



The Ohio Hetuch



Winter 2007

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Chair Comments—Dave Apsley, OSAF Chair

I am honored and excited to serve as your chair for 2007. Although I've met many of you since I moved to Ohio in 1995, I'd like to take a few lines to introduce myself. I spent much of my youth in the woods and brushy hills of SE Indiana hiking and hunting small game, but I had no knowledge of or exposure to forestry or natural resources management as a profession until I was selected in 1979 to participate in the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in the Hoo-sier National Forest. Even though I can no longer recall their names, the foresters, wildlife biologists and camp counselors at YCC camp opened my eyes to the world of forestry and natural resources management. Since that time I have received a BS in Forest Management from Purdue, where I served as chair of the student SAF chapter, and a MS in Forestry from the University of Georgia, where I worked as a research coordinator after graduation. I have also worked for the U.S. Army as post forester at Fort Knox and have taught in the forestry program at Hocking College where I served as the advisor to the student chapter of SAF. Since 2000 I have been employed by Ohio State University Extension where I largely focus my outreach efforts on private woodland owners and also conduct applied research on forest regeneration.



Dave Apsley

My primary goal for OSAF in the next year is to make your membership a positive asset for you. As you know, our membership declined several years ago and has leveled off in more recent years. After talking to our membership chair and a few of the folks who have not renewed, I have noticed that the most common reason cited for not renewing is a perceived the lack of return on investment. Even though annual dues are a significant investment for most of us, the potential for return on your investment is limitless and is directly proportional to the amount of energy that you invest in OSAF and the profession. I don't claim to have all of the answers, but I do know that we are more than 200 members strong in Ohio. This gives us more than enough resources to make a significant impact on issues that foresters face in Ohio.

Please join with me in helping to make OSAF a valuable asset for you and all of our members. Here's how you can help:

- 1) Become active in the Society. Attend *at least* one OSAF meeting each year and interact with your forestry colleagues. Bring issues to the table for discussion and action. You have a voice in the organization. Don't be afraid to use it.
- 2) Promote good forestry and natural resources management in your community. Help community members and woodland owners to better understand forests and forestry issues. Simply organizing or speaking at an Arbor Day ceremony or visiting a classroom can be a rewarding and valuable experience. Be that person who inspires someone to pursue a career in forestry.
- 3) Become active in local and state issues that influence our forests. Be a resource for the decision makers in your community.
- 4) Recruit fellow foresters to become members of OSAF. There definitely is strength in numbers. Consider inviting a fellow forester to the winter meeting.

As you can see, I'm not making big promises of what I will do for you and for OSAF. What I am saying is that I will work with you and your leadership team to help make OSAF all that it can be. Please do not hesitate to contact me, email: apsley.1@osu.edu; phone: 740-710-3009, if you have concerns, suggestions or would like to become more active in making OSAF a valuable asset for all of our members.

Hope to see you next month in Columbus!

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District IX Council Report—Roger Weaver, District IX Council Representative

There's a credit card commercial on TV using a Russian-sounding actor that always ends with him stating, "Rewarding, very, very rewarding." I'm hoping that I will be using that same response as I fulfill the role as the Council Representative for District 9. The first orientation and Council meeting in December left me a little shell-shocked, but I truly believe the current leadership is up for the task.

SAF has done a lot of work over the last few years to learn what its members need and want from a professional society. This spring at the March SAF Council meeting, the Council will further discuss some options for making changes to the membership and dues structure. The proposals are designed to make joining SAF easier and more understandable, help to retain members, and reduce the confusion over dues. I have my own thoughts about these issues, but I very much need to hear from you. Please let me know your thoughts and ideas. This is very important to you and the Society.

After each Council meeting, I will send an email report out to all members on the email list to keep you aware of issues discussed and adopted. This is your professional society and I am representing your interests at the National level, so I want your input on the direction we are taking, or should be taking.

This is also the time of year to start the process of recognizing those among us. The Fellow nominations are due by July 1, and the Field Forester award by May 15. It's like pulling teeth to get these nominations started, but there are foresters in our ranks that deserve this recognition.

I'm looking forward to the upcoming three years, but I need your help. Let me take your concerns and wishes to the National Council to make SAF stronger and more fulfilling. At the end of my term, I want us all to feel that the involvement in SAF has been, "Rewarding, very, very rewarding."

You can email me at RWeaver@glatfelter.com or call me at (740) 772-0865.



Roger Weaver

Managing Invasive Plants in Ohio's Forests —Robert Long, OSAF Forest Science and Technology Coordinator

In January the Ohio Invasive Plant Council (OIPC) held a conference on invasive plant research and management at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware. Over 280 attendees heard presentations on recent research results and case studies of invasive plant management programs focused on specific invasive species. There were also 20 posters highlighting current research studies across Ohio. The attendance at this meeting highlights the increasing attention being given to invasive plant species. While metroparks and urban forests are particularly threatened, there is increased awareness of the potential for invasive plants to become established in forest communities throughout the state.

Researchers such as Dr. Glenn Matlack from Ohio University reported on roadside invasives like Asiatic stiltgrass, *Microstegium vimineum*, which use disturbed roadsides with open light environments as gateways to become established and spread along roads and trails. Forest Service scientist Dr. Cynthia Huebner reported case studies from forests in West Virginia for several different invasive species, including Asiatic stiltgrass and tree-of-heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*. A management perspective was provided by Tom Borgman of the Hamilton County Park District who described their program for controlling Amur honeysuckle, *Lonicera mackii*. Tom described different herbicide treatments, application methods, and timing as considerations for controlling Amur honeysuckle. Similarly, Steve Harvey from ODNR's Irwin Prairie described aggressive efforts to use herbicides to control glossy buckthorn, *Rhamnus frangula*, in northwest Ohio. The plenary speaker, Valerie Vartanian of the Nature Conservancy and the Missouri Botanical Garden spoke about building partnerships to both manage invasives and prevent new introductions. She highlighted the importance of partnering with the nursery and landscape industries as key elements of an effective control/management strategy.



Stiltgrass

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Managing Invasive Plants in Ohio's Forests – Continued from page 2

On both state forests and the Wayne National Forest (WNF), invasive plants are becoming a new challenge for foresters and land managers. The WNF has had several programs to control garlic mustard, *Alliaria petiolata*, Asiatic stiltgrass, and autumn olive, *Elaeagnus angustifolia*, in campgrounds and adjacent forests. Additionally, the WNF has released weevils that act as a biological control agent for purple loosestrife, *Lythrum salicaria*. WNF botanists Cheryl Coon and Chad Kirschbaum have been involved in a range of programs to identify and GPS invasives and then to develop management plans. On the Ironton District, the Binion fire which burned with abnormally high fire intensity due to the fuels from the 2003 ice storm, exposed the mineral soil and increased light levels on the forest floor in a 303 acre unit. These conditions were ideal for the establishment and spread of non-native invasive plants. Surveys following the fire documented populations of multiflora rose, *Rosa multiflora*, Tartarian honeysuckle, *Lonicera tatarica*, Japanese honeysuckle, *Lonicera japonica*, Asiatic stiltgrass, and garlic mustard. Starting in 2005 a range of methods including hand pulling and brush-hogging were used in efforts to control the invasives. Sites will be re-visited on regular schedule and follow-up treatments are planned as needed. The WNF is currently completing an environmental analysis that will incorporate the use of herbicides for non-native invasive species control, and the Forest hopes to proceed with a contract for tree-of-heaven removal this summer.

On state forests in southern Ohio, invasive plants are also increasing in their frequency and abundance. For example, tree-of heaven became widespread after thinning and prescribed burning treatments at Tar Hollow State Forest in 2000-2001. Pretreatment vegetation surveys only identified one plot out of 20 with overstory (> 4 inches dbh) *Ailanthus* present. By 2003, it was evident that *Ailanthus* was becoming widespread in the thin+burn treatment unit, and was especially noted along skid roads. Additional surveys in this unit identified 28 trees or stumps of *Ailanthus* in this 50 acre unit that were well established prior to the thinning and burning treatments. Additional surveys in 2003 documented the frequency and abundance of new *Ailanthus* stems and evaluated whether lighting conditions along skid roads favored seedling establishment. Visual inspections showed that most stems originated as seedlings, not sprouts, and that percent open sky was not significantly correlated with *Ailanthus* abundance. Given the tremendous seed production potential of *Ailanthus*, it was concluded that pre-treatment *Ailanthus* abundance and seed bed conditions were the most important factors affecting patterns of post-treatment establishment. Foresters who think that shade-intolerant *Ailanthus* stems will not persist as forest canopies close should note that other researchers have shown that *Ailanthus* clonal sprouts attached to a parent tree can persist in a shaded forest understory up to 20 years. Additionally, tree ring data from roadside *Ailanthus* cross-sections obtained from Tar Hollow State Forest, showed one tree was 81 years old.

Foresters needing information about control strategies should seek local experts since conditions that affect control success are variable across Ohio. ODNR service foresters, many of whom were present at the OIPC conference, report that invasive plants are frequently present in privately owned forests in many parts of Ohio and that tree-of-heaven and honeysuckles appear to be among the most common and troublesome plants. Many of these service foresters have experience with effective control strategies and invasives management. Metropark personnel also generally have considerable expertise to offer on invasives control. Internet resources are abundant starting with the Ohio Invasive Plant Council website at www.oipc.info. Other information is available from the Ohio State University Extension Service along with many other web resources. While foresters are already dealing with invasive insects like gypsy moth and emerald ash borer, they now must consider invasive plants when developing management plans or recommending harvests. The invasive plant issue may significantly affect forest management decisions and will require foresters to be knowledgeable of treatment methods and management options. One of the challenging aspects of a career in natural resources is that there are always new things to learn and apply!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Cheryl Coon, botanist on the Wayne National Forest, and Forest Service research scientists Joanne Rebbeck and Todd Hutchinson, contributed information for this article. Their contributions are gratefully acknowledged.



Tree of Heaven



Past Chair's Comments—Lee A. Crocker, CF



Lee A. Crocker

Wow, it seems like just yesterday that I was writing my comments as incoming Chair. This has been a great year serving as Chair of OSAF. I consider it an honor and pleasure to have had this opportunity. The SAF Leadership Academy caused me to look at some things differently. I now realize not to worry about making mistakes, just try to make new mistakes. Other Jeff Bercuvitz's hot tips I received at the Leadership Academy include "think big, start small," "snorkel before you croak" and "never have a meeting when you can have a party."

In October, several Ohio members traveled to Pittsburgh to attend the National SAF convention. National SAF conventions provide opportunities to see a broader picture of forestry and to make new friends and get reacquainted with old friends. Ohio was well represented with several speakers covering a broad range of topics. At our winter meeting in March, you will have the opportunity to hear several of these speakers. Dave Apsley is working hard to develop a great meeting.

Dave Apsley and I attended the House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting before the convention. The purpose of HSD is to advise SAF Council on Society affairs. During HSD there were several proposed items discussing membership categories, voting status, dues, golden members and endorsement of new members. HSD's recommendation was for council to gather more information from the membership before making major changes. I also had the opportunity to sit through a SAF Council meeting to see how the governing body for SAF operates. It was a nice opportunity to see what and who makes up the SAF Council. Ohio will have the privilege of having its own Roger Weaver serving on SAF Council for the next three years. Congratulations to Roger, I am sure he will be a great representative for OSAF and the District.

I would like to personally thank all of those that have volunteered to make OSAF a great state society. I believe OSAF is in some very qualified hands with Dave Apsley as Chair, Stephanie Miller as Chair Elect and Gregg Maxfield as Secretary/Treasurer. There is significant value in being a member of SAF as a professional forester. At the winter meeting let's strive to make each of our members feel a part of OSAF.

See you in Columbus on March 21 and 22!

OSAF Anniversaries

10 year

James Bartlett
Dean Berry
Arthur Boyer
Christine Hodgson

20 year

David Apsley
Steven Cothrel
Michael Friedhof
Robert Long

30 year

Donald Baun
James Elze
David Marlow
Robert Redett
James Sheetz

50 year

Bill Cowen

Congratulations to all on these milestones. Please be sure to attend the winter meeting to receive your anniversary pin from SAF.

Forester Spotlight

** This new section of the Hetuch has been created to introduce and highlight the accomplishments of Ohio's Foresters.*

Many of you may be wondering what longtime OSAF member Dan Kincaid has been up to....

Dan Kincaid recently retired from the U.S. Forest Service after a 30+ year career with that agency, which included almost 15 years in Ohio with the Wayne National Forest. Dan is one of the very few professional foresters who had assignments on all three Wayne NF units. He was a timber forester on the Ironton Ranger District in the mid-1970's; Supervisor of the Marietta Unit from 1980-90; and District Ranger on the Athens RD from 2003 until his retirement last year.

Dan has been very active in Ohio SAF over the years and served as Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Communications Committee Chairman, and Editor of the Hetuch during the 1980's. He served on four national SAF committees, was part of the steering committee for the 1981 national SAF convention in Cincinnati, and made presentations at two other national conventions. Kincaid was elected SAF Fellow in 1991 and was also very involved with the Ohio Forestry Association and the Outdoor Writers of Ohio. From 1981-85 he wrote a weekly outdoor newspaper column for the Marietta Times, which also appeared in the Logan Daily News, the Athens Messenger, and several weekly papers; from 1985-90 he wrote two weekly columns. In addition, he served as a sports reporter and sports columnist for the Marietta Times.

Kincaid's other Forest Service assignments were on National Forests in West Virginia, Minnesota, Georgia, and North Carolina, in addition to the State & Private Forestry Field Office in Morgantown, WV. A native of West Virginia, he holds a BS in Forest Management from WVU and a Master's Degree in Forestry from Duke University. Kincaid continues to reside in Athens and commutes to his "new" job as Assistant State Forester for the West Virginia Division of Forestry.



Dan Kincaid

Upcoming Events

2007 Ohio Woodland, Water, & Wildlife Conference

A conference for natural resource professionals and land managers

Wednesday, April 4, 2007 8:45 am – 3:30 pm

Mid-Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield, Ohio

Registration is Required

Early Registration Deadline:

March 14, 2007—\$50

After March 14, 2007—\$75

This conference qualifies for 5 hours of Category 1 SAF CFE credit



Ohio River Valley Woodland & Wildlife Workshop

A conference for natural resource professionals and land managers

Saturday, March 31, 2007 8:00 am – 3:30 pm

Higher Ground Conference & Retreat Center, West Harrison, Indiana

Preregistration is Required

Register by March 22, 2007—\$30

Register after March 22, 2007—\$35

Youth registration fee - \$5

For more information about these events or to get registered visit <http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu>

Call Before You Cut Update—Andy Ware, Ohio Division of Forestry, Assistant Chief

More than 250 landowners who collectively own more than 14,000 acres, the size of Scioto Trail and Mohican State Forests combined, have now been assisted through the Call Before You Cut campaign. And that's just in the past four months, since the effort was launched at the Farm Science Review.

The public awareness campaign's message is simple: Have a forester assist in developing a management plan for your woods and use a Master Logger for harvesting. Implicit in the message is that a landowner can continue to enjoy a beautiful, sustainable woods while also receiving economic benefits from it.

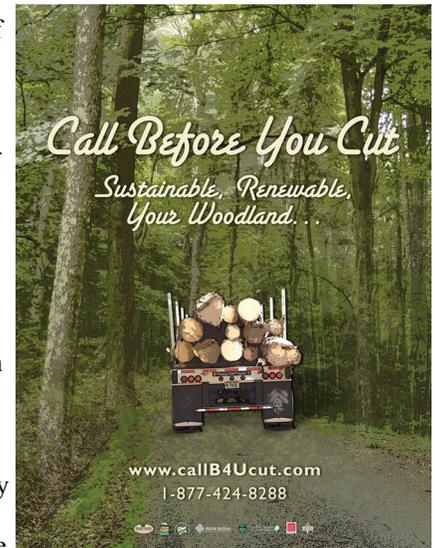
The use of promotional posters, billboards, a web site, www.callb4ucut.com, and radio advertisements have helped promote the program. A \$4,000 SAF Forester Fund grant obtained by SAF Fellow Tom Berger helped develop artwork for the campaign.

Landowners are encouraged to call a toll free number, 877-424-8288 where they can talk to a live operator and sign up to receive a packet of forestry information with the best available information from partner groups.

The statewide, pro-forestry campaign is coordinated by OSU Extension, the Ohio Division of Forestry, and Rural Action. Key co-sponsors with the Ohio Chapter of the Society of American Foresters include the ODNR Division of Soil & Water Conservation, the Ohio Federation of Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Better Business Bureau, the Ohio Tree Farm Committee and The Nature Conservancy.

A profile about the campaign and the Ohio Chapter's leadership with it appeared in the January 2007 edition of the nationally-distributed SAF publication, *the Forestry Source*. The program has been featured in the *Washington Post*, the *Dayton Daily News*, and the *Columbus Dispatch* (along with a favorable editorial).

"...one ill-planned, poorly executed cutting, all of those benefits can be squandered for a century. That's why "Call Before You Cut," a program of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and several partner organizations, is an excellent initiative...Call Before You Cut could play an important role in preserving Ohio's wooded bounty."



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*OSAF Website: www.ohiosaf.org
SAF Website: www.safnet.org/*



OSAF 2007 Winter Meeting
What You Missed in Pittsburg!

March 21-22, 2007

The Ohio State University Campus, Columbus

Watch your mailboxes for registration soon!

Early Bird Registration Deadline March 9th:

SAF Members- \$40 per person

Non-SAF Members- \$50 per person

The winter meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn and to earn 7 Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Credits. Please join us for informative presentations, participation in the affairs of OSAF, fellowship, and good food.