some more of the regional management plan, answer mail, and input last week's cruise points into the computer and perhaps even write the prescription for those stands. If the drizzle stops, I would check on a logging operation, and road construction on a nearby 9,000 acre public lot, and come up with a "rain plan" with the operator.

Before I finish the first cup of coffee, my phone rings. It's a processor operator on another 30,000 acre lot telling me he will finish his current block today; much sooner than projected. He is not sure where the next block is, and oh, by the way, it is pouring and we better have some high ground. A proper job done in the field comes first; the trip to the office can wait! I start the 50 mile trip into the woods. Logging trucks on CB let me know they are still trucking off my job, trying to finish up before the rain gets serious later in the week.

After 90 minutes of moose dodging I reach the job where the processor had about 3 hours of cutting left. The rain had stopped but the mosquitoes were thick. After checking utilization on the yards, I checked the job in the woods. No rutting, nice residual in this stand managed for secondary deer wintering cover. I drove the operator to look at the next harvest block, which I hadn't quite finished preparing. After looking at the layout maps, marking, and ground conditions, we concurred that there was enough high ground to get started but not enough to keep going through another extended rainy season. There were 5 vernal pools and a half mile of lake frontage in this block. I hadn't finished an area of "high ground" because I knew there was a hawk nest that I hadn't yet found.

After taking the processor operator back to his machine I head to the feller buncher side and the sky opens up again. At least it slows down the mosquitoes. This ground is so boney it almost bullet-proof, but we'll run out of it soon.

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The job looks ok, but the buncher operator needs some guidance for the next set of trails in this block. We agree to meet at 3:30 to take a look at the next block on another road system. As the campsite ranger is off today I decide to do a quick check of the campsites on two nearby lakes. Last night's rain has cleared the campers out. There is just one camper complaining about bear hunting on public land. I listen to her diatribe while I pick up some large debris left behind by the weekend campers and head down to the far end of the lake to eat what is left of my lunch. The rain stops and the clouds are slowly pulled away like a veil revealing a complete rainbow in the drizzle at the far end of the lake. As if on cue, a pair of gorbies, decide to have a snack with me. I coax one to eat a piece of sandwich out of my hand, but its mate stays in a nearby tree, gently talking back and forth.

Back to work; its time to find that hawk nest and finish marking. I GPS my way back to where I was dive bombed early in the spring by a small hawk. At last I find the nest in a red maple, not in a yellow birch as I expected. I have just enough time to lay out and mark another area of "high ground" for harvest before having to meet the feller-buncher operator. A rain plan is formulated. A quick trip back to the former area finds the processor already cutting. All is on track again, and it has stopped raining. Time to head home. The view from the tops of the hills reveals alternating bands of brilliant sunlight and rain showers with occasional rainbows. The fir needles down my back and my soaked clothes were forgotten; a day in the office should be this good..

The current forecast says no more rain until Thursday. So tomorrow is largely a repeat of today: more marking and layout right back where I was today. Wednesday I'll finally get to the 9000 acre lot. I have enough high ground marked ahead, so after inspecting the road construction and cutting operation I'll get to that cruising so that I can have sufficient point information to process and use in the preparation of management plan for the next 1000 acre compartment. On the way home I'll check a firewood permit on another public lot.

Thursday is simple, do the now accumulating office work. Whenever possible, Friday is saved for a "fun" project. I usually plan a quick check on a job, and then off to do my project. If the rain is heavy, I may have to shut the grapple skidders down. CTL operations are probably ok. I had hoped to do some recon for a potential hiking trail trough a special area that I know. It will have to rain pretty hard to keep me from that, although that old knee is aching like it going to be a soaker. But as always, A Poor Day in the Field is better than a Good Day at the Office.

**A Week In the Life of a Procurement Forester**

**Pete Howland, Procurement Foresters for Cersosimo Forestry and Woodlands**

A procurement forester's main function is to supply a mill of some sort, whether it is a sawmill, pulp mill, pellet manufacturer, biomass plant, or some other type of manufacturing facility.

Procurement foresters usually have a target volume that they have to maintain ahead of the mill. In the winter months it is apt to be higher so that there is extra for the spring mud season. The summer months will be smaller so that we don't spoil the logs or raw material. The fall usually has a longer mud season than spring. However, two factors enter into the picture in the fall. First, the tax season for most mills ends in September—thus the comptrollers want a lower inventory. And second procurement needs a bigger inventory in order to get to the winter freeze-up so that operations can be in full swing.

Volumes also vary by a large number of factors, not just based on the time of the year. Also, considered are: market conditions, cash flow, demand for the finished product, weather conditions, what type of timber the loggers are

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in, what the mills we compete with are looking for and what their pricing structure may be at the time, and the availability of the trucking capacity in the area at the time, including road closures and weight restrictions.

All procurement foresters have different sources of their raw material: loggers, truckers, brokers, other mills (by-products that they don't use), stumpage sales from consulting foresters, state foresters, federal foresters, private land owners, and company owned timberland. And there is a constant negotiation between all parties ensuring prices stay competitive.

As a procurement forester for the mill that I work for, I am responsible for the purchase of stumpage. This means that I go to many showings by foresters that sell stumpage. This also means that I must make a judgment call as to the volume offered, quality operability of the timber stand, and availability of harvest crews. The operation may also be subject to specific machinery requirements put on the sale by the consultant or government agency.

Once a sale is purchased, the procurement forester has to hire the logger and trucker to harvest the timber in a timely and professional manner. On many timber sales the purchaser is responsible for a good deal of paperwork. These can include filing for wetland permits, driveway permits, intent to cut notices, reports of cuts, writing harvest and trucking contracts and purchasing bonds for roads and the timber. Many times we are also required to do the construction of truck roads and landings.

Many of us work for companies that still own company timber land. We write management plans, do the boundary maintenance road layout, construction, and maintenance, set up and run timber sales as a consultant would.

Lastly, some of us are also responsible for the scaling of logs that come to the mill on a daily basis. We have to grade, scale, and maintain the inventory of logs received and transferred or sawed by the mill. If the yard we scale is a concentration yard located off site from the mill, then additional transportation must be arranged.

Procurement is not for the faint of heart: We work seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. Loggers, truckers, foresters, and regulators of all types will call us day and night. We also have to be able to take rejection when we lose a bid on a sale or when we pass that perfect inventory point in the middle of the night when we were asleep for ten seconds. Our competition may come around behinds us and buy some logs that we intended to buy. Then we have to go out and start all over again with the negotiations. If you really enjoy being busy, versatile, and working with people of all types, then procurement is for you.

**A Week in the Life of a Watershed Forester**
**Dana Hachigian, Watershed Forester for the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission**

"We never know the worth of water til the well is dry" (Thomas Fuller, *Gnomologia*, 1732, http://www.quotegarden.com/water.html March 16, 2010). So what does the preceding statement have to do with being a Forester? Everything if one is employed as a forester for a public drinking water supplier. As a watershed forester, my job objective is simple: Public Safety and Health. Although a watershed forester and other professional foresters all work on the broader scale of ecosystem management, a watershed forester's main charge is to manage watershed forest land to protect drinking water supply and quality. The forestland is directly responsible for creating "clean" water. Filtered forest water fills the watershed streams and eventually the reservoir that stores the water for public consumption. Most consumers of drinking water probably understand that the water that flows to their taps comes to them via a distribution system of underground pipes but I suspect they do not give thought to the fact that the quality of the water they consume is also dependent upon careful management of the forested watershed. The Environmental Protection

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Agency uses the term "Source water protection" in recognition of the importance of this phenomena.

Current regulations guiding drinking water quality and protection were originally legislated with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) passed by Congress in 1974. This act was designed to protect public health by regulating the nations' drinking water supplies. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged with the responsibility for setting national drinking water standards. But it is local governments and private water suppliers who have direct responsibility for the quality of the water that flows to consumer taps.

In 1996 amendments were added to the SDWA that greatly enhanced the existing Act by recognizing "source water protection", among other things, as an important component of safe drinking water. This approach ensures the quality of drinking water by protecting it from "source- to- tap" because it is at the source that water quality begins.

Thus my job is really about "water quality management". I perform functions both directly related to forestry and functions not directly related to forestry. Those functions I perform related to forestry include: acquiring and maintaining a Massachusetts Forester License; forest inventory data collection on our 16,000 acres of forest land; monitoring and quantifying forest growth; monitoring the forest for health issues; marking and posting boundary lines; creating and updating historical forest stand data; developing a forest management plan; developing silvicultural prescriptions; writing forest cutting plans; and overseeing timber harvest activity. Functions I perform that are related to water quality management include: acquiring and maintaining a Massachusetts drinking water operator- in-training treatment license; participating in source water quality sampling in the watershed's reservoirs and feeder streams; stream gauging reservoir feeder streams to collect safe yield and loading rates data; monitoring abutter activities within the watershed limits for possible violations of riparian doctrine or best management practices while timber harvesting; addressing wildlife activities that threaten the microbial integrity of the water supply; conducting and assisting with various research projects in partnership with local universities to study and gain better knowledge of the terrestrial and aquatic nature of our water supply and their interactions as they relate to drinking water regulations; participating in dam inspections of the ten (10) earthen dams owned by the Commission; maintaining open dialogue with the various towns and private landowners who are situated within the watershed area on behalf of the Commission; patrolling of the SWSC owned land and infrastructures to be on the lookout for security issues, or other potential hazards to the water

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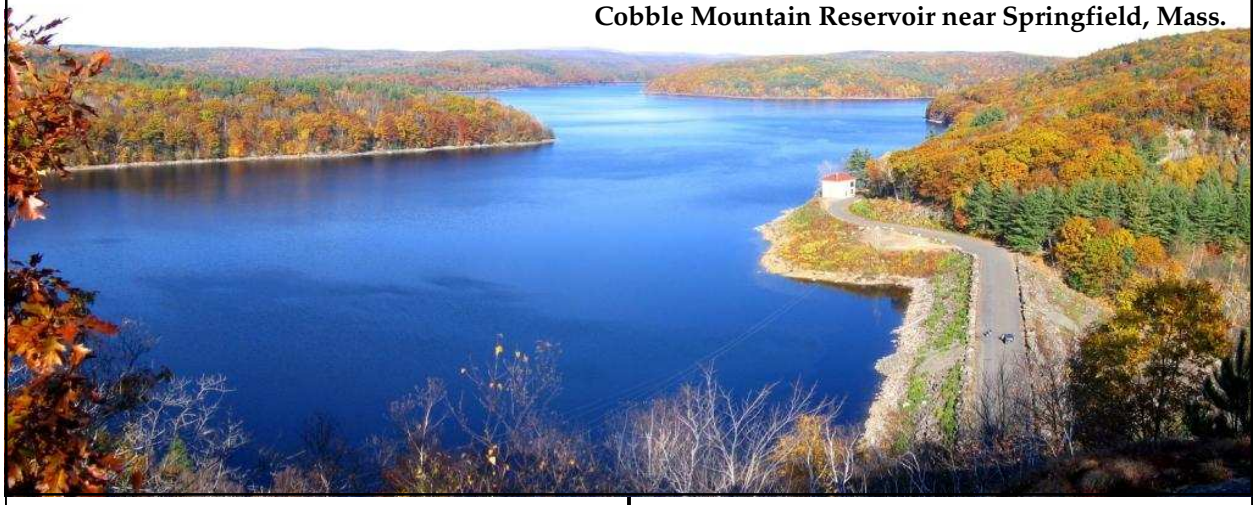
**Cobble Mountain Reservoir near Springfield, Mass.**



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supply.

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission, my employer, is a regional 100 million gallon per day direct filtration drinking water supplier serving 250,000 people in the western region in Massachusetts. The Commission holds and actively manages for clean drinking water 16,000 acres of forestland, which equates to a holding of approximately 51% of the total 31,000 acres that makes up our watershed area. Cobble Mountain Reservoir is a 22.9 billion gallon body of water surrounded by a myriad of feeder streams, wetlands and land uses the predominant one being forestland.

What do I perceive is key to being an effective public drinking water supplier forester? 1) Learn as much as possible about drinking water regulations and direct filtration processes; 2) Understand where regulations may be going in the future and how the drinking water supplier you work for will need to make changes in order to maintain compliance; 3) Learn how ecological processes happen in your drinking water supply watershed – understand what the inputs are and measured outputs are as water quality in the streams and reservoirs; 4) Synthesize your acquired knowledge and develop forest management practices that will assure your public water supplier's compliance with existing and future federal and state water quality standards. When all is said and done at the end of the day, managing the watershed forest in order to do the right thing such as responding to global warming , moving toward old growth reserves or even managing for endangered species to name a few, may or may not in the end yield the best drinking water quality. As a watershed forester, I always maintain the same management objectives: Source Water Protection – Public Safety and Health.

**Interning with Field Foresters at Quabbin Reservoir**
**Bianca Kubierschky, UMass Undergraduate Student in Forestry**

I am a forestry undergrad at UMass Amherst. I have had a great learning experience unparalleled by any one course I took at the university. One semester I contacted all types of different foresters to spend one day a week with. Many generous foresters lent their time to me. I spent most of my days at the Quabbin with field foresters Randy Stone and Steve Ward.

Randy Stone and Steve Ward are living the dream. They are allotted a section of land to manage and care for while they spend much of their days traversing the forest, knowing every tick and detail of these areas. They are surrounded by their treatments and can see the forests succession and how they have influenced this ecology, which is what we all can hope for coming into this profession. They are proud of their work and are excited any day to take out any person, sharing interesting features that an ordinary person would not notice and explain any aspect of forestry.

Spending time at the Quabbin with these guys I had a great opportunity to question them about anything I wanted. What more could a forestry student ask for? I would always ask questions about different plants and work on my identification skills. One the first day I spent on the Quabbin, Randy showed me a wet area where I was looking at different species indicators of wetlands. I wrapped my hand around the bark of what looked like an ash sapling. Nope! It was poison sumac! Randy and I found jewel weed and I scrubbed my hands with it. It worked, I never broke out in any itchy rash. Lesson learned. That could have ended badly. I would always point out things I didn't recognize and Randy knew his plants very well. I brushed up on a lot of plant ID skills as well as other skills.

The one on one time with practicing foresters helped me to see exactly what they see when stepping into the woods. Randy Stone set aside a section of a lot for me to mark trees. First he would show me what to do himself, he would describe with great detail and excite-

*(Continued on page 13)*

*(Continued from page 12)*
ment what he was thinking as he laid it out. Seeing Randy mark trees skillfully; it's like an art form based on feel and know how, thinking about the species, ecology and silvicultural treatment combined with the practical components of a harvest operation. It took me a while to get the feel for marking trees, but eventually I could look at a tree and know where the merchantable wood is, estimate how much and know which trees are good to leave, and how to mark trees so that the operation works through the eyes of a logger. These are important skills that don't fully seep in when learning in the classroom.

One day that sticks out in my mind, Both Randy and Steve took me to see a site where there was group selection thinning in active logging operation. I was impressed with the aesthetics of the site; they had created two distinct age classes. There was tall red pine overstory with very thick white pine regeneration understory. We walked along the heavily used corduroyed skid road and I asked about the quality of the road. At the time I had barely any knowledge of harvesting and Steve and Randy promptly told me that this was top of the line work and why. I now realize after seeing more and more harvesting operations that it was a beautiful road. They pointed out a stump and showed me how the rings tell the story of where the tree stopped growing, which is why it made sense to harvest and release the understory. They would always take the time to explain whatever information there was to be shared and I was always willing to listen. As we walked around I could hear the hum of machinery, I could smell the greenery and it was clear to me what was going on. It helped to reassure why I chose this major and pursue this lifestyle.

As a student visitor to the Quabbin I really felt like these guys were enthusiastic about teaching me everything they know. Steve Ward would sit and explain to me the data program that was created for them and how they used it. We would look at a map with many layers as he explained to me what everything meant. Then we would go right outside and look at it from the ground. One instance we looked at the satellite image of a chunk of land called "The Thumb" in the southeast corner of Quabbin. We saw where there had already been thinning there and places for potential treatments. We then went out with the basic forestry tools, a prism, an angle gauge, a Biltmore stick and paced between plots to tally trees. As we were walking out there we brainstormed on how a harvest would be set up in there what obstacles there were. In that particular lot it was difficult to bring in equipment because the land had been excavated years ago to build a railroad. Somehow we had to find a way to get around this odd hump of land in a way that it was worth it to take the timber out. We went back to the office and crunched the numbers, then we input them in the database. We looked at stocking guides and decided where we stood. It was a good experience to go through that process as an undergrad.

The Quabbin was a particularly unique place to intern because of all of its history. Randy and Steve would preserve the cultural features like old cellar holes and rock walls. We could see evidence of the hurricane of 1938 and see the difference between a forest where deer populations were managed and unmanaged. Hanging with these guys made me appreciate the New England flavor. They have given me a valuable perspective. They have showed me hands on many concepts learned in the classroom. I would recommend an experience like this for any undergrad truly interested in forestry, it has greatly increased my knowledge and set me ahead of my classmates.

Society of American Foresters

# DIVISION NEWS

## CONNECTICUT - No News

## MAINE - Anthony Filauro

**Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Quarantine**
The public is reminded that beginning in March through the end of July, roundwood hemlock timber products are not to be moved beyond the quarantine area without first being inspected by the Forest Health Monitoring Division of the Maine Forest Service. The quarantine area includes the towns of: Eliot, Kittery, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells and York. Quarantine restrictions are less stringent for chipped materials moved in fully enclosed trailers. Questions about the quarantine should be addressed MFS Insect & Disease Lab at 207-287-2431 or visit their website at www.maineforestservice.gov/idmhome.htm and click on Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.

**Timber Tax Information Available**

The U.S. Forest Service has released the annual publication, "Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2009 Tax Year". This fact sheet outlines common situations landowners face regarding timber income. It can be found on the National Timber Tax Website, http://www.timbertax.org/, which has numerous publications and resources available to landowners, on taxation, record-keeping, ownership structure, conservation easements, and many other financial aspects of owning woodland. The National Timber Tax Website is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Forest Service, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, the American Tree Farm System, and the National Woodland Owners Association.

**Teacher's Tour**

Project Learning Tree will host Teacher's Tours at Twin Pine Camps at Millinocket Lake during July 13-16 and at Little Lyford Camp near Moosehead Lake during July 27-30. The Maine Chapter of the Society of American Foresters is sponsoring two individuals to attend the tours, to encourage teachers to take advantage of the program and become more aware of Maine's forestlands and their management. Input from forestry professionals forms an integral part of the PLT program. Participation and assistance by SAF members is encouraged. Information can be found at www.mainetreefoundation.org/programs/plt-index.html

**Management of Deer Wintering Areas**
The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & wildlife, in conjunction with the Maine Forest Products Council and the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine, has released a publication entitled, "Managing Deer Wintering Areas in Northern, Western and Eastern Maine". The publication gives: an overview of deer wintering areas; the components of good deer wintering area habitat; forest management guidelines; influences resulting from forest management activities, and suggested references.
The guidelines are a valuable tool for foresters and landowners, to improve habitat for deer in Maine and overcome the effects of the severe winters of 2007/'08 and 2008/'09. The guidelines can be downloaded at the websites of: IF&W www.mefishwildlife.com ; MFPC www.maineforest.org and SWOAM www.swoam.org or contact John Platte at ME-IF&W (207-287-5253; James Cote at MFPC (207-860-6600) or Tom Doak at SWOAM (207-626-0005).

**American Tree Farm Standards – Q & A Webinar-**
The American Tree Farm System is offering Internet-based webinars that will review new Tree Farm Standards that govern forest management practices on ATF lands. The webinars will be held on: April 13, May 13, September 14, October 12 and November 9, between 1 and 2 P.M. Interested individuals can register on-line to participate in any of the sessions. Additional information is available at www.treefarmsystem.org/2010standards or http://www.mainetreefarm.org

NEWS QUARTERLY Publication Calendar

| Issue | Submission Deadline | Publication Date |
|---|---|---|
| January | December 22 | January 15 |
| April | March 22 | April 15 |
| June | May 22 | June 15 |
| October | September 22 | October 15 |

# Granite State - Jon Nute

**NHTOA TURNS 100**
The annual meeting of the NHTOA will be held in Manchester on Saturday, May 15, 2010. Based at the Currier Museum of Art, guided tours of the museum special collection of wood artworks combined with tours of the nearby 8,000 acre Manchester Water Works forest will begin at 8 AM and be repeated at 10:30 AM. Lunch is included and the popular raffle and auction will match the excitement for this 100th anniversary event. For registration information, see www.nhtoa.org.

**PROFESSOR LEE HONORED**
The Jean C. Brierley Award for Excellence in College Teaching was made to UNH Department of Natural Resources and Environment Professor Thomas Lee. He received the award on March 9 at a special luncheon ceremony where he spoke on "Confronting the Third Level of Ignorance: How We Teach about the Natural World".

**PROJECT LEARNING TREE OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR**
Susan Cox was one of 5 educators nation wide to be recognized as an Oustanding Educator by PLT. Based in Durham, NH with the USFS, Susan promotes learning about forests and the environment by forging partnerships between natural resource professionals and educators within her northeastern 20 state region. She incorporates PLT's hands-on curriculum to provide them with teaching strategies and science content so they, in turn, can train teachers, youth program leaders and students. She has a leading role in helping the USFS carry out its education and outreach mission. In several states, she has helped design and deliver programs for teachers and other educators, including teacher forestry tours in Maine and watershed institutes in NY. She is past president of the NH Environmental Educators and participates in the NH Science Teacher Leaders Group. Susan began her career as a forester with the USFS in 1985, and says she migrated toward education to ensure the public understands the dynamic nature of the forest and basic scientific principles.

**ANNUAL WINTER MEETING HELD FEB. 12**
More than 150 attended the GSD/SAF winter meeting at the new location in Bartlett at the Attitash Grand Summit Conference Center. Chair Kevin Evans opened the meeting with reports from around the state. Acting state forester Brad Simpkins reported on the 100th anniversary celebration of the NH Division of Forests and Lands, which was held on October 3, and invited all to attend the 100th anniversary open house at the state forest nursery in Boscawen on May 1. In 2010, 24 timber sales are planned on state lands, encompassing 2,000 acres. Road maintenance is planned on 36 miles and boundary maintenance is planned on 89 miles. However, the Division has 9 vacancies, but is under a hiring freeze and the governor is asking each agency to reduce spending by 2% this year and 8% in 2011.

UNH Coop. Ext. forest industry specialist Sarah Smith thought that the recession was ending with conditions slowly improving for the mills and loggers. There has been a marginal increase in softwood lumber production, mostly to replenish inventory and fill spot orders. The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP) has been confusing to some, but has pumped $13 million into NH so far. UNH CE forestry & wildlife program administrator Darrel Covell reported attempts to meet budget shortfalls, including the second year of a hiring and salary freeze. However, have had strong partnerships with the Div. of Forest & Lands, NH Fish & Game and NRCS. More than 500 volunteers have been trained through the Coverts and Natural Resource Stewards programs to help with educational efforts. Wayne Millen, of the USFS, reported 20 timber sales producing 44 million bd. ft. and expects to produce 10 million bd. ft. in 2010. NHTOA Director Jasen Stock provided a legislative update, watching 68 bills that effect forestry. Save the date of May 20, 2011 for the 100th anniversary celebration of NHTOA at the Mountain View Hotel in Whitefield. Timber Harvesting Council activities were reported by Eric Johnson. Last year, 688 attended a variety of logger training classes. For the list of 2010 classes, see www.nhtoa.org.

Esther Cowles reported that PLT has tightened its belt as well, with the loss of 1 part time staff, but they still have a robust educational program in the state thanks to financial support as well as hundreds of volunteer hours from the forestry sector. SPNHF chief forester Jane Difley urged us to visit www.spnhf.org for information on their Sept. 11 annual meeting, their 1010th anniversary in 2011 as well as the 100th anniversary of the Weeks Act, which created the WMNF. Land protection efforts in 2009 included the purchase of the 2,100 acre Washburn Family Forest in Clarksville and the purchase of 1,750 acres in Lempster, accompanied by an adjoining 1,200 acre easement/gift. Underfunding of state parks is a concern, so support is building for the sale of a special license plate, which will raise $1 million each year.

NH Board of Foresters Chair Tom Hahn urged us to watch www.nh.gov/jtboard/fr.htm for 2010 proposed rule changes in forester licensing. No disciplinary actions were taken in 2009 and there are presently 275 foresters in NH, with 5 new added in 2009. Susan Francher and Matt Tansey reminded us to participate by www.nhdfl.org in the draft NH Forest Resource Strategies document. Required by the 2008 Federal Farm Bill as well as the 10 year state planning requirement, public comment meetings will be held March 18 and 22, with the final document expected to be submitted by June 18.

At the business meeting, the following officers for 2010 were introduced: Chair, Scott Rineer; Vice Chair, Tim

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Fleury; Secretary, Janice Mulherin; Treasurer, Matt Tansey; Education, Steve Roberge; Tree Farm Rep., Brooks McCandlish; and the Granite State Rep., Peter Howland. A moment of silence was held for Tudor Richards and Hugh Putnam, who had passed away since our last meeting. The gavel was passed to Scott Rineer to continue the meeting, and out going Chair Kevin Evans received a framed pen and ink original art of a moose by Inge Seaboyer. The budget report showed expenses of $15,639 and income of $14,753 in 2009, with $15,315 in the bank. The proposed 2010 budget had expenses of $18,900 and income of $13,150. Bob Berti made a motion that was seconded and passed on voice vote to give $1,000 to NHTOA for their centennial celebration this year. This raised the budget requested to $19,900, which was passed. All are encouraged to attend the NESAF conference in Nashua on March 9-11 and the 2011 conference in Fairlee, VT. Bob Berti made a motion that was seconded and passed by voice vote to have the Executive Committee prepare a statement regarding the federal BCAP program, urging forester preparation of the required stewardship plans for harvested acres.

At the luncheon banquet, John O'Brien and Wendy Scribner reported that there would be training classes this spring for Tree Farm inspectors. Swanzey forester Wayne Young was recognized as the national Tree Farm inspector of the year. Those completing nine inspections in 2009 were Andy Fast, Peter Farrel and Tim Fleury, completing 10 inspections were John Ferguson and Don Johnson, completing 11 inspections were Ron Klemarczyk, David Thompson and Sam Stoddard, completing 12 inspections was Don Winsor and completing 39 inspections was Charles Moreno.

GSD/SAF recognized 3 UNH students for their academic excellence and awarded checks of $1,000 to each. From the Thompson School, William Kuneluis; from the COLSA, Amy Keith and from the COLSA graduate school, Rachel Knapp, were all recognized. Sam Stoddard received the Forester of the Year award. Sam recently retired after 19.5 years as the UNH Coop. Ext. Forester in Coos County, after a career in the military with expertise in GIS/GPS and remote sensing. His annual "Mud Season" educational sessions started with 20 participants in 1991 and had 180 attendees last year.

UNH Coop. Ext. forestry specialist Karen Bennett reported that the revision of the "Good Forestry in the Granite State" 3 ring binder published in 1997 was progressing. The second draft will be open for comment on March 15 until April 15, with the draft available at www.goodforestry.org. Three informational meetings will also be held April 6,7 and 8, from 6-8 PM in Lancaster, Campton and Hillsborough, respectively.

The afternoon speaker was Plymouth State University educator Alice Staples, who is cataloging a trove of old back and white photos of the Brown Paper company in Berlin. These are available for viewing at http://beyondbrownpaper.plymouth.edu. Haven Neal and some of the other foresters present added valuable comments to the photos shown.

# RHODE ISLAND - Paul Boisvert

**The following officers were elected in the 2009 elections.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Chapter Chair: | Christopher Modisette |
| Vice-Chair: | Thomas Dupree |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Rob MacMillan |
| NESAF Representative: | Paul Dolan |

***Walk in the Forest***

The Chapter hosted its 18th annual Walk in the Forest in October 2009. This year's 'walk" was hosted by Providence Water at its watershed forest in Scituate, RI. Approximately 100 school students attended the event.

***Envirothon***

The Chapter again sponsored the RI Envirothon, a competition that tests high school students on environmental knowledge in forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatics and a special current issue. Chapter members serves as forestry mentors, prepared the forest section exam, and organized and ran the Forestry section of the competition at the day long competition in May 2009.

***Demonstration Woodlot Program***

The Chapter is a co-sponsor of the RI Demonstration Woodlot Project which was organized by RIDEM-Division of Forest Environment (RIDFE) and the RI Forest Conservators Organization (RIFCO). The objective of the project is to establish a statewide network of demonstration forests to be used as a means of educating the general public on the variety of techniques available to manage private forestland. The first demonstration site was established on RIFCO woodland in the Town of Foster. The second site, known as the Liberty Tract in West Greenwich, is currently under development.

***Notable Trees of Rhode Island***

A publication of notable and large trees in Rhode Island was released in 2009. The publication was a cooperative venture between RIDEM, the RI

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Tree Council and SAF. Funds for the project were generously provided by the Chapter, Yankee Division and the New England Society, and the SAF Foresters Fund.

***Rhode Island Woody Biomass Workshop***
The Chapter was a sponsor of the RI Woody Biomass Workshop in February 2009 organized by RIFCO. Approximately 75 foresters and landowners attended the day long workshop that featured a variety of current topics on the issue of biomass. The workshop was held at the recently completed Ponaganset Middle School and featured tours of its new wood chip heating system. A similar biomass system is being installed at the Ponaganset High School.

***Career Days***
Chapter members participated in two (2) career days during the year at Dr. Alvarez High School in Providence and Scituate High School. The Chapter has developed a display with career information obtained from the National office that it uses for career days across the state.

***Tree Farm Assessment***
Chapter members assisted the RI Tree Farm Committee in a re-assessment of its program which will be used to develop a new strategic plan for the program.

***Providence Water Forest Stewardship Council Certification***
Providence Water has initiated the process to certify its woodlands under the Forest Stewardship Council standards. The process is being coordinated by Chapter members Rob MacMillan and Christopher Reilly.

Chapter members served on or were involved in the following activities or initiatives.

1. NY/New England "Keeping Forests as Forests" Initiative
2. RI Forest Assessment Process
3. RI Farm, Forest and Open Space Valuation Subcommittee
4. RI Coverts Project
5. Forest Health Works project
6. Forest Legacy Committee
7. Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee
8. Rhode Island Forest Conservators Organization
9. Tree Farm Committee
10. USDA-NRCS

- Membership on State Technical Committee
- Forestry Subcommittee

Development of Forest Conservation Activity Plan guidelines
Contact Information
Paul H. Boisvert; email paulboisvert@verizon.net

# GREEN MOUNTAIN - Kurt Zschau

The Green Mountain Division held their annual winter meeting in Montpelier with topics discussing GIS applications and open source software. There were several special guest speakers including Agency of Narural Resources Secretary Jonathan Wood who gave an update on the Current Use program and status of the agency. Lieutenant Governor Brian Dubie also gave a brief talk about natural resources in Vermont and the importance of a code of ethics to the students.

Congratulations to Mary Beth Dewey as the winner of the Jim Wilkinson Award; She graduated from Green Mountain College last fall and has continued to be of service to the society post graduation.

The Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) proposed a rule that would allow ATV's on state land. This proposed rule has caused much debate about whether it should be allowed and the legality of how the rule was presented. If the rule is accepted it would greatly allow for expansion of Vermont ATV Sportsman's Association (VASA) trails onto public lands off of existing trails. In December the Legistlative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR) voted 8-0 to oppose the ATV Rule because they felt the ruling was beyond the authority of the ANR, not on the topic of the rule. On January 19th the Secretary of ANR Jonathan Wood went ahead and finalized the rule despite LCAR's objection to the Rule.

# MASSACHUSETTS - No News

# IN MEMORIAM

**Olsen, John—**John Olsen, 82, died on February 2, 2010 at his home on Ekonk Hill Road with his loving family at his side. He was born April 4, 1927 in New York City son of the late Knut and Olava Olsen. On July 5, 1952 John was married to Anne LeDoyt who survives him. John is a native of Mansfield, CT and graduated from Windham High School in 1945, served in the U.S. Navy from 1945-46, graduated from the University of CT in 1951 majoring in Forestry. From 1951-1982 he was employed by the CT Park & Forest Commission (later DEP) as a Forest Ranger, Nurseryman, Service Forester, Area Forester and Regional Manager. He was a member of the Voluntown Baptist Church, Society of American Foresters, a Charter member of the CT Christmas Tree Growers Assoc. serving as it's Executive Director, National Christmas Tree Growers Assoc., Governor's Council for Agricultural Development, New England Christmas Tree Growers Alliance, CT Park & Forest Assoc., and served on the CT Tree Farm Committee, Chairman of the Voluntown Elderly Housing, Director and Treasurer of the Voluntown Ambulance Committee and the Voluntown Economic Development Committee. After retirement in 1982 he became a Private Consulting Forester. His favorite pastime was the expansion and tending of the family Christmas Tree plantation

## *On Our Watch*: Student Perspectives

The 2010 NESAF meeting that I had attended along with the UMass Student chapter was a very educating, worthwhile, fun, and special event for myself and my classmates. While attending the meeting I felt a great sense of community among foresters that I had never experienced, and truly felt as though I had an inside look of what was going on in the forestry profession and community. The UMass student chapter stood out as a force in the forestry community by being professional, having a positive presence, and definitively winning the Quiz Bowl. UMass stood out and made a great impression that will be respected by foresters.

*– Submitted by Bruce Danek, student, UMass; bdanek@student.umass.edu*

The 2010 NESAF Annual Meeting, held March 9-11 in Nashua, NH, allowed students from multiple institutions to interact and share concerns over present and future issues. Students fromUMass and UMaine met with those from Paul Smith's College to investigate interest in forming a regional student congress. The proposed congress would act as a vehicle for rejuvenating struggling student chapters, presenting student views to NESAF, and furthering the goals of individual chapters – collectively.

Multiple routes were mentioned to help direct students towards a cooperative unit. A NESAF-wide student conclave was explored, as interest was expressed in less academic-centric opportunities as a means of acquainting student chapters. At the same time, students expressed a need for professional support and experience building. One means of student support that was suggested was to offer resume assistance through a peer-reviewed process. Of special interest, we discussed the potential for unified student management of a forested land parcel, with the ambition of creating a demonstration forest.

SAF now offers students quick and easy ways to stay connected, whether through Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn; thus, support is always close at hand. However, if we collectively decide to move forward on a NESAF student congress, we will be at the forefront of its conception and establishment. Here's to hoping that you hear more from us in the near future!

*– Submitted by Emma Schultz, M.S. student, UMaine; emma.louise.schultz@umaine.edu*

# NE SAF AFFAIRS

Chair's Column – Ronald C. Lemin, Jr.

We have completed another successful NESAF winter meeting thanks to the efficient arrangements committee comprised of: Janice Mulherin, George Frame, Susan Francher, Matt Tansey, Jon Nute, Roger Monthey, Dick Weyrick, Dierdre Raimo, Neal Bungard, John Parry, Ted Howard, Charlie Leveque, Mark Ducey, Inga Seaboyer, Tim Fluery, Chuck Hersey, Harold Clark, and Keri Yankus. Those who have volunteered to organize a NESAF winter meeting understand the time commitment and effort that was put forth by these individuals. I personally want to thank all those involved in putting this meeting together. Pre-registration numbers were low, and the attempt to use the National office to facilitate registration again had a few glitches, but in the end the "90th NESAF Annual Meeting" train rolled into the station as another successful GSD sponsored event.

Several distinguished guests helped make the meeting more enjoyable: our New England grown SAF Vice President Roger Dziengeleski, District VI Council Representative Carol Redelsheimer, Senior Director of Marketing, Communications and Membership, Christopher Whited, from the SAF National Office, and my counterpart from NYSAF Andy Hayes (Chair). I hope those attending had a chance to welcome our guests.

NESAF, with the help of Membership Chair Peter Greeno and Chris Whited, met and spoke with 5 SAF student chapters present at the conference: UMass, UMaine, Thompson School, UNH, and Paul Smiths (NY). The students discussed the possibility of interacting more, creating a more unified student assembly, and how SAF and NESAF could help them transcend into the professional ranks. Wednesday night's Student Quiz Bowl showcased their talents. The championship came down to the Final Jeopardy Question and the points wagered. The University of Massachusetts took the 2010 Quiz Bowl in a tightly fought battle with Paul Smiths College. Congratulations to all the participants, and thanks to Dr. Robert Seymour, Carol Redelsheimer, Dierdre Raimo, and judges, Jeff Ward, Roger Monthey, and Tim Hawley.

The speakers and sessions were informative and usually full, and it wasn't hard to find a topic of interest. This year Keri Yankus, Tim Fluery, and Chuck Hersey stepped up the technology with a "Digital Poster" session to display all the posters. Additionally, series of posters were selected on subject and region for verbal presentation, and the committee even accommodated more time for those not initially selected.

*(Continued on page 20)*

Council Report - Carol Redelsheimer

Fellow District VI Foresters,

The purpose of the SAF Council is to provide leadership and direction to the Society of American Foresters to ensure the achievement of its mission. I'm honored to have begun serving as your representative on Council and it was my great pleasure, as my second official duty, to attend the NESAF meeting. (My first was my first ever attendance at the NYSAF meeting in January.) I very much appreciated the many congratulations and thank-yous I received during the three days I spent in Nashua. As your Council member, my goal is to represent you to the best of my ability when Council decides on issues, while bearing in mind our fiscal responsibilities and how decisions will support SAF's mission and core values. I will endeavor to keep you informed of issues upon which Council plans to deliberate. I encourage you to express your opinions individually or collectively through your NESAF Executive Committee.

**Presidential Field Forester Award**

Practitioners often operate in nearly complete anonymity, yet their actions are one of the most important and visible contributions to the viability and understanding of our profession. This is where forestry truly happens and it is important that we recognize those who perform the art and science of forestry each and every day. Each year, one forester from each voting district may be honored with this award. However, they can't be honored if no one nominates them! Criteria and nomination instructions can be found at http://www.safnet.org/about/field_foresters_criteria.cfm Nominations must be submitted to me by May 15th.

Council Meeting

The February 6 & 7 Council meeting was postponed due to the major winter storm that closed DC area airports. Discussion of the weighty issues of budget and opportunities for increased revenues will take place during monthly conference calls through the spring at the June Council meeting, which may be extended to accommodate the longer agenda. 2009 was a deficit year for SAF - the first under Michael Goergen's leadership. Three principle reasons for

*(Continued on page 20)*

**Chair Report** *(Continued from page 19)*

Thanks again to Keri and her efforts. From all indications this year's poster session was a real success.

The Awards Banquet came close to having a full slate of award recipients. The Distinguished Service Award was the only award not presented this year. The other 5 awards were well represented with several nominations per award. I applaud all those individuals that took the time to nominate and support these individuals, and I especially want to congratulate the recipients for their dedication and hard work to SAF and the profession. We also recognized nine "Golden Members" with 50-years of membership in SAF. That corresponds to 450 years of total membership! Congratulations and thanks to those recipients. Let's try to get all of our awards presented at the 2011 meeting in Vermont.

I stress the urgency in getting your State Division ballots together for the coming fall electronic voting process. NESAF also has several positions up for election this year: Vice Chair, Maine, Vermont, and Massachusetts representatives. All bios and ballots need to be in Paul Dolan's hands by early August.

Thanks again for making another successful NESAF Winter Meeting. If you want to discuss anything with me, please feel free to contact me. I always look forward to hearing from our membership.

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***Council Report*** *(Continued from page 19)*

the deficit were given:

- Advertising revenue was lower than expected.
- Convention attendance was lower than expected; we broke even but did not generate planned revenue.
- Legal fees spent trying to avoid Historic Designation of SAF properties were higher than anticipated.

In managing the 2009 SAF budget, staff dropped their office cleaning service and began cleaning their own bathrooms, vacuuming the offices and hauling their own trash. Staff was furloughed for a few days and received no pay raise. Current staffing is 17, down from a high of ~30 people a decade ago.

In December Council adopted a 2010 budget with expenditures exceeding revenues by $188,000. Council committed to identify and implement actions that would insure the 2010 budget closes in the black even though the conservative budget passed was red. Council also set into motion the required process to consider a dues increase for 2011. If Council decides to pursue a dues increase, it will have to be considered by HSD. I expect that our first meeting of this year will involve difficult choices between revenue enhancement strategies and opportunities for enhanced services to our members.

On a positive note, membership renewals are far ahead of last year at this time. If you have not already, please renew *today!* The benefits of SAF membership are numerous although sometimes it is easy to take them for granted. We recognize that the down-turned economy presents financial challenges for us all, but SAF is committed to working with you to create a payment plan if needed rather than forcing you to choose to give up your membership benefits.

Please feel free to share your thoughts or give me your input via phone or e-mail. *Invite a colleague to join SAF today!*


Carol Redelsheimer
District 6 Council Representative
O 207-723-8194 C 207-731-3621 H 207-944-0736
carol.redelsheimer@maine.gov

**Council Rep's Poll**

As the "Voice of Forest Practitioners", it is one of the Canadian Institute of Foresters objectives to welcome individuals to the profession of forestry. Since 1967, it has been a tradition to present Silver Rings to graduating students from Canadian Institute of Forestry recognized Canadian forestry programs. The CIF provides the Silver Ring as a welcome to the profession of forestry. It is a symbol of achievement in having completed an Institute recognized forestry program. The Silver Ring is visible evidence of the national bond among Canadian forestry graduates - a bond that overrides differences in levels of responsibility, differences in employment status, differences in province of residence, and differences in language. The baccalaureate program and technical program rings are engraved differently. (More information: http://www.cif-ifc.org/site/silver_ring_program)

The Society of American Foresters is considering adopting our own "ring program". While it would likely not be precisely the same as the CIF program, its spirit and intent of welcoming individuals to the profession and recognizing the bond we share as foresters would be. Current SAF members would be able to purchase a ring and proceeds from those purchases would help fund the cost of providing rings to graduating forestry students in the future.

**Need your opinion!**

**I have set up a Doodle poll at:** http://www.doodle.com/ykrum9utkiyhsgbr The poll asks several questions – you can check as many ok boxes as you wish. There is also opportunity to add a comment – e.g., if you like the idea of a ring program but do not like the proposed wood inlay ring, please tell us what you would like in the comment section.

**Please take a few moments of your time to visit the poll and let me know your opinion on this issue. The poll will be available until the end of March.**


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## From your Membership Chair

Thanks to all of our members, and especially Granite State Division, for another great annual meeting. We had a great opportunity to talk with many of you this year at our membership booth, and can't thank Emily Shultz (University of Maine) and Christopher Whited (National SAF) enough for helping to that end.

We proposed several exciting things to our membership this month, the first of which is a new process for our work in forest policy that breaks down membership involvement barriers and helps NESAF engage some of the troubling issues that our profession faces. Overall there will have been an initial survey, subcommittee open to all, member comment period, and final member vote on the proposal all in the effort to make certain that you have the final say in how we handle the tough challenges before us.

Thanks in large part to a prompting by Jeff Hutchins (University of Massachusetts), our student body met for a 1.5 hour high-energy session to identify several key needs to engage and serve our student body. The outcomes are already taking shape, from technical conclaves, red-ink sessions, and a potential New England/New York Student Congress. We're extremely excited to see the leadership roles they take over the coming months as they build the SAF they want and need.

Also proposed this month is our new membership drive. Our membership is passing the 1,050 mark, with new members and the energy that comes with them. Our annual high usually occurs in June, yet even as of February, we had surpassed our highest membership of any point in 2009, 4 months ahead of expectations. Last week was an exciting one yet again, as we both received a substantial grant and a new membership approved line-item to jointly fund our 2010 membership drive. We will be reaching out to over 1,000 potential members in the coming months. If you would like to help, please contact me.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that our new membership database is being tested and will be online within weeks. This affects not only our membership information, but our financials, meeting registration issues, website issues, CF and CFE tracking, and a number of other frustrating challenges. Best of all, it will be a tremendous timesaver for our national office staff, allowing them to focus on added member value.

Best in the coming months,
Peter L. Greeno, Membership Chair
petergreeno@live.com
(207) 951-0955

Important Notice
From March 1st on we begin to lose contact much faster with those who have still not renewed. Non-renewals stop receiving all publications except the News Quarterly, and soon thereafter National removes them from our membership lists. If you have not already done so, please renew before the end of the month.

Hardship options exist for those members who wish to continue with their membership, and we have lower rates for members that have retired. Also, we are pleased to announce that we have a monthly payment plan for any member who prefers that option. Please call Christopher Whited at 1-866-897-8720 ext. 110.

### NESAF Welcomes New Members

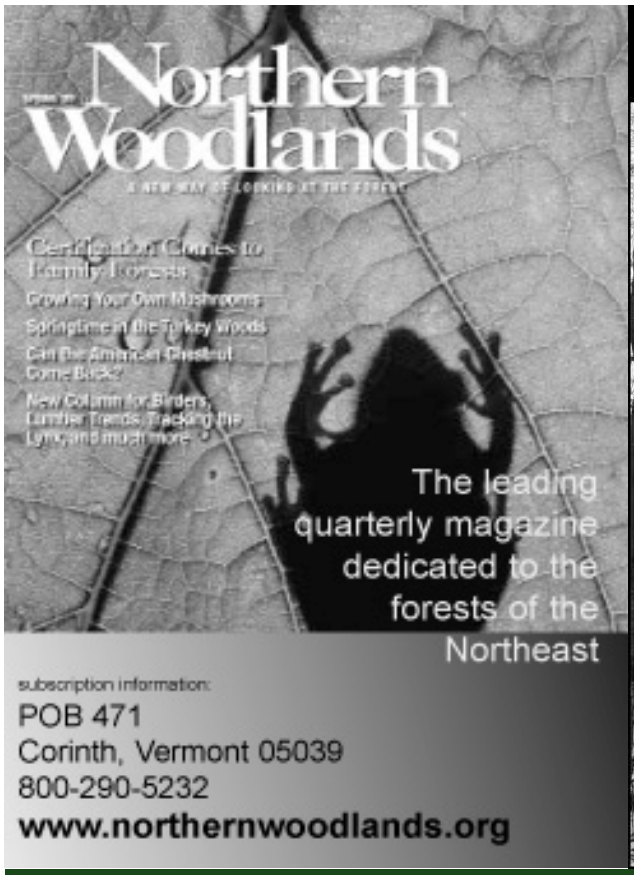
The following members joined, reinstated, or transferred into NESAF between December 1, 2009 and March 1st, 2010. Please take a moment to welcome them to our society!

**Yankee Division - Massachusetts Chapter**
Bruce Danek
Thomas Patrick Farrell
Dan Finklestein
James B. Friday
Kathleen S. Friday CF
Crystal J. Gauvin
Samuel A. Hagen
Justin Renaud
Ford Wykoff

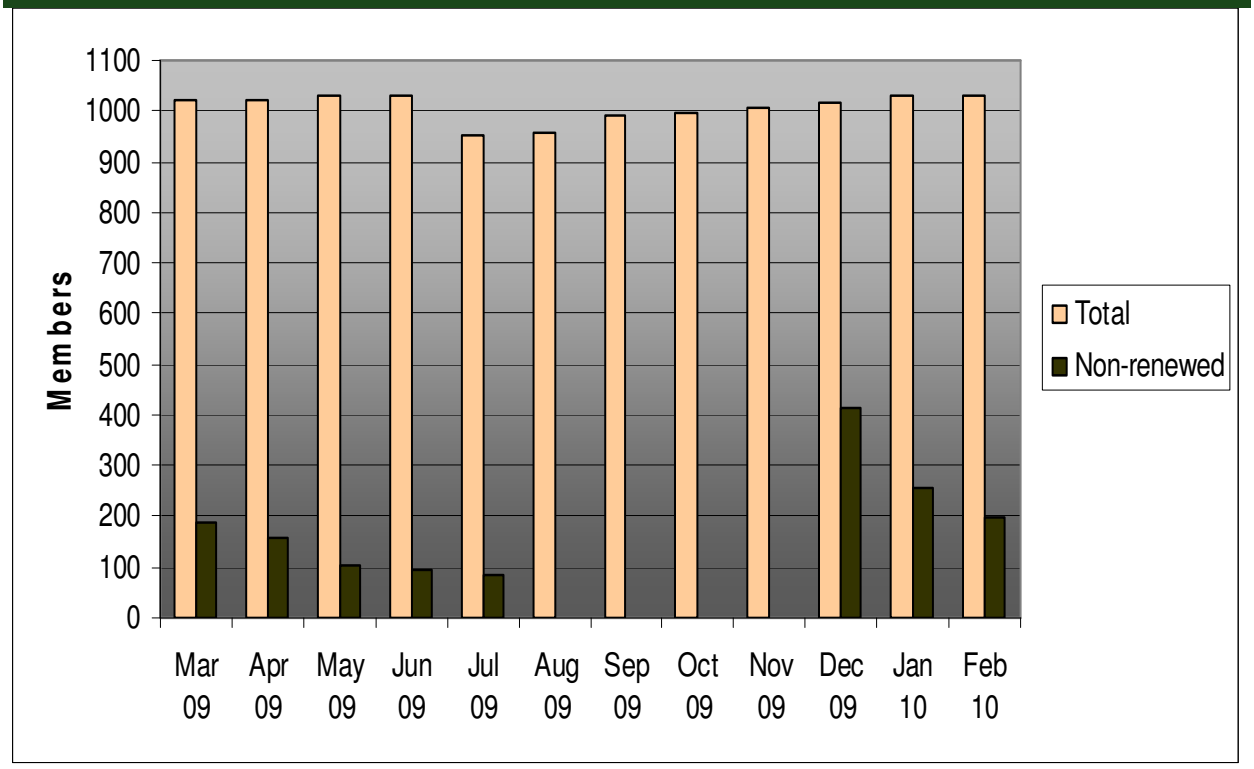
**Granite State Division**
Dave Buxton
Sarah E. LaPlante
Eric V. Radlof
Steven S. Roberge

**Green Mountain Division**
Nathan J. Fice
Eli T. Hutchins
Rylan Lynam
David Logan Mausel

**Maine Division**
Jebediah C. Appleton
Vance T. Brown
Mallory L. Bussell
Ryan M. Carey
Tony L. Collin
Alison C. Dibble Ph.D.
Dennis W. Flournoy
Ian P. Foertsch
Thomas Y. Herstine
Ross S. Lawson
Katharine A. Locke
Tucker C. Pearson
Brittany L. Ross
Emma Schultz
Joshua N. Sjostrom
Ian J. Stone
Luke R. Wishner



## NE SAF Membership Trend



## CFE Update

| | |
|---|---|
| Scouting for Pests and Problems of Woody Ornamentals – 9/30/10, Worchester, MA | 2.0 / I |
| Weed Identification Workshop – 8/24/10, Amherst, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Weed Identification Workshop – 7/25/10, Amherst, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Weed Identification Workshop – 7/22/10, Jamaica Plain, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Wildlands and Woodlands: A Vision for the New England Landscape – 6/4/10, Concord, NH | 4.5 / I |
| Identifying Freshwater Wetlands in the Landscape – 6/3/10, Amherst, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Scouting for Pests and Problems of Woody Ornamentals – 6/3/10, Bridgewater, MA | 2.0 / I |
| Identifying Freshwater Wetlands in the Lands – 5/27/10, Amherst, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Foresters for the Birds II: Integrating timber and songbird habitat management – 5/20-21/10, South Strafford, VT | 12.0 / I |
| Foresters for the Birds II: Integrating timber and songbird habitat management – 5/6-7/10, East Rupert, VT | 12.0 / I |
| Case Studies in Conservation Seminar Series: Regional Land Trust Land Protection – 5/4/10, Amherst, MA | 1.0 / I |
| Scouting for Pests and Problems of Woody Ornamentals – 4/29/10, Jamaica Plain, MA | 2.0 / I |
| Case Studies in Conservation Seminar Series: Community Preservation Act (CPA) as a Conservation Tool – 4/27/10, Amherst, MA | 1.0 / I |
| Case Studies in Conservation Seminar Series: Aggregation of Land Protection Projects – 4/20/10, Amherst, MA | 1.0 / I |
| Insect Laboratory: Hands-On Identification and Management Strategies – 4/15/10, E. Wareham, MA | 5.5 / I |
| Case Studies in Conservation Seminar Series: Working with Volunteers to Facilitate Conservation – 4/6/10, Amherst, MA | 1.0 / I |
| Asian longhorned beetle, Emerald ash borer, hemlock wooly adelgid: volunteer surveyor workshop – 4/6/10, Manchester, VT | 1.5 / I |

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