



THE INDIANA FORESTER

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June, 2021

Inside this issue:

Lynn Andrews	1 2
Bob Burke	2 3 4
Pete Halstead	4 5
Dr. Bill Hoover	6- 7
Earl McCleerey	7 8
Volunteer Oppor- tunities	9
Leadership Team	9

HONORING LONG TIME ISAF MEMBERS

ISAF is proud to showcase our 50-year (and plus) members in this special edition of the Indiana Forester.



Forester Finds his Niche in Southern Indiana

Lynn Andrews received an award for 50 years of service to the Society of American Foresters on February 21, 2019 at Indiana SAF's winter meeting. He is originally from Pennsylvania but spent most of his life in southern Indiana. Early in his career he took a demotion to return to south-

ern Indiana and has never regretted it.

Andrews received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Technology at Penn State in 1969. While in college he worked summers for the Forest Service in Missouri and Wyoming. The Forest Service let him do a variety of jobs including mark timber, fight fire, and do TSI.

After graduation he got a job with the Navy as the Natural Resource Manager of the 9,000-acre Ammunition Depot in Earle, New Jersey. Later he transferred to what is now the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) at Crane as a forester, but two years later took a position in the District Office in Philadelphia.

He was constantly on the road as his new job covered 26 states. During this time, he married his wife

Cathy. Neither of them liked the time he spent traveling, so he took a pay cut to be able to stay home and returned to his position at the NSWC at Crane. Andrews remained at NSWC for the next 30+ years.

Andrews noted the job changed over the time he worked in forestry, mostly due to technology and the amount of information available which influenced forest management. His job changed too. When he arrived at NSWC they were cutting a 100 MBF/year. By the time he retired they were cutting a sustainable 1 million BF/year. The forest management plan his team wrote is still in place today. When Andrews started, the forestry operation was just his desk in a big room. Over time forestry grew to 4-5

people and got a new building. He notes it was a great job and when he retired, he received the Navy Superior Civilian Award which is the highest award given to a civilian in the Navy as well as a Sagamore of the Wabash Award from Governor O'Bannon.

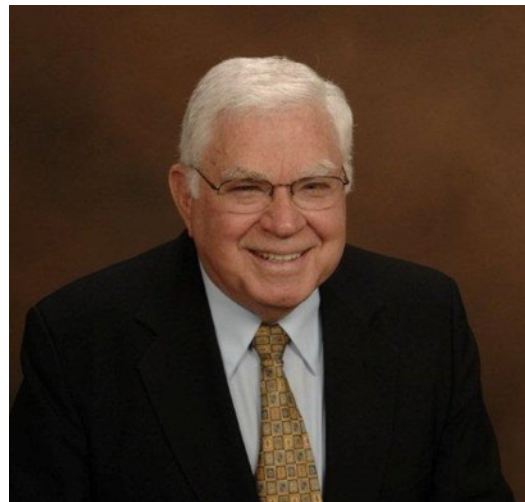
His advice to young foresters is to get out and get some experience early. He said he thought he went to a good forestry school but when he got on the job, he didn't always know what he needed to know, and it was experience and other foresters who provided that knowledge. Andrews also credits Society of American Foresters for their contributions. The Navy sent their foresters to every national convention. It was a great place to learn things about his field.

SAF was also a good way to network. At the NSWC

he was somewhat isolated from other foresters, but the SAF meetings allowed him to meet other people in his field. Andrews hosted two State meetings on the NSWC base during his tenure.

As a retiree, Andrews stays busy as a lead disaster volunteer in southern Indiana with the American Red Cross. He was treasurer for Woodland Steward for the last ten years. He does trail maintenance and was part of a team that spent many hours constructing the Milwaukee Trail—a local rails-to-trails effort.

Andrews lives in Bedford, Indiana with his wife Cathy and their dog Haley who joins him on a daily 3-mile walk. His son and four grandchildren are also in the Bedford area.



Bob Burke Serves Society of American Foresters for 50 Years!

Bob Burke joined the Society of American Foresters in 1968. He remembers being elected as secretary-treasurer at his first meeting, and then served from 1968-1971. Three years later he was elected to be the Section Chair. In those days, he explains they were the Central States Section which included Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio. At some point, the national office sent word that the Central States Section was to dissolve, and they were to reform as individual state chapters. He said the upside of the time as the Central States Chapter was the great contacts and friends he made with foresters in Illinois and Ohio.

Burke served two years in the US Army before going to work with the Pierson Hollowell Veneer Company where he served as their lead forester for 33 years. In 1979 he established his own consulting company focused on walnut plantations, which he ran for 15 years. He became a certified forester early in his career with a CF number of 108.

There are a few things Burke is understandably proud of. He worked with the Forest Service many years ago on a research

project to plant walnut seedlings on their company land. Forest Service researchers did their studies on the company lands and Burke was proud to have played a part in improving walnut trees.

Walnut trees have always been his passion, leading to him co-founding the Walnut Council in 1970. He also spoke fondly of his relationship with Senator Richard Lugar. He was his private forester for many years and worked with Lugar planting walnut on his private lands. The two men became friends.

Burke related a story from the Hoosier National Forest controversy in the 1980s. Burke said he was one of the few from the timber industry who was working with the environmentalists to get a better compromise on the Hoosier Plan. But in the end, the alternative that the Environmentalist preferred and that the legislators came out in favor of was selected. Burke explained how he had gone to his friend and asked the Senator why the legislators had made that choice. Senator Lugar said it was because the environmentalists had come to him and asked for help. Forest industry and conservationists had never asked. Burke realized then that foresters could never make that mistake again. They needed to take their message to the politicians. One tangible symbol of that was a walnut Burke planted on the Capitol grounds in Washington DC from the Indiana Walnut Council.

Another thing he is proud of, is the Tree Improvement Center at Purdue University. He said years ago he got word that Carbon-dale had closed their research unit on walnut. About that same time, he took a trip to Europe to look at an I I-country initiative on forestry. When he got back, he went to see Senator Lugar.

He told the Senator all about what he'd seen, and how impressed he was with what they were doing and how they could replicate much of it in Indiana. At the end of his visit, Senator Lugar promised him a ½ million dollars and told Burke to find a place for his new research center. Not long after, Burke went to an SAF meeting and talked to Dennis LeMaster (Dean of Natural Resources at Purdue) over dinner. He told LeMaster the same story about the potential of his vision and they called Lugar back, said they were committed, and asked for more money. Burke said LeMaster made it happen and he's found that "if it's a worthwhile project, the money will come" and the Tree Improvement Center at Purdue was born and has thrived ever since.

LeMaster reflected that he had always been impressed with Burke's unrelenting passion for forestry and his leadership abilities and strength of character. In a letter, Le Master said Burke was a man who loved forestry, got things done, and stood for something. Well said. Our profession is better for Bob Burke's efforts to get things done.

Burke received a Sagamore of the Wabash Award in 2014. In his letter of support, Senator Richard Lugar wrote of the remarkable contributions his friend Bob Burke had made through his scholarship, active participation, and leadership in forestry in both Indiana and in other countries in the world.

Burke has received many honors.

In 1986 Indiana honored its first two members as Fellows of SAF. Bob Burke was one of those first Indiana SAF Fellows. In May 2010, Burke received an honorary doctorate from Purdue University, and in 2013 he received a Certificate of Distinction, the highest honor given by the Agricultural Alumni Association.

Indiana joined the National Tree Farm Association in 1956. Burke joined the new organization in 1960. In 1968 he became the chairman of the Indiana Tree Farm. Fifty years later, Burke passed the mantle of leadership to Lenny Farlee.

Burke also served six years as Chair of the Forestry Committee of the National Association of Conservation Districts, and co-founded the Hoosier Heartland RC&D, serving as its Vice Chair. He also served as supervisor for the Morgan County SWCD for 30 years.

Until the last few years Burke has always been active in SAF, but has found in recent years he had less time and focused more on Tree Farm and other activities, but still values his SAF ties.

Burke advises young foresters to get involved. He suggests they should join their professional organization and get involved with forestry organizations and meet other people who are enthused about the profession. "Someone will take you under their wing and help you out," he noted. In over 50 years of forestry, Burke has certainly helped his share of young foresters.

Burke and his wife have two daughters and two grandchildren. Burke proudly notes that both his daughters attended Purdue University.



Pete Halstead – 50 years of Making Forestry a Way of Life

Harry E. "Pete" Halstead grew up in Arkansas and started studying forestry in 1960 at Arkansas A&M College. He transferred to Southern Illinois University to finish his degree in forestry, in part because this university was accredited by the Society of American Foresters. Pete graduated in 1966.

Degree in hand, he enlisted in the US Army in 1966, went to Basic and AIT, and then on to Engineer Officer Candidate School. Then 2LT Halstead spent a tour of duty at Ft. Sam Houston, TX, followed by duty in the Republic of Vietnam. After release from active duty, he served 7 years in the Army Reserve as a platoon leader, company executive officer, and company commander in C Company, 972nd Engineer Battalion, Terre Haute, IN.

After Vietnam, Pete was hired by the Indiana Division of Forestry as a District Forester in 1969. He was fortunate to train with

John Datena at Jasonville. He was a District Forester at Jasonville for four years and covered 7 counties where he worked in Cooperative Forest Management assisting private forest owners with forest management advice.

It was when he started with the DNR, that he first joined the Society of American Foresters. In 1973, he went to work in wood procurement for the Weston Paper & Manufacturing Co. in Terre Haute, IN. He did estimating, inventorying, pricing and purchasing of standing timber from private landowners. He also supervised logging contracts and marketed the various wood products to the Weston Mill as well as other sawmills and veneer mills in Indiana & Illinois. Pete also purchased and managed company forest lands in Indiana & Illinois and purchased residual wood chips from other sawmills. In 2001, after 28 years, Pete retired from his job at Weston.

After retirement, he began another career working as a consulting forester, a job he continues today. The services include timber management plans, timber marking & marketing, timber sales administration, timber stand improvement, and timber inventory & appraisals. He now averages 2 days/week and enjoys staying busy.

Pete emphasized that throughout his career he has been involved in forestry-related “extra-curricular” activities. These include serving as a supervisor for the Greene County Soil & Water Conservation District, inspector and board member of the Indiana Tree Farm program, Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen’s Association (IHLA) where he was a board member, helped found the Indiana Forest Industry Council (IFIC) to give the logging community a voice in the management of our forest resources and promote logging safety, member of the Walnut Council and the Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association (IFWOA), and currently a Trustee of the Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation, Inc. (IFEFF). He has served for at least 30 years as a Trustee/Officer of the IFEFF and considers this to be his main extra project and he challenges all his fellow foresters to find an “extra” to get involved with...it helps make forestry more than just a job...but a way of life.

One of those “extras” has been Indiana Society of American Foresters. He received his 50-year pin in 2019. Pete said he has stayed involved all 50 years but ironically never held any offices. In the early years he was busy with the Army Reserves and learning his new job, involved locally with community groups, and his family and then after a while, nobody asked him to hold an SAF office. But he encouraged others to hold an office in their professional organization and contribute if they can. He also encouraged foresters to go to the meetings as there is always an opportunity to learn something and network with other foresters. He also commented how the job of forestry has changed and how its more important than ever to be able to communicate your ideas to the public. You have to be able to sell forestry to landowners and to the public. We all need to be PR people to help people understand forestry.

Pete has enjoyed his life as a Hoosier and being a part of the whole forest resource community. He said there is a spirit here in the Hoosier State that is hard to describe...lets get on with working, living, and raising our next crop of good citizens.

Pete and his wife, Charlene, live in Linton, IN., and been married 54 years. She taught school for 33 years. They have one daughter, Megan and her family, who also lives in Linton.

The photo shows Pete by a cherrybark oak 61” dbh and 13’ across at the base in a stand near Rockport which reportedly has not been harvested since the Civil War.



Dr. William L. Hoover Receives Award for 50 Years in SAF

Dr. William Hoover joined the Society of American Foresters (SAF) in 1968 as a young forestry student. At a recent ISAF meeting, the Indiana SAF recognized his 50-year milestone.

Hoover's career in forestry and service to SAF has not only spanned five decades but has taken his profession around the world.

He received both his Bachelor and Master's degrees in forestry from Pennsylvania State University. Hoover explained he had an ROTC scholarship to get his first degree. Then, after graduation in 1966, he went to Vietnam.

When he returned, he worked for awhile before going back to get first his Masters, and then on to Iowa State University to get his doctorate in Forest Economics and Statistics.

After an internship with the Forest Service, Hoover began what was to be a life-long career with Purdue University. He did stints again with the Forest Service, including one he considers a highlight of his career working in Washington, DC on timber taxation.

Hoover also did international work including a trip to Honduras working on agricultural diversification after a hurricane, and later to Gambia, West Africa, evaluating forestry projects for US Agency for International Development, and again to Costa Rica where he served as a visiting professor. He found international work intriguing and challenging.

Despite enjoying these assignments, Purdue University and Lafayette, Indiana had become his home, and Hoover always returned. He has been a prominent fixture in forestry at Purdue for 45 years and received multiple honors. He worked as a professor and later also as Forestry and Natural Resources Extension Coordinator and Assistant Department Head. Many forestry students at Purdue fondly remember his classes in Forest Economics, Forest Watershed Management, Forest Policy and Administration, Timber Taxation and Investment Management, and Forest Products Management.

When asked how he'd seen forestry change over the years, Hoover said it had become a lot more technical in terms of forester's tools, and we now have a much better understanding of how forest systems work. His advice to new foresters today was to be flexible in their career objectives. He also encouraged them to be involved in their professional organizations like SAF. He said those organizations allowed professionals to network and continue to tap into ideas, evolving issues and training.

Hoover has always been active in his community. Since his retirement he has amped up the extent of his volunteer work. He has long worked with Boy Scouts in virtually every capacity, and with his church. His latest volunteer project has been the establishment of a heritage apple orchard at The Farm at Prophetstown State Park near Lafayette.

One activity Hoover is committed to is Family Promise of Greater Lafayette, Inc. This organization provides housing and case management for homeless families with children. Previously, partner churches provided overnight accommodations, but last year a new facility for families and offices for case management was constructed. Hoover played a leading role in the formation of the group and was its first president.

Another interesting activity Hoover helped start and led until this last year is Hands of the Future, Inc. This non-profit seeks to overcome the "nature deficit" of children. The program includes an after-school program at the Celery Bog Nature Center for K-3rd graders. It also includes a Living School Yard with elementary school teachers to provide in-school activities and establish programs in nature areas at the schools.

Hoover also has been focused on refurbishing Berlovitz Woods, a 19-acre woodland donated to the Lafayette Department of Parks and Recreation. The woods needed a lot of work and he's determined to bring it back to its potential.

When not working on other projects, Hoover is still doing research on the history of forestry in Indiana.

Hoover and his wife Peggy have three children and two grandchildren all of whom live in the Lafayette area.



Earl McCleerey Receives Recognition for 50 Years in Forestry

Earl (Mac) McCleerey has deep roots in Indiana. He said his family was in the Indiana territory before Indiana was a state. One of his ancestors was one of the first school teachers in the area. He has a great grandfather buried in Brown County who fought in the Civil War. McCleerey is proud of his Hoosier Heritage and can't think of a better place he'd rather have worked.

McCleerey grew up in the Indianapolis/Carmel area and went to Purdue University after High School. He majored in Forest Production. He worked in Kentucky briefly before going into the Army. He served in the military for five years, mostly in western Germany in a special weapons unit. After the Army, he returned to the Division of Forestry in Kentucky for a year while watching for a job back home in Indiana.

When a job came open with the Lincoln Hills RC&D in Cannelton, IN, McCleerey took it. McCleerey still has a great fondness for the Lincoln Hills RC&D. He noted it was the first RC&D to form in the United States 55 years ago. The Lincoln Hills Forestry Committee, which McCleerey co-chairs, is still active in the area. The Lincoln Hills job covered Harrison, Crawford, Perry and Spencer Counties.

He worked with the RC&D for two years before transferring to the Indiana DNR. He was able to stay in the same area and with his new job as District Forest, he covered Perry and Spencer Counties. McCleerey noted the private landowners he worked with treated him well and he enjoyed the work. His counties were 50% forested, so it was a great place to be a forester!

The Lincoln Hills Forestry Committee continues to be active and worked with him to provide workshops, field days, events, and lumber studies which allowed him to keep his landowners informed and build good relationships with the lumber industry. He hopes we can continue those good partnerships into the future, though he said there are fewer loggers and sawmills than there were in the past. There have been some bad years for loggers, and its dangerous work, but foresters, landowners, and the timber industry have always worked well together in his area.

McCleerey did limited consulting work after his retirement and continues to do some today. He enjoys keeping active in the profession. He also co-chairs the Lincoln Hills Forestry Committee which still holds regular workshops and workdays. He's also Vice President of the Purdue Club which is an organization of former Purdue University alum that raise and distribute scholarship money each year to local students.

He is the Past Commander of American Legion Post 213 and Adjutant of both the American Legion and Sons of the American Legion and President of the Lions Club. He said both he and his wife stay very busy.

He and his wife Patricia live in Tell City. They have no biological children but sponsored 32 teenage girls over the years through the International Lions Club. These girls, who came from 15 different countries, came to Perry County for a camp and stayed with the McCleerey's. He said he and his wife thoroughly enjoyed having the girls and as they've traveled, they've visited some of the girls and their families and the girls have come back to see them. It was a wonderful enduring experience for them.

Asked about the future of forestry, McCleerey said he'd like to see more young foresters since it seems that there are never enough graduates to fill the jobs. In the past when he spoke at high school career days, he'd emphasize that being a forester was not likely a job you'd get rich at, but it was a life style where you lived and worked in beautiful country, breathed clean air, saw wildlife and fish, and that he had never had any regrets.

NOTE: ISAF mourns the loss of Dr. W.L. Mills, long time SAF member who passed away earlier this year. Heartfelt sympathies are extended to his family and those who worked closely with him during his career at Purdue.



4

We're on the web:
indianasaf.org

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**Indiana Society of
American Foresters**

Indiana Society of American Foresters looking for Officers and Committee Chairs

Indiana SAF is recruiting now for two officers and one committee chair. Elections will be later this summer. Leadership in your professional organization is a good way to network with other foresters, get to know more people who share your career interests, get involved with forest policy decisions, have a say in the content of the meetings and the direction our Society takes in the future. We need more people to engage and agree to be part of the leadership of ISAF. Its good for the individual and good for the Society.

Vice Chair—At this time, no one has expressed an interest in the office of Vice Chair which is a very important job. It is a great entry position for someone who wants to learn the ropes and has an interest in leadership. The Vice-chair presides at meetings in the absence of the Chair and assists the Chair. The Vice-chair shall also serve as the Program Committee Chair to plan the two meetings each year. This is a 2-year term that then moves into the Chair position for an additional 2 years.

Secretary—We do have one person interested in this position and if someone else is interested, they can submit their name as well. The main job of the Secretary is to keep the minutes of the meetings, conduct correspondence, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or Chair. (Note: if we have multiple candidates interested in running for any office, we develop an electronic ballot and the secretary helps with the tabulation.)

Foresters Fund —At each ISAF meeting, we traditionally have had fundraisers for the Foresters Fund. Activities are planned to allow people to socialize while contributing a bit of money to this fund. Past activities included corn hole and Euchre tournaments. The goal of the fund includes:

- Promote education to enhance public understanding of the role of professional foresters in forest resource management
- Conduct forest policy activities.

Anyone with an interest in any of these positions should contact Teena Ligman, Nominations Chair at tdligman@att.net or at 812-278-0139.

MISSION: *The mission of the Society of American Foresters is to advance the science, education technology and practice of forestry; to enhance the competency of its members; to establish standards of professional excellence; and to use the knowledge, skills and conservation ethic of the profession to ensure the continued health and use of forest ecosystems and the present and future availability of forest resources to benefit society.*

ISAF LEADERSHIP TEAM

Chair—Travis Dunn
Vice-chair—Andrew Suseland
Past Chair—Mike Spalding
Secretary—Elena Crosier
Treasurer—Josh Wagner