

The Ohio Hetuch



Winter 2005

The Official Newsletter of the Ohio Society of American Foresters

www.ohiosaf.org

Front Cover: Map showing counties in red where Emerald Ash Borer has been detected in Ohio (source – OSU extension)

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OSAF WINTER MEETING – MARCH 3&4, 2005

Please mark your calendars and plan to join your fellow foresters at the 2005 OSAF Winter Meeting. This year's meeting will be held on March 3 & 4 at the OSU Campus in Columbus. While not actually tied to the OFA annual meeting this year, the Thursday/Friday dates and Columbus location were chosen for convenience of members who desire to attend both meetings.

Unlike last year's meeting – this year's meeting will focus on presenting a high quality technical program coupled with interactive discussion among forestry professionals. The main theme of the meeting will be addressing the Emerald Ash Borer; and not simply a review of the current status of the situation in Ohio, but a focused discussion of what path should Ohio follow to deal with the threat, particularly in terms of ground level forest management.



Much is yet to be discovered about this pest but we know a couple things for sure: It is already here & it will have significant impact on our forests. Therefore it is critical that OSAF take a lead role in addressing the issue. Please join us in March to participate. You will be receiving a more detailed agenda and registration form in the mail in the coming weeks.

For additional information contact [Mark Ervin](#).

For an interesting OSU publication pondering what the nature of the threat of EAB, check out, "[Emerald Ash Borer: the Beginning of the End of Ash in North America?](#)" at this address: [http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu/pdfs/EAB article.pdf](http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu/pdfs/EAB%20article.pdf)

For the latest news and updates about EAB in Ohio visit <http://ashalert.osu.edu/>

Member Survey Coming to a Mailbox near You!

The Executive Committee has been working on putting together a membership survey to help us better meet your needs. This survey may seem a little lengthy but it will go a long way in helping to plan future continuing education programs and future OSAF meetings. We hope that you will take the time to fill out and return the survey. Is there an incentive to do so? Yes! Besides better programming to meet members' needs, you can enter your name into a drawing for free membership for a year! Yes, if you are the lucky member whose name is drawn, your membership dues will be covered for one year. We thank you in advance for your participation in this effort.

-[Kathy Smith](#)

**OSAF 2005 Winter Meeting
Tentative Meeting Agenda
(Subject to Adjustment)**

Meeting Topic: The Emerald Ash Borer And Its Management.

Thursday March 3, 2005

8:30 AM	Executive Committee Meeting
10:00 AM	Program
	Background on the state of the ash resource – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What it was; What it will be. (range etc); Ecological Role/Wildlife values; Utilization of Ash
12:00 Noon	Lunch
1:00 PM	OSAF Business Meeting
2:30 PM	Real World Experiences With Forest Management Decisions In Light Of EAB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Michigan Experience (MI SAF member to be determined) • A Landowner's experience
3:30 PM	Break
4:00 PM	Panel Discussion on Real World Experiences
5:00 PM	Social Hour

Friday March 5, 2005

8:30 AM	Presentation on draft management recommendations (OSU-SNR faculty)
9:30 AM	Presentations on management scenarios (DNR Service Forester, Consulting Forester, Industry Forester TBD)
10:00 AM	Panel and membership Discussion of draft management recommendations
12:00 Noon	Adjourn

Chairs Comments

[Mark Ervin](#) – 2005 OSAF Chair

Well, the gavel has passed and I now have the responsibility and privilege of serving you as the Chair of the Ohio Society of American Foresters. That has given me pause. I've been trying to think of what I would like to accomplish for the OSAF. I've examined our mission statement for clues. That mission statement reads, "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 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." As with all good mission statements, there are a number of fundamental elements for an organization like ours to accomplish.

After giving it thought, I would like us to truly "advance" the profession. Advance has the definition, among others, of "raise in importance."

We know what we do is important. We manage a resilient resource that provides unique ecosystem services (clean air and water, and wildlife habitat) as well as what is arguably the most environmentally friendly of materials: wood. Unfortunately, others don't see the forest through our eyes; they don't recognize the importance of our professional management.

For us to raise the importance of our profession, we need to effectively demonstrate and communicate that there is a critical problem and we are the profession to address it. We are not short of opportunities to do just that. As Ohio's forests face the most recent threat represented in the emerald ash borer, how will we demonstrate and communicate our important role in protecting the forest from this pest? How do we give a face to our profession – an identifiable group to which decision makers can turn for professional guidance? These are important questions for us to address.

More is always better, but if we can take a few steps towards addressing these questions in the coming year it will serve our profession and forests well into the future. To begin, one request I have of the membership is to take a look at the Communication Plan that was developed by the Communication Committee under the leadership of Stephanie Miller. This plan provides an excellent roadmap to giving professional forestry the public face that it so needs and deserves.

Addressing two questions; straightforward but very difficult. It will be an interesting year.

New OSAF Communications Plan - Up and Ready for Review

[Stephanie Miller](#), Communications Chair

The Ohio SAF Communications Plan was presented for final review in December to the Executive Committee and is currently available for viewing on the OSAF website. Well over a year in its development, the Communications Committee believes it will be a plan that will guide OSAF's membership for many years to come.

The Communications Committee recognized the need for this plan to be comprehensive, yet realistic for its members. We also wanted to make sure it was simple to read and easy to navigate. The plan is modeled after the national SAF Communications Plan yet has a definite flavor of Ohio. We identified a series of "audiences" and OSAF's goal(s) in communicating with each audience. From there we selected some "strategies" that our membership could use to communicate with each audience. This plan is designed to be a guide and to be fluid with time and need. For example, OSAF membership may lack the time, finances, or resources to address a specific audiences for several years; but in the future we may find it necessary to reach out to an under addressed audience. If this is the case, the plan identifies some strategies to move forward with this audience without having to start from scratch. Currently, the Executive Committee recognizes the need to cultivate communications with and between OSAF membership and hopes the upcoming survey will assist in identifying membership needs to more effectively do this.

As you read through the plan, you will notice that there are some things that OSAF is already doing such as the website, *Hetuch*, and statehouse visit. There are some things that other agencies and organizations are already doing in Ohio. There may be something that you are doing yourself as a professional forester that is part of this plan. As a whole, the success of OSAF's communications efforts will be a combined effort of all our membership. If you see something that you are not doing, but would like to do ~ go for it! SAF at both the local and national level have lots of resources for you. The OSAF Executive Committee welcomes any member efforts to institute communications activities and we will provide the support you need to do it.

Many thanks go to the Communications Committee: Bob Long, Joe Puperi, Scott Costello, Stephen Rist, and Bob Placier. Their time reading, proofing, and writing were invaluable in the development of this plan. Thanks also go to the national office and Indiana SAF for their guidance.

To review the new communications plan on our web site visit: <http://www.ohiosaf.org/complan.pdf>

National SAF Honors Ohio Forester

The Society of American Foresters has recognized David A. Schatz, CF, of Reedsville, Ohio, with its Presidential Field Forester Award.

The award recognizes foresters who have displayed uncommon talent and innovative methods to achieve a record of excellence in the application of forest management.



"Forester practitioners are the true foundation of our profession," says SAF President John H. Beuter. "They often operate in complete anonymity, yet their actions are the single most important contribution to the viability and understanding of our profession. This is where forestry truly happens and it is important that we recognize those who perform the art and science of forestry each and every day."

Schatz began his forestry career in 1962 with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and served in a variety of positions, including forester, district forester, and service/urban forestry coordinator, until his retirement in 1998. Regardless of his title and responsibilities, Schatz always found time to help Ohio's forest landowners achieve their management objectives through sound forestry techniques and provide leadership to the division's urban and service foresters. Today, Schatz continues to practice forestry as a consultant, as a part-time employee of Rural Action Sustainable Forestry, and as a volunteer on several forestry-related initiatives. As a result of his considerable experience, he is well known for his ability to apply his knowledge of forestry principles to a wide variety of situations.

An active member of SAF for more than 40 years, Schatz has served the Ohio state society as secretary-treasurer (1972-1974), chair (1979), and as a member of several committees. Schatz joined SAF in 1962 and was elected SAF Fellow in 1987.

Given the regional differences in forestry, 10 Presidential Field Forester Award recipients were selected from various regions of the country. The winners were recognized at a special ceremony held during a joint meeting between SAF and the Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada. The meeting was held October 2-6 in Edmonton, Alberta.

For more information about the award winners, visit the SAF website at <http://www.safnet.org/who/fieldforesterawards.cfm>.

Be sure and congratulate Dave when you see him at our next meeting!!

Brown Elected Vice-President of the Society of American Foresters; Four Council Members and 29 Fellows Also Elected

Marvin D. Brown of Salem, Oregon, has been elected vice-president of the Society of American Foresters for 2005. After serving SAF as vice-president in 2005, Brown will assume the SAF presidency--the organization's top volunteer leadership post--on January 1, 2006.

“An effective Society of American Foresters can serve the needs of practicing foresters, as well as the needs of society at large, in a multitude of ways,” says Brown, state forester for the state of Oregon. “I’ve identified two specific areas of focus that need to be addressed. One of those, effective communications, is a challenge that has faced our profession since day one. The other, globalization, is a more recent issue, but one that becomes more embedded each day in the problems that we try to solve in our respective responsibilities.”

Brown's previous work experience includes service as director of private lands management with the American Forest and Paper Association in Washington, DC, (2002–03) and director of forest policy with Willamette Industries/Weyerhaeuser Corporation in Ft. Mill, South Carolina, (1999–2002.) Brown was the state forester of Missouri from 1992–99. He holds an MS in forestry from Southern Illinois University and a BS in forestry from the University of Missouri.

The 2004 SAF elections also resulted in the election of four new representatives on the SAF Council, the organization's 14-member governing body. The newly elected representatives include Rick N. Barnes, CF, of Roseburg, Oregon, who will represent Voting District 2 (Oregon); Bernard S. Hubbard, CF, of Newberry, Michigan, will represent Voting District 5 (Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin); Frederick W. Cabbage of Raleigh, North Carolina, will represent Voting District 8 (Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina); and Robert A. Daniels of Mississippi State, Mississippi, will represent Voting District 11 (Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.)

Twenty-nine SAF members were also elected SAF Fellow. Fellows are SAF professional members who have been identified by their peers as having rendered outstanding service to forestry and the Society. The 2004 Fellows will be announced after they have been notified.

The Society of American Foresters is a nonprofit organization that represents more than 17,000 professional foresters and natural resource professionals. It is the scientific and educational association representing the profession of forestry in the United States. The Society's primary objective is to advance the science, technology, education, and practice of professional forestry for the benefit of society.

Ohio Chapter News

New Chair-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer

The results of our fall election were certified by our tellers committee. Lee Crocker was elected in a close race with Roger Williams to serve as our chapter chair-elect in 2005. Lee served OSAF as secretary-treasurer in the past and is employed as a forester with the Ohio Division of Forestry out of Waverly, Ohio. Lee will serve as Chair in 2006.

Valerie Fox (unopposed) was elected to serve as our Secretary/Treasurer for 2005-2006 and has replaced Dave Apsley. Valerie is a forestry instructor and served as the student chapter advisor at Hocking College in Nelsonville.

Special thanks to all who took the time to vote and to each of the candidates: Lee, Valerie, and Roger, for their willingness to serve!

Bill Schultz retires from ODNR Division of Forestry

Bill Schultz retired from the Division of Forestry at the end of the year after nearly 26 years of service. Throughout the years Bill has been a very active and accomplished member of SAF. Please take the time to congratulate Bill and wish him luck wherever the second half of his career takes him!

Welcome New Members

A special welcome greeting is offered to Douglas Fabrey of Chillicothe and Miles Hill (retired) of Powell. Both are long-time SAF members who recently transferred to the Ohio chapter.

Jeremy Scherf Named Outstanding Tree Farm Inspector

OSAF membership chair, Jeremy Scherf, was recently honored by the National Tree Farm Association as a Regional Tree Farm Inspector of the Year at the Nation Tree Farm Convention in Colorado. Jeremy is employed as an ODNR Division of Forestry service forester in East Central Ohio.

Jack and Janet Sweigart named 2005 Ohio Tree Farmer of the Year

Jack and Janet Sweigart have been named Tree Farmer of the Year by the Ohio Tree Farm System and will host the 2005 Tree farm tour September 10. Their tree farm is located near Ada in the Northwest Ohio. OSAF members who attended the direct seeding workshop in June of 2003 might recall visiting their Tree Farm. The Sweigarts were instrumental in helping to make that continuing education opportunity possible.

ODA to Begin Ash Removal Projects – See Toledo Blade article here:

<http://toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050106/NEWS06/501060408>

2005 OHIO SAF LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY & STRUCTURE

OSAF Chair
Mark Ervin

Secretary / Treasurer
Valerie Fox

Chair-Elect
Lee Crocker

Past Chair
Roger Weaver

Membership Chair
Jeremy Scherf

Communications Chair
Stephanie Miller

Policy Chair
Roger Williams

Education Chair
Kathy Smith

Teller – *Garv Vollrath*

Website coordinator - *Joe Puneri*

annointed

CFE Coord – *Kathy Smith*

Teller – *Ron Miller*

Netuch Editor – *Costello(interim)*

annointed

Scholarshin – *Dan Yaussy*

Sec/Treas – *Valerie Fox*

Advertising Editor - *Vacant*

annointed

Hocking – *Valerie Fox*

Forest Science – *Robert Long*

annointed

OSU – *Davis Svdnor*

Archive/Historian – *Rob Placier*

annointed

Hocking Chapter Chair

Nominating Committee Chair
Past Chairs – *Roger Weaver (2004)*

Program Committee Chair
Vice Chair – *Lee Crocker*

Ohio State Chapter Chair

Scott Costello (2003)

CFE Coord – *Kathy Smith*

Dan Yaussy (2002)

Soils – *R Hershberger*

**SHADED POSITIONS
INDICATE VOTING
EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Forester Fund – *R Miller*

CONTINUING EDUCATION BITES – Currently Ohio has a total of 58 certified foresters. The following individuals in Ohio currently hold the CF designation:

Ronald G. Abraham
David K. Apsley
James L. Bartlett
Thomas D. Berger
James R. Bishop
Michael W. Bowden
Robert L. Boyles
Richard A. Cappell
Koral A. Clum
Randy E. Clum
Thomas E. Collins
Scott T. Costello
Lee A. Crocker
John E. Dorka
Robert W. Douglas
Lynne C. Ebel
Charles D. Egbert
James T. Elze
Carlen M. Emanuel
Mark S. Ervin

Mark J. Goeke
Gerald S. Greenwood
Jaye B. Hayes
David M. Hix
Christine D. Hodgson
Daniel B. Houston
John A. Jolliff
Mark A. Jukich
Michael Jurkiewicz
Dan B. Kincaid
Roy D. Klingaman
Clint C. Manns
James R. McClenahen
Jim Mickey
Rick L. Miller
Timothy M. Morgan
David A. Murray
Leshler M. Ott
Phillip S. Perry
Mark Popichak

Eric L. Roush
Robert F. Sabo
David A. Schatz
William J. Serbonich
Steven B. Siam
Gregory B. Smith
Kathy L. Smith
James P. Stafford
Stanley D. Swierz
Rick C. Tyler
Gary H. Vollrath
Eugene A. Walters
Roger D. Weaver
Barry L. Weber
Gerald W. Western
Timothy J. Wilson
Mark V. Wilthew
Peter R. Woyar

Why You Can Trust a Certified Expert

What do many horse breeders, oil chemists, and school principals have in common? They have all been certified by their association as experts at what they do. You probably know many people who are certified. The accountant living next door, the real estate agent who sold you your house, and your dentist's assistant have all probably been tested to prove their knowledge and ability on the job.

Associations are the leading providers of certification programs. Their certification tests can be so rigorous that candidates form study groups to pass them. In addition to proving their professional mettle, applicants must often follow a code of ethics and continue to educate themselves through the association's seminars and conventions.

Certification is a personal credential. Those who earn the SAF Certified Forester® designation are recognized for their personal commitment to advancing the profession and themselves. Certified Foresters must maintain high standards of professional conduct and follow Standards of Professional Practice established by the Society that guide their actions in management activities. For a complete program description or to obtain a CF program application, contact the SAF national office at (301) 897-8720, ext. 122 or cillayp@safnet.org.

Track Your CFE Credits in Just Minutes

Does sending your continuing forestry education (CFE) forms to the national office fall to the bottom of your "to-do list?" If so, SAF has created an easy way for you to submit CFE credits-in just minutes-through an online CFE database system. This unique system allows you to submit continuing education credits directly into your membership or Certified Forester® record at any time. You no longer need to fax, mail, or e-mail CFE forms or agendas to the national office to log your hours!

Simply log onto [SAF's meetings website](#) and enter your username and password. (Your username is your membership ID number or Certified Forester number, and your password is your last name.) Then select the meetings that you attended from the online education calendar. If the meeting is not there, the system allows you to enter the meeting and other continuing education categories before you submit the information. At the end of the process, you can print out the hours you submitted and keep the record in your files.

Note: Please keep documents related to your continuing education activities for your personal records. SAF conducts random audits of selected records.

Emerald Ash Borer Homeowner & Landowner Workshop

Spread the Word - Saturday April 9, 2005! A group of individuals from Ohio, Michigan and Indiana have been working to put together a workshop for both homeowners and landowners about Emerald Ash Borer. The group wanted to put together a program that would provide landowners with the most up to date information on Emerald Ash Borer and provide them with an opportunity to ask any questions they may have. What was developed is a meeting for April with the following program agenda that should help both homeowners and landowners in dealing with this non-native invasive insect.

- 9:15 Welcome
- 9:30 – 11:30 Introduction/overview
 - What is it – tree and bug id; Where is it from; What does it do; Who is doing what – what measures are being taken; Where is it now; Why should I care – how does it effect me; What can I do
- 11:30 – 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 – 2:30 Woodland Management Session
- 12:30 – 2:30 Backyard Management Session
- 3:00 – 3:45 Break out sessions for questions

At press time details were still being worked on, so keep checking out the Woodland Stewards website at <http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu> or contact Kathy Smith at smith.81@osu.edu or Tom Berger at tom.berger@dnr.state.oh.us for registration information.

SITE SUITABILITY, NUTRITION, AND STAND COMPOSITION

Robert Long, OSAF Forest Science and Technology Coordinator

Foresters frequently need to determine what species are suitable for a particular site, or what species to favor in a shelterwood or regeneration cut. In most cases, topography, parent material and landscape position, are useful surrogates for moisture and nutrient availability which are among the primary factors that interact to affect species distribution, forest composition, and site productivity. Whether it is regenerating an existing stand, converting a stand after harvesting, or determining species to favor during intermediate treatments, the issue of site suitability is important for long-term site productivity. A wide body of research exists regarding soil-site relationships for some central and northern hardwood species. Despite this extensive knowledge, there are few species in eastern forests about which we know the nutrient requirements for optimum growth (we probably know the most about black cherry and sugar maple). New research is addressing the issue of species distribution and site suitability in relation to more subtle differences associated with geology and bedrock types and soil properties, particularly soil chemistry.

Research conducted by Van Breemen et al. (1997) in Connecticut showed that white ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*) occurred on soils derived from parent material high in total Ca and Mg, while parent material beneath beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) and northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*) was low in total Ca and Mg. However, this study also found that individual sugar maple and red maple (*Acer rubrum*) trees are present over a wide range of total Ca and Mg in the parent material. In related work, Finzi et al. (1998) found that many of these same species occurred along a gradient of soil chemical properties present in the upper three inches of the soil. Soil pH was highest for sugar maple > white ash > red maple > beech > red oak > eastern hemlock. Total quantities of exchangeable Ca and Mg were highest beneath sugar maple, intermediate beneath white ash, and lowest beneath the canopies of red maple, beech, northern red oak, and hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*).

Determining species responses to soil amendments may also provide some indication of nutritional factors affecting site suitability. A long-term liming study conducted by the Northeastern Research Station in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry in north central Pennsylvania has shown differential species responses to a one-time application of 10 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone (Long et al. 1997). On this unglaciated, low base status soil, liming increased soil pH, increased exchangeable Ca and Mg, and decreased exchangeable Al, Mn and K. For the three overstory species, beech, black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and sugar maple, only sugar maple responded positively to the lime application. Sugar maple basal area increment increased significantly, crown vigor improved, and the size of the flower and seed crops was greater relative to control trees. Beech growth and survival was unaffected by liming. Black cherry growth is poorer on limed plots compared with unlimed plots perhaps owing to “over liming” which may induce a potassium deficiency.

In related research investigating the causal factors associated with sugar maple decline in northern Pennsylvania, landscape position and sub-surface water flow paths were identified as key factors affecting sugar maple health on unglaciated sites (Bailey et al. 2004). Some lower slope unglaciated sugar maple stands likely benefit from sub-surface water that moves from base-poor

upland sites, but which may contact carbonate and nutrient bearing parent materials that serve to enrich the water as it moves to lower landscape position sites, particularly areas with seeps. Unfortunately, we can't accurately predict where on the landscape sub-surface flows will become enriched and where they may benefit sites down slope, but this mechanism of nutrient enrichment can have major beneficial effects on site quality.

Sugar maple, white ash, basswood (*Tilia Americana*), and eastern hophornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) have also been shown to be associated with soils with high rates of nitrification, nitrate production, and high levels of base cations (Lovett and Mitchell 2004). How important are base cation nutrients to a trees' competitive status? The research of Kobe et al. (1995) showed that saplings of sugar maple and white ash had better survival on calcareous sites compared to sites with acidic soils. This survival is likely related to higher photosynthetic rates and greater shade tolerance on calcareous sites compared with acidic sites.

While sugar maple and white ash might be considered base cation responsive species, this does not mean that these species cannot grow and compete on a wide range of sites. Defining a species site-suitability too narrowly may cause foresters to overlook the importance of these species on a wide range of sites where they currently occur and where they can grow successfully. In southern Ohio both red and sugar maples are increasing in abundance in oak understories. While red maple seems to thrive on a range of site types, it is unclear whether sugar maple will complete a rotation and reproduce on low fertility xeric sites commonly found in southern Ohio. Our understanding of site and nutrient requirements is very incomplete and more research is needed to understand these relationships better.

This brief review gives only a glimpse of some important species-site relationships for a few species. There is much more to be learned about species suitability and stand productivity. Next time we will look at oaks and the importance of site, nutritional factors, and disturbance on regeneration and stand productivity.

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SAF COUNCIL NOTES

IT'S TIME TO EXPRESS YOUR PASSION

[Bob Cunningham](#), SAF District IX Council

Have you ever been asked why you chose a career in natural resources? I am sure most of us have answered that question many times. Have you ever changed your reasons for wanting to work with natural resources? If you are like many SAF members I know, then you are still passionate about your profession.

Let me shift directions and ask you if your passion for SAF is the same today as when you first joined? Some will say more, others will say it is the same, and some may even say no. My challenge to everyone is to increase the number of members that have more passion for SAF.

For the past several years, SAF has experienced declining membership. In Voting District IX (Great Plains, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky-Tennessee, and Ouachita) alone, we are down 131 members from 2003. There are many reasons for this. Changes in employment sectors, economics, forest ownership, and lifestyles are some of the variables.

Let me ask a few more questions. Has the amount of forest land changed significantly in your state? Are the lands previously owned by forest industries still covered with forests and in need of professional management? Are special interest groups still raising issues that affect natural resource management? Yes, the forests are still there and the issues are more complex than ever. So how can a smaller number of SAF members be the voice that is needed?

First we must truly understand who is SAF. It is people like you and me that are united by a mission statement, share core values, and work together through a strategic plan. More importantly, SAF is a volunteer organization drawn together by passionate beliefs in causes, processes, and relationships. One cannot expect to draw the same level of satisfaction as others if their membership does not include participation, involvement, and the desire to network with other members.

Our membership is often limited by simple problems. I recently met a new member that had practiced forestry for almost 30 years. When asked why he had never joined until now, his answer was, "Nobody had ever talked to me about SAF nor asked me." He was truly excited about his participation and was looking forward to future involvement. How many potential members like this one are in your community or state? Still yet, is it your Membership Committee chair's sole responsibility to call potential members? What would be the effect of ten or twenty members encouraging one person to join or renew their membership? Better yet, what would be the effect of every member working to recruit membership?

Students and retirees are development areas that need more attention. Student membership and student chapters are the “in-growth” that fuels the sustainability of SAF and signals the future of our profession. I encourage every member to become involved with students and support the mentoring process. Why do so many professionals simultaneously retire from their careers and SAF? These are the keepers of our legacy and professional wisdom, and as such must be revered as a valuable resource and utilized. Let’s seek ways to forge their collective experiences and abilities into powerful tools to strengthen SAF’s credibility and community presence.

Leadership is a tough sell. Yes, we are all busy and finding time for a leadership role can be challenging. To empower a volunteer leader is to support that person. How many times have we seen a great society or committee chair step down from their position and “fall off the planet”? Did they burn out or did something else happen? Good leaders have great teams. When the responsibility is shared, the potential for success is amplified and future leaders are motivated to serve. The next time someone volunteers to serve your state society, tell that person first how much you appreciate his or her efforts and then offer to help them.

As you might guess, I am still passionate about my profession and SAF. The next time someone asks why they should join SAF, tell them about your passion and what SAF stands for, and then tell them about the good things we can accomplish together.

Call or send me your comments.

Bob Cunningham
Council Representative, Voting District IX
P. O. Box 138
West Plains, Missouri 65775

417-255-9561x225

Bob.Cunningham@mdc.mo.gov

2004 House of Society Delegates Report

[Roger Weaver](#), Past Chair

As your 2004 OSAF State Chairman, it was my duty to attend, as your representative, the House of Society Delegates meeting held at the National SAF Convention. The HSD agenda was structured on the SAF Strategic Plan, similar to the Council agenda structure. In addition, the HSD agenda offered an opportunity for open discussion among delegates facilitated by a HSD convener. This allowed the opportunity for state society chairs and chairs-elect to share ideas, challenges, and successes based on each strategic outcome. The opportunity to serve in this way is fulfilling. My hope is that more of our membership will consider running for an officer position in the future to experience this side of the Society of American Foresters.

Below are the 2004 HSD recommendations based under each Strategic Outcome.

Outcome #1: A Strong Forward-Thinking Organization

HSD moves that Council determine the feasibility of a process to gradually increase dues from Introductory level (possibly earlier than 5 years) to the Professional level over a series of years versus a large one-year increase, with the intent of retaining younger members and maintaining the same level of dues revenue to the Society.

HSD asks Council to forward this recommendation to the national office staff and the Council Finance Subcommittee for its review and forward any additional information to Council for its consideration. HSD also requests that any additional information be forwarded to the 2005 HSD chair.

HSD moves that SAF Bylaws be amended to remove the percentage limitation on Fellows.

HSD asks Council to forward this recommendation to the Committee on Professional Recognition for review and asks Council to consider this during discussion about SAF Fellows.

HSD suggests to Council that the Field Forester award have an established process of nomination, criteria on who can be nominated, criteria for selection, and financial assistance to attend the national awards ceremony.

HSD asks Council and President Beuter to forward this recommendation to the Committee on Professional Recognition to establish the award, and to the national office staff to review budget implications.

HSD moves that SAF provide the 2005 HSD with a strategy concerning how the SAF will address decreasing enrollment in forestry programs in the US and elsewhere, and that SAF continue to be the voice of the forestry profession in the United States and provide leadership during this time of decreasing membership and increasing requirements for reasoned discussions concerning the welfare of the natural resources our membership manages within this nation. This will enhance and promote a diverse SAF membership.

HSD asks Council to forward this recommendation to the national office staff for review and forward its discovery to Council for final approval.

Outcome #2: Enhanced Service to Landowners and Employers

Move that HSD recommend to Council and to the National Staff that direct, immediate attention be given to increase the attention of employers both public and private about the benefits to their organizations when employees are active members of SAF.

HSD asks Council and the national office staff review and consider this request.

Outcome #3: Enhanced Service to Society at Large

HSD presents the motion that Council direct some of the resources of our professional society to work with (1) Universities, (2) USFS, (3) National Association of State Foresters, and others to develop a program of instruction that will educate the general public concerning forests and forestry, and the role of professional foresters. The education would be provided through a program presented on NPR or other such media.

HSD asks Council to forward this recommendation to the Council Finance subcommittee for consideration in regards of redirecting resources. HSD also asks that Council forward this recommendation to the National Communications Committee to examine the feasibility of accomplishing this recommendation.

Outcome #4: Effective Engagement in Forest Policy

HSD recommends to Council that national's biomass position statement for SAF consider the relevant issues, and the need for, and the potential benefits of policies, programs, and legislation that would support and encourage biomass markets and utilization.

HSD asks Council to consider these items when reviewing the draft Biomass Utilization position statement.

HSD recommends to Council that a national position paper, which answers questions #2 and #3, be approved for input by SAF members at the US Forest Service Centennial Forums and Centennial Congress.

- HSD will appoint a committee to work with the National Office staff to prepare a draft paper for Council approval.
- Position paper must be completed prior to the first Regional Centennial Forum.
- The paper will also contain reference to existing SAF position papers that relate to the policy and management of the National Forests.

HSD asks Council to forward this recommendation to the Committee on Forest Policy for review.

OSAF Executive Committee Meeting

December 2nd, 2004

Division of Forestry Office, Columbus

Meeting began at 10:12 am

Present were: Roger Weaver, Bob Long, Ron Miller, Scott Costello, Roger Williams, and Jeremy Scherf. Stephanie Miller and Mark Ervin showed up later. Kathy Smith attended after the Forest Advisory Council Meeting.

Review of minutes from the previous meeting. Roger Williams requested to add the date of the last meeting to the minutes. The date was June 2nd 2004 at 10 am in Circleville. Bob Long stated that he was not present, so his name should be removed from the present list. Ron Miller motioned to approve as amended. Bob Long seconded.

Treasurers report. An account statement from Dave Apsley was reviewed, and no problems were found. Discussion was held on changing the bank for the new treasurer. Ron Miller motioned to approve the treasurer's report. Roger Williams seconded.

Membership Report: Jeremy reported that, as of October 2004, we currently have 194 members. Since the last report in March, we have 1 new member, 2 reinstated members, 1 deceased, 44 were purged due to non-payment of dues, 18 transferred in, and 20 transferred out. Of the 194 members, 168 are regular members, 8 are OSU students, and 18 are Hocking students.

Due to the large purge numbers, we are down 38 members to meet national's goal of increasing our membership by one member. Our number is slightly higher than most other chapter's numbers, but there can be many explanations for that. National has been strongly encouraging recruiting new members and has some campaigns going on as we speak.

A significant number of OSU students are graduating soon. I would like to contact them to encourage them to renew their membership as a full member upon graduation. This might also be the case with Hocking students. I was not able to work out a date to attend an OSU Chapter meeting to talk about joining SAF, but I still hope to do so. The national office is already mailing renewal notices.

Bob Long asked about enrollment at OSU. Roger Williams said that is not quite known until the new curriculum comes into full play. Currently full forestry is about 30-35, but combined with the forestry/wildlife curriculum, those numbers could be around 70. These numbers are excellent, as numbers seem to be improving. Still waiting on SAF's report on accreditation. The SAF team was very impressed with the new program.

Roger Weaver mentioned that at the HSD meeting, a lot of talk was focused on SAF membership, because numbers are down all over. Studies are being done to investigate

the declining numbers. Roger is very excited about our new council representative, Bob Cunningham. He hopes to attend our next meeting.

Discussion was held on our 44 purged members and what we could do to keep those members on the roster.

Education Report: Mark presented for Kathy Smith that they are working on the survey. Kathy wants the executive committee to fill out the survey and return it as a trial run and evaluation of the survey. Return it to her by December 10th. Mark Ervin motions that we have a drawing for the general membership for one year paid membership for those that return the membership survey. This would be a 2006 membership.

Communications Report: Stephanie Miller passed out the Communications Plan. It targets specific audiences, and it is workable and malleable. Discussion was held on making it official. The executive committee will approve it, and then it will be presented at the next business meeting for approval. Ron Miller mentioned that he liked how the first strategy was communicating with our members. Stephanie said we do need to take care of ourselves first. Praise was given to Stephanie and the committee for a job well done. Discussion was also held on doing other analysis of our strengths and weaknesses.

Mark had some suggestions on the Communications Plan. He had a lot of praise for the plan, but felt that there might be too much to do for a volunteer organization. Stephanie said that she talked about that with the Jeff Gannham, national SAF Communications person, who said that is OK, that this is your list of ideas to go and work with. This was definitely recognized. A broad plan to start with, then we can pick and choose from the plan what we want to focus on. Mark's concern is that it gets piecemealed, and we don't get enough focus on anything specific. Roger Williams mentioned that we don't yet know what will work in this plan, and what will not. He suggested that we review the plan over time, and monitor, evaluate, and adapt this plan to the current situation. We can look at our measurable indicators and see how things are going. He said we should start with the full plan, and work backwards with it.

Mark also mentioned that we targeted everyone, and the general public too. He thought the general public should not be a target. Stephanie said that is why it is at the end of the plan. He also questioned if the media should be an alone target, or should the media be targeted under the other targets. We need to have a media target under our other targets as an avenue to get to that target, instead of having the media its own target. Mark wanted to stress that he thought it was an excellent plan, and is very pleased with it, but wanted to bring up these ideas.

Scott Costello said it is great that each new officer will have something they can review and evaluate to determine what they can focus on during their time in office. Roger Weaver said it would also be great that we can pick people to focus on specific tasks in which they would be very successful with.

Roger Williams asked if we should develop a timeline to go along with this plan. We could set certain targets to reach along the way. Scott Costello said he would rather see a prioritization, rather than a timeline. Especially since this is a small volunteer group. It isn't as important as when it gets done, as that it gets done. Roger agreed, but said not having a target date can keep things moving slowly for a very long time. Stephanie said this is where the executive committee can set annual goals on the side, to help follow this plan.

Ron Miller moved that we applaud the committee's efforts and approve the Communications Plan. Roger Williams seconded the motion.

Stephanie also mentioned that Lucia Hunt of ODA is talking about teaching people who work with trees on identifying EAB. Stephanie suggested having a series of classes, and 13 sessions will be held in Northwest Ohio, located mostly at OSU Extension offices. She wanted this to go out to the membership, so the Consulting Foresters and other foresters can more effectively communicate with both loggers and landowners. She would like to see a big SAF membership at these trainings. Mark mentioned that our logo should at least be on the information handed out. Roger Williams cautioned on what we put the SAF logo on. Pest alerts and other handouts will be given out. Anyone that works with wood will be targeted: Parks, municipalities, wildlife officers, foresters, loggers, sawmills, and a huge amount of people around this industry.

Hetuch Report:

Scott Costello mentioned a wide variety of topics he wanted to include in the next edition. He can produce it as soon as he gets all of the information.

Policy Report:

Roger Williams mentioned that he doesn't have an official policy report. However, he has some concerns about management strategies mentioned by various agencies for EAB. He wondered if SAF needs to have a position statement on EAB. There are issues in regard to management, issues on the success on what is currently being done, and ecological issues surrounding what is being done. He said SAF has been silent on the issue, and thought we should have some kind of say in this issue. Roger Weaver thought a white paper had been discussed. Bob Long questioned what the controversial issues are, and that they would need to be discussed. Roger Williams' discussion centered around ODA's policy on herbicide use, required removal of trees, complete removal of trees. There are questions of whether this will in fact be successful, and there really is no documentation if this will work or not.

Discussion was held that we are sitting on our hands, and if we want to be seen as the professional foresters in Ohio, we need to have a voice in this matter. Roger offered to form an ad hoc committee to investigate this, if we feel we need to do anything. Consensus was that we do need to be heard on this matter. General membership and others should be pulled into this committee. Stephanie said that people that are working with it should be on the committee. This matter varies so much over the whole state, that we would have to be generalized in our statement. Roger Williams said that he is not

suggesting that we recommend management strategies at this point, since there are so many unknowns, and variation around the state.

Mark Ervin motioned that we commission Roger Williams to head this project on developing a white paper. Stephanie mentioned Tom Collins and Don Schmenk to be on the committee. Ron Miller and Bob Long offered to be on the committee. Mark Ervin thought it would be great to present this white paper at the next meeting. Having a group discussion at this meeting would be excellent on this topic. Ron Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Forest Science:

Bob Long mentioned that he has an article related to nutritional requirements of trees and site suitability ready for the Hetuch. He also mentioned that it would be great to have a place to get EAB info to the members (Hetuch). He asked for suggestions on topics for future articles. He said Connecticut has found nursery stock (rhododendron) infected with Sudden Oak Death. There is a big sudden oak death meeting in January in California that he plans to attend.

Foresters Fund Report:

Ron Miller said he had wanted to have a raffle at the winter meeting, but since that didn't happen, he will do something at the next meeting. He wants to send raffle tickets out with the meeting notice. That way those that might not be able to attend the meeting can still buy tickets. He is still in contact with Galyans about having a nice item(s) available.

Updates:

2005 Election Results:

Valerie Fox has been elected secretary/treasurer elect.
Lee Crocker has been elected Chair elect.

Winter Meeting:

Mark Ervin reported the meeting is scheduled for March 3rd & 4th, Thursday and Friday at OSU. Talk has been on EAB for the meeting topic. Mainly on the recommendations to landowners developed by OSU. The SAF white paper would be presented. ODA could do a presentation. Someone from Michigan talking about their experiences would be good. Definitely want to have an interactive session. Do we want to have a one-day or two-day meeting? Discussion was held on a large number of subjects surrounding this topic.

Jeremy Scherf suggested talking to Forestry Forum about taking care of lunch for the meeting. He also suggested to try and get a group rate at a hotel and have a scheduled evening activity to attract people to stay both days.

Scott Costello brought up the idea of doing the legislative seedling distribution along with the meeting. More discussion of this topic was held. If it was held later in the spring, we could do bareroot seedlings, possibly in April

A tentative agenda for the meeting was developed.

HSD Report:

Roger Weaver talked about the HSD meeting. Most topics were referred to committees for further discussion and investigation. Various topics were discussed at the meeting. Having a student certified forester test was tabled for later discussion. Key things: 33-35% of SAF budget comes from dues. The SAF Convention has lately been a break-even event, compared to a fundraiser in the past. Last year 600 members down from the previous membership, much of it being out of the Forest Service. Looking into online CFE tracking and opportunities.

New Business:

Nomination Awards:

Talk to Dan Yaussy about the scholarships. Roger Weaver, Scott Costello, and Dan Yaussy will determine the forester and communicator awards.

2006 Joint Meeting with OFA?:

Bob Romig of OFA has been curious why we aren't holding our meeting jointly with them this year. Bob and Mark Ervin talked about it, and Mark shared our concerns, mainly being the expense of the event, as well as the registration problems, and other issue in trying to work into their event. We agree that meeting together makes us stronger, but if our members don't show up, then no needs can be met. Bob would really like us to meet with them in 2006. He suggested that we be in the planning stages from day one. He said they could work with us on the cost issues.

Scott said that OFA's meeting is a fundraiser, and ours isn't, so that brings up issues. More discussion was held on how this could work. Mark Ervin suggested that we hash this out with the membership at our business meeting.

Discussion was held on past meetings and holding them jointly. Mention was made of an eroding identity, and declining attendance.

Final Thoughts:

Jeremy Scherf mentioned offering a reduced rate for students for the meeting.

Scott Costello wants everything for the Hetuch by December 27th. He would like to have a January 17th mailing for the Winter Meeting registration forms.

Mark Ervin mentioned that we should recognize Dave Schatz for his award at the Winter Meeting.

Respectfully submitted for Dave Apsley,

Jeremy R. Scherf, Membership Chairman