



THE INDIANA FORESTER

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Comments from the Chair



It's winter now. The leaves and bugs are gone, no more hot sweaty days where it's hard to see past the first log of the tree. What a great time to work in the woods. Time to mark some timber, kill some invasives, do some TSI, write some plans, check on the spring plantings, service some equipment, do some billing, pay some bills, attend a meeting, consult a

land owner, visit a perspective client, work on some tax statements, plan a meeting, read some e-mails, make some phone calls, keep up the forest certification issue, the EAB issue, carbon credits, and cost share opportunities.

As a young boy scout I thought what a great job to have, "Yeah, that's it, I'll be a forester." Getting paid to stroll through the woods and look at trees, see some animals, and admire some scenic views. As a youngster, I loved the outdoors, the beauty of the spring flowers, the sound of crunching leaves as you hiked on a sunny fall day. I had no idea what was involved with the job as a forester. Something drew us all into our positions as foresters, and it probably had more to do with an affinity for the natural resources we manage, rather than the hectic schedules we keep. Caring for our natural resources comes with a lot of responsibility, but it is what we are called to do as foresters.

With age and experience, I realize our responsibility as foresters is to protect the ideals we believe in. Promoting and implementing science-based sustainable forestry in our woodlands, as well as protecting how land use practices impact our natural resources. However, not everyone agrees on how we

treat our forest, or land use in general. Some have profits and economics as their number one goal regardless of the impacts on the environment. Some promote preservation as the way to treat our natural resources, regardless of the fiscal obligation. Much like hot and cold, warm requires a little of each. Special interest groups seem to come out of the woodwork when we are considering how to approach the care of our natural resources. This is nothing new. From the days of John Muir and Gifford Pinchot to today, consensus has not been reached on this controversial issue. I feel this will always be the case.

That brings me to the purpose our SAF organization, which I humbly find myself grateful and privileged to serve as Chair. As a forester, I feel it imperative to belong to my state Society. On a political level, SAF gives foresters a unified voice on forest based issues. If we aren't vigilante in these days, some legislation may get passed that could affect the way we manage our forests. Environmental awareness (The Green Movement) is growing at a rapid pace, and interest groups are always pressuring politicians, promoting their agendas. Some are good; some not so good. On a professional level, SAF gives us the opportunity to exchange information with one another. Even among ourselves we differ in opinion on management issues. Our selected fields each produce a different set of factors that influence how we may approach forest management. SAF gives us the opportunity to express these differences and learn from one another. It also allows us to organize meetings structured to continually educate ourselves in order to keep up with the forestry field in this changing environment.

All this being said, take a moment and go back to what brought you here in the first place. Take a breath, look around and enjoy the places we hold dear to us. This is why we wanted to be foresters!

Brian Gandy
ISAF Chair

ASH SYMPOSIUM

You are invited to attend the Symposium on Ash in North America, March 9-11, 2010, at the University Plaza Hotel in West Lafayette, Indiana. This symposium will bring experts from across North America together to provide a continental perspective on the ecologic, economic, social, and cultural importance of North American ash species and the consequences

of the devastating pest, emerald ash borer. Application will be made for SAF CFE credits for this symposium.

Registration and program information is available at www.fnr.purdue.edu/ashsymposium or contact Lenny Farlee, Purdue University Extension Forester at lfarlee@purdue.edu or 765-494-2153.

A CONVENTION SUMMARY

This year's SAF National Convention was held in Orlando, Florida at a Walt Disney World Resort. We could get into a long philosophical discussion about the wisdom of a convention that was relatively removed from forestry industry and research areas, and was more of a vacation destination. But suffice it to say that they probably did get a price break since it was held during off season. Unfortunately, Brian was unable to attend.

Unlike last year's one and a half day affair, the House of Society Delegates meeting only lasted one day. It was more about reports from National Office than issues from the states. One major accomplishment that was touted was the new SAF website. Having been on the website before the convention, I found it to be as they explained at HSD, designed to provide information to membership, be more useful to membership, and also reach out more to the general public and others interested in forestry issues. The other big item National Office has been involved in has been testimony regarding renewable energy legislation, particularly making sure woody biomass and particular areas of woody biomass are fully allowed to be considered for renewable energy. Of the very few issues brought up, the one our state society submitted regarding unclear and inconsistent guidelines for some awards resulted in a lengthy discussion and a recommendation to Council to clarify the awards processes and make the processes readily available to the membership.

The actual convention started with a great keynote speech by Charles Mann, author of *1491*, a book about human civilization in the Americas before major European settlement began. If you have not read it, it is an interesting book describing metropolitan areas that were larger and more prosperous than respective cities in Europe. Around the noon hour Mr. Mann had a book signing. I thought about having my worn copy signed, since I did bring it for that possibility (I have never owned a book signed by an author), but when the signing was supposed to end the line was still thirty deep, so I opted out.

I saw only a limited number of familiar faces. Mike Saunders from Purdue was there helping to promote the Division of Forestry Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment, which had a prominent poster in the poster session. Rick Meilan, also of Purdue, made a presentation regarding genetic engineering in trees. An old ISAF member I talked to was John Goodburn, who is now a professor of silviculture at the University of Montana. John worked a number of years for the Division of Forestry.

I went to a variety of technical/science sessions during the three main days of the convention. The first session had an interesting title – "Deforestation: Does It Cool or Warm the Earth?" The answer is that it depends. In the low latitudes it probably warms the climate, in the middle latitudes the effect is probably

neutral, and in the high latitudes it probably cools the earth. The other interesting thing gleaned from this session is that there are 23 primary climate models in the world. They all have one thing in common – they model clouds in the same way. And the way they model clouds, according to information provided, is probably incorrect.

The next session was on forest certification. Being involved with certification at the Division of Forestry, I really did not pick up anything new at this session.

The next set of sessions was regarding renewable energy. This is a rapidly growing and changing area. One presentation was from a company that started up in the same area where a paper mill recently closed down. This company makes and ships wood pellets to electrical generating plants in Europe. They foresee a rapidly growing market. You may question the economics of shipping wood pellets from the Gulf coast to Europe, but the speaker pointed out another source they are using to obtain pellets is from British Columbia.

Another real world situation with renewable energy is with Georgia Power. They are converting one of their coal fired generating plants to a wood fired generating plant. The only major modifications they have to make are conversion of the boilers to handle wood and the larger amount of ash produced, and the changes in the fuel storage and handling. They actually expect the wood ash to be easily reused for a soil amendment, something that can't be done with coal ash. They are using all types of wood, hardwood and softwood. When the question came up on the pressure they put on the wood market, the company's studies indicated they were only going to be a minor component of the local wood market. One of the bigger changes will be in area roads. All the coal was brought in by train. They expect a fair amount, if not most of the wood to be brought in by truck.

On the final day of the science/technical sessions, there was a very good session comparing forestry in Germany with forestry in Montana. I am hopeful of getting this presentation to one of our meetings as the basic philosophies and comparisons are relevant to any state in the U.S, and very interesting.

The last sessions I attended had to do with new biotechnology. One of the sessions was presented by Rick Meilan of Purdue, covering the basics of genetic engineering. One of the specific sessions covered transgenic American chestnut. I heard a lot in the past few years of the progress in cross breeding American chestnut with Chinese chestnut to gain blight resistance. Just recently the prospect of outplanting hybrid chestnut that are fifteen-sixteenths American chestnut is very real. The transgenic work actually involves placing a gene that will provide blight resistance in otherwise pure American chestnut. What I found most interesting is that there are about a dozen genes being looked at to provide the resistance, only one of

which is from Chinese chestnut. The rest are from other plants that would possibly convey a trait that would allow American chestnut to resist the blight. Another presentation focused on allowing eucalyptus, which naturally cannot withstand any freezing temperatures, to express genetics to allow it to withstand temperatures down to about 20 degrees Fahrenheit. This would allow it to be planted and grown along the Gulf coast states. Apparently the genetics to withstand freezing temperatures are found in many tropical plants, but other genetics keep this ability from expressing itself.

Overall it was an interesting set of sessions with changing demands, changing markets, and changing biotechnology showing that forestry is going to be in constant change for many years to come. The convention title, "Opportunities in a Forested World," did not come close to explaining the changes that are on the horizon. I am thankful for the opportunity provided by ISAF and the Division of Forestry that allowed me to attend this convention.

John Friedrich
Past Chair, ISAF

A QUICK TWO YEARS

As you read this, I will have passed on to the honorable position of past-chair. At my election I considered how long the two year commitment seemed. But now I look back and see how fast they went. It was not near as hectic or pressure packed as I had expected. But I also did not accomplish as much as I had hoped. It often seemed that work time and time needed for personal issues took precedence, but maybe they should depending on the circumstances. In any case, I appreciate the opportunity and experience. The National Convention trips, made possible by ISAF and the Division of Forestry, were great experiences.

There are a couple things that I worked on that I would like to, with permission of the new Chair and Executive Committee, continue to work on to some completion point. We are getting close to having a system in place to handle insurance for special society events that aren't covered under normal insurance. Our by-laws are in electronic form and are being proofread. Once that is done, we can work on changes to bring them in line with National's minimum standards, particularly with regard to electronic voting. I strongly urge you to help when you can either through fund-raising, as an officer or committee chair, or with a meeting.

I think the best event the state society had happened in the

last few months. As a state employee, it is very frustrating that I could not respond to numerous newspaper articles that often had poor information in them. So it was a proud moment for me and hope for all of you in the Society when members of the state society from other employment areas stepped forward to provide good, professional testimony on possible legislation that affected forest management in this state. These members should be commended, because they used their own time which would otherwise have been used to produce income for their businesses. This is true professionalism and wonderful dedication.

I would recommend that the Society do enough fund-raising to ensure that both the Chair and Chair-elect can attend the National Conventions. Next year in New Mexico won't be too bad. But it will be a challenge the following year as Hawaii is the convention location. I would also recommend setting up the fund-raising events to allow more students to get involved, and to allocate more of the funds raised to the students for attending conventions.

Thank you for the honor of being Chair.

John Friedrich
ISAF Past Chair

Membership

As of November 2009, the Indiana society stands at 159 total members (139 professional + 20 students). ISAF continues to contact & welcome new members and those who transfer from other states. You early birds who promptly renewed your membership get a free SAF T-shirt...cool.

I often meet young people who are unsure of their career path. I make it a habit of encouraging them to consider a career

in forestry. Many of these young men and women have strong feelings toward improving humanity and our environment. A career in forestry offers a tremendous opportunity to impact their surroundings. Be passionate about your profession ... it's surprisingly effective!

John P. Stambaugh
Membership Chair

WINTER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

It's time to mark your calendar for the winter ISAF meeting. It is planned for Feb. 10th & 11th at the Abe Martin Lodge in Brown County State Park. The theme will be "Forestry in a New Age." Topics will be about arising issues

in forest management. Speakers and a complete agenda will be sent out later in January. For more information, contact Brian Gandy.

SAF COUNCIL NOTES

District 9 SAF Members:

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Council Representative over the past 3 years, but it is now time to turn over the reins to our new Council Rep., **Dave Walters** from KTSAF. Dave attended the Orientation Session at the Council meeting this weekend to become more familiar with the National Staff and the processes to conduct District business.

Here are highlight notes from this Council meeting, held in Bethesda, MD:

Budget and Financials: 2009 is turning out to be a tough year for SAF, with an overall loss around \$230,000. Membership revenues were only down by 3%, which is excellent considering the economy, but where we got hurt was in the Convention and advertising revenues; these were down dramatically. Due to these numbers, the National Staff will not see salary increases in 2010 and a special committee has been created to address the shortfalls in revenues. Look for their reports in future issues of the *Forestry Source*.

Federal Employee roles in SAF: This issue, where SAF members that work for the Forest Service serving as SAF volunteers are confronted with ethical dilemmas due to the laws and rules governing their participation in non-profit organizations, has been addressed periodically over the years, but have yet to make significant progress in finding a solution. SAF Council has decided that our only course forward is to seek a legislative remedy with the US Congress. Our strategy is to simply allow federal participation on non federal 501c3 organizations who comply with the ethics guidance articulated in the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation. We believe that any organization that has the policies in place to comply with the law should have significant protections as to allow federal participation. We will begin discussing this with Congress this month and plan to push for legislative changes in early 2010.

District Fellow Nomination Process: this process is under review nationally to strengthen some of the standards to assist the District Fellow Committees in making solid selections for Fellow recognition. Even though I felt a higher bar needed to be set, the majority of the Council felt otherwise, so some slight modifications were made to the procedures for nominating someone for Fellow. **NOTE: Get your nominations into the District Fellow Committees by January 31, 2010. Here are your State Society DFC members: Rachel Allison – GPSAF; Red Anderson – KTSAF; Bob Cunningham – MOSAF; Janet Egar – Indiana SAF; John Phelps – Illinois SAF; Phil Perry – Ohio SAF; and Jim Sorenson – Ouachita SAF.** Contact your state committee member to let them know you have a nominee.

Education Program Accreditation: Council approved the adoption of a new accreditation for Terrestrial Ecology, now being taught at 3 universities. This is a good deal offering accreditations through SAF, even though it is far removed from my Industrial Forest Management degree.

These items were the highlights from this Council meeting; my last. It has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience serving in this capacity and I thank all of you who have responded to these Council Reports.

I will still be available to assist in any way if you have questions or concerns from my stint on Council.

Thank you for allowing me to serve in this way.

Roger Dale Weaver
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Treasurer's Ramblings

I want to thank the ISAF membership for giving me the privilege to be your treasurer for the last four years. I discovered that the treasurer has a lot of contact with other ISAF members and I especially enjoyed that part of the job. Some of the actual clerical duties I could have done without, but overall I enjoyed my term as treasurer.

Our proposed budget for 2010 is published in this newsletter as well as the 2009 balance sheet. Since I know that you are all astute enough to interpret these two documents, I will limit my discussion to a few general observations about our financial health. During my first year as treasurer, the FFA Convention moved to Indianapolis and our display and associated costs ran close to \$700.00 per year. At about the same time, the Conservation Day at the State House evolved to where our display costs \$150.00 per year. Our cost of participation in these two important events was added to our annual budget. Since no addition income sources were added to the budget, this created a situation where our annual budget has grown very tight, and in some years we operate the annual budget in the red. I was pleasantly surprised that we ended up with a nice surplus in 2009, but most of that surplus is a result of our Chair keeping his attendance costs at the SAF Convention extremely low and a much larger than usual attendance at our annual

Pesticide Training.

I am emphasizing this tight budget situation not to suggest that we need to do anything drastic, but simply to point out that our annual budget can't be burdened with any new additional large costs. In 2013, the FFA Convention will move to Louisville for three years before returning to Indianapolis in 2016. I assume Kentucky SAF will pick up the costs for a SAF booth at the FFA Convention when it is in Louisville, but if they don't, we should probably look to SAF for grant money to cover costs while the FFA Convention is out of Indiana. That would free up \$700.00 per year for the three years.

In general, ISAF is in excellent financial health. We have a reserve fund of over \$5,500.00 that can be tapped to cover unexpected costs, or a year where for one reason or another our annual budget runs in the red. In addition, our Investment Committee has invested profits from past fund-raisers in the stock market, and while I am writing this in early December, it appears that our gains in the market will be significant. A portion of those gains (probably \$6,000.00 plus) will be set aside for future special projects.

Best wishes for a very happy and productive New Year!

Lynn Andrews

**Indiana Society of American
Foresters
Checkbook Balance Sheet
For the Period January 1 to
December 6, 2009**

BEGINNING CHECKBOOK BALANCE \$6,140.92

Income

Pesticide Workshop	\$5,611.49
ISAF Winter Meeting Registration	4,074.60
Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment (HEE) Meeting	2,148.91
Membership Dues	1,182.50
TSI Fund-raiser	750.00
Heck Endowment (Community Foundation Grant)	550.00
Forester's Fund Collection	70.00
Checking Account Interest	5.60
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,393.10

Expenses

ISAF Winter Meeting	\$3,450.69
HEE Meeting	2,148.91
Forest Pesticide Training Workshop	1,232.29
Woodland Steward Institute	1,200.00
National Convention Travel	1,004.65
Purdue Student SAF Convention Assistance	1,000.00
Fidelity Cash Reserves Deposit (TSI fundraiser)	750.00
FFA Convention	649.78
Newsletter Printing	519.00
HASTI Convention	281.36
Conservation Day Booth	150.00
Flash Network Services (discontinued web site host)	135.03
SAF House of Society Delegates (HSD) Assessment	89.90
Newsletter Stamps	84.00
Registration Refund	80.00
Election Expenses	78.08
Forester Fund Donation	70.00
Canvas Dreams (new web site host)	64.80
Supplies	56.77
Copies	13.50
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,058.76

ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE \$7,475.26

**INDIANA SOCIETY OF
AMERICAN FORESTERS
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2010**

Income:

Forest Pesticide Workshop Registrations	\$ 5,225.00
Meeting Registrations	5,000.00
Membership Dues	1,600.00
Community Foundation – Heck Endowment	550.00
S.P. Cash Reserve Fund - for PU Student SAF Registration Assistance	300.00
Forester Fund Collection	70.00
Checking Account Interest	6.00
Total Income	\$12,751.00

Expenses:

Meetings	\$ 4,000.00
National Convention Travel	1,700.00
SAF National Convention Registration Assistance for Purdue Students	1,300.00
Woodland Steward Institute, Inc.	1,200.00
Forest Pesticide Workshop	1,200.00
F.F.A. National Convention in Indianapolis (booth fee and candy)	650.00
Newsletter (email version with reduced mailings)	625.00
Natural Resource Leadership Development Institute (NRLDI)	500.00
HASTI (Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.) booth & candy	325.00
Awards	300.00
Unplanned expenditures (flowers, etc.)	150.00
Conservation Day at the Statehouse (booth)	150.00
Misc. Supplies	100.00
SAF House of Society Delegates (HSD) Assessment	95.00
Web Site Host (Canvas Dreams)	70.00
Foresters Fund Donation	70.00
Web Site Assistance Gratuity	50.00
Election Expenses	50.00
Postage	42.00
Copies	20.00
Total Expenses	\$12,597.00



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TREE FARM CLINIC

The Indiana Tree Farm committee will be providing a Forest Landowner Clinic at the Abe Martin Lodge, Brown County State Park on Saturday, March 13. This program will be aimed at private landowners, but foresters are welcome to come and interact with the landowners at the program. The program will run from 9 to 4. Registration is \$50 individual, \$75 couples. We are working on providing a free children's program as well. More details on registration and the agenda will be provided in early 2010, or you may contact Bob Burke or myself at lfarlee@purdue.edu or (765) 494-2153.

Lenny Farlee

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