

**NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS**  
**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Radisson Hotel**  
**Burlington, Vermont**  
**March 23, 1999**

**Introductory.** Chair Bob Ricard opened the meeting at 5:25 PM. A count of attendees was made and a quorum declared. There were 49 in attendance. He introduced himself and members of the Executive Committee and new officers. Ricard reviewed antitrust requirements.

**SAF Executive Vice-President Comments.** Bill Banzaf and Jim Coufal talked about the SAF Mission Statement and its focus on education, standards, competency, and professionalism. They turned the meeting over to the audience and asked, "What should SAF be doing to make it a successful organization? What can we do for you?" Phil Bryce asked if position statements were being updated. Charlie Levesque mentioned the Federal Lands Task Force Report. Jim Coufal mentioned that SAF was supporting the effort to shorten the length between FIA inventories. SAF came out against the Roads moratorium. Jim said that we are on top of policy issues and that the media and others are calling SAF for input. Craig MacLean said people in Maine are concerned about Federal ownership of forestland. Bill Banzaf responded that Maine should take a position if it likes, as long as it is not contrary to national SAF positions. Russ Reay said SAF interaction over an issue with other organizations doesn't get reported much. We need to toot our own horn more. He said he is bothered by the wood utilization slant being pushed. Bill responded that we're a diverse organization and that's very important. Leo Laferriere mentioned the Southeast SAF view that SAF is taking an inappropriate direction over membership voting and are threatening to secede and form a new group. Charlie responded that there was common ground on the issue as far as student core competencies go. Bill Banzaf talked about accreditation standards and the Forester licensing program being tied to core competencies. Jim said we have a lot to be proud of as an organization. Bill said we all have more in common than meets the eye and that we need to come together as a unit, not separate parts. He also said the Forests for Humanity project is a perfect opportunity to help people in need. SAF has a goal to build 100 houses for the Centennial and said he would like New England to build 10 of these.

**Minutes.** Minutes of the 1998 Annual Business Meeting were offered for review. Charlie Thompson moved to accept the minutes as presented and was seconded by Mike Flemming. The motion unanimously passed.

**Financial Report.** David Maass reviewed the 1998 Summary Report and reminded all that it was a cash flow budget. Hans Bergey made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Charlie Levesque seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Bob Ricard said the 1997 Budget was not needed and was dropped from the report. Chair Bob Ricard went onto discuss the issue of the Administrative Director position. With much discussion and careful consideration the Executive Committee had voted not to hire an Administrative Director and have a Fiscal Committee appointed to study the ability to hire one. Bob pointed out that the budget couldn't be balanced with the position added this year (1999). He said the basic source of revenue is dues and Winter Meeting returns. It is distressing that we don't have money to fund the position. Leo Laferriere said we would take an in-depth look at the financial situation of NESAF and what it can afford and the Executive Committee will have that information by early summer. David Maass pointed out that people on the Executive Committee would pick up the Administrative Director's duties. Craig MacLean asked, after study, what is process of voting or schedule or time frame involved? Bob Ricard said we don't know. We will need to look at revenue and expense sources. The last dues increase was in 1985 and was very divisive. We have had a decline in membership and an increase in costs. Russ Reay said the Executive Committee was very cautious in their deliberations and we should support

their decision not to hire an Administrative Director. Craig MacLean made a motion to accept the decision not to hire an Administrative Director this year and study the ability to hire one. Karen Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Russ Reay made a motion to accept the 1999 Proposed Revision and Jane Difley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Tim Hawley asked about the \$1000 increase in dues. Bob Ricard responded that less money was received in 1998 dues are arriving later during 1999. Bob reviewed the 2000 Proposed Budget, which includes a \$750 donation for the Gifford Pinchot monument at his birthplace in Simsbury, CT. Bob described the dedication and ceremony plans for August 11, 2000, the funding required, and ownership by SAF. Charlie Thompson made a motion to accept the 2000 Proposed Budget as is. Jane Difley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

**Executive Director Report.** None was given.

**NESAF 2000 Centennial Report.** Charlie Thompson said the theme would be "The Past, The Present, and The Future". And would be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Lowell, MA. Charlie said they are looking for visionary speakers to talk about the future. He said there were many on the Program Committee. A \$78 room rate was negotiated with the hotel.

**Publications Revised.** The 1965, *NESAF History* was going to be revised and reissued. Bob Ricard is leading this effort. Also, the 1970, *New England History of Forestry* is being revised by Charlie Thompson. All 2000 Winter Meeting registrants will receive a free copy of each. The Centennial Liaison is Cynthia Wood who is communicating with Divisions about Centennial activities. The Centennial Ball would be tongue-in-cheek.

**Policy Report.** Charlie Thompson reported that the NESAF Policy Committee was up and crawling. It has been charged with developing a position statement on National Forest Management Policy and the National Forest vs. National Park issue for the White Mountains National Forest.

**News Quarterly Report.** Gary Salmon said the magazine is a reflection of what we do as foresters. Several correspondents have left and been replaced by the following: Ray Toolon-VT, Jennifer MacDonald-MA, Mark Johnson-ME, and Jody Rollins-CT.

**Resolution.** Executive Director, Dick Watt made a resolution on the passing of 8 NESAF members during the past year.

*Whereas death has claimed the lives of:*

*Barton M. Blum of East Holden, Maine*

*Anthony P. Dean of East Taunton, MA*

*Philip A. Fulton of Grand Mere, Province of Quebec, Canada*

*Sharon Ossenbruggenn of Durham, NH*

*Arnold D. Rhodes of Amherst, MA*

*Noel K. Sheldon of North Hero, VT*

*Wilbur E. Thompson of Pembroke, NH*

*Harold D. Young of Orono, Maine.*

*Resolved that New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Burlington, Vermont on March 23, 1999 recognizes with deep appreciation the participation, support, and dedication of the lives of these members. We honor their contribution to this Society, our profession, and society at large .*

A moment of silence followed.

**Division & Chapter Reports.** The following people gave division and Chapter reports:

Craig MacLean - Maine  
Hans Bergey - Rhode Island  
Tom O'Shea - Massachusetts  
Peter Farrell - New Hampshire  
Jonathan Wood - Vermont  
Bud Sanders - Connecticut

**Adjournment.** Craig MacLean moved to adjourn the meeting. David Maass seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Stewart  
NESAF Secretary