



The Ohio Hetuch



Fall 2007

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Chair Comments—Dave Apsley, OSAF Chair

OSAF Members:

My term as OSAF Chair will soon come to a close. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you! Although I had hoped to accomplish more, I am pleased to report that we have made some very positive progress in 2007. I will focus on a few of the highlights in the remainder of my comments.

Participation at both of our meetings this year was excellent. The programs offered at both meetings were well received by the membership. Business meetings were productive thanks to your active participation. Please continue to attend and participate in future meetings. This is your best opportunity to have a voice within your society and to interact with your forestry colleagues.

We have started the process of reconnecting with our forestry educational programs in Ohio. Members of the OSAF Executive committee visited both the Hocking College Forestry Club and the Forestry Forum at Ohio State University in early 2007. Our main goal was to provide an opportunity for students to get to know some of our members and to generate ideas of how we can better support our student chapters. As a result, six student members from the OSU Forestry Forum will be attending the National SAF Convention in Portland. OSAF will defray some of their costs of attending the convention.

Two of our members have been recently recognized by National SAF. Lee Crocker with the ODNR Division of Forestry was nominated by OSAF for the Presidential Field Forester of the Year for the ten-state 9th District. I am pleased to announce that Lee will receive this prestigious achievement award at the national convention in late October. Dan Yaussy, USFS Delaware Lab, was nominated by OSAF for honor of SAF Fellow. Dan's Fellow nomination was recently approved by the District Fellow Committee. Congratulations Lee and Dan!

We are in the process of developing a new web site which will provide information to Ohio woodland owners who need forestry assistance. This site will feature searchable databases of OSAF members who provide forestry services. There will be a nominal fee for listing. These fees will be used to maintain the website and cover the associated costs of providing this service. Our goal is to have this new site on-line by January 1, 2007. We will mail more detailed information about this initiative to all OSAF members in the coming weeks.

Finally, the election for 2008 officers will take place soon. Keep an eye on your mail box for ballots. Remember, that OSAF is your organization so please participate by voting.

Take Care!

Dave Apsley
Chair Ohio Society of American Foresters



Dave Apsley

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Cowen Embree Scholarship

Sadly, we received the news in mid August that Bill Cowen's wife, Dr. Mary Lynne Cowen, passed away. Dr. Cowen held a B.S. degree in music education, a M.A. degree in curriculum and instruction, and a Ph.D. degree in environmental education, all from The Ohio State University. Mary Lynne joined the faculty of the School of Natural Resources on January 1, 1973 and served the university through September 30, 1986.

Professor William F. Cowen, Jr. joined the faculty of The Ohio State University as an Assistant Professor in 1959 and served with distinction for 26 years until his retirement as Professor in 1985. During his tenure at Ohio State, Bill's academic appointment was 25% resident instruction and 75% Extension, with the title State Extension Specialist in Forestry. Bill was a truly gifted teacher, both in the classroom and with Extension clientele. Several awards testify to this fact, including *The Ohio State University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching*, recognition as one of America's outstanding educators with a listing in the *National Awards Volume of Outstanding Educators of America*, and the Ohio Forestry Association's *Outstanding Conservation Educator of the Year*. With the creation of the School of Natural Resources in 1968, his Dendrology and Silviculture courses became requirements for all forestry and wildlife majors. Literally thousands of students passed through Bill's classes, benefiting not only from his enthusiastic teaching style and love for his profession, but also from his theoretically well-founded approach to the science and practice of forestry.

Throughout his tenure at Ohio State, Bill was the only forest resource management Extension professional in the state. He developed strong educational programs addressing the needs of a wide variety of clientele including Christmas tree growers, maple syrup producers, private non-industrial forest landowners, professional forest land managers, and urban forest managers. In addition, he demonstrated a unique understanding and willingness to work with youth conservation education through 4-H and teacher education programs. Once again, several awards testify to Bill's impact; these include induction into the *Ohio Christmas Tree Association's Hall of Fame*, a *Certificate of Commendation* from the Ohio House of Representatives, an *Honor Award* from the Soil Conservation Society of America, and the *Professional Excellence Award for Outstanding Contributions in Conservation and Natural Resource Development* from the All-Ohio Chapter of the Soil Conservation Society of America.

If you would like to honor Bill's beloved wife Mary Lynne, you can do so by donating to the Cowen-Embree Scholarship in her name. Donations should be sent to Gregg Maxfield 952-B Lima Ave., Findlay, OH 45840.

Forester Spotlight

In this edition of the forester spotlight, we are going to meet one of the up and coming foresters in the state of Ohio. This forester has been helping with the family business since he was roughly 12 years old and now with 3 years of full time consulting under his belt, he is well on his way to becoming another one of Ohio's outstanding foresters.

Jed Coldwell is a consulting forester with Coldwell Timber Consulting based in Columbiana County, Ohio. Coldwell Timber Consulting was started by Dave Coldwell, Jed's father. This company is a family affair with not just Jed and his father, but also his younger brother Jared a recent grad of West Virginia University.

Jed entered into the world of natural resources growing up in a very rural area where the woods was a great place to get away and play. He was bitten by the forestry bug early in life helping his dad during breaks in school. To solidify his interest in a forestry career he attended forestry camp in Carroll County. After high school, Jed went to Hocking College and got his associate's degree in forest management in 2002 and followed up that by attending Ohio State to get his bachelor's of science in forestry in 2004.

As many of his fellow foresters, the majority of his time is spent assisting private landowners in managing their woods, managing timber sales, and writing a lot of management plans to help folks get into CAUV or OFTL. They also do a little TSI, timber tax basis, forest land appraisal, as well as educational talks for local FFA and 4-H groups.



Please join us at the annual OSAF Winter Meeting. With all the retirements, folks moving from state forestry to private consulting, and new foresters in Ohio, you will be bound to see some new faces and maybe even learn something new.

Restoring Chestnut to Ohio's Forests

-Robert Long, OSAF Forest Science and Technology Coordinator

Most of us have heard about the efforts of The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF), to develop blight resistant hybrids that can be re-introduced to eastern forests. In 2005, an Ohio Chapter of TACF was officially organized and currently there are over 300 members. You don't have to be a forester or land manager to join---everyone is welcome-- and all are motivated by a common love of the American chestnut. So much has been accomplished on the road to restore American chestnut, but much more work lies ahead and local chapters will play a key role. While many of us already have too many things on our "to do" lists, foresters could play a key role just by helping to identify potentially resistant trees growing in Ohio's forests, and to eventually help with the planting of disease resistant hybrids.

While the Ohio Chapter is still developing its programs and strategies, much has been accomplished in the past two years and current president, Dr. Greg Miller, has an ambitious agenda. The Ohio Chapter now has a home at FFA Camp Muskingum in Carroll County. This location will serve to as a future test plot for planting American chestnut seedlings and it is ideally located to help educate thousands of FFA students about the chestnut. Additionally, with help from the Ohio Division of Forestry, the Ohio Chapter will be planting chestnut seedlings at Mohican State Forest in two separate plantings. One planting will have pure native American chestnut seedlings from sources obtained in Ohio and surrounding states. A second planting will have disease resistant hybrids developed at TACF farm in Meadowview, Virginia. For another project, Dr. Carolyn Keiffer, Miami University, is leading the effort to collect 10,000 seeds from surrounding states for propagation at the state nursery in Marietta. These seedlings will then be available for sale to the public in 2009. In related work, Dr. Brian McCarthy, Ohio University and Dr. Carolyn Keiffer coordinated planting of 1200 chestnuts in spring 2007 on a surface mined site where several different soil modification methods were used to create better conditions for seedling survival.



Source; www.duke.edu

Well, how are these resistant hybrids being developed? The backcross breeding strategy of The American Chestnut Foundation was implemented in the 1980s at their Meadowview Research Farm in Virginia. This process requires 6 generations to produce a hybrid that is 15/16 American chestnut with a high level of blight resistance. Here is the process: The initial cross was made using an American chestnut with a Chinese chestnut (F_1 ; $\frac{1}{2}$ American, $\frac{1}{2}$ Chinese). Progeny from this cross are then assessed for blight resistance following inoculation with the blight fungus, *Cryphonectria parasitica*. Resistant trees are then backcrossed to American chestnut producing BC_1 progeny that is $\frac{3}{4}$ American chestnut. Another backcross with blight resistant progeny produces BC_2 seedlings that are $\frac{7}{8}$ American chestnut. Trees are selected for blight resistance and the third backcross produces BC_3 seedlings that are 15/16 American chestnut. At this stage the BC_3 blight resistant trees are intercrossed with other BC_3 blight resistant trees producing BC_3F_2 progeny. At each stage of backcrossing the progeny are challenged with the blight fungus and only resistant trees are retained. The BC_3F_2 progeny were produced and available for planting in 2002. Soon these will be producing pollen that can be used for a second intercross with resistant trees that produces BC_3F_3 progeny. The BC_3F_3 progeny should have a high level of blight resistance. Presently, using intensive cultivation methods, trees will produce male catkins at 2 to 4 years and bisexual catkins at 3 to 5 years old.



Source; www.cooperativeconservationamerica.org

Regional aspects of the breeding program are likely critical to its long-term success. State chapters therefore have a key role to play and have been encouraged to start pure American chestnut orchards in order to preserve germplasm and to gain experience in cultivating chestnut trees. The BC_3F_2 trees are about 94% American chestnut, but they may not be adapted to local conditions. Extending the breeding program on to a BC_6 generation using local sources will help enable disease resistant hybrids to establish and compete with native vegetation in a particular region. So, there is much work that remains to be accomplished. While the Ohio Chapter is becoming well-established, please consider joining and helping with this effort. Identification of potentially resistant native American chestnuts is very important to this effort. Carlen Emanuel of The Nature Conservancy and Rich Cappell of ODNR are leading the effort to develop a database of potentially resistant trees in Ohio. If you find a living American chestnut, and especially those over 6 inches dbh, please get its

GPS coordinates and other information about the condition of the tree and the site and email this to cemanuel@tnc.org or rich.cappell@dnr.state.oh.us. This is a *treemendous* (pun intended) way to put forestry in a positive light. Your help will be greatly appreciated and may have a lasting impact on Ohio's future forests.

For more information see:

TACF website at: www.acf.org

Ohio Chapter website at: www.oh-acf.org.

Announcements

Commercial Pesticide Recertification

Winter Conferences

Meetings to be held November-February

Located in Akron, Dayton, Perrysburg, and Columbus

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

It is that time again!

Don't forget to renew your SAF membership!

And while you are at it, please update your contact information, including email address.

This helps us better communicate with you!

Forestry Forum Scholarship

This article was posted on the Ohio State University School of Natural Resources web site back in early 2006. Coming up in December is the annual Forestry Forum Christmas Tree sale. Even though this is kind of "old news", it is still important and relevant since the Christmas Tree Sale is the main source of funds for the scholarship.

The OSU Board of Directors met Dec. 2, 2005 and made final approval of the Forestry Forum Endowed Scholarship Fund. On Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006, Dean Moser and Jerry Bigham presented the formal documentation to the officers of the Forestry Forum at the Blackwell.

According to Dr. Moser a student endowed scholarship is quite rare if not unique in the college. Davis Syndor is advisor to the Forestry Forum and is incredibly proud of the students work in establishing this scholarship.

The Forestry Forum has donated \$2,500 every year for the last five years into the endowment. Last year they contributed \$4,000 to the fund and it reached \$20,000.

The officers of the Forestry Forum also donated another \$2,500 to the endowment to get the endowment to where it will fund a 1,000 dollar scholarship annually. The \$2,500 came from the 2005 Christmas Tree Sale.

The Forum will be giving three scholarships (one for \$1,000 and two for \$750 each) this spring. The \$1,000 scholarship will be primarily funded by the endowment.

One other accolade has to go to Mike Krol. Mike was in charge of the 2005 Tree Sale and did an outstanding job. He increased profits by some \$2,000 dollars this year allowing the club to endow the scholarship a year earlier than planned. Mike graduated last December but works in Central Ohio.



Pictured from left are Jerry Bigham (SENR Director), Alex Kindler (Treasurer), Stephen Rist (Secretary), Brad Wireman (Vice-president), and Dr Bobby Moser (Dean, CFAES). Jeremiah Miller (President) was unable to attend the presentation.

What is an Urban Forester?– Stephanie Miller, OSAF Vice Chair

The urban forest is often defined as "the sum of all woody and associated vegetation in and around dense, human settlements." Urban foresters are charged with managing and caring for this resource. In his book *Urban Forestry: Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces*, Dr. Robert Miller states "Just as the urban forest is a complex mosaic of vegetation and urban development, so the management of urban forest is a mosaic composed of a number of professions interacting with the landscape and one another." He goes on to differentiate between the professions of arboriculture and urban forestry: Arboriculture is the planting and care of trees and is a specialization within horticulture. Urban Forestry is a specialization within the forestry profession, managing trees on a large scale, rather than on an individual, basis.

Urban Forestry, although practiced for decades by foresters and arborists, was becoming recognized as a discipline within forestry in the early 1970's. The Society of American Foresters created an Urban Forestry Working Group in 1972 and created this definition of urban forestry: *Urban Forestry is a specialized branch of forestry that has as its objective the cultivation and management of trees for their present and potential contribution to the physiological, sociological and economic well-being of urban society. Inherent in this function is a comprehensive program designed to educate the urban populace on the role of trees and related plants in the urban environment. In its broadest sense, urban forestry embraces a multi-managerial system that includes municipal watersheds, wildlife habitats, outdoor recreation opportunities, landscape design, recycling of municipal wastes, tree care in general, and the future production of wood fiber as raw material.* It wasn't until 1978 that the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial and technical assistance to state foresters.

As many Ohio SAF members learned at the Summer Meeting, Urban Foresters wear many hats. In addition to caring for the trees, the job often includes overseeing anyone who works on municipal trees, managing contracts, evaluating and inventorying, developing relationships with other municipal departments, and much more. Since trees are one of the most political subjects in Ohio communities, Urban Foresters are always fine-tuning their political finesse, patience, and people skills.



Many of the things that Urban Foresters learn through "traditional" forestry coursework translates well to the community forestry realm. Inventorying and identifying management areas, developing management strategies to maximize yields (shade/\$ value/stormwater runoff instead of timber,) and projecting future yields/trends are some of the most obvious. More recently Emerald Ash Borer has forced Urban Foresters to reevaluate urban wood utilization strategies. Being able to measure stumpage, do the occasional log grading, and understand logging and the timber industry have become extremely valuable in recognizing the possibilities and constraints of "harvesting" urban logs for timber (it's usually not economically feasible with the poor timber product urban forests produce.) Climate change, greenhouse gas reduction, invasive species, continued urban/woodland interface,

and fire offer Urban Foresters additional opportunities to intertwine traditional forest management with specialized Urban Forestry skills. Urban Forestry is a dynamic, challenging, and exciting branch of the Forestry profession!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY BARTLETT !

Bartlett Tree Expert Company is celebrating 100 years of business by planting 100 trees in 100 days across the country in cities where they have offices.

On Thursday, Sept. 6, SAF member and Supervisor of the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District, Steve Sandfort joined Bartlett employees and members of the Landscape Horticulture staff and administration of Cincinnati State and Technical College to plant tree number 54, a 3" cal. Highbeam Overcup Oak. The planting site fit right into the college's memorial tree grove right in front of the main administration building.

Bartlett Tree Experts, headquartered in Stamford, CT, has always been a friend of forestry. Many of the leaders have forestry degrees. You may have also seen Bartlett's ads in our professional publications and noted their support of our national conventions.

So again, congratulate Bartlett on 100 years of successful business.



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OSAF 2008 Winter Meeting

March 5-6, 2008

The Ohio State University Campus, Columbus

Watch you mailboxes for more information!

