



## **New England State Society of American Foresters Annual Business Meeting, Tuesday, April 4, 2006**

LOCATION: Sheraton Tara Hotel, Nashua, New Hampshire

**TIME: Noon to 1:30 p.m.**

### **1. Call to Order (Ken M. Laustsen, NESAF Chair)**

- Antitrust Statement
- Introductions – NESAF Executive Committee members
- Resolution on the passing and remembrance of 7 NESAF members during the past year:  
Whereas death has claimed the lives of:

Frederick J. Dorr

Eugene Moore

J. Wilcox “Will” Brown

John L. Hartranft, Jr.

Norwood W. “Woody” Olmsted

James H. “Jim” Patric

Austin H. Wilkins

Be it resolved that New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Nashua, New Hampshire on April 4, 2006 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.

- Add/Adjust agenda: none suggested
- Corrections/Additions and motion for the minutes of the March 16, 2005 Annual Business Meeting, South Portland, Maine (Toolan/Kittredge): [Motion to accept meeting minutes as presented from Brad Wyman and accepted by Paul Dolan. Unanimously passed.](#)

### **2. NESAF Chair Report ( Ken M. Laustsen, NESAF Chair)**

Ken reviewed the status of the NESAF History Project and a project designed by Charlie Thompson. Two reports (History of the New England Section Society of American Foresters, Forest History Committee, 1965 and “A Half Century of Forestry, New England Section, 1920-1970) will be added to the website. The project will combine these 2 publications into one in an attempt to have the final project available at the 2007 NESAF Winter Meeting. A new piece that covers the period 1970-2005 will be created by volunteer authors from each state. Potential distribution of the final product of this project is targeted for the NESAF Winter Meeting 2007.

A recent NESAF Executive Committee grant proposal focused on developing a retreat that is scheduled to occur June 6<sup>th</sup> 2006. The goal of this retreat is to create a white paper that describes the information that foresters will need to know and the tasks that foresters will need to be able to accomplish in the year 2020. Funds have been made available through the SAF Forester Fund.

The newly modified NESAF Webpage design was shown to the membership within a PowerPoint presentation. The NESAF Executive Committee goal is to launch the new website in June 2006 along with a supporting article in the NESAF June issue of the News Quarterly.

The Chair called the membership's attention to a line item within the NESAF budget that is designed to sponsor 1 person from each state to attend the Leadership Academy. If funds are available, multiple individuals from a single state may be sponsored by NESAF.

The New Horizons Project was described to the membership as it was recently presented to the NESAF Executive Committee. The goal of this circum-polar forestry project is to create a sister region with the Tomsk region in Russia, share problems and solutions and create a network of forest community support. The USDA participated in the past in similar projects; a model exists for this type of a project.

The Certified Foresters Program is going through a time of change and transition. Membership questions about the Certified Foresters Program can be forwarded to Carol Redelsheimer.

### **3. SAF Council Report (Leo Laferriere)**

Leo's term will expire at the end of 2006 and the deadline for the Council Representative nominations will be June 1, 2006. The nominations for the Field Forester Award will be due to Leo on or before May 31, 2006.

Leo presented the following positive financial news: (a) The Foresters' Fund has been fully restored, with a current balance of \$1,304,000 invested. This progress was accomplished through a transfer of funds from the General Fund, with the idea that it would be made up for through reduced expenses. The Foresters' Fund is now whole and will be managed in accordance with investment guidelines approved by Council. (b) At its' March meeting, Council approved a proposal from Merrill Lynch to act as the investment advisor for the Fund. The Foresters' Fund is in excellent order to move ahead from this point in time. The Fund is well positioned to accomplish its original purpose of providing revenue as a source of project grants to the SAF membership. (c) The Endowment Fund retains a balance of \$656,000. Council has approved investment guidelines and will soon be considering an advisor for that Fund. (d) And, SAF finished the year with a balance of \$265,000 over expenses. Together with unrealized gains on investments of \$46,000, SAF's change in net assets for the year is \$311,000. Financial strength is building, due to focused and much appreciated management on the part of everyone involved.

[Gibb Dodge offered a motion that NESAF should congratulate Council for its efforts relative to this positive fiscal condition of National SAF's management. Mike Sikora seconded the motion. The question was called and passed unanimously.](#)

During the next year, SAF will review a variety of ways to more effectively serve members. Forestry continues to change and the jobs that professionals perform are evolving. SAF wants to become more relevant to the changing needs of the current SAF members and to successfully recruit new SAF members. SAF will contact and engage members and non-members through focus groups and surveys. From this, SAF will work to better tailor member benefits and messages to effectively serve the membership and enhance communication with the public. SAF will keep members informed as this process develops.

President Marvin Brown is concerned that a US policy in support of sustainable forests does not exist despite the presence of a host of issues that affect sustainability. He feels a core policy in support of sustainable forests could be the impetus for looking at new, more effective models for government involvement and actions that adequately address these issues and concerns. Council approved the formation of a collaborative SAF and National Association of State Foresters effort that will: (a) examine the desirability of a US policy, (b) develop supporting data and (c) create hypothetical scenarios that will illustrate governance models. A detailed strategy will then be prepared that describes how the forester community will develop an understanding, acceptance and support for these ideas among the general public, forestry interests and policy makers. Other potential collaborators may be considered for this cooperative project.

Comment from the Membership: This is the 1<sup>st</sup> positive financial report from the National Office that the membership has heard for a long time. Leo's contributions as Council Representative have been recognized. When can Leo's term start again as NESAF's Council Representative?

#### **4. Treasurer's Report, 2006 Proposed Revision & 2007 Proposed Budget (Larry Rousseau, NESAF Treasurer)**

Larry summarized the status of the 2006 Income, including one change in which NESAF receiving \$3000 from the Forester Fund.

Larry explained 2007 Expense line item changes, including (a) the postage for News Quarterly has been increased to \$4000 dollars (b) the National meeting travel has been decreased \$500 and (c) the 2006 grants funds have not been spent yet.

Larry summarized and explained the details of the Net Worth Report.

[Brad Wyman moved to accept both the Treasurer's Report and the Proposed Budget as presented.](#)  
[Jane Difley seconded the motion. The motion was called and passed unanimously.](#)

Questions from the membership were related to the \$25,308 account funds (that represent proceeds from the 1995 National Meeting). NESAF uses the interest from this CD to fund NESAF's internal grants program. NESAF continues to fund grants through this process. The membership suggested that NESAF Executive Committee discuss and re-evaluate the investment strategies. Should the funds remain invested? After the EC evaluates this process, the EC has been asked to bring its conclusion back to the membership at the next Winter Meeting or perhaps with a report from the EC within an issue of the News Quarterly. Alternatively a "Chair Letter" could cover this discussion. The NESAF Web page also represents an opportunity to present this information. It was suggested that it would probably take a vote of membership to change the current process of investing the funds and spending the interest on grants.

#### **5. Forest Science Technology (Laura Kenefic, Forest Science Coordinator)**

The NH program committee was congratulated for this 2006 Winter Meeting Program. Laura reminded all NESAF Winter Meeting attendees to participate in working group meetings at 8am Wednesday.

Laura compiles the theme section of News Quarterly and invites all NESAF members to submit theme suggestions and materials (to Laura).

## **6. NESAF News Quarterly (Brad Wyman, NQ Editor)**

Brad predicts that there will be a one-week delay in the distribution of the April 2006 NQ. This delay will allow Brad enough time to incorporate materials from this 2006 Winter Meeting into the issue. Brad always welcomes comments from the NESAF membership as one method to improve the members' News Quarterly.

## **7. 2007 NESAF Winter Meeting Status (Russell Reay, General Chair)**

The 2007 Winter Meeting has been scheduled for March 20-22, 2007 at Lake Morley Inn, Fairlee VT. The entire resort will be reserved for NESAF activities. Other committee members include Mark Twery, Program Chair and Ed O'Leary, Arrangements Chair. The theme has not yet been established for next year's Winter Meeting.

## **8. 2008 NESAF & NYSAF Joint State Society Winter Meeting Status (Jerry Milne, Yankee Div Chair)**

The 2008 NESAF Winter Meeting will be co-hosted by NYSAF and the Yankee Division SAF. Jerry polled the membership in an effort to determine their willingness to attend a summer meeting. The concept of a summer meeting was not well received. A February Winter Meeting seemed to represent the best time period for the membership. The location for the 2008 joint NESAF & NYSAF Winter Meeting has not been established. Suggested locations included: Lake George, Saratoga Springs, Syracuse, and Albany, NY; Burlington, VT, Sturbridge, Springfield and Pittsfield, MA. Saratoga Springs was well received by the membership.

## **9. State Reports (by Past/Current Division/Chapter Chairs)**

**CT SAF 2005 Report (Bill Bentley):** The Connecticut Chapter designed and held three (3) meetings during 2005. (1) January Annual Meeting at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. The program focused on landscape perspectives and Professor Robert Thorenson led a tour of local rock walls after his talk. (2) June Field Meeting at the DEP Session's Woods facility. The presentations and discussions concerned wetland and upland management for wildlife. The themes for CT SAF summer meeting generally are broad to attract other professions, town planners, and others interested in forests. Over half the attendees were from outside SAF. (3) October Field Meeting at the DEP Goodwin Forest Conservation Center, which is adjacent to the Goodwin State Forest. Steve Broderick and Fred Borman led the group through the management history of James Goodwin and Pine Acres Forest, which began in 1915. They also guided tours through the current and future demonstration areas within the Goodwin properties.

In addition, CT SAF co-sponsored the first Connecticut Forest Conservation Forum on November 30, 2005. More than 200 representatives from diverse backgrounds and interests attended.

The 2005 past officers were Tim Hawley, Chair, Bill Bentley, Vice Chair, and Chris Fox, Secretary/ Treasurer. During 2006, Bill moved to Chair and Tim to Past Chair. Joan Nichols was elected Vice Chair, and Jim Pronovost was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

The 2006 meetings began with the Annual Meeting in January which was held at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven. The theme was forest research in the state and America's forest research policy. The summer meeting will focus on logging and the re-emerging issue of forest regulation.

The fall meeting probably will be in conjunction with the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Forest Conservation Forum. This year's forum will review the symptoms of parcelization and fragmentation in Connecticut, discuss property right, and look at various solutions to encourage protection of working forests and other open space.

During January, CT SAF joined the Goodwin Collaborative, which sponsors the forums. The original members include the Connecticut Forest & Park Association, Connecticut Cooperative Extension System, and Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (Forestry Division and Kellogg Environmental Center). Additional co-sponsors in 2006 may include the CT Chapters of the American Planning Association and the American Society of Landscape Architects.

**ME SAF 2005 Report (Bob Seymour):** The Maine Division 2005 activities focused on understanding and interpreting changes in harvesting practices since the passage of the forest practices act in 1990.

The fall meeting of 2005 entitled "15 years of ABC (Anything But Clearcutting) Silviculture" was attended by nearly 200 foresters. Speakers addressed change detection with remote sensing, recent trends in the FIA data, silviculture vs. harvesting, wildlife habitat, and policy issues. The presentations were followed by candid reflections by a panel of experienced foresters and an open discussion of the options available to the Maine Division in response to these trends. This discussion led to the formation of a Task Force led by Bob Wagner.

The Maine Division Task Force is charged with creating an improved, non-silvicultural classification system for describing the wide variety of harvests that are implemented across the Maine landscape. The Task Force developed a draft system that will be tested in the field at the spring meeting planned for early June.

**MA SAF 2005 Report (Michael J. Fleming):** The Massachusetts Chapter focused on the following activities.

- ✓ Continued coordination of the USDA Forest Service Forestry Innovation Grant "Improving Forest Management through an Increasing Use of Professional Foresters: a Marketing Approach" in cooperation with the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forest Fire Control & forestry, MAPF, Forest Stewards Guild and others.
- ✓ Develop the MA Chapter web page in conjunction with the NESAF plans to improve the NESAF website. This web site will provide timely information for its members and the public.
- ✓ Continued participation in the statewide Forest Forum coordinated by the MA Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). The goal of this Forum is to find common ground and address issues of forest viability in Massachusetts. The coordinated implementation of the ideas that have resulted from the Forum are underway.
- ✓ Participated in the public discussion by the Massachusetts State Forestry Committee relative to the possible future revisions to the MA Forest Cutting Practices Act regulations and form.
- ✓ EOEA continues to coordinate the establishment of a forest reserve system and the identification of a potential forest reserve sites.
- ✓ EOEA developed a statewide FSC Forest certification system contract for classified forest land in Massachusetts.

**Granite State Division 2005 Report (Dave Pilla):** New Hampshire forestry activities were diverse and include the following

- Acknowledged the incredible work that was put in by numerous folks in developing the NESAF meeting in Nashua. Preparations for this gathering began immediately following our GSD 2005 Annual Winter Meeting. Beginning with Janice Mulherin (from the Executive Committee) and continuing down the line, there were no fewer than 20 people who played a direct role in pulling off the NESAF meeting in Nashua.
- Highlighted a number of workshops that were carried out during 2005. GSD works in consort with a number of NH public and private organizations in developing quality workshops for our members and others involved in the management of natural resources. Some of these organizations include: UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Department of Resources and Economic Development – Division of Forests and Lands, the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, the NH Timberland Owners Association, and the NH Tree Farm Program. A sampling of the programs offered in 2005 included: Red Oak Management, Wetland Analysis for Forest Managers, Invasive Species Workshop, and an Uneven-aged Management Workshop (replicated twice). (A complete listing of workshop offerings during 2005 is available through the UNH Cooperative Extension website)
- Highlighted the continued involvement of many of our members in volunteer work. This work runs the gamut from playing an active role within the GSD as part of the Executive Committee to serving as Tree Farm inspectors and county coordinators to taking kids on nature walks as part of the Project Learning Tree program in the state. This does not even scratch the surface of volunteerism within towns as members of conservation commission, planning boards and the like.
- Highlighted the joint effort between the GSD and Habitat for Humanity in raising funds for several building projects within the state.
- Highlighted the continued success of our Winter Meeting. While small in many ways, New Hampshire is “fertile ground” for foresters and other natural resource professionals. Many of these folks take the time to attend our annual meeting held each year in February. In a very real sense, this annual meeting takes on a “gathering of the tribe” feeling.

**RI SAF 2005 Report (Paul Dolan):** Rhode Island events were numerous this year and include the following:

- RI SAF Sponsored the forestry section of the Envirothon. The RI Envirothon team also won the outstanding youth award.
- The 14<sup>th</sup> annual “Walk in the Forest” took place successfully at the Nature Conservancy property in Charlestown, Rhode Island on October 0f 2005.
- RI SAF sponsored an Arborist workshop that focused on Working Safely.
- RI SAF continues to design, sponsor and staff a booth at The Forest and Wood Expo.
- RI SAF designed outreach programs at Career Day and developed a power point presentation that focuses on careers in forestry.
- RI SAF mailed (RI SAF) t- shirts to the Rhode Island National Guard troops who are stationed in Iraq.
- RI SAF members are presently working on 3 grants: (1) Management plan and educational workshops at Border’s Farm (2) Celebrating 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rhode Island Forestry (3) The Champion Trees Project...

**Green Mountain 2005 Report (Bill Samal):** The Green Mountain Division (GMD) sponsored a "Walk in the Woods" in association with Project Learning Tree on a Land Vest property located in Marshfield, VT. The event was well attended by educators from around the state.

The GMD traditionally sponsors two (2) meetings that occurred in January and September. Both

continue to be well attended with an increasing number of non-SAF members registered for these events.

The GMD hosted two (2) successful legislative breakfasts, in 2004 and 2005. The EC decided to discontinue this event in 2006 in order to focus time and effort on the next 2007 session, a new legislative session with new faces.

In reaction to the University of Vermont's (UVN) decision to forego SAF accreditation, the GMD remains committed to the student chapter of SAF in the following ways. Two (2) EC meetings are held during the evening each year in Burlington in an effort to enhance the opportunity for student involvement at the EC meetings. The GMD provides financial support for student activities including but not limited to attendance at NESAF meetings. The GMD now cost-shares new student SAF memberships.

The GMD goals for 2006 are:

- ✓ Continue to provide timely and interesting workshops for the membership and reach out to non-members.
- ✓ Increase membership.
- ✓ Continue to provide support to the UVM SAF student chapter.
- ✓ Continue to provide information to legislators as needed.

**OTHER:**

- All students members present at business meeting were recognized by membership.
- Reminder: please vote on posters. Reminder to all present: Please vote on future issues selections that have been posted.

10. Adjourn: [Motion to adjourn made by Max McCormack; second heard from Bob Seymour. The question was called and passed unanimously.](#) The meeting adjourned at 1340 (1:40 PM).

Respectfully submitted by

Anne Marie Kittredge, CF  
NESAF Secretary.