

WISCONSIN

SAF

News



Society of American Foresters
Growing better all the time

Spring 2006



National SAF Leadership Academy

Do you ...

Need to create highly effective and motivated staff?

Work with stakeholders on cooperative projects?

Know how to build strong community buy-in?

These topics and more will be addressed at the 10th Annual SAF Leadership Academy and there is still time for you to register for this well-respected training opportunity! The 2006 Academy will be June 17-20 at Snowbird Resort in Utah (located 29 miles from Salt Lake City International Airport). You can register online at www.safnet.org/meetings/leadershipacad.cfm or contact SAF Director of Field Services Louise Murgia for more information at 301-897-8720, ext 118. Julie Peltier represented Wisconsin at the 2005 SAF leadership academy held at the National Arbor Day Foundation's Lied Lodge and Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska and offers a report on page 4. Gary Vander Wyst and John DuPlissis will also be happy to tell you about their experiences at a national SAF leadership academy. Financial assistance may be available from Wisconsin SAF to help you attend. Contact Gary Vander Wyst for details on this.



Morton oak on the National Arbor Day Farm as photographed by Julie Peltier at the 2005 National SAF Leadership Academy.

Wisconsin SAF News is produced quarterly for the members of Wisconsin Society of American Foresters.

Articles and photos are welcomed. Submit them to

Kirsten.Held@dnr.state.wi.us

The deadline for the next issue is August 30, 2006

Visit Wisconsin SAF online at

<http://wisaf.org> and submit updates for the Website to

Paul.Pingrey@dnr.state.wi.us

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Robert Fisher

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Southeast WI Chapter Chair

Jeff Kante

262-367-2239

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WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

By Gary Vander Wyst

I would like to present what I see as objectives and goals for the next two years as I serve as Wisconsin SAF Chair.

Active Member Participation:

I encourage the WI-SAF membership to become active within the state society. I have asked the chapter chairs to challenge the membership within their chapters to step forward and to go from membership to leadership. This can range from active member participation to serving at chapter level, state committee or state executive level. Whether it is a half day or several weeks per year, we all have talents and skills that can benefit the organization.

Recognition of Members:

I plan on recognizing those who step forward and give that extra effort. This can be accomplished only with the support of the chapter chairs. Some tools available are awards (John Macon), SAF Fellow Program and letters of recognition. Again, the chapter chairs and WI-SAF leadership will have to be the “eyes and ears” to pass along member recognition to the executive committee.

Membership:

The Society of American Foresters is the professional organization that represents foresters. We have all heard the negative reasons as to why foresters do not join SAF; but, let me know what the non-members want, so this can be passed along to the National SAF. With the Executive Board’s assistance, I will be conducting an informal survey as to what and why of the impediments are to the declining membership.

School and Community Forest Certification:

I have had preliminary discussion with Jeremy Solin (Wisconsin School Forest Coordinator) to determine how WI-SAF can promote the WI-School Forest Program and pursue School Forest Certification.

Communication (up, down and sideways):

I want the WI-SAF membership and non-members to know that I am here to receive comments, questions, inquiries, etc... on issues of forestry. If I don’t hear about it, I can’t respond to those issues. I commit myself and the Executive Committee to get information and issues out to the Chapters and membership.



Wisconsin SAF Chair Gary Vander Wyst

I want to promote interaction with other professional organizations. These include, but are not limited to, Wisconsin Arborist Association, Wisconsin Wildlife Society, Wisconsin County Forestry Association, Association of Consulting Foresters, Forest Guild and others. When you’re planning a chapter meeting or it is your turn for a state meeting, consider a joint meeting.

Note of Appreciation:

I wish to thank John DuPlissis for his two years as Chair of WI-SAF. His guidance, leadership and friendship have been invaluable. Welcome to Jim Kerkman as the incoming chair-elect and Julie Peltier as treasurer.

Upcoming Schedule:

See page 9 for a list of upcoming statewide Wisconsin SAF training conferences. Watch our Website at <http://www.wisaf.org/> for details as they become available and plan to attend these excellent training opportunities.

If I can be of service to anyone...call or write:

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c/o Wisconsin DNR, Division of Forestry
875 4th Ave. S.
Park Falls, WI 54552
715-762-1360
Gary.VanderWyst@dnr.state.wi.us

WORDS FROM OUR COUNCIL REP

By Bernie Hubbard CF District 5 Council Representative

The SAF Council held a short meeting after the House of Society Delegates meeting in Fort Worth at the national convention last fall and then met again December 2 – 5 at the SAF national office in Bethesda, MD. I will briefly address several of the issues and items discussed at these meetings.

Fellow nominations

Council made a significant change in the process of Fellow nomination and election. Candidates will be determined by a committee established in each SAF voting district. The committee will consist of at least five fellows, one from each state, multi-state or intrastate society in the District and will include at least one Fellow elected in each of the preceding three decades and include at least one woman Fellow. The Council representative for each voting district shall appoint the initial members of the District Committee to staggered terms of one to five years. In each succeeding year the District Council representative shall appoint a new District Fellows committee member to a term of five years to replace any committee member whose term had just expired. The Committee term will coincide with the calendar year. No Fellow may serve more than one consecutive five-year term.

The District Fellow Committee shall remain continuously active and meet by conference call as necessary. It will seek out potential candidates for Fellow from among the voting District members, compile background information on candidates, evaluate candidate criteria for Fellow and recommend to the Council voting district representative nominees from those found qualified. Each Council voting district representative shall forward completed nomination packages for those being recommended for Fellow to the national SAF office in time for their consideration on the agenda of the meeting at which they are to be acted upon by Council. The SAF Council shall review and act on Fellow nominations at a meeting preceding the annual members meeting.

A Council committee is being formed to finalize the process and provide guidelines and a format that will be used by all voting districts. This process is effective immediately and will be used for the 2006 nomination.

Volunteer Organizational Structure (VOS)

Council spent a considerable amount of time at both meetings discussing and acting on recommendations in the VOS report. Here are the highlights of Council decisions. National office is preparing a detailed summary to be distributed to all members.

- Retain the existing 11 Districts and to continue to hold an annual convention
- A Council Student Representative will be added to the SAF Council as a non-voting member
- A National Student Congress will be established to replace the present National Student Assembly
- Working Groups will remain as Working Groups
- A national committee/task force information area will be established on the SAF website
- The duties and responsibilities of the vice-president and the immediate past-president will change to include direct oversight for all national committees and task forces.

Several other recommendations were passed dealing with national committees and nonstructural issues.

I want to commend all who submitted comments and participated in discussions regarding the VOS report. The input provided by members and the discussions that took place at the House of Society Delegates meeting provided clear direction to me as we deliberated the recommendations at the Council meetings. A complete report on Council actions on the VOS report is available in the members only section on the SAF website.

Foresters Fund

This year's budget will include \$40,000 for Forester Fund grants.

Certified Forester Program

A new Certified Forester Handbook, dated September 2005 was approved. Some of the changes are:

- New Candidate Certified Forester credential
- New inactive policy for CFs in active military service
- Photocopies of college transcripts will no longer be accepted (only original college transcripts)
- A ninety day grace period for submitting both the annual/recertification fees and continuing education.

Details are online at: <http://www.safnet.org/certifiedforester/index.cfm>

Continued on next page: Council Report

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As my first year on the Council ends I look forward with much optimism for the future of SAF. The immense talents and dedication of the volunteer leaders and the professional SAF staff will ensure that we have a healthy future. We have weathered some difficult times with a budget crisis and declining membership. This will be the second year in a row that we have ended on a positive note budget wise. Staff and Council will be undertaking several initiatives to mold an organization that foresters will want to belong to.

SAF now has the opportunity for some forward thinking and will be addressing these questions:

- Who is SAF and what should SAF become?
- What is a forester and what should a forester be?
- Should we include other forest/ natural resource related groups (fish & wildlife, hydrogists, ecologists, range management)?
- Do we need a name change? If so should it be supported by some defining actions? What actions?

An exciting new initiative is the Roots of Forestry™. One hundred years of the Journal of Forestry, Forest Science, The Southern Journal of Applied Forestry, The Northern Journal of Applied Forestry and The Western Journal of Applied Forestry have been archived and will be available on the Web as PDF, every word searchable, and all material prior to 2000 free to SAF members.

At this time an opportunity for face-to-face brainstorming is limited but I would appreciate suggestions on how to act appropriately, think strategically and make the points that best represent SAF's future and yours as a professional forester and a SAF member. Make your views known and take some time to invest some thought into your future and the future of our professional organization. Contact your state chair and me as your Council representative. We can make the best decisions when we receive input and hear from the grass roots of the organization. I am extremely proud to be able to serve as a member of SAF Council and look forward to the next two years.

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SAF Leadership Academy 2005: Building the future of forestry

By Julie Peltier

SAF Leadership Academy participants were from all over the United States and included federal, state, private foresters, forestry students and private landowners with an interest in forestry. It was a good mix of people with varied backgrounds and experiences.

We learned about difference ways to motivate leaders and participants in a session called "Creative Strategies to Motivate Leaders." Topics included taking count of everyone's assets, strengths, talents, trying not to rely on the same people all the time and still get things done using different strategies. A key message: "discover the opportunity hidden in every apparent problem."

The "Boomer, Geeks and Geezers: Leadership Across the Generations" session focused on generation differences – mainly how each generation thinks, their beliefs and values and how they view other generations. The one thing that really impressed me was how the beliefs and values of one generation are repeated (usually skipping a generation).

Before attending the academy, each participant completed a Myers Briggs Type Indicator personality profile, a tool that reflects an individual's preferences. It is a useful and practical tool for achieving an understanding of the differences of others.

In the team leadership portion, we worked on real examples of situations where the leadership needed to come up with ideas to "sell their assets." We also had a session on the organizational structure of SAF. It was interesting to hear the difference state societies and chapters discuss things that were troubling them.

A session on meeting with your legislators encouraged us to be prepared, be direct, make your points and make the connection as to how this issue will affect (benefit or hurt) them and their constituents.

The leadership academy was a very good session to attend. I would like to thank the Wisconsin State SAF Society and the Wisconsin DNR for allowing me to attend. Things learned at the academy will be used in my career and daily life.



Wisconsin School Forests:

Connecting students to forest management and their communities

By Jeremy Solin, Wisconsin School Forest Education Specialist

The Wisconsin school forest program began modestly in 1928 with three parcels in Forest County. The focus of the program at that time was to involve students in replanting Wisconsin's forests. Since then, the program has grown and evolved considerably. Today there are 346 registered school forest parcels in 66 counties covering a total area over 25,000 acres. Now school forests are valued as exceptional outdoor education sites. The focus of the school forest program is to educate students about sustainable forestry, connect students to their natural and human communities, and establish partnerships within the community.

Understanding sustainable forestry

For most students, the school forest will provide the only opportunity to become involved in and understand sustainable forestry. Today's students are our future workers, landowners, leaders, and community members. If we don't engage and educate them as students, there will be few opportunities for them to become educated as adults.

Connecting to place

School forests serve as a focus to connect students to their natural and human communities. A sense of place is essential in creating relevancy in education and assuring that we strive to live well in our place. Much of rural Wisconsin is losing its young people. Although there are many factors that contribute to this, a strong sense of place can prove to be an important consideration in determining where young adults decide to live and work.

Building community partnerships

Mutually beneficial partnerships between schools and businesses can be formed at the school forest. Companies can potentially receive products, future employees, and community supporters. The students receive the benefit of the real world experience and the knowledge-base of community partners.

There are many challenges to districts fully utilizing these valuable resources. One of the greatest is the funding constraints facing many public school districts. Along with federal testing requirements, this is resulting in the elimination of many "non-core" programs (such as school forests, music, agriculture

education). This limits the ability to educate students about and involve them in sustainable forestry. This situation will have consequences in maintaining the health of our natural resources and our communities.

Wisconsin school forests have incredible education value as outdoor environmental education classrooms that connect students to place, demonstrate sustainable natural resource management, and strengthen school and community relations. Loggers can help school forests by getting involved with districts' environmental education programs and by supporting efforts to address funding constraints.

The statewide school forest program is coordinated by the LEAF (Learning, Experiences, & Activities in Forestry) Program's school forest education specialist. The position and the LEAF program are a partnership between the DNR – Division of Forestry and the Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education in the College of Natural Resources at UW–Stevens Point. Funding is provided by a surcharge on seedlings sales from the state nursery program.

About the author: Jeremy Solin is the statewide school forest coordinator with the LEAF program. He grew up in the Antigo area working in the family logging business. He received a bachelor's degree in water resources from UW-Stevens Point and a master's degree in education from the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He has worked in a variety of positions in Minnesota, Oregon, and Wisconsin focusing on helping students and the public understand sustainable natural resource management.



To learn more about school forests and LEAF (Learning, Experiences, & Activities in Forestry - Wisconsin's K-12 forestry education program), visit <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/leaf/>

CHAPTER REPORTS

Southeast

By Jeff Kante

Outgoing chair Julie Peltier was honored for her work with a plaque and a small gift at our December 9th meeting. We thank Julie for her hard work and wish her well as the new state treasurer. The topic of financial assistance to the student chapters was discussed at great length. Due to small chapter size and limited funds it was agreed to assist individuals from the chapter area on a case by case basis.

The site and topics of future meetings were discussed in an effort to get greater attendance. Events ranged from touring the Menominee Tribal Forest possibly as a joint tour with another chapter to a brewery tour or a tour of the newly constructed replica of the Great Lakes sailing ship "Denis Sullivan."

The 2006 Chapter Executive Meeting was held January 13th at the Pike Lake DNR office. Calendar events for the year were set. The chapter plans to staff the SAF exhibit at the Ag Venture program at the Wisconsin State Fair.

On May 3, the chapter hosted a "Walk in the Woods" with the Parkview Elementary school from Plymouth, WI. The event was held at a local park which featured a small ski area and hardwood forest. Outfitted with cold lunches and several parents, the forty students hiked from their school to a small log cabin hut at the top of the ski run. The students were then divided into four groups. Each group rotated through four stations staffed by SAF members. The station topics were plant identification, forest measurements, compass and forest products. The day long program ended with each student receiving a bag of Smokey Bear gifts before returning to school.

The chapter agreed to purchase scale model logging equipment and create a display featuring modern logging. A committee has been formed to create the display which could be used along with the new SAF display. Future plans include attending the Kettle Moraine Chapter of Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association annual meeting using the display at a booth. The southeast SAF chapter will also be requesting funds from the state to help create the logging equipment display.

Mid-Wisconsin

By Bob Fisher

The Mid-Wisconsin Chapter is preparing the June 7-8, 2006 State Meeting at the Mead Inn in Wisconsin Rapids. The topic will be ash (*Fraxinus* spp.). There will be presentations on ash silvics and silviculture, ash genetics and gene pool preservation, commercial uses, ash's role in the urban and community forest, the Native American view of ash, diseases and insect pests of ash (other than Emerald Ash Borer), and of course Emerald Ash Borer considerations. The agenda and registration form are posted on the Wisconsin SAF Website at http://www.wisaf.org/meeting_themes.htm (you'll need to have Microsoft Word installed on your computer to open the document).

We exhibited the SAF display board at the Wisconsin Arborists Association (WAA) annual meeting in February at Green Bay. About 600 arborists and other tree care people attended this meeting. The display was in a prominent location and received many visits. Thanks to fellow WAA/SAF members Jeff Kante and Rich Hauer for making this display a success at an important meeting of a sister tree organization.. The WAA president will be speaking at the SAF meeting.

Southwest

By Teague Prichard

The leadership team changed for the Southwest Chapter in January 2006. Ray Guries and Mark Heyde revived the chapter over the past two years and developed and implemented two statewide meetings and numerous local chapter meetings. One of the most notable accomplishments was hosting a successful statewide meeting focusing on High Conservation Value Forests. Teague Prichard (WDNR), Richard Valigura (Integrated Forest management LLC) and Paul Pingrey will continue the work of the chapter in 2006.



Chippewa

By Jay Gallagher and Matt Riederer

The 2006 Chippewa Chapter officers are: Chair Jay Gallagher, Chair-elect Chad Morgan, Program Chair Amy Morales, Secretary / Treasurer Richard Strauss, Membership Chair Jerry Van Cleve, Historian Will Kiefer and Communications Chair: Matt Riederer.

USDA Forest Service Plant Pathologist, Manfred Mielke spoke on "Oak Wilt in Wisconsin" at our February 7 chapter meeting. Manfred was both a very informative and entertaining speaker and the 19 attendees seemed to enjoy his presentation.

Last October, the chapter met near Washburn. The meeting topic was how to use fire for site preparation and natural regeneration. This was done through a tour of actual burn sites in the Chequamegon National Forest. Fire always draws a crowd, and this was no exception.

The meeting was well attended by foresters of all disciplines, with some coming from as far as Minocqua (see group photo below). Jerry Jaskowiak, Washburn District FMO, and Robert Raade, Washburn District Silviculturalist, led the tour highlighting how the Washburn Ranger District uses fire to promote the natural regeneration of oak, and to accomplish site preparation for planting Eastern White Pine beneath



Strong winds and high fuel beds can lead to crown scorch.

Red Pine. A variety of sites were visited highlighting both positive and negative aspects of fire. At one site fire was used successfully to remove slash and brush prior to underplanting. But success is not a sure thing when dealing with an element as unpredictable as fire. Other sites did not meet the objectives called for in their prescriptions and burn plans. At one the fire did not burn as hot as desired; and at another the fire burned too hot. All of this illustrated to the group that fire can be used as an effective management tool, but that it takes much skill and a little cooperation from weather in order to be safe and successful.

Northeast

By Brian Spencer

Congratulations to our new officers: Chair Elect Terry Strong, and Secretary/Treasurer Tom Shockley. Although he stepped down from the chair position, Dave Czysz is taking active roles in chapter committees. On January 17, Terry Strong, Tom Shockley, Tom Lovelin, Mike Lietz, Dave Czysz, Bill Klase, Tom Albrecht, Roberta Kunzman, Mark Huempfer and Brian Spencer met to plan chapter activities. They agreed that our upcoming sessions should focus on science based programs that involve stewardship of the resource with hands-on applicability to foresters.

The chapter will be meeting on Thursday, June 1 for a program on using GPS technology. This will be from 9:30 to 3 p.m. followed by GPS and fGIS demonstrations at the Indian Springs Lodge at the Northern Lights Casino in Carter, WI. The meeting fee ((\$15 for members and \$20 for nonmembers) includes lunch and morning refreshments. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Tom Shockley at 715-358-9259.

Thanks to the planning committee, plans for the 2007 state meeting are underway. It will be March 6-8, 2007 at the Stoney Creek Inn in Wausau. The topic will be soil compaction and rutting.



Chippewa Chapter members and friends enjoyed an afternoon in the Chequamegon last October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Continuing Forestry Education

By Jerry Van Cleve, CF

The *CFE Handbook* is being revised. The national office is bringing the Continuing Forestry Education program in line with the *International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET)*, due to increased importance of certification to various state licensure boards.

Highlights:

- IACET has 7 criteria that an educational event must satisfy. Most are items we require anyway, but two criteria are new to us: Criterion 6 requires *post-event evaluation* (tests?) to ensure that educational objectives were met, and Criterion 7 requires that *attendance records* be submitted to the national office (registration receipts or signed list of attendees).
- A provider requesting CFE evaluation for an event must submit a “*CFE Course Approval Request*” form and an *agenda* to the CFE Coordinator at least *three weeks prior* to the activity. The provider must use standard wording on brochure or other promotional material to promote CFE credit hours to participants.
- A provider may *appeal* to the national office if they think their event was improperly evaluated for CFE content.
- *Third-party submission* of CFE credits will be allowed under certain conditions. This means the provider submits attendance records directly to the national office, relieving individuals of the need to submit their own hours.
- New rules for figuring CFE hours—(1) Rounding rules are changed. Previously, *each block* of qualifying time was rounded down to the last half-hour. Now, all qualifying minutes are added for the entire day or days, and *only the final total* is rounded. (2) There are now *two ways to evaluate field sessions*. Previously, these went at a 3:1 ratio of contact hours to CFE credits. However, if field session involves “intensive hands-on training,” a 1:1 ratio may be used.

- CFE Coordinators will be responsible for adding events to the *on-line calendar*, and sending supporting documents to the national office.
- The Committee on Continuing Forestry Education will annually conduct random *audits* on applications and agendas reviewed by CFE coordinators.

Requirements:

- **Outstanding Professional Development Certificate** - 150 CFE hours in a 3-year period. (\$25 fee for SAF members, \$40 for non-members)
- **SAF Certified Forester** - B.S. + 5 years experience + written exam + 60 CFE hours every 3 years. (\$260 fee initially, \$35 annually, \$50 for 3rd-year re-certification [higher fees for non-SAF members])

Details available at SAF web site (www.safnet.org) or contact me at 715-264-2511 or jvanclave@fs.fed.us

Upcoming education opportunities:

“Ash Management: Will You Be Kissing Your Fraximus Goodbye?”

June 7-8, 2006

Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids
Hosted by the Mid-Wisconsin SAF Chapter
<http://www.wisaf.org/calendar.htm>

“Advances in Principles and Practices of Oak Silviculture and Genetics”

September 24-27, 2006

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point
Co-hosted with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)
<http://www.uwsp.edu/forestry/oak2006/>

Our Woods: Wild and Working

National SAF Conference
October 25-29, 2006
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
<http://www.safnet.org/natcon-06/index.cfm>

Soil Compaction and Rutting
March 6-8, 2007

Stoney Creek Inn, Wausau
Hosted by the Northeast Wisconsin SAF Chapter

Membership

By David J. Czynsz

Wisconsin SAF ended 2005 with 473 members (compared to 506 at the end of 2004). The Fox Valley Chapter maintained their membership at 36, while our other chapters ended 2005 with less than last year. There was only one other year in the past ten which ended with fewer members – 472 in 1999. With this low point I am hopeful that, by the end of 2006, we will pull ourselves back up over 500 as we have in the past. It will take effort by all of us to remind delinquent members to send in their dues and to encourage non-members to join.



consider joining. If they were already a member, they were also handed an application and asked to encourage a non-member to join. I lost count of how many I handed out and I look forward to seeing some of them as new members. If you have questions about membership, contact David Czynsz via phone 715-550-4668 or e-mail david.czynsz@storaenso.com

Left: Membership chair Dave Czynsz (right side of photo) hands out SAF membership applications.

Below: SAF member Tom Albrecht (on left of photo) taps the beer at the DNR Statewide Training Conference.

Nationally, there were 15,363 members at the end of 2005 compared to 15,656 the end of 2004. This drop of 293 members is much less than the 639 members the previous year. This may be a sign that the membership decline is slowing down and will soon turn around. Again, this can only happen with your help.

Let's welcome the following who joined or transferred in since the last newsletter. Chippewa Chapter: Edmond Packee, Jason Evans, Andrew Sorenson; Mid-Wisconsin Chapter: Gerald Crow, Samuel Osinde, Dennis Hutchison; Northeast Wisconsin Chapter: Thomas Salzmann, Richard LaValley, Adam DeBauch, Chad Schmitz; Southeast Wisconsin: Joel Kennedy, William Gardner; Southwestern Wisconsin Chapter: Chris Risbrudt, Rachel Collins, Peter Kinsman; UW-Madison Student Chapter: Ryan Peaslee, Jason Jones, Alexia Sabor, Kristin Shy; UW-Stevens Point Student Chapter: Kyle Gunderson, Ross Langham, Katherine Mylan, Andrew Noth, Nicholas Jensen, Keith O'Herrin, Heather Prey, Matthew Sedelbauer, Adam Tlachac, Christine Martin, Frances Casey, Timothy White, Nathan Gilbert, Kenneth Price, Marcus Seevers.

We have already had one membership drive this year. I accompanied the SAF display to the DNR Division of Forestry biennial statewide training meeting in Appleton on January 31. Along with the display, Wisconsin SAF sponsored two half barrels of beer for the social hour after the meeting, at which time I was handing out membership applications. If the person was not a member SAF they were encouraged to



Foresters' Fund

By Jeff Barkley

The Foresters' Fund is available to assist local SAF units in achieving the goals of the Society. Goals of the fund are to promote education to enhance public understanding of the role of professional foresters in forest resource management, strengthen state societies, divisions, and chapters in achieving the mission of the society and conduct forest policy activities. National is offering \$40,000 this year. The next deadline is June 15 for regular grants of \$1500 or less. June 15 is also the deadline for projects totaling \$1501 - \$5000. The State Society may also have opportunities for funding. Contact me at 608-264-9217 or Jeffrey.Barkley@dnr.state.wi.us for more information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communications

By Jim Kerkman

The Wisconsin SAF display has a new, updated look and is available for members to use at any event where they would like to promote the society or forestry in general. The present configuration is aimed at recruiting new members but the content can be changed to fit any audience. Different photos or wording can be attached with Velcro-style fasteners to customize the display for a particular audience. The new SAF logo from the national office replaced the older SAF shield on the lighted sign. Those of you who remembered watching the “Waltons” on television in the early to mid-1970’s, might miss the main poster showing “Pa Walton” (actor Ralph Waite) advocating forest management. This poster will spend some time



in the Forestry Hall of Fame before making it to the SAF archives. Until it is determined who will be in charge of the display, you can make arrangements to borrow it from John DuPlissis at 715-346-4128 or john.duplissis@uwsp.edu. The display is in storage at the College of Natural Resources at Stevens Point.

NRCS Committee

Miles Benson represents Wisconsin SAF on the state technical committee of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). He reports that the NRCS forestry sub committee had its first meeting on March 13. Benson says, “The objective of this newly-formed committee is to get the forest aspects of the NRCS back to its proper place in the management of lands and waters in the state.”

NRCS programs that can have a role in supporting forest management include the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) and many others. Benson asks for input as he represents us on this committee. He suggests that foresters dealing with private land owners visit the NRCS website at www.nrcs.usda.gov/ and check out the opportunities and suggest ways they fit for your projects.

“The results of this effort won’t show up until the next farm bill, which is coming fast,” Benson added. Share your suggestions with Miles Benson via phone (715-423-4203) or e-mail: mkjdbens@charter.net

Policy Committee

By Bob Mather

The Wisconsin Legislature passed the following bills relating to forestry this session:

AB 7 - WI SAF supported this bill removing the requirement under the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program that the minimum number of contiguous acres required for enrollment be located within a single municipality.

AB 254 – WI SAF supported the Healthy Forest Initiative that provides new authorities to the DNR’s Chief State Forester, requiring consultation with him / her on the development, review, or implementation of a management plan for all forest land under jurisdiction of the DNR. It also requires the Chief State Forester to manage emergencies that threaten state forest land, except those declared emergencies by the Governor.

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It does not supersede the Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection's authority to declare and manage emergencies relating to the detection and control of pests injurious to plants. Administrative rules are required to specify the emergencies over which the Chief State Forester has management responsibility. This legislation also requires reporting and accountability on state land management. It mandates DNR to establish annual allowable timber harvests for DNR properties, maintain an inventory of forest resources, and report to the Council on Forestry and standing committees in each house of the legislature. It also requires reporting by the Council on Forestry should DNR reports indicate timber harvest levels are outside of established sideboards. It also gives DNR authority to establish rules to allow for the use of cooperating consultant foresters on state land timber harvests and to pay them out of the proceeds of such sales.

AB 678 - WI SAF did not testify on this bill that would allow trucks with six or more axles carrying raw forest products to carry 98,000 lbs year round, not just during frozen road declarations. It would also require mills purchasing wood by weight scales to retain scale slips allow law enforcement to view the scale slips for up to 30 days.

AB 810 - WI SAF registered in support of this bill that provides the authorization for an additional member to the Council on Forestry representing the U.S. Forest Service. See a full list of the Council members online at <http://wisconsinforestry.org/council.php>

AB 1012 – WI SAF registered in support of this bill that authorizes the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands (BCPL) to sell certain lands to the DNR. The purchase will be paid for by the Warren Knowles – Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program. The BCPL has targeted approximately 12,000 acres of scattered lands with high ecological value for possible sale.

I participated on a National SAF Policy Chairs conference call on March 22. If you have any feedback about state or national forest policy issues, you can contact me at 608-266-1727 or robert.mather@dnr.state.wi.us.

Visit <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/> for additional information about any of these bills.

Out-of-state firewood prohibited

At their March meeting, the Natural Resources Board passed an emergency rule to prohibit firewood originating from outside Wisconsin from entering properties managed by the department. This measure was taken as Wisconsin is faced with the very real threat of becoming the next state to discover the emerald ash borer (EAB) within its borders. This beetle commonly moves around on firewood and, as a result, parks and campgrounds have been sites of new introductions. EAB has already killed nearly 15 million trees in southeast Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Ontario, Canada. In September of 2005, it was discovered at a state park in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Prohibiting firewood from out-of-state sources will help prevent introduction of EAB into our state parks and forests from which they could spread to private lands and communities.

Ash trees, the target of the EAB, account for 30% of trees in Wisconsin cities and towns and there are approximately 717 million white, green and black ash trees in Wisconsin forests. There currently are no methods of managing EAB in the forest situation. In order to buy time for the development of management tools and prevent elimination of ash from our urban and rural forests by this pest, it is important to slow the spread of emerald ash borer from areas where it is established.

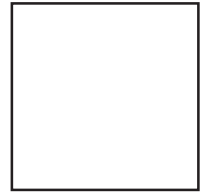
These are the messages that DNR is communicating to campers coming to state properties this year:

- If you're a camper from outside Wisconsin, don't bring firewood with you. It may be confiscated and, in some cases, you could be violating a federal law that forbids moving wood of any kind out of your county of residence. If you have firewood with you that was purchased in Wisconsin, have a receipt ready to show proof of that purchase. If you're a camper from Wisconsin, only use firewood from a Wisconsin source.
- Use firewood purchased at or near your destination. Don't leave any unused wood behind and don't take it with you to another destination. When buying firewood, make sure you receive pieces that are dry.

DNR is informing non-resident campers of the firewood restriction via messages to campers who have reservations, a radio ad campaign in the Chicago market and a firewood hotline: 1-877-303-WOOD (9663).



Wisconsin Society of American Foresters
1900 Franklin Street
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481



Wisconsin SAF Responds to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

Wisconsin Society of American Foresters sent a total of \$3,630 to our southern colleagues in the aftermath of the devastating hurricanes last year. The Mid-Wisconsin and Northeast Wisconsin Chapters added to the state society donation of \$3,000. The money was split evenly between the Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana SAF Societies. Our donations were used to help support student SAF members in those states. These forestry students who had lost everything due to the hurricanes were very thankful for our support to help them continue in their studies.

In addition to the upheaval of so many human lives, the hurricanes had a tremendous impact on the forest resource in those states. According to early estimates prepared by the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) unit of the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station, potential timber losses from Hurricane Katrina amount to roughly 4.2 billion cubic feet of timber (15-19 billion board feet), spread over 5 million acres of light to heavily damaged forest land in Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. One-third of the timber damaged was concentrated in 8 counties of southern Mississippi. Nearly 90 percent of all forests damaged were within 60 miles of the coast, predominantly in Mississippi. Nearly 60 percent of the damage occurred to softwoods - predominantly pines - with the remainder of the damage occurring to hardwoods. According to the Forest Service, down and damaged wood is sufficient to produce 800,000 single family homes and 25 million tons of paper and paperboard. The impact of Katrina's winds resulted in the destruction of an average of 20 percent of the timber that was standing in the damaged area prior to the storm, with rates in areas near the coast as high as 35-40 percent. This compares to an average loss of about 11 percent for Hurricane Camille which followed an almost identical landfall in 1969 and Hurricane Andrew with a 10 percent loss in southern Louisiana in 1992. Scientists at the research station have conducted systematic surveys of the region's forests for over 70 years. Data from historic FIA surveys were compared with Katrina's storm track data and FIA models based on historic hurricane damage to estimate the extent and amount of damage.