

The DC Forester

The quarterly newsletter of the National Capital Society of American Foresters



Advancing forest management, policy, and science in the Nation's Capital and beyond

NCSAF Happy Hours Bring Membership Together

by Chris Farley, 2011 NCSAF CHAIR

In the first 4 months of 2011, NCSAF sponsored two happy hours for members to network, chat, and also just relax and enjoy each other's company together. Originally established a few years ago as an opportunity for "young people" in NCSAF to get together, the Happy Hours are now great opportunities for NCSAF members to socially interact with foresters from throughout the region that they may not meet in their regular professional interactions. Look for another NCSAF happy hour sometime in July.

The first happy hour of 2011, on March 22nd, was held at Regional Food & Drink (RFD) in the Chinatown/Gallery-Place neighborhood. Featuring one of the DC-area's best beer selections, RFD provided a great opportunity for SAF members to sample some fine Belgian ales, and have some great discussions about climate change, certifica-

tion, and other more "fun" topics.

The second happy hour, on April 22nd, was held at the Science Club on 19th & L St NW, and was jointly sponsored by NCSAF and the DC Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCB). This was a great opportunity for NCSAF members to meet professionals from a closely related professional organization. Many thanks to NCSAF member Joe Burns for helping bring the two organizations together! In the future we look forward to further joint events as well as opening more events to members of both organizations, including a potential SCB-sponsored "conservation book club".

If you're interested in helping plan or have ideas for more happy hours or social events for NCSAF, contact Chris Farley at cfarley@fs.fed.us or 703-626-0647.

2011
Issue 1

Upcoming Events



WILD ACRES WORK DAY
MAY 14th, 2011 @ 9 AM

RSVP BY MAY 12th
to: Paula Randler
pbrandler@fs.fed.us

More details on p. 3

NCSAF LUNCHEON SERIES:

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE
CHIEF TOM TIDWELL**

MAY 25th, 2011

CONTACT BRYAN
PETIT FOR MORE INFO:
brp@obpa.usda.gov

NCSAF LUNCHEON SERIES:

**TODD GARDNER
OF THE WORLD RESOURCES
INSTITUTE**

JULY 21st, 2011

CONTACT BRYAN
PETIT FOR MORE INFO:
brp@obpa.usda.gov



www.ncsaf.org



National Capital
Society of American Foresters

2011 LEADERSHIP TEAM

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NADINE BLOCK

PHONATHON CHAIR

PAULA RANDLER

COMMUNICATION CHAIR

TERRI BATES

WEBMASTER

TIM RESCH

SCIENCE & TECH COORDINATOR

DENISE INGRAM



OPPORTUNITIES IN SCIENCE -

From Science & Tech Coordinator, C. Denise Ingram

An Elegant Evening for SciTechies -

The Washington Academy of Sciences (WAS) will host its annual meeting and awards banquet (black tie optional) at the NRECA Conference Center, 4301 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, Virginia on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 5:30pm. This year's featured speaker will be Sam Kean, a science writer of note and the author of *The Disappearing Spoon* and *Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World From the Periodic Table of Elements*. To register, print your invitation and find directions please go to: <http://www.washacadsci.org/>

Judges Needed for the WAS Junior Academy -

The Washington Area Junior Academy of Sciences is an umbrella under which all professional organizations and institutions may support or present programs of interest to pre-college students who are interested in possible science related careers and activities. Some of these opportunities include STARS - Science and Technology Aptitude Recognition for Schools – and SEAP Science and Engineering Apprentice Programs. Science and Engineering are pursued in all sorts of venues such as the laboratory, the field, the lecture hall; for all sorts of purposes including the advancement of humankind, the alleviation of pain, and the sheer love of knowledge; and, and to examine all sorts of things.

As part of the Junior Academy, WAS and its affiliated members serve as judges at DC-area science fairs. If you would like to participate as a judge at one of the Academy's events, please contact Dick Davies at Dick.Davies.DC@gmail.com. Feel free to tell him that I sent you – Denise Ingram, NCSAF S&TC and WAS Liaison.

The DC Forester is *your* local membership newsletter. Help make it better by submitting events, stories, pictures or letters that would interest and inform our strong community of foresters.

Send materials to darrel.pendris@gmail.com



SAF District VII Council Report

by Ken Jolly

MAY
14th,
2011
@ 9 AM

WILD ACRES WORK DAY

I'm sure you in the NCSAF community have been waiting with baited breath to hear the details of our project at Wild Acres on May 14th. Well, wait no more!!

Please join us from 9 am - 1 pm on Saturday May 14th at Wild Acres in Bethesda for our spring work day when we will be clearing the "parking lot island." There is a large area of overgrown trees and brush between the SAF parking lot and the TNC parking lot that SAF HQ has been wanting to take care of for a long time. We will be cutting vines and smaller trees, pulling out brush, and hopefully grinding it all up on the spot in a shiny chipper. A casual lunch and beverages will be served on the back porch at the end of the work day.

Wild Acres is located at 5400 Grosvenor Ln, Bethesda MD. Parking is available, or it's a 15-minute walk from Grosvenor metro. Your family and friends are welcome to join in the brush-clearing fun, with your supervision, of course. Please wear long pants, work boots, and bring or wear long sleeves. A hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and water bottle are all recommended. Work equipment and gloves will be provided, but more tools are always helpful, so please bring what you can.

RSVP by May 12th to Paula Randler at pbrandler@fs.fed.us.

Happy Spring!
Paula

Council held its first meeting of 2011 on March 5 and 6 at the SAF Headquarters Office in Bethesda. The following are highlights from the Agenda Items that Council covered at this meeting:

- **New Membership Incentive Campaign Approved:**
I am very pleased to report that Council approved a new and exciting membership incentive campaign, which will be rolled out in June of this year. Specific details of this new campaign will be communicated to the membership by way of SAF's various information sources, but I want to "build your anticipation" by telling you that I believe this campaign provides the best recruitment incentives – for both existing members and newly recruited members – that I have seen since I became an SAF member almost 30 years ago! Look for more information and details on this in June – I know you'll like it!!
- **SAF Budget and Finances:**
Council continues to give careful attention to SAF's budget situation, and appointed a sub-committee to work with National Office staff to develop three-year budget projections which will be used to develop strategies to improve SAF's financial position into the future. Since membership dues constitute a significant source of revenue for SAF, Council is currently working with staff to conduct research on alternative dues structures that provide greater flexibility for members, resulting in better membership retention and thereby increased revenues. Council will also be taking a closer look at the finances associated with various SAF programs, and will use the budget projection data to determine whether strategic changes should be made to strengthen existing programs financial performance.
- **Strategic Planning:**
Council officially approved the effort to integrate "Good to Great" ["G2G"] concepts into SAF's Strategic Planning effort ("Good to Great" is a best-selling organizational management book authored by



Jim Collins). Extensive discussion centered around three G2G concepts in relation to SAF's Strategic Plan: (1) improving the functionality of SAF's National Committees, (2) identifying critical challenges facing SAF, and (3) identifying SAF's central organizational opportunity for excellence (in "G2G" terminology, this involves "getting the right people on the bus, facing the brutal facts, and understanding SAF's Hedgehog Concept"). Council will be working closely with the House of Society Delegates (HSD) throughout the rest of the year to obtain feedback from State Society leadership on the G2G strategic concepts, so stay tuned for further information on this effort as the year unfolds.

- **Policy Items:**

Council reviewed recent changes to SAF Policy staff that were instituted by EVP/CEO Michael Goergen in response to the recent departure of Erica Rhoad, SAF's former Director of Forest Policy (who left SAF to continue working on forestry policy issues in a new position on Capitol Hill). SAF's Policy Staff has been reconfigured and expanded via a new contractual agreement with a consulting senior policy advisor who will work closely with two new SAF policy staff to address the many policy issues facing professional foresters. Council agreed this new staff arrangement would continue to bolster SAF's reputation as a forest policy leader on Capitol Hill. Council also received an update from the Committee on Forest Policy (CFP) on current SAF policy engagement, upcoming Position Statements which will be presented to Council for approval in 2011, and the progress of the Task Force on Forest Carbon Offsets and Forest Biomass for Energy.

- **International Engagement:**

Council discussed a number of international forestry opportunities, including participation in an international network of Professional Forestry Organizations, the international aspects of hosting the 2011 National Convention in Hawaii (greater participation from foresters from Pacific Rim countries such as New Zealand), the opportunities to promote forestry related to the U.N.'s "International Year of the Forest," future meeting opportunities with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), and the role of SAF's World Forestry Committee.

- **Accreditation:**

Council approved the recommendation of the Task Force on Terrestrial Ecosystem Management to proceed with the development of a separate set of accreditation standards for a more broadly-based land management curriculum. The intent is to enhance the appeal of educational programs in

forestry and provide a broader image for the SAF. This new accreditation standard would serve to supplement the existing specialized SAF accreditation standards for Urban Forestry and two-year Forest Technology curricula.

- **Professional Recognition:**

Council agreed there was a need to continue to encourage State Societies to submit nominations for deserving colleagues for National Awards. The submission deadline for most National Award nominations is February 28 annually, and information about the Awards can be found on the SAF website. National Capital SAF has successfully nominated several National Award recipients in the past, and I would encourage NCSAF to begin thinking about potential nominees for 2012 National Award nominations early on! Also, please keep in mind that the deadline for nominations for the Presidential Field Forester Awards is coming up very soon, on May 15, and nominations for the HSD National Recognition Awards will be due in late summer/early fall (please contact NCSAF Chair Chris Farley for more information on the HSD Award nomination process).

- **Other Business items:**

Council received reports from FSTB and HSD; continued work on the response to the eight 2010 HSD recommendations to Council; received an up-date from the National Council Student Representative; reviewed a preliminary proposal to establish an Invasive Species Task Force; appointed the members of the 2011 Council Evaluation Committee; approved a student ring distribution plan; and approved a Council Resolution recognizing the Los Angeles County Fire Department-Forestry Division in its centennial year for its contributions to forestry and providing fire suppression services.

The next Council meeting is set for June 4 and 5, 2011. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the items above, or if there is anything else that you want to bring to my attention for Council's consideration. I greatly appreciate hearing from you with any comments and suggestions you may have for advancing the mission of SAF.

