



New England State Society of American Foresters

Annual Business Meeting, Wednesday March 21, 2007

Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee, VT

1. Call to Order by Chair, George Frame at 12 Noon.
 - Antitrust Statement
 - Introductions – NESAF Executive Committee members for 2007
 - Resolution on the passing and remembrance of NESAF members during the past year: Whereas death has claimed the lives of:

Howard H. Coe

Marc Johnson

John H. Noyes

David A. Rock

John Glenroy Sinclair

Terry Turner

Be it resolved that the New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Fairlee, Vermont on March 21, 2007, 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.

Resolution on the passing during the past year, and remembrance of significant contributors to the New England region's forestry profession: Whereas death has claimed the lives of:

Samuel S. Hawley

John Ledyard Hill

Forrest E. Orr

Alex L. Shigo

Be it resolved that the New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Fairlee, Vermont on March 21, 2007, recognizes with deep appreciation the participation, support, and dedication of the lives of these individuals. We honor their contribution to our profession and society at large. The members were invited to join in a moment of silence and reflection to honor those named in the 2 resolutions.

- Add/Adjust agenda. No changes to the agenda were suggested.
 - Corrections/Additions and motion for the minutes of the April 2006 Annual Business Meeting, Nashua, NH (Kittredge): No corrections were suggested to the minutes. [A motion to accept the minutes by Brad Wyman was heard with a second from Mike Saunders. The motion to approve the minutes from the April 2006 NESAF Business Meeting was unanimously approved.](#)
2. NESAF Chair Report – George F. Frame
 - Grant funding (Ken Laustsen): Ken L. described the Executive Committee's review of the investment direction and investment period relative to the proceeds (\$25,000) from the SAF National Meeting in Portland Maine. The interest (accrued from the Certificate of Deposit) has been used to support the NESAF Grants Program. The Executive Committee believes that NESAF has been an excellent steward of this fund, its principle and the interest. NESAF earned

more than \$10,000 in interest to date. NESAF awarded more than \$9,000 in grants to the chapters to date and has funded a diverse selection of projects that include but are not limited to; a membership survey (Maine), champion tree list (Vermont) and celebration of 100 years of forestry (Rhode Island). The NESAF Executive Committee is in the process of creating a finance committee that will design a definitive response plan (for NESAF members) relative to the future stewardship, investment and use of the principle and interest in this fund. Ken L. developed a document to guide the finance committee. These steps represent the Executive Committee's response to member questions about this fund. Apologies were offered to Julie Evans for the delays in accomplishing this response. No other comments or recommendations were suggested from the membership.

- Grant Funding Committee-request for volunteers: No new volunteers were suggested or added to the committee.
 - HSD Issues and Success Stories: Portland Oregon is the location of the next HSD meeting. Ron Lemin and George Frame will bring success stories to the HSD meeting. Members can contribute ideas and materials. The format for the contribution of success stories will be made available in the NESAF News Quarterly.
 - SAF Focus Groups and Surveys: The National Office will soon design and implement surveys in an effort to try to understand how the National Office can improve its service to members. The details and mechanism for focus groups participation is unknown at this time.
 - SAF Electronic Voting-National and Local: The NESAF Executive Committee voted yesterday to sign onto this National Office program which may increase the proportion of those voting. Paper ballots will still be available. NESAF will pay a fee for this national office initiative that represents about 30% of current paper copy process and result in a budgetary savings to NESAF. Local chapters can also participate in this electronic ballot program.
3. SAF Council Report – Roger Dziengeleski, the newly elected Council Delegate. Roger D.'s first opportunity to attend a Council Meeting as NESAF's Council Member is scheduled for this weekend. Roger D. recently attended 2 NESAF Executive Committee meetings, this NESAF Annual Winter plus a NY EC and NY Annual Meeting. Roger D. requests that NESAF members contact him directly with requests. Roger D. has left a supply of business cards at the registration desk. Roger looks forward to serving NESAF.
4. Treasurer's Report – Larry Rousseau: Larry R. distributed the budget report and a net worth report of accounts to date.
- Year End 2006: Larry R. highlighted changes.
 - 2007 Proposed Revision: Larry R. highlighted changes.
 - 2008 Proposed Budget: Larry R. highlighted changes.

A motion to approve the 2006 NESAF budget report, the revised 2007 NESAF budget and proposed 2008 NESAF budget was heard from Russ Reay. A second was heard from Peter Howland. A question was heard from the membership about the "deficit" budget; "Where the dollars will come from to ultimately pay for these activities?" A question was heard relative to the amount of profit that NESAF and the various chapters from each NESAF Winter Meeting. "Would more folks attend the Winter Meeting if NESAF and the chapters reduced the registration fee?" Profits come from sponsors in NH....maybe there should be a NESAF line for annual meeting expenses...Russ Reay addressed this question by describing the process, history and philosophy of keeping annual meeting costs low. The motion to approve the 2006 NESAF budget report, the revised 2007 NESAF budget and proposed 2008 NESAF budget was unanimously approved.

5. Forest Science Technology – Jim Harding: Jim H. is looking forward to living up to a standard that was recently set by NESAF'S past forest science coordinator, Laura Kenefic. Jim H. discussed his role in developing the News Quarterly theme as well as working group organization. Jim H. welcomes science technology questions and issues from the NESAF membership.
6. NESAF News Quarterly – Brad Wyman: Brad W. announced that he will retire following the production of the June 2008 issue. An announcement and position advertisement will appear in the next issue of the News Quarterly. [Gibb Dodge made a motion requesting a round of applause from the NESAF members present in appreciation for our outstanding News Quarterly Editor. A second was heard. Applause followed.](#)
7. Certified Forester Program (CFP) - Carol Redelsheimer: Carol R. reviewed and summarized this program that is becoming well known and successful at the National level. Ken Laustsen recently joined the CFP committee that will meet this coming weekend. Carol R. described three current projects of this committee 1) Candidate Certified Forester (CCF) 2) the potential for a program for Certified Forest Managers (CFM) and Certified Urban Forester (CUF) 3) CFE credits review.
8. Fellows Committee Report – Max McCormack: Max M.'s summary is posted by the registration table. Max presented a call for Fellow nominations. A new process has been designed by the National Office and was described by Max. New nominations for Fellow designations should be sent to Max. Currently 50 Fellows have been elected within district 6; (14 in NYSAF, 36 in NESAF). Max encouraged NESAF members to identify and submit qualified nominees, before the May 18th deadline, the Fellows Committee then reviews and forwards qualified nominations to Roger Dziengeleski. NOTE: The nominations for the Field Forester Award are also due in May.
9. 2008 NESAF Winter Meeting and NYSAF Winter Meeting – Joint State Society Meeting Status – Jerry Milne: Jerry M. described next year's co-hosted NESAF/NYSAF Winter Meeting to be held in Saratoga Springs in February 27-29, 2008. Jerry distributed Saratoga Springs informational materials, brochures and his e-mail address. Jamie Savage from NY was introduced.
10. State Reports (by Past Chair, Current Chair or Representative):

New Hampshire (Patrick Hackley): 2006 was a productive year for the Granite State Division (GSD).

The year's GSD activities started off with production of the NESAF Winter Meeting in March. The Winter Meeting was well-attended and successful by all measures. The GSD offers KUDOS to all of the folks who helped to organize this event including Janice Mulherin, the GSD Executive Committee Coordinator. Many members contributed the time, energy and expertise required to pull off the daunting task of running the NESAF Winter Meeting. The GSD cannot begin to thank all of the volunteers adequately!

In addition, a number of workshops were conducted throughout the state during 2006. The various programs focused on a variety of topics including but not limited to invasive species, uneven-aged management systems, the controversy surrounding liquidation harvesting and forester/logger interrelationships. It must be emphasized that the GSD continues to foster relationships with a number of NH organizations in the development of educational programs. The GSD has a long history of working with organizations such as UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Division of Resources and Economic Development, the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, the NH Timberland Owners Association, and the NH Tree Farm Program in developing educational opportunities that are beneficial to our membership.

As always, the GSD is successful because GSD members step up and volunteer as needs arise. Whether the issue is involvement in the Project Learning Tree "Walk in the Forest" program, staffing the

booth at the annual Farm and Forest Exposition or becoming part of the Executive Committee, the foresters in NH demonstrate a high level of commitment by supporting both the GSD as well as forestry within the region.

The next year, 2007, will be a challenging year for GSD. Forestry issues throughout the region will continue to arise. Markets will ebb and flow. Regional land use change and parcel development will require our steadfast attention if NH is retain its “rural flavor”. The GSD must address the question “Who will be the forest managers of the future?” The Granite State Division of the Society of American Foresters will continue to be an organization of integrity; The GSD members will continue to honor the past and look to the future. The GSD must be progressive, forward thinkers... The GSD owes this much to the people and to the landscape that is New Hampshire.

Rhode Island (Catherine Sparks, CF): requested 4/17/07 by e-mail

Vermont (Dan Kilborn): The Green Mountain Division (GMD) hosted two membership meetings this year including (1) the Summer Meeting- September 25, 2006, in Woodstock, Vermont which was well received and included presentations and discussions of three approaches to management on federally owned public land in Vermont and (2) the Winter Meeting- February 2, 2007, Montpelier, Vermont that focused on Invasive Species and the Wildlife Action Plan developed by VT F&W.

The GMD also hosted a Legislative Breakfast on February 2, 2007 in Montpelier, Vermont. Members introduced legislators to SAF as an organization and resource for scientific, fact-based information that can be used to inform decisions.

The GMD continues to support the UVM forestry students by cost sharing dues for first time members and financially supporting the newly formed Woodsman’s Team. During the next year, the Division plans (1) to co-host the Summer Meeting with the Wildlife Society and (2) to improve their website in the next year to provide a better resource for members.

Connecticut (Bill Bentley): The CT Chapter held three meetings during 2006 and was co-sponsor and “bank” for the Connecticut Forest Conservation Forum in November. At year-end, the Chapter had 139 members plus 17 student members in good standing.

The annual meeting January 10, 2006, at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, focused on *Forestry Research in Connecticut*, and the meeting was preceded by a tour of the U.S. Forest Service Hamden Lab’s Ansonia forest entomology facility.

Membership in the Goodwin Collaborative was among the new business items discussed. The collaborative, an informal organization with DEP Forestry and the Kellogg Environmental Center, CFPA, and the UConn Forest Extension Program, seeks to improve adult education programs for forest landowners, local town officials, and youth groups. The Connecticut Forest Conservation Forum is one product of the collaborative. The membership voted to ask to become a member, and the request was submitted during late January and CT SAF was added as a member.

On June 22, the Chapter sponsored a tour of the Yale Myers Forest in Union focused on silvicultural and ecological research, as well as a number of other studies in progress. Some SAF members stayed on for a Bar-B-Q with Yale faculty and students. It was a pleasure to see so many Yale faculty demonstrating an interest in forestry and the Union site for research.

The Connecticut Forest Practices Act became more controversial during 2006 due to a dispute over the propriety of local regulations in Ashford. The Chapter organized a meeting on September 12 at the Haddam Extension Center that was attended by about 165 foresters, loggers and town officials. Presentations included a historical perspective by John Hibbard, perspectives of practitioners, town officials, and the CT DEP. The last session looked to *Alternative Visions for the Future*. Two important results came from this meeting. First, a remarkable agreement occurred on four key points:

1. There is a general agreement that the certification program is a success

2. There is an acceptance of the home rule status of Connecticut and that regulations must be local regulations that conform to a state standard
3. Education of inland wetland commissioners and the publication of a bmp manual are both needed
4. The approval of a “robust majority” of interested parties is necessary for approach to this to be successful.

Secondly, the group agreed that the Forest Practices Advisory Committee should consider changes in the Act or its implementation. The State Forester has since established an ad hoc subcommittee to conduct a review (Chair, Adam Moore, CFPA). The subcommittee includes CT SAF members.

CT SAF served as the registrar and banker for the second annual Connecticut Forest Conservation Forum on November 14. This meeting followed up on several of the topics from the first forum, especially actions at the town level that can influence and encourage working forests as open space. An excellent white paper on forest fragmentation was produced for the meeting (copies of the paper and the proceeding from the 2005 Forum are available at this annual meeting).

Four additional topics deserve mention. (1) The Chapter tried to shift some NESAF grant funds originally awarded to CAES for a Chapter poster to the Connecticut Forestlands Council. This was not in accordance with NESAF procedures, and the request was rejected. The issue here is that none of the parties involved locally had knowledge of the procedures, and the “lesson learned” is to ask ahead of time of the grant-maker before requesting a change. (2) The Connecticut Forestlands Council (CFC) is making progress. Specific recommendations may become available soon relative to forest preservation using either in fee purchases or conservation easements. During the next 12 months CT may see a broader set of policy recommendations. It would be a good idea for the Chapter to develop a more explicit connection with CFC and its process. (3) Similarly, CT SAF should have an explicit tie to the review of the Forest Practice Act. Given the members involved, including 2007 Chair Joan Nichols, this will be easy. (4) Finally, CT SAF needs to be more concerned with recruitment and retention of members. Members will share what they learned after the NESAF Winter Meeting; in addition the CT Chapter needs to think about how to attract our many colleagues in the state who are not members. The Chapter needs to ask itself: What can the chapter do to make SAF more useful to a broader membership?

Bill Bentley enjoyed the past two years as Vice-Chair and Chair of the CT Chapter, looks forward to serving the Chapter in the easier position, “Past Chair” in 2007, and thanks all members for support.

Maine (Gary Bahlkow): Prepared by Spencer Meyer from News Quarterlies, MESAF meeting minutes and memory February 20, 2008

The Maine Division of the Society of American Foresters had a productive year in 2006. The Executive Committee met several times and hosted a spring field tour in June and the annual fall meeting in October.

A Harvesting Practices Task Force was convened to address the ambiguity of silvicultural practices covered by the umbrella term *partial harvests*. The Task Force, consisting of Bob Wagner, Bob Seymour, Doug Denico, Kenny Fergusson, Laura Kenefic and Mike Saunders met several times and their efforts culminated in the report, “Forest Harvest Classification System for Maine.” We thank the task force for tackling this complicated and important issue for Maine foresters.

In response to some of the considerations of the Task Force, the spring field tour focused on understanding partial harvest operations. On June 8, two busloads of Maine foresters and managers visited several partial harvests to test their ability to identify types of harvests. With the theme, *Partial Harvesting, What Should We Really Call it?* there was plenty of discussion about the misuse and abuse of forestry jargon and technical nomenclature. The field tour provided feedback to the Task Force to refine their classification system.

The Forestry Awareness Committee (FAC) saw renewed interest under the terrific leadership of Sue Aygarn. Through efforts of Sue, Bill Livingston and Pat Maloney of Project Learning Tree (PCT), the FAC

and PLT have teamed up to bring forestry to the teachers of the state of Maine. Their efforts include organizing events for teachers and foresters to join forces to integrate forestry into school curricula.

The Maine Division held its annual meeting October 10th at the University of Maine with a theme of *Tomorrow's Forest: Challenges and Opportunities Facing Maine's Foresters*. The program included talks on technological changes in forest management, conservation easements as forestry tools, and wood supply agreements. 227 Maine SAF members attended.

On November 29, 2006, the Maine Division lost one of its most dedicated members. Marc Johnson passed away after a long illness. Marc served the Maine forestry community in so many ways over the years. The Maine Division initiated the Marc A. Johnson Memorial Fund to honor Marc and to benefit University of Maine forestry students.

Massachusetts (Michael J. Fleming): Additional information about the Massachusetts Chapter of the Society of American Foresters including the following Massachusetts State Report is available at:

http://www.nesaf.org/about_divisions_machapter.htm

The MA Chapter of SAF represents 152 members in good standing. The 2006 MA Chapter Annual Meeting was held on January 19, 2006 in Sturbridge and the 2006 MA Chapter election results include: Chair, Michael Fleming, CF; Vice-Chair, Christopher Pryor; Secretary / Treasurer, Joel Dumont, CF; MA Chapter News Correspondent and MA Representative to NESAF, Randall Stone.

A Forestry Innovative Grant (FIG) from the USDA Forest Service, "*Improving Forest Management through Increasing Use of Professional Foresters: A Marketing Approach*" originally submitted by the MA Chapter SAF and their partners was transferred to the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) Bureau of Forestry due to project administration (tax) related issues. The project goal is to improve the quality of forest management through the promotion of the wider use of privately licensed foresters by Massachusetts landowners. DCR and its partners will oversee a professionally-guided marketing and information program. The core issue addressed is "public understanding and awareness of forestry".

DCR's Bureau of Forestry completed the following projects this year: (1) DCR entered into a contract with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to certify (4,200) private forest landowners with approved current use (Chapter 61) and/or Forest Stewardship management plans (representing 330,000 acres) in Massachusetts. FSC recently issued their report with conditions. (2) DCR's *Central Berkshire District Forest Resource Management Plan* was approved by DCR's Stewardship Council.

http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/manage/docs/cbk_resourceManagement.pdf

(3) DCR's draft *Northern Berkshire District, Southern Berkshire District, and Western Connecticut Valley District Forest Resource Management Plan* were posted. The three district plans address FSC's Green Certification requirements. <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/index.htm>. (4) DCR was awarded a grant by the USDA Forest Service-Wood Education and Resource Center in Princeton, WV. The grant will be used to fund an *Educational Effort to promote the Utilization of Wood Energy in New England, particularly in the Industrial and Institutional Sectors*. (5) DCR received proposals for the design and engineering of a biomass heating system to be installed at the DCR Quabbin Administration complex in Belchertown, MA. (6) DCR posted the draft *High Conservation Value Forests: Defining HCVPs in Massachusetts*. <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/manage/docs/hcvf.pdf> (7) DCR assembled an OHV working group composed of trails users, scientists, land managers, and others to expand the discussion and inform the agency's decisions. The group developed a set of objective criteria that could be used to assess the appropriateness of OHV use on DCR property. The draft criteria were presented in public meetings across the state in 2006. Public comments were incorporated into the final draft policy and the draft policy was submitted to the Stewardship Council (DCR's advisory board).

www.mass.gov/dcr/recreate/orv. (8) DCR posted the *Public Outreach & Consultation for Forest Cutting Plans*, a policy that applies to DCR State Forests, Parks, and Reservations vegetation management projects <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/documents/forestcuttingplanspolicy.pdf>

Amendments to the MA Current Use Programs (Forest, Agriculture, and Recreation/Natural Lands) became effective March 22, 2007. <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/docs/ch61ammend1-07.pdf>

The Massachusetts State Forestry Committee, with assistance from the MA DCR Bureau of Forestry, submitted a recommendation to the DCR Commissioner to amend the MA Chapter 132 Forest Cutting Practices Act Regulations and Forms. <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/sfc.htm>

On September 21, 2006, The MA Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) announced the creation of the Sustainable Forest Management Initiative and the establishment of 9 Forest Reserves (50,203 acres). <http://www.mass.gov/envir/forest/> and EOEA's *Landscape Assessment and Forest Management Framework: Berkshire Ecoregions in Massachusetts* was completed June 30, 2006. <http://www.mass.gov/envir/forest/berkshire.htm>

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (MassWildlife) posted the draft *Taconic Mountains and Marble Valley Forest Management Zone (FMZ)* and the *Berkshire Highlands FMZ* management plans. Both plans integrate principles of MassWildlife's Biodiversity Initiative and address FSC's Green Certification requirements for habitat management planning on state forest and wildlife lands. http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/draft_fmzs.htm

The 2006 Massachusetts Sawmill Directory is complete, has been distributed and will be available electronically. <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/utimark/index.htm>

The Massachusetts Sustainable Forest Bioenergy Initiative, a Collaborative effort funded by US Dept of Energy (\$495K), Mass. Technology Collaborative (\$245K) and USDA Forest Service (\$60K) will conduct research and development on forest management and market infrastructure needs, and enable the state to provide the resources necessary to facilitate biomass supply markets to emerge.

11. A motion to adjourn at 2:20 pm was heard from Larry Rousseau. A second to the motion was heard from Ed O'Leary. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Marie Kittredge, CF, NESAF Secretary