

Approved 3-18-09



New England State Society of American Foresters

Annual Business Meeting, Thursday February 28, 2008

Saratoga Hotel, Saratoga Springs, NY

1. Call to Order by Chair, George Frame at 8:10am.
(*Ron Lemin Jr. noted the business meeting reached a quorum at 8:15am.*)
 - Antitrust Statement
 - Introductions – NESAF Executive Committee members for 2008
 - Resolution on the passing and remembrance of NESAF members during the past year: Whereas death has claimed the lives of:

Ethan Howard
William P. MacConnell
Joe Sposta

Be it resolved that the New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Saratoga Springs, New York on February 28, 2008, 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:

Kenneth Sutherland Jr.
Eugene Keenan

Be it resolved that the New England Society of American Foresters at its Annual Meeting in Saratoga Springs, New York on February 28, 2008, 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 additions or adjustments to the agenda were suggested.
 - Corrections/Additions and motion for the minutes of the March 2007 Annual Business Meeting, Fairlee, VT (Fast): No corrections were suggested to the minutes. [A motion to accept the minutes was heard by Russ Reay with a second from Ken Laustsen. The motion to approve the minutes from the March 2007 NESAF Business Meeting was unanimously approved.](#)
2. NESAF Chair Report – George F. Frame
SAF Electronic Voting-National and Local (George Frame): George F. described the current status of electronic voting. Bylaw changes are taking place by chapters and divisions in order to

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participate in national elections. Participation should not change, and there will be considerable cost savings. Submissions of biographies and nominations will be due by June 30th. Voting will occur in October, results tallied in November, and new positions assumed January 1st. When voting electronically, each individual will get their own URL where the member can vote for national, NESAF, and their local unit all on the same ballot. The member will log in and must complete their ballot during that session. National SAF will send out additional information on how to enact the process. For members who do not have email addresses, they will be mailed a paper ballot and can continue voting in the traditional manner. The new electronic voting should reduce copying and postage costs. Ken Laustsen is working with local chapters and divisions to get bylaws changed. Ballots will be sent out in late spring to approve these changes.

- Leadership Academy—2008, Washington DC area (George Frame): The National SAF Leadership Academy will take place April 26-28, 2008 in Potomac, Maryland. The total event cost is approximately \$1000 to participate. NESAF will provide the registration fee for one participant from each state. NESAF is hoping to supplement the national leadership academy with a regional leadership academy during the years when the national leadership academy is not taking place.
3. Roger Dziengeleski, SAF Council Report – The Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNR) transaction at the Council level is consuming the bulk of his time. The transaction involves selling the Bethesda, MD facility and will secure the future of the Society for decades. Mike Goergen is doing a great job marshalling the process. If anyone has concerns about the RNR transaction, please contact him. There is confidentiality surrounding the agreement, but Roger can speak to members in broad terms. There is a March 8-9, 2008 Council Meeting that will cover membership issues, focus group results, and more effectively delivering policy changes to membership.
 4. Treasurer's Report – Larry Rousseau: Larry R. distributed the budget report and a net worth report of accounts to date.
 - Year End 2007: Larry R. highlighted changes.
A motion to approve the 2007 NESAF budget report was heard from Bob Edmonds. A second was heard from Peter Howland. The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.
 - 2008 Proposed Revision: Larry R. highlighted changes.
A motion to approve the 2008 revised NESAF budget report was heard from Ken Laustsen. A second was heard from Ron Lemin Jr. A question was heard from the membership about the number of easels. There are 61 easels. A question was heard from the membership about the long term financials of NESAF. This year NESAF is running a deficit of \$7,000 due to one-time costs being reinvested in the organization. A question was heard about NESAF's net worth being reduced to \$40,000 this year to which the Executive Committee responded, "yes potentially." The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.
 - 2009 Proposed Budget: Larry R. highlighted changes.
A motion to approve the 2009 proposed budget was heard from Ron Lemin Jr. A second was heard from Jim Harding. A question was heard from membership about the annual interest NESAF is receiving. NESAF will receive approximately \$1,100 in interest next year. The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.
 5. Forest Science Technology – Jim Harding: News Quarterly themes over the past have included beech bark disease, ownership in New England forests, old growth and an ice storm damage retrospective. Forest Carbon will be a theme for an upcoming issue. The Executive Committee would like to entertain additional suggestions from membership. Jim H. has worked on the poster session and graduate presentations with Chris Novak and the process will continue to be revised and

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improved moving forward. Jim H. plans to produce proceedings of the winter meeting. There is a "NESAF working group survey" that Jim H. would like everyone to fill out to help improve working group focus and participation. New easels will move around New England with the meetings.

6. NESAF News Quarterly – Brad Wyman: Brad W. announced that a husband and wife team, Maggie and Scott Machinist, will take on the responsibilities of the *News Quarterly* Editor once they are appointed by George F. and it is ratified by the EC. *Jane Difley made a motion that the minutes reflect the deep gratitude and thanks NESAF membership has for the great contribution Brad Wyman has made to the development of the News Quarterly as Editor. A second was heard by Ron Lemin Jr. The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously. Applause followed.* Brad W. thanked his faithful contributors to the News Quarterly, emphasized that it was a group effort and thanked Gary Salmon for getting him started on the work.
7. Website Revision – George Frame: The website is being improved. It is database driven, which will allow more materials to become available and reduce time requirements to send information out to members. The transition from the old website to the new is 50-75% complete. It will be a good communication tool with links to chapters and divisions. Visit the website frequently.
8. Fellows Committee Report – Max McCormack: Two active members of the fellow committee were at the business meeting and there are two new fellows, Dave Kittredge and Bill Bentley.
9. 2009 NESAF Winter Meeting – Ken Laustsen: The EC has started planning for the 2009 winter meeting. The meeting will be in the Portland, ME area. Some of the details are being finalized and the EC hopes to have those details resolved in the near term. The Maine Chapter of The Wildlife Society, the NE Pest Council, and other groups are interested in being incorporated into the meeting through various sessions. When dates are finalized, that information will be conveyed to membership so they can make plans and reservations.
10. State Reports (by Past Chair, Current Chair or Representative):

Connecticut (Joan Nicols): A very warm welcome goes to new officers for 2008: Ian Branson- Chair, Richard Campbell – Chair Elect and Valerie O'Donnell- Secretary Treasurer.

As of December 2007 CT Chapter SAF membership stands at 132 members.

CT SAF continued its tradition of providing quality educational programs for its membership. On Saturday April 21, 2007 CT Chapter SAF sponsored a family tour of the Mystic Shipyard in Mystic CT. This was an extremely interesting and unique event where SAF members learned first hand about all aspects of historical ship restoration lead by Mr. Quentin Snediker. Of special interest was the use of various types of timber used in the restoration process and how this relates to the use of CT lumber and timber in shipyard projects. 19 SAF members and family members attended the event and were treated to an excellent lunch at the Seaman's Inne following the tour. In the afternoon, families spent the day touring Mystic Seaport. While this was an exceptional event, attendance was poor and further consideration should be given to scheduling Saturday events.

CT Chapter SAF continues its commitment to the Goodwin Collaborative and in September 2007 co-sponsored the Ecology & Management of Early Succession Habitats at the Goodwin Forest. A special thank you goes to Steve Broderick for organizing this event.

In November 2007 CT Chapter SAF co-sponsored the CT Forest Conservation and Forest Science Forum in Storrs, CT. A special thank you goes to Bill Bentley for his time and commitment to this informative and worthwhile event.

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In August 2007 CT Chapter SAF set up an informational booth at Plant Science Day at the Ag Experiment Station at Lockwood Farm in Hamden, CT. SAF members Ian Branson, Jim Pronovost and I manned this booth throughout the day and fielded many questions from interested spectators and landowners with regards to forestry in Connecticut. I would strongly recommend that CT Chapter SAF attend this event again this summer and also consider participating in Celebrating Agriculture in Woodstock, CT in September. These events get the word out to the general public about foresters and forest management. It is recommended that the Chapter improve their display materials and work on a series of educational handouts for these events. A shelter for shade is also recommended at the next Plant Science Day.

The Chapter continues to administer NESAF grants for applicable projects and in 2007 administered a grant to the CT Forestlands Council for the printing of educational materials.

A very, very special thank you goes to an outstanding team: Ian Branson, Bill Bentley and Jim Pronovost. They gave CT Chapter SAF 110% and are to be commended for their time and commitment. Without these dedicated volunteers the Chapter could not survive and support its membership.

Working with CT Chapter SAF has been a fantastic experience and a special way to give back to the professional organization I have supported for 25 years. I ask that members seriously consider holding an Executive Committee position in the future as a way to serve your fellow foresters and the profession you care so deeply about

Maine (Gary Bahlkow): The Maine Division of the Society of American Foresters had a spring and fall meeting. At the fall meeting, there was a panel of landowners and a task force on forestry licensure. Board of Licensure participation is a big issue in Maine. Appointments are needed for the board and MESAF is working with the state government to address the issue. MESAF is putting forward some forestry awareness efforts in the media. They have submitted a grant application and the MESAF EC wants to thank all the volunteers who have contributed to their efforts in Maine.

Massachusetts (Michael J. Fleming represented by Jim DiMaio): There was one chapter meeting. In January there was an invasive species response plan. Governor Patrick has put forth a working landscape initiative that makes 50 million dollars available in assistance. Massachusetts chapter is working on options to get small private landowners certified, and has been heavily involved in a bioenergy demonstration, education initiative at Quabbin.

New Hampshire (Dick Weyrick): 2007 was a productive year for the Granite State Division (GSD). The GSD initiated a newsletter program to membership, renewed co-sponsorship with the Tree Farm Program, The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and The New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association, worked with Bartlett Experimental Forest on their 75th birthday celebration and associated events, and developed a position statement on working forest conservation easements. In addition, the GSD sponsored 13 student members from UNH. This upcoming year the GSD plans to complete a forestry guide for non-foresters utilizing a NESAF grant and work on a membership drive.

Rhode Island (Tom Dupree) The Rhode Island Chapter had two meetings during the year (pizza and beer meetings).

The officers elected were; Chair, Thomas Dupree, Vice-Chair, Thomas Abbott, and Secretary-Treasurer, Robert McMillan. The outgoing Chair is Cathy Sparks.

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This year's Walk in the Woods program was conducted in conjunction with a Wood and Energy Expo sponsored by the Governor's Energy Office as well as partners in the forestry community. The Chapter worked to bring the "Way of the Forest" traveling exhibit to southern New England for the first time. The van was displayed at 2 separate locations and had hundreds of people visit.

The Chapter continues to fully support the Rhode Island Envirothon both financially and with members.

Rhode Island SAF joined forces with a number of partners including the Rhode Island Tree Council and the RI Garden Clubs to ensure that every community in the state has an Arbor Day celebration. For the third year in a row each community in the state had a ceremony.

The Chapter continues to work with The Rhode Island Tree Council to create a data -base of all of the state's champion trees. The \$300 NESAF grant is being used to match money from many other additional sources to complete the project. RI SAF wishes to thank NESAF for their support of the project.

The Chapter would like to report to the membership and congratulate Paul Dolan for being appointed as Deputy Chief of the Division of Forest Environment.

Vermont (Dan Kilborn): GMD continues to support the student chapter at UVM.

GMD is trying to continue the upgrades and improvements to our website to increase its utility for our membership. We have a website information coordinator has been very helpful.

The summer meeting was co-sponsored with The Wildlife Society. The topics were coarse woody debris and moose browse. There was a good showing of professionals from both organizations and it was a very positive day.

The winter meeting was held February 1st, and we had a strong turn out (50 +) despite bad weather. The meeting topic was forest carbon.

GMD is sponsoring a letter in the VT Forestry Letter Series that is being organized by the Northern Vermont Resource Conservation & Development Council. This is an effort to educate and engage landowners in Franklin and Chittenden Counties without forest management plans about forestry and the importance of working with professional foresters.

We are looking foreword to partnering with VT Department of Forest, Parks, & Recreation on portions of the Vermont Forestry Centennial Celebration that will be held throughout 2009 to celebrate 100 years of forestry in Vermont.

GMD has become the financial sponsor for the Forestry Contest that is held annually during the Vermont Farm Show. High school students from around the state compete in forestry related activities.

GMD provided comments to VT FP&R during the Vermont Way Foreword restructuring movement and to the Current Use Advisory Board on proposed rule changes to the current use program.

11. A motion to adjourn at 9:20 am was heard from Tony Filauro. A second to the motion was heard from Bob Ricard. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Andrew Fast, NESAF Secretary.