



# The Ohio Hetuch



Summer 2008

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## Chair Comments—Stephanie Miller, OSAF Chair

Fall is my favorite season, but spring is a close second. After months of dreary gray, it's nice to wake up to sunshine, birds chirping, and all the colors and scents of nature. The feeling of new life reminds me that as a forester I can help make life better for us all by cultivating the forests around me. I wish that cultivating *just* meant working in the woods all the time!

For those of you who know me, I've always been politically minded... not necessarily in party type stuff, but by a desire to make a difference by setting an example for others, searching for the facts, speaking up for ideas I believe in, and respecting the beliefs of others. I grew up in a very government cautious household (some of that from my Shawnee heritage, some from my parents' life experiences) and in a very racist community in central Indiana. I learned early on that even though I might not be able to change people outright, that I could introduce folks to ideas that are outside their box. I also learned that trust, kindness, and consideration get you a long way. As a teenager, I was the youth representative on my church's Diocesan Steering Committee during the South African anti-apartheid movement. One of our most difficult decisions was to divest our financial interests (LOTS of money) from companies whose business continued to fuel Apartheid. We also authored an official letter of support to South Africa's Bishop Desmond Tutu. Both of these actions fueled tremendous change and attracted national media attention... but it was not without debate, financial risk, time investment, and faith that we were doing what was right and just.

So what does this have to do with forestry? Probably not a lot, but the idea that we can shape positive decision-making from the grass roots level clear up to world leaders is something we professional foresters should consider. We are in a time of great challenges. If we want forests to be managed in the most sound, scientifically-based manner by foresters, then we need to share our messages and continue to lead by example. Sometimes our messages are not too popular. Sometimes it falls nicely into current "green" dialogue. Oftentimes it's overlooked because everyday management isn't as glamorous as a big wildfire in southern California.

Nevertheless one of the purposes of SAF is to help ensure that our membership has the tools and support we need to practice forestry wisely. The Ohio Forestry community has made tremendous strides in raising awareness about utilizing professional forestry services via the *Call Before You Cut* campaign and the newly revamped OSAF Consulting Forester List. As we continue those programs, we need to spend some time fine-tuning underlying forestry messages.

One great piece of advice I received from a veteran SAF leader while at the 2007 National Convention, was to make one goal for my term and see it through. After having received several inquiries about OSAF's stance on some of the most prevalent forest issues of today, including the Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, CAUV/OFTL, various non-traditional trends (bio-fuels, carbon markets, etc.) EAB, and the future of Forest Service Budgets, addressing these topics appears to be a real need within our organization.

By the time you read this, the OSAF Executive Committee will have already spent our May meeting identifying short and long-term issues that OSAF should address via white papers or official policy statements. Since developing such documents is the responsibility of the OSAF Policy Committee, we will need to identify what the Policy Committee needs to fulfill this commitment. It may mean some ad hoc committees and pooling key resource professionals to assist in developing responsible products. If this sounds like something that you are interested in doing, please let me know. This is my goal... get the ball rolling with issues that impact all of us as professionals and as a profession.

One final word...THANK YOU! (Ok, two words) So many people helped to make the OSAF Winter Meeting a success... especially everyone who braved ice and snow to attend. Enjoy the pictures! Have a wonderful spring. Work and play safely!



Stephanie Miller

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## **Alternative Forest Products: Forest Carbon Outlook**

### **- Shawn McMahon, Consulting Forester with Environmental Services, Inc.**

#### **Forest Carbon as an Alternative Source of Revenue**

The past few decades have demonstrated the need for forest landowners and land managers, both public and private, to diversify and find alternative sources of revenue. One of the most promising of these alternatives is being driven by the “green” movement and the efforts to reduce the volume of greenhouse gasses (GHG) in our atmosphere. In particular the effort to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) is providing substantial opportunities for landowners by providing an additional source of revenue for minimum, and in some cases, no additional effort above current forest management practices.

#### **Carbon Trading**

Carbon dioxide is a naturally occurring gas produced by living things. Though the low levels of CO<sub>2</sub> produced naturally are not considered to be a problem, many industrial processes release CO<sub>2</sub> in larger levels, greatly increasing the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> worldwide. In these large amounts CO<sub>2</sub> is considered to be a greenhouse gas that is believed to be responsible for increasing the temperature of the earth (global warming). Trees and forests naturally store (sequester) carbon from CO<sub>2</sub> in their fibers, releasing oxygen and reducing the amount of harmful CO<sub>2</sub> worldwide. Simply stated, carbon trading is a process whereby companies who directly or incidentally produce CO<sub>2</sub> can purchase carbon credits to offset their emissions. Each credit usually represents one ton of CO<sub>2</sub> stored in protected forestland, long-lived forest products, or soil carbon.

#### **Existing Carbon Market**

Currently the primary sector interested in the purchase of carbon credits are corporations who have it in their mandate to offset their carbon footprint for good public relations and who hope to receive early action credits for offsetting their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions prior to the anticipated Federal GHG regulation. Additional markets for carbon credits include private individuals who wish to offset their personal carbon footprint and speculators who purchase credits to hold for sale at a later date, when the anticipated market prices for carbon credits will have increased.

#### **Federal Regulations**

Much of the discussion surrounding Federal regulation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is centered on the anticipated cap and trade legislation. Cap and trade legislation would require emitters of CO<sub>2</sub> to offset their emissions, requiring that they either reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to a mandated level or purchase carbon credits sufficient to offset their annual emissions. Though no Federal cap and trade legislation has been enacted, the US presently has numerous bills pending in Congress proposing various Federal cap and trade programs. Additional indications that the US will soon adopt Federal cap and trade standards include the signing of the Bali Roadmap, which affirms the commitment of all signatories to the reduction of GHG worldwide.

#### **GHG Exchanges/ Registries**

To facilitate the sale of carbon credits, privately funded exchanges and registries have been developed. Exchanges provide a fee based trading platform where carbon credits can be listed and sold to interested buyers. This provides sellers of carbon credits with the visibility to ensure credits are sold, while providing buyers the assurance that the carbon credits meet an agreed upon set of standards. Registries perform a similar function by providing a forum to register credits, but typically lack the ability to coordinate individual trades. Rather, they serve as a forum where buyers and sellers of carbon credits can locate one another and independently negotiate trades. As no single set of standards for the measurement and verification of carbon credits have been adopted nationwide, standards often vary considerably between exchanges and registries. Most exchanges and registries require a written commitment to manage lands ethically and sustainably. One unifying component of most exchanges is the specific requirement regarding who and how verification of forestry carbon credits must be conducted.

To date, the premiere trading platform in the US has been the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX). CCX is North America's first voluntary comprehensive greenhouse gas emission registry, reduction and trading system. They provide a platform for the registration, verification and sale of carbon credits for forestry and other offset projects and hold members to specified GHG reductions standards. Approved carbon sources include afforestation, commercial forestry and carbon in long-lived wood products. Trading prices are set by the market supply and demand and are currently around \$2.05 per metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>. Carbon credits must also be verified by a CCX approved independent verifier. Verifiers check to ensure that offset projects meet CCX requirements and standards, and also conduct an audit of the calculations and timber cruise data used to determine the amount of carbon being sold.

Other exchanges and registries within the US that are worthy of note include the Georgia Carbon Registry that has been implemented by the Georgia Forestry Commission; the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a program initially developed by seven northeastern states to cap and trade CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power facilities; the newly developed Green Exchange created by the NY Mercantile Exchange, (which will begin trading carbon credits in the first quarter of 2008), and the Midwest Greenhouse Gas Registry.

In the global marketplace, carbon has been a marketable commodity for some time. The enactment of the Kyoto Protocol in February of 2005 set a protocol for reducing greenhouse gasses worldwide through the cap and trade format. The largest and most productive GHG emissions trading scheme, the European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EU ETS), serves as an exchange for carbon credits and other GHG to be traded globally. Though the US has not signed the Kyoto Protocol, individual states, such as California and Florida, are currently working out the terms with EU ETS that would allow for GHG trade.

While the newly developing GHG and carbon market can be overwhelming, it is providing landowners and forest managers unprecedented opportunities to receive a supplemental income for maintaining good forestry practices. For anyone interested in learning more about the benefits of marketing forest carbon, please contact Shawn McMahon with Environmental Services, Inc. at [Smmahon@esinc.cc](mailto:Smmahon@esinc.cc).

## Forester Spotlight



Dan Yaussy

Dan Yaussy was named a 2008 Society of American Foresters (SAF) Fellow, making him the 34<sup>th</sup> fellow named to the Ohio SAF. The SAF Fellow rank honors members who have provided outstanding contributions to the Society and to the forestry profession. The rank of Fellow is a special accomplishment because the individual must be nominated by their local chapter and approved by the District Fellows Committee.

Dan has been a member of SAF since 1978. Dan has been an extremely active member of the Ohio SAF Chapter, having served in all four executive offices from 1996 to 2002. Dan also served on the Policy Committee and is currently the Scholarship Chair. At the national level, he was a part of the House of Section Delegates in 2002.

Dan received his degree from Ohio State University in Forest Management and went on to get two Masters Degrees. These degrees were in Forest Biometrics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and in Statistics from The Ohio State University. After completing his master's studies, Dan started working with the US Forest Service as a Research Forester in Arkansas in 1979 and is presently a Project Leader at the Northern Research Station in Delaware, Ohio.

Dan has done a great deal for Ohio forestry and continues to be a great source of information for new foresters as well as the more seasoned. Please be sure to congratulate Dan on achieving this honor.

## Highlights from Winter Meeting

### Anniversaries

#### 10 Year

Douglass Sommer  
Valerie Fox  
Patrick Goebel  
Jaye Hayes  
Joseph Puperi

#### 20 Year

Michael Benson  
Tonkin Beuck  
Robert Cheeney  
Andre Gillespie  
Timothy Morgan  
Eric Roush

#### 30 Year

Gerald Greenwood  
Jeffrey Hoselton  
Terry Robison  
James Stafford  
Dan Yaussy

#### 40 Year

David Embree  
Randall Heiligmann

#### 60 Year

Bill Lebold



Lola Lewis and Bill Lebold



Stephanie Miller, Lee Crocker, and Dave Apsley

### 2007 SAF Field Forester of the Year

Lee Crocker, Ohio Division of Forestry

### 2007 Communicator of the Year

Christine Hodgson, Retired Ohio Division of Forestry

### 2007 Outstanding Member of the Year

Roger Weaver, Glatfelter

### Cowen-Embree Scholarship Recipients

Anthony Weber, Hocking College

Thomas Macy, Ohio State University



Thomas Macy and Dan Yaussy



Roger Weaver and Eric Roush



Christine Hodgson and Stephanie Miller



## District 9 Report -Roger Weaver, District 9 Council Rep.

The March SAF Council met at Bethesda on March 8-9, 2008. Our new President, Tommy Thompson, called the meeting to order.

Here are some highlights from this meeting:

**Sale of the National Headquarters** – Due diligence continues smoothly on the sale of the property to Nations Academy. Many of the details are still confidential due to the process, but all is going well. The Council and Staff are anticipating final closure on this deal soon. A report was made to Council by John Moser, chair of the Relocation Task Force. Several key directions were offered and approved by Council to guide the committee. First, the direction to purchase instead of lease the property was proposed. Primarily due to maintain control of the resource and the possibility for value appreciation, Council approved this direction. Secondly, the Task Force recommended that the location be centered on the Washington, D.C. area. Several factors contributed to this direction; the intent of the original donation was to have a presence in the D.C. area. The headquarters of many peer groups are housed in D.C., of which a policy office would have to be located there anyways. The D.C. area is in close proximity to many of the SAF members, and staff disruptions would be held to a minimum. After discussing these points and understanding the importance to move swiftly on these main decisions, Council approved this direction. The Task Force is now hiring a local realty group to put together packages to consider.

**National Communications Award** – Council approved the adoption of the Communications Award as a National Award by changing the by-laws. It was also approved that the award be named the W.D. Hagenstein Award in honor of W.D. Hagenstein who has been one of the most prominent foresters in educating the public and legislators for many decades.

**2008 Referendum Vote for Membership Changes** – Council approved to add a referendum to the 2008 voting packet laying out the new recommended changes to the membership categories. Since this is a constitutional change, 2/3 of the membership must vote in approval of this change. This will simplify the membership categories and open up voting rights for all members.

**Membership Survey and Strategic Planning** – A large portion of the meeting lead us through a process to integrate the results of the membership survey with a strategic plan. An effort will be made this year to incorporate those changes and improvements offered by members through the survey into a working strategic plan. Look for a better process in strategic planning and implementation coming out in the months ahead.

**Revisions to the By-Laws of State Societies** – Look for the revisions that will need to be added to every state society's by-laws. These will be the minimum necessary to allow for electronic voting, the unit forest policy process, renaming the vice-chair to chair-elect, and some compliance language.

**Leadership Academy** – The Leadership Academy was held, April 26-29, 2008 at the Bolger Center for Leadership Development in Potomac, Maryland. This is a very worthwhile educational event for all up-and-coming leaders as well as seasoned ones. Let's encourage members to attend this function in the future. Please send me your ideas on what you would like to see offered at the Leadership Academy. Should they be national or regional? How often should they be held? Should we try to hold regional ones with one national advanced academy? Give me your ideas.

**Group Certification Process** – SAF has been approached by a coalition of Maine parties who want to push forward the SAF Certified Forest Management System. Therefore, a pilot project will be started in Maine to determine if there is enough energy to carry this forward and to answer the many questions involving certification. The CFMS Task Group and the representatives from Maine will develop a discussion paper to stimulate debate and to see if there is enough traction to continue. The test project will begin this summer.

These are some of the highlights from this Council meeting. As always, I'm available for comment, suggestions, problems, and concerns. Thanks for letting me serve.



Roger Weaver

## 2008 Ohio SAF Summer Meeting Announcement

Held in coordination with the  
2008 Central States Forest Soils Conference  
October 14-16, 2008

Troyer's Dutch Heritage Restaurant, Smith Farm, and OSU/OARDC Campus, Secrest Arboretum  
Watch your mailbox for registrations this summer!

**Remember to visit the Ohio SAF website often for the Hetuch On-line, calendar of events, and announcements**

[www.ohiosaf.org](http://www.ohiosaf.org)

## Native or Not?? -Steve Cothrel

One of the oldest battles in the urban forestry world pits the natives against the invaders, and by extension those who plant native trees only, versus planters who use a wider palette. Without question, there are plenty of strong arguments against some exotic plants, especially those that have demonstrated invasive tendencies.

Multiflora rose, purple loosestrife, dandelions, garlic mustard, and the Asian bush honeysuckles are all great examples of plants out of control in Ohio. They displace native flora and fauna while creating a plethora of other economic, aesthetic, and economic damage.

The same can be said for a few tree species. In my area, European buckthorn, callery pear, and ailanthus are all volunteering like crazy, with the pears showing frightening potential to become the next honeysuckle or loosestrife.

Nevertheless, urban foresters are seriously challenged to maintain a canopy in many communities due to a host of site problems. Many of our large native trees simply don't fit well into the limited planting sites available in many neighborhoods, and the number of "urban tolerant" small and medium species is discouragingly small. Further, species diversity is essential in the urban forest, as we've been taught repeatedly. There are simply not enough good natives to go around.

Exotic insects and diseases have wreaked havoc in our urban ecosystems, starting with the gypsy moth, Dutch elm disease, and chestnut blight. The new introductions have continued unabated. Emerald ash borer is just the newest disaster (*thank you world trade and cheap stuff!*).

We have introduced pests that make many unfortunate natives undependable or irresponsible choices in communities. What new exotic pest and native victim will be next? Your guess is as good as mine, but make no mistake - the next pest is coming.

The battle is over. Planting natives only is not a responsible option. Diversity should be our mantra and exotic species (with good track records or real promise) must be a part of the plan. Since many introduced pests are from Asia, my long-term money is on the Asian "living fossils" such as ginkgo and dawn redwood. They may just outlive *Homo sapiens* on this planet, and they're sure tolerant of or resistant to whatever evil Asian pest might show up next on our shores. Indeed, in 25 years, the foresters who planted lots of exotics will probably look like geniuses when the exotics are the only things left alive. The Ohio market for ginkgo sawlogs and zelkova veneer may take longer to develop, but may be just as inevitable.



Callery Pear

## Carbondale Forest Centennial Celebration -Greg Smith, Zaleski State Forest

Most one-hundredth birthdays are observed by a single celebrant, with the notion that there will not be many more such occasions to mark. In our business, it is equally rare to celebrate the one-hundredth year of a plantation. The Carbondale Forest Plantation at Zaleski State Forest is the first if not the only unmanaged plantation in Ohio and one of the few in the eastern US to achieve this distinction. On April 12, a celebration was held to mark this conservation legacy. Twenty four foresters, private landowners, and other conservationists turned out for a program highlighted by SAF Fellows Frank Newell and David Berna, ODNr Division of Forestry Chief David Lytle, and ODNr Division of Mineral Resources Management Environmental Specialist Barbara Flowers.

On what was once pasture for the mules of the mines, white pine now towers up to 170 feet. Frank recounted his early visits to the plantation, variously known as the York Forest, Enderlin Forest, and Doolittle Plantation after the early principles involved in its establishment. At the inception of the planting, not much was being done to plant trees on abandoned lands. Edmund Secrest was so intrigued by the proposal that he came to help supervise the planting of the seedlings that he grew at the Ohio Agricultural Experimental Station in Wooster. The entire mining community of Carbondale turned out to participate. Mr. Doolittle continued to care for the trees after his retirement. His attention paid off, and sixty acres remain of the initial unmanaged plantation. These towering pines and a few other species stand as a monument to the foresight of our predecessors and the local community who appreciated the future value of planting trees.



Dave Berna



Frank Newell and Dave Lytle



Dave Berna, Frank Newell, Dave Lytle, and Greg Smith

**Jeremy Scherf**  
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## Announcements

### Forest Management Series for Landowners

May 30 <sup>th</sup> Timber Stand Improvement	June 27 <sup>th</sup> Introduction to Forest Management
August 8 <sup>th</sup> Timber Marketing	September 5 <sup>th</sup> Introduction to Forest Management
September 26 <sup>th</sup> Timber Stand Improvement	October 24 <sup>th</sup> Timber Stand Improvement
November 21 <sup>st</sup> Timber Marketing	December 12 <sup>th</sup> Timber Marketing

9:00 AM– 3:00 PM at North Appalachian Experimental Watershed  
Northern Coshocton County on State Route 621  
Pre-registration and Pre-payment of \$5 (for boxed lunch) is required  
For more information contact: Cara Baumer, 740-545-6349

### Teacher Field Day- “Forest Fire Forum for Educators”

Field learning and Project Learning Tree certification  
June 10-11, 2008

Tar Hollow State Forest

Teachers can attend either or both days, graduate credit available through Ohio University

Registration due May 31, 2008

For more information contact Greg Smith, ODNR Division of Forestry [greg.smith@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:greg.smith@dnr.state.oh.us) or (740) 774-1596 ext. 6

### Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Conservation Expo 2008

Saturday, September 13, 2008 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

McClester Farm, 4071 Meter Rd. NE, Mechanicstown, OH

Free Admission

Sponsored by Carroll, Columbiana, Harrison & Jefferson SWCD's

For more information contact Linda Yeager at Carroll Co. SWCD office at (330) 627-9852

Or visit their web site at [www.carrollswcd.org/expo.html](http://www.carrollswcd.org/expo.html)