



Letter from the Chair

12/2/20

Hello,

My name is Anthony Rynish and I am the chairman for the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters (SAF). I will be working to get out announcements or updates about Wisconsin SAF to the membership, either monthly or every other month, in what I am calling "A letter from the Chair." Here are the announcements;

Celebrating Ralph Swanson

With all the challenges and changes that 2020 has brought to all of us, one thing that remained the same was our ability to celebrate the achievements of one another. Yes, we had to change how we gathered to celebrate, but we still celebrated!

Ralph Swanson gave Wisconsin SAF many reasons to celebrate this past year. In May, we celebrated with Ralph his 100th birthday, a great milestone for anyone. Then, in August, Ralph's years of service as a forester were acknowledged as he was inducted into the Forestry Hall of Fame.

We have one last thing to celebrate with Ralph, and that is the celebration of his life. On November 3, 2020 Ralph was called home by his heavenly father to tend the forests of heaven.

Ralph left a great legacy as a family man, veteran and forester. You can read more about Ralph's life in his obituary;
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/wisconsinrapidstribune/obituary.aspx?pid=197087295>

Please remember Ralph and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Annual Business Meeting for the State Society

On Friday December 4, 2020 at 9 a.m. a virtual annual business meeting for the State Society will be held. At this meeting you will be able to hear from members of Wisconsin SAF's executive board members. Wisconsin SAF's executive board members will be reviewing 2020 and informing members about plans for 2021.

This is also a great opportunity for members to provide feedback Wisconsin SAF's executive board. We are here to serve you, the members of Wisconsin SAF, and your feedback is very important for us to be able to do that.

SAF Membership Renewal

With all the trials and tribulations 2020 has brought, renewing your SAF membership may not be a priority for you at this time. If that is the case my advice to you is take care of yourself, your family and those closest to you first. Whether you are able to renew your membership now, or need to wait, Wisconsin SAF will always be here for you.

Tree Trivia

Tree Trivia is something new I have added to the letter. It is a combination of forestry/tree knowledge and current events. See how you do!

What species is the 2020 White House Christmas? What is the name of the tree farm that provided the 2020 White House Christmas tree and in what state is that tree farm located?

Happy Holidays!

Wisconsin SAF would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We greatly appreciate all your support over the past year and look forward to serving you in 2021!

Respectfully,

Anthony Rynish
Chairman, Wisconsin SAF