



# National Capital Society of American Foresters

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## *DC Forester* February 2007

### **Chair's Corner**

I have just completed my first full month as your NCSAF chair for 2007. I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your heartfelt personal and professional support. There are tasks to be done in organizations and in a volunteer organization like NCSAF, it takes many hands working together to produce successful outcomes. We have to chair committees, recruit and retain committee members, plan and deliver monthly programs, organizer regular fundraising events, manage and monitor society finances. We also maintain and distribute monthly minutes and historical files and yes, we publish and distribute monthly newsletters.

I can honestly say that because of your professional dedication to the mission and core values of NCSAF, you are stepping up to the plate in record numbers to offer your volunteer services from every level of position and responsibility through out our membership. This is just the beginning of our work this year so, we still need more of you to volunteer for committee work.

Immediate Past Chair Laura Schweitzer and her long and illustrious line of predecessors have passed on to us an efficient and responsive Society. One of my responsibilities this year is to continue this legacy by providing the kind of leadership that maintains knowledge of membership interest, meets the mandates of our national office, our district council representative and House of Society Delegates. We also have the responsibility to foster NCSAF's relationship with current and potential external partners. Working with our executive committee over the coming months, I am excited about approaches to these issues as we plan to conduct some form of a member survey, hold our 2007 Annual Business meeting to hear directly from you, the membership, and then update, execute, and monitor the progress of NCSAF's 2007 Strategic Plan.

Stay Tuned!

**Wilhelmina B. Bratton**  
**Chair**

### **New U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell to Speak at NCSAF Luncheon**

Thursday, March 8, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Back of USDA Cafeteria, South Agriculture Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Cost: \$17/person, includes deluxe sandwich selection, salad, beverage & cookies

“Abigail Kimbell is a veteran of the Forest Service who began as a seasonal worker and has since filled an impressive series of field assignments” said Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns. "Gail

brings a wealth of knowledge to her new position. She is well respected both within the agency and by our stakeholders. I'm confident she will do a terrific job as Chief."

Prior to being named the first female Chief of the Forest Service, Gail served as Regional Forester for the Northern Region in Missoula, Montana, which includes Montana, northern Idaho, and North Dakota. She developed a reputation there for focusing on quality resource management and building on shared resource management goals with a broad range of stakeholders, including other agencies and communities. Before becoming regional forester, Gail served in the Washington Office as Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, with responsibility for assisting in the development of the Healthy Forests Initiative.

Gail grew up in New England, and earned her undergraduate degree in forestry at the University of Vermont, after which she continued her studies with a M.S. in Forest Engineering from Oregon State University. Gail remained in Oregon to begin her Forest Service career in 1974, where she worked as engineer, forest planner, and district ranger. Before her first move to Washington, D.C., she moved up through positions as forest supervisor in Colorado, Wyoming, and on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. She brings a wealth of experience back with her to Washington.

We welcome Gail back to NCSAF, and know that she will have a lot to say. As an active SAF member, she's a strong supporter of professional forestry and science-based resource management that meets community needs. We anticipate a large turnout, and have planned this luncheon for a larger than normal venue in the back of the USDA cafeteria. Be sure to RSVP early to make sure that you get a reservation for one of the 70 available seats.

General public entrance to the South Agriculture Building is on C Street, SW, Court Two, one block south of Smithsonian Metro Station's Independence Avenue exit on 12<sup>th</sup> SW, then about 30 yards to the west (right at the corner). A picture ID and security check (magnetometer and X-ray bag check) is required. Federal employees with a government ID badge can enter by the Independence Avenue door adjacent to the same Metro exit (at top of escalator, walk toward Capitol and up steps to entrance at corner of building).

Participation will be limited to 70 persons. Because of the anticipated large turnout, RSVP's are required. Until 11:45 AM that day, participation will be limited to those who RSVP'd, after which remaining seats will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. RSVP to Terri Bates, batesmt@verizon.net, (703) 538-1134, by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 5. If you know you'll arrive later, let Terri know and we'll save your spot.

**Loren B. Ford**  
**Program Chair**

### **It's That Time of Year Sign Up for the Phonathon Now!**

The NCSAF 2007 Phonathon for the Society of American Foresters is Tuesday April 17, Wednesday April 18 and Wednesday, April 25, 2007 from 5:30 PM to 9:00/9:30 PM at the national "Wildacres" office of SAF at 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814-2198. Volunteers are starting to trickle in. April 25 will be the focus day for young foresters and the young at heart. To volunteer, please call (703) 470-3166 or e-mail: [tresch@att.net](mailto:tresch@att.net)

**Tim Resch**  
**Phonathon Chair**

## Audit Committee and Treasurer's Report February 2007

An audit of the Fiscal Year 2006 financial records of the NCSAF was performed as required by the Audit Committee Charter. Records needed for the audit were made available to the committee chair by the treasurer. This included financial transactions on a monthly basis for the past fiscal year and their supporting documentation. These records were then independently reviewed by Committee Chair John Witherspoon.

The committee finds that all transactions are well documented and that the financial statements are free of any misstatement. Supporting documentation for expenditures and income is adequate and bank statements are in agreement with the Quicken Register. We reviewed the records for the funds set aside as Certificates of Deposit and found the documentation complete and adequate. The treasurer is to be commended on the job he has done maintaining the financial records for the Chapter.

I, therefore, give an unqualified opinion that all amounts in the financial statements are materially correct.

### *Treasurer's Report*

#### Current Balance:

Certificates of Deposit	\$15901.43
Cash	\$100.00
Checking	<u>\$10,505.11</u>
Total	\$26,506.54

#### Amount received in January:

Auction Income	\$1,129.95
Dues Disbursement	\$910.00
Luncheon Receipts	\$923.00
Raffles	<u>\$92.00</u>
Total	\$3,054.95

#### Amount expended in January:

Awards-Recognition	\$122.00
Foresters' Fund	\$500.00
Luncheon meals	\$914.50
Mailing	<u>\$3.57</u>
Total	\$1,540.07

**Net increase (decrease):** **\$1,514.88**

The auction netted more than \$2,000, so there will be more income to report for this as we receive outstanding pledges. Otherwise, all bills have been paid and receipts have been deposited. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [dpowell@fs.fed.us](mailto:dpowell@fs.fed.us).

**Doug Powell**  
Treasurer

## **Congressional Outreach Postponed**

Due to scheduling conflicts of a busy Congress, the NCSAF must postpone the congressional outreach event planned for Wednesday, February 28, to a date later this spring. The event will highlight the benefits of private forests and the challenges that landowners face. There have been strong indications of interest by congressional staffers to hear from private timberland owners share on-the-ground experiences, but recent logistic problems force us to postpone until April. Stay tuned for a rescheduled date.

**Rick Cooksey**  
**Policy Chair**

## **NCSAF Membership Update**

As of the end of January 2007, NCSAF had a total of 293 members, which is 2 members short of our membership goal of 295 members for the end of 2007. This new 2007 goal was reduced from the 303 goal in 2006 due to our membership decline last year.

Also as of the end of January, 68 NCSAF members have not yet renewed their memberships for 2007. We will be calling these members in April during the annual member Phonathon, which will be held April 17, 18, and 25 at the national office. If you have not already done so, please contact Tim Resch at e-mail: [tresch@att.net](mailto:tresch@att.net) or (703) 470-3166 and sign up for one of these nights. Otherwise, Tim may be calling you to sign up. This is one very important way that the SAF relies on our national capital members to assist with membership.

We have purchased and received new membership recognition pins for members who qualify in 2007. These will be personally presented as opportunities occur, or otherwise will be mailed in the second half of the year. We have also obtained from SAF 60 year membership certificates for Warren Doolittle, John Farrell, John Fedkiw, and Neil Stout. Three have been mailed and one will be presented at the next opportunity. Congratulations to these members for their accomplishments!

The following NCSAF membership changes occurred in January:.

### **New**

Mark Pfefferle, Maryland Parks and Planning Commission (see new member profile below)

### **Reinstated**

Bryan T. Seipp, Potomac Conservancy

### **Resigned**

Kari J. Kiepi, Inter-American Development Bank

### **Transferred In**

Dan E. Cramsey, CF, retired – from Dallas Chapter

Shelley L. Gardner, USDA Forest Service – from Bay Area Chapter

Kathleen A. Radigan, CF, USDI Bureau of Land Management – from Rappahannock Chapter

### **Transferred Out**

Dale N. Bosworth – to Missoula Chapter

Megan E. Manner – to no State Society designation

Matthew P. Perkowski – to West Virginia Division  
David T. Shoch – to Skyline Chapter  
DeAnn Zwright – to New Mexico Chapter

**Jim Culbert**  
**Membership Chair**

### **NCSAF Website in Transition**

Look for a new NCSAF website in the very near future. NCSAF Tim Resch volunteered to assume the responsibilities as the webmaster and he is hard at work. In the next few weeks, he will be moving the site to a new server and doing some re-design and adding new content and features. This should be a seamless process and when the new site is unveiled, you will be the first to know!

We are most appreciative of the website services that NCSAF Brian Keightley has provided for the chapter for the past few years. Thanks Brian!

**Eric Norland**  
**Vice Chair**

### **Wine Tasting and Auction Update**

The Fundraising Committee kicked off 2007 with a bang! On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Dwight Fielder and E. Lynn Burkett hosted the second annual NCSAF Wine Tasting and Auction. We had a showing of about 20 people, all of whom enjoyed good wine, food, and company. We also held a live auction in which Doug Crandall served as auctioneer. We raised more than \$2,000! Thank you to all who attended and bid on items for your support of the NCSAF.

**Laura Schweitzer**  
**Fundraising Chair**

### **Recap of January and February Luncheon** *See what you missed!*

U.S. Forest Service Deputy Chief for Research & Development, and NCSAF member, Dr. Ann Bartuska, was our luncheon speaker on Thursday, January 18, with a talk entitled, “**Back to the Future: The Legacy of the Experimental Forests and Ranges.**”

Ann began with some history, informing us that in 1908, the first experimental watershed was established by Dr. Raphael Zon in Arizona. Thus began a remarkable legacy, a network of Experimental Forests and Ranges (EF&Rs) that today is representative of 80 percent of the forest cover types of the United States. These EF&R’s have provided and continue to be a source of scientific information for the management of the National Forests, industrial and private lands. The major objective is that EF&Rs be used for conducting applied research that serves as a basis for the management of forests and rangelands.

There are more than 78 EF&R research sites which make the USDA Forest Service unique among land management agencies. Each EF&R research site has a long history of experimentation and research which contributes information that provides current and future answers to questions

concerning impacts of management activities and their mitigation, and how to better achieve management goals. Research on EF&Rs has also greatly contributed to a better fundamental understanding of how ecosystems work. This work has long been recognized as having regional, national and international importance.

Most EF&Rs have uniquely valuable long-term studies and monitoring efforts that provide an invaluable record of recovery from disturbance, and allow unusual events to be placed in the context of larger spatial and temporal patterns. EF&Rs address questions on forest management at the appropriate scales of time and space, and are places to learn fundamentals of natural ecosystem structure and dynamics. Finally, each EF&R represents areas with a broad range of disturbance and recovery with well known land use history, protected under special land-use designations that allow manipulative research and protection of control sites (i.e. a secure research platform). The Forest Service has invested tens of millions of dollars into infrastructure, experiments and long-term data collection and maintenance of EF&Rs. The activities of these resources are managed and maintained jointly by Forest Service Research and Development and the National Forest System.

*Why Back to the Future?* The scientific community is seeing a surge of ecological observatory networks as a result of such complex environmental questions as climate change. The ability to understand future change will be built upon a foundation of the past patterns and trends. The investment by the Forest Service, Agricultural Research Service, USGS, and others in long-term studies and measurements is the basis for understanding these trends. These temporal analyses, combined with the spatial scale of our experimental forest, ranges and watersheds, will enable a much better understanding of ecosystem change.

If you're interested in more information on the Experimental Forests and Ranges administered by the Forest Service, contact Ralph Crawford, Forest Service National Program Leader for Range & Ecology Research at (703) 605-5253 or [rcrawford01@fs.fed.us](mailto:rcrawford01@fs.fed.us).

Our February luncheon speaker was Dr. Marcia Patton-Mallory, U.S. Forest Service Biomass & Bio-energy Coordinator, in the Office of the Chief. Dr. Patton-Mallory is a member of the Long's Peak Chapter of Colorado-Wyoming SAF, residing in Fort-Collins, CO, where she previously was Director of the Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Dr. Patton-Mallory explained the strategy developed by the Forest Service to increase the utilization of woody biomass, for the purpose of increasing the economic feasibility of treatments to restore the long-term health, productivity, and diversity of the Nation's forest and grassland ecosystems, while at the same time promoting the sustainable production of renewable energy in order to increase America's energy security by contributing to the reduction in our dependence on foreign sources of oil.

Since 2000, there has been a stronger Federal effort for productive biomass utilization. The Forest Service was identified as one of the key agencies in this effort to increase woody biomass utilization. Various strategies for woody biomass utilization are ongoing in the nation's different regions and forest ecosystems. In an effort to provide a better vision for all levels and regions of the Forest Service, representatives from each region and research station and area met to form a team to produce the *Woody Biomass Utilization Strategy for Restoring and Maintaining Ecosystem Health* (national strategy). The team collaborated to obtain an idea of what was occurring both nationally and regionally with woody biomass utilization and to help synchronize these various efforts. This strategy will help guide ongoing efforts, identify gaps, and note critical partners needed to obtain regional and national goals of woody biomass utilization.

Marcia related some of the policy initiatives that set the context for the agency's Woody Biomass Utilization (WBU) strategy, including the Research & Development Act of 2000, the Healthy Forests Initiative, the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, Energy Policy Act of 2005, and others. The Forest Service WBU Team developed the strategy, and coordinates activities with an inter-agency and inter-departmental WBU Group that includes representatives from USDA Rural Development, Department of the Interior land management agencies, the Department of Energy, and the Department of Defense, and the Environmental Protection Agency..

The four principal goals of the Forest Service WBU Strategy are to: (1) provide a reliable and predictable supply of woody biomass from federal lands; (2) foster partnerships to facilitate WBU; (3) produce science and technology to enable sustainable WBU; and (4) increase markets for woody biomass through work with partners. Activities include Coordinated Resource Offering Protocol studies and analysis of WBU opportunities for the Strategic Placement of Treatments hazardous fuel treatment priority initiative.

For more information on the Forest Service WBU Strategy, contact NCSAF member Ed Gee at (202) 205-1787 or [eagee@fs.fed.us](mailto:eagee@fs.fed.us).

**Loren B. Ford**  
**Program Chair**

### **New Member Profile**

#### ***Mark Pfefferle***

*In the DC Forester we are highlighting our new members by asking them to introduce themselves. So please give a warm welcome to Mark Pfefferle, our newest member to NCSAF.*

Mark Pfefferle received a Masters in Environmental Management degree from the Duke University School of Forestry and Environmental Management. Since graduating from Duke he has lived in the Washington D.C. area working for private consulting firms assisting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in implementing the storm water management program or addressing other environmental issues.

Currently, Mark implements the Montgomery County forest conservation program for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Silver Spring. The County has had a forest conservation program in place for 15 years but there is a greater emphasis to protect and enhance the urban canopy in order to reduce urban storm water runoff, local air pollutants, and the urban heat island effect. Much of his work is to minimize forest lost to development and when forests are removed how best to compensate for those losses.

Mark first learned to appreciate the recreational aspects of forests as youth growing up in a "company" town in Canada. Later, he learned of the commercial benefits those same forests provided for newsprint and furniture manufacturing. Even later, the environmental benefits associated with those same forests became evident.

When Mark is not thinking of where the next shade tree or forest should be planted or protected, he spends time in his sea kayak, on his bicycle, or coaching youth baseball. Mark can be reached at [mark\\_pfefferle@yahoo.com](mailto:mark_pfefferle@yahoo.com) or (301) 495-4730. Please give a hearty welcome to Mark.



*Mark Pfefferle enjoying time in his sea kayak*



## 2007 NCSAF Calendar of Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Contact</b>
March 8	Abigail Kimbell Chief, US Forest Service	Loren Ford
March 15	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
March 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
April 11	Impacts of Globalization on Forestry in the U.S. Dr. Roger Sedjo	Loren Ford
April 16	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
April 17	Phonathon Wild Acres	Tim Resch
April 18	Phonathon Wild Acres	Tim Resch
April 19	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
April 25	Phonathon Wild Acres	Tim Resch
May 10	Developments in Forestry Certification Bill Banzhaf, president, Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc.	Loren Ford
May 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
May 17	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
June 7	SAF and Forestry in the U.S. John McMahon, president, SAF	Loren Ford
June 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
June 21	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
July 12	International Forestry Research Dr. Frances Seymour, Director-General, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)*	Loren Ford
July 19	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton

## 2007 NCSAF Calendar of Events (*continued*)

Date	Description	Contact
August 9	Summer Intern Forum TBD*	Loren Ford
August 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
August 16	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
September 13	Forestry in 2007 Farm Bill Chairman Collin C. Peterson (D-MN) *	Loren Ford
September 17	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
September 20	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
October 11	Changing Role in Forestry Education & Extension Dr. Steven Daley-Laursen, Dean, College of Natural Resources, U. Idaho *	Loren Ford
October 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
October 18	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
November 8	Conservation Education Dr. Safiya Samman*	Loren Ford
November 15	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
November 15	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler
December 6	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
December 13	Holiday Party*	Wilhelmina Bratton
December 17	Deadline for <i>DC Forester</i>	Jennifer Plyler

\**Tentative*

## 2007 NCSAF LEADERSHIP TEAM

Position	Individual's Name	Phone	E-mail
Chair	Wilhelmina Bratton	W: (202) 205-1144 H: (703) 631-9434	<a href="mailto:wbratton@fs.fed.us">wbratton@fs.fed.us</a>
Chair Elect	Eric Norland	W: (202) 401-5971 H/Mb: (202) 641-4396	<a href="mailto:enorland@csrees.usda.gov">enorland@csrees.usda.gov</a>
Immediate Past Chair	Laura Schweitzer	W: (202) 737-1944 x219 H/Mb: (510) 847-3817	<a href="mailto:LSchweitzer@amfor.org">LSchweitzer@amfor.org</a>
Treasurer	Doug Powell	W: (202) 205-1724 H: (703) 698-1434	<a href="mailto:dougpowell@fs.fed.us">dougpowell@fs.fed.us</a>
Secretary	Donna Gehlhaart	W: (202) 628-1223 H: (703) 739-7771	<a href="mailto:Donna.gehlhaart@ipaper.com">Donna.gehlhaart@ipaper.com</a>
Tellers and Auditors Chair	John Witherspoon	W: (202) 205-1609 H: (703) 830-1377	<a href="mailto:jwitherspoon@fs.fed.us">jwitherspoon@fs.fed.us</a>
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Webmaster (Interim)	Tim Resch	W: (202) 712-4453 H: (703) 660-9292	<a href="mailto:tresch@usaid.gov">tresch@usaid.gov</a>
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Nominating and Professional Recognition Chair	Corbin Newman	W: (202) 205-0893	<a href="mailto:cnewman02@fs.fed.us">cnewman02@fs.fed.us</a>
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Historian	Vacant		
Phonathon Chair	Tim Resch	W: (202) 712-4453 H: (703) 660-9292	<a href="mailto:tresch@usaid.gov">tresch@usaid.gov</a>
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Science and Technology Coordinator (WAS)	Denise Ingram	W: (202) 205-3611	<a href="mailto:cdingram@fs.fed.us">cdingram@fs.fed.us</a>
Wild Acres Liaison	Dick Fitzgerald	W: (202) 205-1753 H: (703) 378-8114	<a href="mailto:rfitzgerald@fs.fed.us">rfitzgerald@fs.fed.us</a>