



THE INDIANA FORESTER

VOL. 28 NO. 1

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Comments from the Chair



As I sit down to write my first "Comments from the Chair" column, my mind struggles with where to start. While you are reading this in early 2008 and 2007 is just a memory, I am writing this many weeks before. The Holidays are approaching and all the joy and hassles the new year brings is still ahead. Hopefully, the year 2007 was a successful year for all and the promise of 2008 is even greater.

First of all, let me say how honored I am to be your Chair for the next year. I cannot begin to describe the respect I have for the forestry professionals in this state and the pride I have for our professional society. I only hope that I do you proud and am able to carry on the great tradition of leadership within the Indiana Society of American Foresters.

Secondly, I would like to thank and congratulate Dan Shaver on his term of office. Dan brought great leadership to the society last year and I believe we took positive strides forward under his helm. Last winter's meeting on oak regeneration was very timely and sorely needed as we struggle to regenerate our fine oak stands. I believe they gave us the tools to make a good start and now it is up to us to refine and put those practices on the ground. Maintaining the oak component in our forests is not just an economic issue, but also an ecological and cultural issue.

I would also like to congratulate our newly elected officers. John Friedrich will be the new Vice-Chair this year, becoming the Chair in 2009. Also, Lynn Andrews won a second two-year term as Treasurer. Both of these gentlemen have long been involved with ISAF and bring proven talents and leadership to your Society. I would also like to thank their opponents for being willing to run. Running for office can be a risk to one's ego if they are not careful, but without people willing to put their names on a ballot our Society does not stay vibrant and strong. I have noticed a trend where candidates that don't win an office often don't run again. I would strongly encourage anyone that wants a leadership role in ISAF to feel free to volunteer to run again. Your participation is needed.

Speaking of Lynn Andrews, I hope everyone saw the article in the *Forestry Source* this fall. The article talked about ISAF assisting the Purdue student chapter with national convention travel and the investment fund. Lynn had a number of good quotes and the article gave a well deserved spotlight to ISAF and our financial health.

Finally, mark your calendars now for the 2008 ISAF Winter Meeting. The theme is "Forestry in a Changing Environment" and will focus on the changing social, political and natural environment in which we all work. The meeting is set for February 27 and 28 at McCormick's Creek State Park. Hope to see you there!

Doug Brown, ISAF Chair

HUMBLING AND INTERESTING Musings from the Past Chair



Humbling and interesting would have to be the two words I would use to summarize my time as the Chair of the Indiana Society of American Foresters. Over the course of two years as Vice-chair and Chair, there have been several occasions where I have been humbled. I have been involved with the ISAF executive committee for a number of years as part of the Foresters Fund Committee. I have always been impressed with the commitment of volunteers and the willingness of foresters to step up and take charge of projects. As Chair, this willingness was even more apparent and somewhat humbling. Little to no effort is required to keep each committee on task. As Chair, I was suddenly faced with having to interact with the National SAF on a regional level. Prior to becoming Chair, I had never really considered the structure of SAF or how the organization functions on a national level. Fortunately, the executive committee of ISAF is composed of several previous ISAF chairs. We have an outstanding cadre of SAF Fellows that are still active in our local Society (not a chapter I learned). Combine these two groups with a range of foresters that have been in SAF for close to 50 years and you have an outstanding body of knowledge from which to draw. One person in particular that helped me gain an appreciation of SAF National and the importance of being involved is Dr. John Moser who I must recognize as being part of SAF for 50 years as of this year. Congratulations, John!

If you have not taken the time to look at the structure of SAF, the bylaws, the mission, or the code of ethics, I would encourage you to take a couple of hours and spend some time on the SAF website. I have been an SAF member for 12 years and I have to admit, I have been pretty lax on taking the time to truly understand the organization that represents my chosen profession. I still don't fully understand everything that SAF does for me, but my appreciation for the Society has grown dramatically in the past two years.

Interesting would have to be the other way to sum up my experiences as Chair. When interacting with foresters from across the spectrum of the forestry profession, it helps develop a different perspective of forestry

Continued on next page

in Indiana. This is one of the greatest benefits of ISAF. This interaction helps us better understand forestry issues in Indiana and how they affect different segments of the profession. It has also been interesting to see how many issues cross your desk as the Chair of ISAF. I received many requests for information from regional SAF members, notes and updates from SAF National, and letters and e-mails from local foresters and ISAF members. If someone wanted, they could work full time just keeping up with SAF matters and their impact on Indiana. Unfortunately, as a part time volunteer for ISAF, many issues do not get the attention they deserve. For this I must apologize to ISAF, and some individual members for not responding to letters, requests or forest issues. These oversights will probably not be noticed by anyone, but it is hard to know that there was work to be done for the benefit of ISAF that did not get done.

One of the most interesting experiences I had as Chair was attending the National Society of American Foresters Convention in Portland, Oregon, and the House Society of Delegates meeting. The House Society of Delegates was also a humbling experience, but interesting. I really had no concept of what the House Society of Delegates was prior to the national meeting. Again, if I had spent a little time on the internet prior to the convention, I would have been better informed. The House Society of Delegates is composed of all the state Society chairs and chapter chairs from across the United States. Just having the opportunity to gather with this group of individuals was very interesting. I found out that many states have the same problems we have, and are dealing with similar issues like BMP's or registering foresters. One humbling experience at the delegates meeting was the fact that most societies send both their chair and vice chair to the national convention. This allows the vice-chair to observe what goes on at the meeting and meet the people they will interact with the following year. This extra year of interaction and involvement with the SAF National would have been very helpful in making my participation at the meeting more beneficial to Indiana. This would be an additional expense for ISAF, but only a small investment in our volunteer leadership. One of the best features of the HSD meeting was an opportunity for state societies to share information on new initiatives, success stories and accomplishments. There were several good ideas that I hope as past-chair I can get implemented in Indiana.

In summary, I want to thank the ISAF for the opportunity to serve as chair for this past year. It has been a good experience, and it has reaffirmed my commitment to SAF and the need to stay active in the professional society that represents the profession of forestry in Indiana.

COUNCIL REPORT

District 9 SAF Members,

This past weekend was the final SAF Council meeting for 2007, completing my first year as your Council Representative. Even though I'm proud of the accomplishments, the slow process of change is quite frustrating. There will be some big issues that all of you will be involved with in 2008, i.e. membership classifications, etc. and other big announcements as well coming out soon. Overall, the rewards from being a Council member truly outweigh the efforts needed to make sure the District is represented well.

First off, congratulations to our new Fellows in District 9: **Tom Kuzmic, Wayne Geyer, and Dan Yaussy**. To be recognized by your peers and pass the tight standards set by our District Fellows Committee is truly an honor.

Now a recap of the December Council meeting:

Five new Council members were introduced.

Rod Brevig, District 4, filling the Council role for Lyle Laverty who has resigned due to a new job appointment.

Joann Cox, District 8

Jan Davis, District 11

Greg Russell, District 5

Clark Seely, District 2

We were also introduced to the new Student Representative to Council, Stephen Purvis, from the University of Georgia. This is the first time that a Student Rep. will be included in Council meetings.

Electronic Balloting: The electronic balloting was a success for SAF, both nationally and locally where it was used. Overall, the balloting represented only 35% of our membership, compared to 40% in 2006. This is probably due to the new process, a higher than normal turnout on previous elections, a poor job by the National Staff on communicating the new process, and the untimely death of a candidate thereby changing the print materials that usually precede the ballots. It will work better next time and continue to save us dollars.

In addition, six state societies held their votes through the national electronic election system: Mississippi, Ouachita, Allegheny, South California, Kentucky/Tennessee, and the Inland Empire. Allegheny did report that they doubled their participation in voting this year.

Portland Convention: Overwhelming success. The total registration was 2,284, about 15% of the SAF membership. Also, 566 student members were in attendance.

Financial Shape: SAF has been in the black since 2003 and in great financial shape for 2007, up around \$600,000 in net revenues.

Foresters Fund: We are looking at about \$40,000 available for projects in 2008. Just to let you know, every submitted request in 2006 and 2007 received partial funding from the Foresters Fund. So, submit your projects for funding help.

Membership Survey: Survey results show the overall value of SAF was high, but tended more toward moderate than high. Most likely, this is at least partially driven by discontent over the cost of membership by a fairly large number of members, in the younger and less experienced subsets. Some of the other findings: accreditation is important; the members are split on Certified Forester; members use the website but feel it could be improved; the working groups need to be reestablished; members like the lobbying effort and the networking provided by SAF; and feel getting Continuing Education at the local level is important. A plan to address the results in the membership survey will be developed and implemented during 2008.

Group Forester Certification: SAF is proceeding with a group certification model to expand the reach of the Tree Farm System and help expand the role of family forests in the marketplace. If we succeed, more acreage will fall under sustainable forestry certification.

Membership Classifications: This issue will be discussed at our next Council meeting, preparing a resolution that will be voted on by the membership. Look for these changes coming out soon.

As always, please contact me with your concerns, questions, complaints, and suggestions. Thanks for letting me serve.

Roger Weaver, District 9 Council Rep.

Roger Dale Weaver

Wood Fiber Analyst

Glatfelter Woodlands

PO Box 2500

Chillicothe, OH 45601

www.glatfelter.com

Email: Roger.Weaver@glatfelter.com

Phone: 740-772-0865

Mobile: 740-649-4069

Fax: 740-772-3670

Policy Committee

In response to the vote of the membership at the recent summer meeting, the Executive Committee directed the Policy Committee to draft a position statement reflecting the membership's opposition to the proposed draft Logger Licensing/BMP legislation. The following was approved by the Executive Committee, and was presented to the Natural Resources Legislative Study Committee on October 3rd by ISAF member Lynn Andrews.

Indiana Society of American Foresters Position Statement on the Proposed "Logger Licensing/BMP" Legislation Under Review by the October 3, 2007, Natural Resources Legislative Study Committee

Introduction

Good afternoon and thank you for giving me the opportunity to share our thoughts with you. I have provided your staff person with a written copy of our statement.

My name is Lynn Andrews. I have been a professionally-accredited forester for 38 years. I have practiced this profession for 35 years in Indiana. I have been asked by the executive committee of the Indiana Society of American Foresters (ISAF), of which I am part, to share with you the position of ISAF's membership on the draft "Logger Licensing/Best Management Practices (BMP)" legislative act.

The Indiana Society of American Foresters, a chapter of the national Society of American Foresters, is made up of 166 members—all who represent the community of professional forestry in Indiana. This group includes: private consulting foresters, foresters who work for public agencies, private industry and non-profit organizations, and foresters who are faculty in our state universities teaching the next generation of professional foresters and natural resource managers.

As professionals having a diverse spectrum of experiences, and given a charter to practice by the public, we do agree that:

The management of forestland for multiple values and benefits, including the growth and harvest of wood products, is essential to the citizens and natural resources of Indiana.

Forest products can, and should, be extracted from a forest in a way that protects its long-term sustainability—including its productivity for wood products, its water quality and associated plants and animals.

Professional foresters have the formal training and experience to manage forests for multiple values and benefits—including the protection of the forest and the extraction of forest products.

Position Statement

As a result of discussion and vote by the ISAF membership at its recent summer meeting, we respectfully oppose the current draft of the Logger Licensing/Best Management Practices legislation for the following reasons:

- ▶ As drafted, this would be the first attempt to develop a type of "forest practices act" for Indiana. While not against a forest practices act in principle, the ISAF believes that the process to develop this type of new, far-reaching legislation should initially include more stakeholders than occurred at the start of this process. While a few of our members attended the initial meetings as representatives of other organizations, ISAF was not initially invited as the goals and issues were identified. Nor were other stakeholders who would be affected and/or could provide valuable input.
- ▶ This draft legislation presupposes that Indiana forestland owners and timber harvesters do not utilize the Best Management Practices ("BMP's") that have been developed and promoted by the DNR Division of Forestry. We would note that the Indiana BMP guidelines are implied in state statute per the forestry operation section of the 2005 Nuisance Actions Chapter IC 32-30-6-11 subsection (d): "A forestry operation that conforms to generally accepted forestry management practices...."

- ▶ We believe, as currently written, this draft legislation unfairly burdens private forestland owners with unnecessary costs and restrictions.
- ▶ Finally, our understanding is that the major goal of this draft legislation is to stop the "bad actors," be they forestland owners or logging contractors, who do not utilize BMP's. We do not believe this goal will be accomplished by this draft legislation, as currently written.

Recommendations

- * The Indiana Society of American Foresters asks that your panel please consider the following:
- * While it certainly has merits, this draft legislation should be tabled for now.
- * Direct the DNR to clearly identify the problems that need to be addressed. For instance:
 - Do the current BMP's need updating?
 - Are BMP's generally not being followed? And, as a result, are there enough documented instances of impaired water quality to warrant such a broad-reaching law? The USDA's 1997 Natural Resource Inventory estimated that, in Indiana, forestland contributed 1.6% of the total soil erosion occurring from rural lands. The remainder was contributed by cropland and development.
 - In reality, are there only a few "bad actors" that need to be controlled?
- * A longer-term, more stakeholder-inclusive, process be initiated to determine if legislation is truly needed. And, if so, use a process that addresses the specific problems identified by the DNR. We would suggest a process along the lines of what was followed to develop the current BMP's in the late 1990's. These are widely accepted and are the basis of the forestry operations section of the Nuisance Actions Chapter legislation cited earlier.

Closing

Whatever legislative approach is taken to improve or mandate the use of forestry Best Management Practices, professional foresters should be involved in the discussion, design, implementation and review of any regulations pertaining to Best Management Practices that impact the health of forestland and its related resources in Indiana. ISAF would welcome an invitation to be involved at the onset.

Statement by SAF Executive Vice President and CEO Michael Goergen on the proposed sale of the SAF Campus to Nations Academy

"Today Nations Academy announced their intention to purchase the 35-acre site that has been home to the Society of American Foresters and the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation since 1973.

"Not only is the proposed deal a financial win for SAF, the buyer will be putting the land to an excellent use – creating the Washington, DC-area campus of a world class, global private school system, preserving forested views and parks for the community, and making the historic Gifford Pinchot Forestry Building the core of their quad of education buildings.

"The sale will enable the Society of American Foresters to establish long-term financial security, including enhancing SAF's reserves, and enabling the organization to focus resources and dues on our core mission.

"The SAF Board of Directors has convened a Task Force to look into relocation issues as we strive to find a new home that will convey the right image – that SAF is a world-class, professional organization with much to contribute to the national debate and understanding of sustainable forestry and natural resource issues. In the coming month the Task Force will solicit members for input, and we invite all of our members to participate in this exciting process as we start a new chapter in the history of the Society of American Foresters."

Michael T. Goergen, Jr.

Executive Vice President and CEO

Society of American Foresters

5400 Grosvenor Lane

Bethesda, Maryland 20814

e-mail: goergenm@safenet.org

Office: 301.897.8720 x120

Fax: 301.897.3690

Mobile: 240.475.5741

Indiana Society of American Foresters

Balance Sheet

For the Period January 1 to December 6, 2007

BEGINNING CHECKBOOK BALANCE	\$5,427.57
Income	
Don McGuire Donation	\$5,000.00
Meeting Registrations (Summer and Winter)	3,947.43
Pesticide Workshop	2,800.00
TSI Fund-raisers	1,800.00
Membership Dues	872.50
Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment Workshop	500.00
Heck Endowment (Community Foundation Grant)	500.00
Checking Account Interest	5.28
TOTAL INCOME	\$15,425.21
Expenses	
Fidelity Investments	\$6,800.00
ISAF Meetings	2,377.36
Purdue Student SAF Convention Assistance	1,300.00
Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society	1,285.50
National Convention Travel by ISAF Chair	837.60
Newsletter Printing	770.12
FFA Convention	738.50
Leadership Training – NRLDI (Chair elect)	500.00
Conservation Day Booth (2006 & 2007)	275.00
Hardwood Ecosystem Experiment Workshop	236.25
Awards	222.80
Bulk Mailing Permit	175.00
Newsletter Mailing	171.02
HASTI Convention Booth	121.00
Forester Fund Donation	100.00
IU Foundation – SPEA (Forestry Field Day Sponsor)	100.00
SAF House of Society Delegates (HSD) Assessment	88.20
Ballot Expenses	75.03
Forest Pesticide Training Workshop	73.80
Flash Network Services (Web Site)	56.37
IFWOA Convention Booth	50.00
Supplies	27.77
Copies	23.80
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,405.12
ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE	\$4,447.66

Indiana Society of American Foresters

Proposed Budget for 2008

Income	
Workshop Registrations	\$ 6,500.00
Meeting Registrations	3,800.00
Special Projects Disbursement from Fidelity Fund	2,000.00
Membership Dues	1,600.00
Community Foundation – Heck Endowment	550.00
Forester Fund Collection	100.00
Checking Account Interest	6.00
Total Income	\$14,556.00
Expenses	
Meetings	\$3,000.00
Workshops	2,500.00
Special Projects Funded by Fidelity Fund	2,000.00
National Convention Travel	1,400.00
Woodland Steward Institute, Inc.	1,200.00
SAF National Convention Registration Assistance for Purdue Students	1,000.00
Newsletter with Postage	1,000.00
F.F.A. National Convention in Indianapolis (booth fee and electric)	605.00
Natural Resource Leadership Development Institute (NRLDI)	500.00
HASTI (booth at the Hoosier Association of Science Teachers, Inc.)	200.00
Postage / Postal Permit	200.00
Awards	150.00
IFWOA Convention Booth	150.00
Conservation Day at the Statehouse (booth)	150.00
Misc. Supplies	100.00
Web Site	100.00
Foresters Fund Donation	100.00
SAF House of Society Delegates (HSD) Assessment	85.00
Ballot Expenses	75.00
Copies	20.00
Total Expenses	\$14,535.00
Profit	\$21.00

Indiana SAF Fellows

Name	Year elected to fellow	Name	Year elected to fellow
Berna, Dave	1989	Hensler, Stanley	1992
Bramble, William	1973	Hollowell, Robert E., Jr.	1982
Brundage, Roy	1987	Hoover, William	2005
Burke, Robert D., CF	1986	McGuire, Donald	1985
Bynes, William R.	1991	Merritt, Clair	1986
Carter, Mason	1986	Miller, Charlie	1987
DeMuth, George	1988	Miller, Forrest	1986
Eger, Janet	2006	Moser, John W., Jr.	1987
Fischer, Burnell C., SF, CF	1998	Reid, Richard G.	2004
Fix, William L	1986	Seifert, John R., SF, CF	2003
Frye, Larry R. CF	2000	Williams, Robert	1984
Hassler, M. Gene	1986		

TREASURER'S RAMBLINGS

ISAF had a pretty good financial year in 2007, but that was not tough to do considering Don McGuire's generous donation of \$5,000.00. Our Executive Committee decided to put Don's donation in our investment fund and use the yearly profits to increase our annual assistance to the Purdue University Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. They use the funds to pay part of the costs for students to attend the SAF National Convention.

Jayson Waterman also helped our financial position by organizing a TSI fund-raiser that made a profit of \$1,800.00. That money was also deposited in our investment fund. The crew of Brian Gandy, Earl McCleerey, Darrell Breedlove, Mike Coggeshall, Brad Weigel, Janet Eger and Jayson Waterman did 30 acres of TSI in one day.

Training is a large part of our mission and we held two excellent ISAF meetings and cosponsored two additional workshops. If you have not recently checked out our web-page, I highly suggest you do so. Teena Ligman has added some interesting items, including summaries of our Summer Meeting and FFA Convention activities. Lots of pictures are included so check that out at www.indianasaf.org.

In order to meet the deadline for our newsletter, the balance sheet has to be done in early December, so there will be a few changes for the end of the year balance sheet. I expect these changes to be minor, so the balance sheet printed here should give you a good feel of our income and expenses for the year. One note worth mentioning is that we finally paid the Indiana Chapter of the Wildlife Society their share of the joint 2005 meeting profit. That amounted to \$1,285.50 and it was a good year to settle that debt as we were not asked this year for our usual \$1,200.00 sponsorship to the Woodland Steward.

I included \$2,000.00 in the budget as Special Projects Funded by our Fidelity Fund. That \$2,000.00 is just a figure I pulled out of the air. Our stocks and the stock market in general have been experiencing large ups and downs. In recent weeks it is not unusual for our stocks to lose or gain \$1,000.00 or more in a single day. Thus, predicting what we will have at year-end to spend is impossible. I used the \$2,000.00, but if the market trends upward we could have over \$7,000.00 available to spend. In early January, Dale Weigel will provide me the actual amount and I will plug that figure in the budget. These funds will then become available for projects approved by our executive committee.

The 2008 budget will be presented at the ISAF Winter Meeting Business Session for member ratification, so if you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at any time.

Society of American Foresters Support FFA Forestry Competition

One hundred thirty-three kids representing 38 states competed in the national forestry activities at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis, Indiana, as part of the annual FFA convention. Several members of the Indiana Society of SAF were instrumental in coordinating the event.

The 4-person team from Hermitage, Arkansas, took first place of the 38 teams, each representing their State's winning forestry team from across the country at the annual FFA Forestry Career Development Event. Several Indiana Society SAF members were on hand to coordinate the event or serve as judges for the teams and individuals as they competed at Fort Harrison State Park for the title of National FFA Forestry Champions.

Throughout the year, any FFA chapter that can field a forestry team works with their advisor on a set of skills. Each State hosts a competition to select the winning team to represent them at the national event. Donna Rogler chaired the Forestry Career Development Event, but had a team of outstanding foresters and other volunteers to assist her on a committee to help plan the national competitive event. In addition to the group of for-

esters who did the planning, "We had great help from foresters throughout Indiana who took time off their jobs to help coordinate each of the major parts of the contest," said Rogler. "Members of ISAF were well represented and can always be counted on to help wherever they're needed."

Rogler explained each state is allowed four members on their team to compete. Some events are scored as a team, and some events are individual scores that then contribute to the team total. "Most states did bring four kids, but the teams from some states were unable to come for financial or scheduling reasons, and some teams were short a member and a few had an alternate," Rogler noted. "But they all came with enthusiasm and we were impressed with how much preparation they had done before coming."

Several foresters served as judges which is likely the best face-to-face opportunity to interact with individual students. All the judges agreed that the students they worked with were a great group of kids. ISAF member Tom Thake said, "Some of the teams were obviously more prepared than others, but I talked to a few kids who were very well versed on forestry and not only knew the terms, but were motivated and enthusiastic on managing forests. Some wanted to be loggers; others wanted to be foresters, but most of them saw themselves working in the woods."

Rogler explained that though the kids were given a list of about a dozen possible topics, they didn't know what the questions would be until they got there. The 2007 topic selected was prescribed fire. She said, "We wanted to find an issue that related to current events and something that kids across the country could identify with. We thought with all the news about California fires, that this was something they'd know something about."

Each student was given 10 minutes to answer a series of questions related to controlled fire. "A few used the entire time and were articulate in all of their answers," said Thake. "Others had a more limited grasp of options, and a couple admitted right up front that they really didn't know much about the topic. But in other cases they actually didn't have enough time to tell us everything they wanted to say about the topic."

The teams all completed a comprehensive written test the day before the field competition. The day of the competition they had a series of field events that were either individual or team events. These included tree identification, map interpretation, scaling and volume determination, and identifying 20 different forestry tools. Various members of Rogler's committee were responsible for setting up each field event.

"For instance," Rogler explained, "Phil Wagner has taken charge and done the forestry tools. He selects 20 tools from the list that the students have to identify and most of us acknowledge there are always a couple in there that we don't even know what they are so he keeps it challenging." She said other SAF members have come forward and helped with other aspects. Sam Carman has volunteered to do the tree identification. "Since we can't cater entirely to the eastern states, we actually get trees species from local nursery that would be found out west or in the south so we have a good cross-section of trees from across the country," noted Rogler. Other SAF members coordinate the map exercise and the timber scaling. Rogler marvels at how well everyone pulls together to pull off the event.

In the 2007 competition, Arkansas took first place, Georgia second, Florida third, and Missouri fourth place. The winning team and the top 22 placing individuals all receive scholarships for post-secondary education. The forestry competition is sponsored by Husqvarna.

While the kids were participating in the competition, their advisors were offered a tour of Indiana wood products operations in the area including the Wooley Lumber Company and the Putnamville Correctional Facility which runs a forest management operation and sawmill. Rogler also prepared packets on forestry for each of the advisors to give their students on forestry in Indiana and careers in forestry.

"It was just an amazing day for the students and foresters alike," said Thake. "How often do we get to meet and help mentor the foresters of the future! Based on the kids I met, I think our forests will be in good hands."



Indiana Society
1919 Steven Ave.
Bedford, IN 47421

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FORESTRY IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

FEBRUARY 27 & 28, 2008

McCORMICK'S CREEK STATE PARK

Be sure to mark your calendar now for the Indiana Society of American Foresters 2008 Winter Meeting. Topics include forest policy, new opportunities, current challenges and a changing environment. Watch your mail for registration and details in the coming weeks. Any questions, contact Doug Brown at 812-367-1524 or dbrown@dnr.IN.gov.

2007 INDIANA SAF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Chair

Doug Brown Term of Office: Jan. 1, 2008 thru Dec. 21, 2008
6583 E. St. Rd. 264 Office Phone: 812-367-1524
Ferdinand, IN 47532 E-mail: dbrown@dnr.IN.gov

Past Chair

Sam Bond Office Phone: 812-275-4815
5267 Old St. Rd. 37 N. Office Phone: 812-275-4815
Springville, IN 47462 E-mail: sambond4ster1@hotmail.com
Fax: 812-275-4815

Chair Elect

John Friedrich Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 21, 2008
402 W Washington St. Rm 204 317-232-4118
Indianapolis, IN 46204 E-mail: jfriedrich@dnr.IN.gov

Secretary

Mike Gregg Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 21, 2008
238 Brewer Drive Off. Ph.: 812-987-4060
Bordon, IN 47106 E-mail: mgarrett03@aol.com

Treasurer

Lynn Andrews Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 21, 2008
1320 Poplar St. Phone: 812-279-5814
Bedford, IN 47421 E-mail: lynnandrews@insightbb.com
E-Mail:

Newsletter Editor

Janet Eger Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
1919 Steven Ave. Office Phone: 812-279-3391
Bedford, IN 47421 Home Phone: 812-644-7663
Fax #: 812-279-3391 E-mail: jejer@dnr.IN.gov

Historian Archivist

Brad Rody Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
P.O. Box 217 260-782-0430
Lagro, IN 46941 E-mail: brody@dnr.IN.gov

Communications

Teena Ligman Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
811 Constitution Ave. Phone: 812-277-3579
Bedford, IN 47421 E-mail: tligman@fs.fed.us

Science/Technology Chair

Jack Seifert Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
402 W. Washington Rm. 296 Office Phone: 317-232-4116
Indianapolis, IN 46204 Home Phone: 812-873-6713
Fax #: 317-233-3863 E-mail: purfor@seidata.com

Membership Chair

John Stambaugh Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
Rt. 1, Box 1756 Office/Home Phone: 812-863-7271
Springville, IN 47462 E-mail: forester@custom.net

Forester's Fund Chair

Vacant Momentarily

Education Chair

Jack Seifert Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
402 W. Washington Rm. 296 Office Phone: 317-232-4116
Indianapolis, IN 46204 Home Phone: 812-873-6713
Fax #: 317-233-3863 E-mail: purfor@seidata.com

Continuing Forestry Ed. Contact

Carl Hauser Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
402 W. Washington St. Rm. 296 Phone: 317-232-4114
Indianapolis, IN 46204 Fax #: 317-233-3863
E-mail: chauser@dnr.IN.gov

Policy Chair

William F. Minter Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
20111 Regina Rd. Office Phone: 260-799-5869
New Paris, IN 46553 Home Phone: 574-831-6795
Fax #: 574-831-6795
E-mail: billfm@goshen.edu

Awards

Lee Huss Term of Office: On-Going
PO Box 848 Office Phone: 812-349-3716
Bloomington, IN 47402 Home Phone: 812-929-2511
Fax #: 812-349-3705 E-mail: hussl@bloomington.in.gov

Purdue Student Chapter Chair

Justin Schmal jschmal@purdue.edu

Fund Raising Projects

Jack Seifert Term of Office: On-Going
402 W. Washington Rm 296 Office Phone: 317-232-4116
Indianapolis, IN 46204 Home Phone: 812-873-6713
Fax #: 317-233-3863 E-mail: purfor@seidata.com

Investment Committee

Dale Weigel Term of Office: On-Going
811 Constitution Ave. Office Phone: 812-277-3597
Bedford, IN 47421 Home Phone: 812-279-8953
E-mail: dweigel@fs.fed.us

Audit Committee

Jayson Waterman Term of Office: Jan. 1 thru Dec. 31, 2008
3046 N. Western Ave. Office Phone: 765-825-6769
P.O. Box 283 Fax #: 765-825-6769
Connersville, IN 47331 E-mail: jwaterman@dnr.IN.gov

Nominating Committee

Ron Rathfon Term of Office: On-Going
1200 Purdue Farm Road Office Phone.: 812-678-3401
Dubois, IN 47526 Home Phone: 765-448-4262
Fax #: 812-678-3412
E-mail: ronr@purdue.edu

Teller's Committee

Joe Schuerman Term of Office: On-Going
3486 W. Co. Rd. 325 S. Office/Home Phone: 812-689-3435
Versailles, IN 47042 E-mail: schuermanosgood@aol.com