



DC Forester March 2007

Chair's Corner

This month, Craig Vollmer, House Society of Delegates (HSD) Chair for 2007 held the first convener group leader telephone conference. We are divided into five groups: New England, National Capital, Michigan, Wisconsin and Washington. Each convener group is composed of five or six state societies. As Chair of NCSAF, I am convener group leader for group two, which includes Ouachita, Missouri, Minnesota, Montana and Alaska in addition to National Capital.

As group leaders, we connect with our respective groups to gather information and feedback on issues that need to be addressed during the year. We report that information back to the Chair of HSD. Presently, we are discussing draft timber harvesting of federal & other public lands policy. I emphasize “draft” because this is “proposed policy,” it has not been approved by council and of course the policy can be modified and /or rejected them. Also, we are discussion creating an “HSD” award that would recognize outstanding efforts of a state society at the grassroots level.

HSD can be described as the grassroots of the Society of American Foresters (SAF). It provides a communication system for all state society leaders to connect and to share information as well as lessons learned. HSD also has representation on council and provides a most important conduit for communication between members and council directly through the state society leaders and the HSD Chair. I find working together with state society leaders can provide greater understanding of forestry issues and opportunities to present pertinent ideas and concerns to our Council Representative, Mary Coulombe.

On matters of NCSAF, the executive committee met last week and I am please to report that the chairs for the policy committee and the science and technology committees presented their respective charters to the executive committee. Both charters were unanimously adopted by the executive committee. The Policy committee, chaired by Rick Cooksey, will make recommendations to the executive committee concerning matters of policy and positions on issues of interest and concern to NCSAF. Some of their activities will include, but not be limited too, regularly updating NCSAF's membership on emerging policy and legislative issues.

Denise Ingram, science and technology coordinator for NCSAF is the point of contact on science and technology issues and as a representative for NCSAF on the board of the Washington Academy of Sciences. She works to promote better understanding of forestry and related natural resource issues to broader professional audiences. The executive committee also decided to conduct a member survey by phone and to use the information gathered from that survey as a foundation for NCSAF's 2007 strategic/ work plan. The format for that survey and the date for member calling will be decided at the executive committee's April meeting.

On the subject of NCSAF's Annual Business Meeting which was mentioned in last month's issue of the DC Forester, please consider this announcement as official notice to all members of NCSAF that the annual meeting will be held on May 10, 2007 at 1:15 pm, immediately following our monthly luncheon. Details on the meeting along with the location will be announced in the April issue of this publication. Please put this all important meeting on your calendar now.

We look forward to seeing all of you there!

Wilhelmina B. Bratton
NCSAF Chair

Update on the Washington Academy of Sciences

The Washington Academy of Sciences has asked all of the affiliate societies to strongly encourage their members to submit papers for publication in the WAS Journal. Although the winter issue has been completed, there is a need for additional papers to be considered for the remainder of the year.

The Guidelines for Contributors to the Journal can be found at <http://www.washacadsci.org/Journal/journal.htm> or you may contact me for further information. As your liaison with the Academy, I will be glad to facilitate the process for moving your paper forward to the Journal. I hope that we can support the Academy and its efforts to reflect the leading issues and science of its affiliate societies by contributing to this esteemed publication.

C. Denise Ingram
Science & Technology Coordinator

Volunteers Still Needed the Phonathon

Volunteers are still needed for the NCSAF 2007 Phonathon for the Society of American Foresters. It will be held 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.

Annually, NCSAF assists the national office of SAF in contacting members and former members who have failed so far to renew their SAF membership for 2007. It's a great opportunity to help our professional Society and at the same time gives us an opportunity to think through why we belong to and support SAF. It sometimes provides an opportunity to talk to old friends and colleagues, which is always a great deal of fun. We use a phone bank set up by SAF in their conference room and using low evening long distance rates, we work our way across the US by time zones. The "young" foresters of NCSAF are organizing to focus their group on a single evening to be determined.

The national office provides light snacks and beverages so you can come directly from work. Notes Carol McKernon, SAF member services manager, "The Phonathon is probably one of the most important things we do here for membership retention." If anyone needs help with transportation contact Tim Resch, phonathon chair, and we will work out something. The national office is a short (for a forester) walk from the Grosvenor Metro Stop. To volunteer, please call (703) 470-3166 or e-mail: tresch@att.net . Bring a friend. This is a great way to meet and work with your fellow NCSAF members.

Tim Resch
Phonathon Chair

Globalization of Forestry and its Impacts on US Forestry

Roger A. Sedjo, Ph.D.

Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future, Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, April 11, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Montpelier Room, 6th Floor, Madison Building, Library of Congress
1st & C Streets SE, entrance diagonal from Capitol South Metro Station exit

Cost: \$17/person, includes lunch, beverage & dessert

The following is from the introduction of an August 2006 *Resources for the Future* discussion paper co-authored by Dr. Sedjo. “Like many other industries, the forest industry has undergone profound changes in recent years. Traditionally, it was primarily an extractive industry that relied on local sources for its basic resource: raw, industrial wood... Today, the forest industry is experiencing seismic changes. Intensively managed, planted forests are replacing natural forests as the basic source of the wood resource, and modern biotechnology is being applied to create trees that both grow rapidly and have traits desired in industrial wood. These changes eliminate the traditional ties between forest processing and locations with abundant natural forests.” The paper concludes with the following remarks: “We expect that while many industries already have been significantly reshaped by globalization (through off-shoring, out-sourcing, etc.), the forestry industry may be at a more nascent stage of globalization, with much of the reshaping of the industry yet to come. Particularly as economic development progresses in the furthest reaches of the world, the forestry industry will continue to evolve and follow in the path that other industries have taken as they have adapted to a more globalized world and taken advantage of the features that can generate comparative advantages. Therefore, it is important to keep an eye on trends in the forest products industry as globalization continues to change our world.”

Dr. Sedjo has served on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Committee of Scientists and has co-chaired the committee of authors who wrote the chapter on biological sinks for the International Panel on Climate Change's Third Assessment Report on climate change mitigation through forestry and other land use measures. He also has been a consultant to the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and other international organizations in more than a dozen countries, including Argentina, Chile, Indonesia, New Zealand, Russia, Romania, Estonia, and Thailand.

Come hear one of NCSAF's most distinguished members as he discusses globalization in forestry and recent changes in U.S. forestry. He will also suggest that some of the dramatic changes currently being experienced in the U.S. forest products industry are driven in part by globalization forces.

RSVP to Terri Bates, batesmt@verizon.net or (703) 538-1134, by noon on Monday, April 9.

Loren Ford
Program Chair

NCSAF Membership Update

NCSAF Membership Update – March 2007

As of the end of February 2007, NCSAF had a total of 292 members, which is three members shy of our membership goal of 295 members by the end of 2007. Also as of the end of February, 41 NCSAF members have not yet renewed their memberships for 2007. This is an improvement over this time last month when we had 68 members who had not yet renewed. The NCSAF Executive Committee has been given this list of 41 members, and personal contacts will be made during the month of March to encourage all members to renew before the annual member Phonathon is held on April 17, 18, and 25 at the national office. If you have not already done so, please contact Tim Resch at email: tresch@att.net or e-mail: (703) 470-3166 and sign up for one of these nights to help us make calls to members across the country.

The following NCSAF membership changes occurred in February.

Reinstated

Kathleen M. Youngquist, Dominion Virginia Power

Transferred In

Lathrop P. Smith, USDA Forest Service – from Skyline Chapter

Transferred Out

John W. Houchins – to Blue Ridge Chapter

Brian Keightley – to Maryland/Delaware Division

Marla McIntosh – to Maryland/Delaware Division

Jim Culbert
Membership Chair

New U.S. Forest Service Chief Abigail Kimbell Spoke at NCSAF Luncheon

Gail Kimbell, 16th chief of the USDA Forest Service spoke to the members of the National Capital SAF at a luncheon at the USDA headquarters in Washington, DC, on March 8.

The benefits of membership in SAF and the current and future challenges facing the US Forest Service were just two of the many topics discussed during the March 8 National Capital SAF luncheon featuring the agency's newly appointed agency Chief Gail Kimbell.

Before being selected as the agency's 16th Chief, Kimbell served as regional forester in the agency's northern region in Missoula, Montana, which includes northern Idaho, and North Dakota. Prior to becoming regional forester, she worked in the agency's Washington Office as associate deputy chief of the National Forest System, where she assisted in the development of the Healthy Forests Initiative.

Kimbell began her address by telling the audience of her involvement in SAF and how her membership in the Society has benefited her throughout her career.

“As a professional forester, I have been a SAF member since 1974. In fact, I helped start a student chapter at the University of Vermont in 1973,” said Kimbell. “I think it is vitally important for natural resource professionals to belong to SAF or to other professional societies. We need to keep abreast of developments in our fields. Professional memberships are a great way to do that. I have always encouraged professional memberships at the Forest Service, and I will continue to do so.”

Following these remarks, the remainder of Kimbell’s speech addressed the change in the agency’s management perspective from maximizing timber production to maintaining ecosystem health and how that shift in focus has altered its priorities.



“Beginning in the late 1980s, but with roots that go back much further, our management underwent changes. We focus more and more on the health of the ecosystems we are managing. That’s where our primary focus is today—on restoring the lands we’re charged with managing for health and resilience,” she said during her address. “Not everyone had made note of the changes over the past 20 years. Some seem stuck in the past, fighting and re-fighting those old battles from the 1970s and 1980s over timber and roads, that’s why we started talking about the four threats. It was a way of saying, time out. Look at what’s really happening on the national forests.”

Moreover, said Kimbell, other issues such as population growth and climate change are likely to affect the agency’s focus in the future.

“Population growth is putting huge pressures on the national forests and grasslands. We’re losing 4,000 acres of open space per day and the developments springing up around public lands are raising all kinds of land management issues pertaining to access, damage and degradation, and endangered species,” she said. “To support all that growth the most basic resource we need besides land is water. We’re already short of water, particularly in many places in the West, and the demand for water, and the associated conflicts over water rights, are likely to grow.”

In regard to climate, Kimbell noted that if greenhouse gas emissions continue at or near the level of business as usual, there could be massive ecological dislocations by the middle of the century.

“There could be all sorts of forest type conversions. At higher levels, for example, there could be changes from fir to mixed-conifer, we could have grasslands in some places where there are now forests, we could have forests in some places that are now shrublands,” she said. “We could see local species extinctions and the local loss of entire ecological communities. Fire season severity is already growing and the word “megafires” has now entered our vocabulary. Municipal water supplies could be threatened and the forestry, ranching, and outdoor industries could all be in trouble.”

Yet despite these challenges, Kimbell said that she is confident that the conservation community can address them successfully and she pointed to conservation easements and the efforts to purchase tracts of industrial timberlands as proof. She also said that she believes that the Forest Service is “on the right track” in regard to efforts to protect ecosystem health and resilience.

“Active management is key to addressing the threats we face and to realizing our vision for the national forests. There is rising public acceptance for active management particularly due to growing fire seasons. We simply can’t protect ecosystems and people from uncharacteristically severe fire, from the spread of invasive species, or from unmanaged recreation and user conflicts without stepping in and taking action.”

That action, said Kimbell, must be based on sound science and research and requires strong working relationships both in the U.S. and abroad.

“The challenge of sustainable land management is global,” she said. “As chief, I look forward to seeing how we can work better with other countries of promote sustainability worldwide.”

“Ultimately,” said Kimbell, “it all hinges on partnerships. Collaboration is a lot of work, is costly, and it can be time consuming, but it is worth it when communities come together to restore the health and resilience of a forested landscape.”



Laura Schweitzer (l), past NCSAF chair, talks about Dick Fitzgerald’s (c) service to SAF. Dick received his 50th year golden member certificate. Wilhelmina Bratton (r), current NCSAF chair looks on.

Joe Smith
Forestry Source Editor
SAF National Office



Wilhelmina Bratton (l), current NCSAF chair awards John Fedkiw (r) with his 60th year certificate

Treasurer's Report March 2007

Current Balance:

Certificates of Deposit	\$15901.43
Cash	\$100.00
Checking	<u>\$11,095.69</u>
Total	\$27,097.12

	<i>2/12 to 3/12</i>	<i>Year-to-Date</i>
Amount received:		
Auction Income	\$680.00	\$1,809.95
Dues Disbursement	--	\$910.00
Luncheon Receipts	\$969.00	\$1,892.00
Raffles	<u>\$96.00</u>	<u>\$188.00</u>
Total	\$1,745.00	\$4,799.95
Amount expended:		
Awards-Recognition	--	\$122.00
Foresters' Fund	--	\$500.00
Luncheon meals	\$1,006.40	\$1,920.90
Mailing	--	\$3.57
Miscellaneous expenses	\$9.22	\$9.22
Web site	<u>\$138.80</u>	<u>\$138.80</u>
Total	\$1,154.42	\$2,694.49
Net increase (decrease):	\$590.48	\$2,105.46

We expect to receive another \$375.00 in outstanding pledges from the auction. The web site expense was for two years of hosting the site. We lost about \$37 for the 3/8 luncheon because we had to pay for those who didn't show. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact NCSAF Treasurer Doug Powell at dougpowell@fs.fed.us.

Doug Powell
Treasurer

2007 NCSAF Calendar of Events

Date	Description	Contact
April 11	Dr. Roger Sedjo Globalization of Forestry and its Impacts on US Forestry	Loren Ford
April 18	Phonathon Wild Acres	Tim Resch
April 19	Executive Committee Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
April 25	Phonathon Wild Acres	Tim Resch
May 10	NCSAF Annual Business Meeting	Wilhelmina Bratton
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
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

2007 NCSAF Calendar of Events (*continued*)

Date	Description	Contact
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	wbratton@fs.fed.us
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Immediate Past Chair	Laura Schweitzer	W: (202) 737-1944 x219 H/Mb: (510) 847-3817	LSchweitzer@amfor.org
Treasurer	Doug Powell	W: (202) 205-1724 H: (703) 698-1434	dougpowell@fs.fed.us
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Fundraising Chair	Laura Schweitzer	W: (202) 737-1944 x219 H/Mb: (510) 847-3817	LSchweitzer@amfor.org
Historian	Vacant		
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Policy Chair	Rick Cooksey	W: (202) 205-1469	rcooksey@fs.fed.us
Science and Technology Coordinator (WAS)	Denise Ingram	W: (202) 205-3611	cdingram@fs.fed.us
Wild Acres Liaison	Dick Fitzgerald	W: (202) 205-1753 H: (703) 378-8114	rfitzgerald@fs.fed.us