

# The Michigan Forester

Published by the Michigan Society of American Foresters

Number 65 December 2008

**FORESTER OF THE YEAR  
DEBRA HUFF**

Debra Huff has been bestowed the honor of the 2008 Forester of the Year by the Michigan Society of American Foresters. Deb's list of accolades are numerous but to sum it up.....

- \* She has been Sub-chapter Chair, UP Chapter Chair, State Chair and Cultural Diversity Committee Chair.
- \* She is currently CFE Coordinator and has been in this position for a number of years.
- \* She is a member of the National SAF CFE committee that has been re-working the Certified Forester/CFE program. Additionally, she was selected as one of only a few State CFE coordinators to represent State Societies.
- \* She was also Chair of our last Legislative Tour, which was a big success and heavily involved in the Legislative Ice Cream Social and the State Meeting in the LP as acting State Chair.
- \* She is employed as the DNR Stewardship Coordinator; and is very involved with encouraging good forest management on private woodlands through funding of Forest Stewardship Plans and grants for forestry education and outreach. Through this program Deb has also provided financial assistance to support activities recommended in the Forest Stewardship Plans through the Forest Land Enhancement Program.

Finally, Deb spearheaded the Managed Forest Carbon Offset Program. This is a joint program between the Delta Institute and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources where landowners enroll existing forest lands and receive carbon credits for maintaining or improving the carbon sequestration potential of the trees.

While we truly surprised Deb with the yearly award, it was no surprise to any one present that she earned and deserved the honor. Congratulations Deb!

Submitted by: Craig Kasmer, Awards Chair



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## From the Editor

I Can't believe that we're publishing our last issue for 2008. In 2009 we will be producing the Michigan Forester on a quarterly basis starting in February. The schedule should allow us to keep all of you informed of meetings and pertinent information within our ever changing field.

Looking back, it was a crazy kind of year and my hope is that 2009 will be a bit more predictable but I doubt it!  
Brenda

## THOMAS SEABLUM: YOUNG FORESTER OF THE YEAR

Thomas Seablom wasn't able to attend the Fall meeting for the Michigan Society of American Foresters but those attending were able to hear the accomplishments of this young forester. Tom graduated from Michigan Tech University with a Bachelor's Degree in 2000 and a Master's Degree in 2001 and started his professional career with the U.S. Forest Service, FIA unit then came to Michigan DNR about 4 years ago. Since then he's been active in the UP MSAF chapter affairs. He assumed the vice-chair responsibilities last year, taking on the membership coordinator challenge.

According to his nominators, Tom has taken on the duties of UP Chapter Chair this year with zest. Tom is an energetic, inquisitive forester, always looking for better ways to do get things done. He shows a keen interest in new technology balanced with a healthy appetite for learning from seasoned veterans. He stays abreast of forestry literature that relates to field operations, silviculture, GIS, and other new technologies.

This young forester asks thoughtful questions, considers problems from a range of perspectives and is eager to implement new ideas. He is also a team player always willing to take on new responsibilities such as working with DNR foresters in the western UP.

He actively supports the inventory, timber management and fire programs in three Forest Management units.

In addition to work and SAF involvement, our 2008 recipient finds time to enjoy a number of outdoor recreational activities with his wife and young children and staying connected with family.

From the folks who nominated this forester, I quote: "It is personally rewarding working with a young professional like Tom who makes careful observations, asks thoughtful questions and consistently applies practical sense.

Hearty congratulations to Thomas Seablom!  
Submitted by Craig Kasmer, Awards Chair



## HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES TO THE MICHIGAN FORESTER NEWSLETTER

Everyone is welcome to submit articles, photos, ideas or suggestions! E-mail submissions are preferable, but other delivery systems are accepted. Articles can come in nearly any format, even via snail mail!

**All materials for publication should be submitted to:**

**Editor: Brenda Owen**  
**4703 W. County Rd. 460**  
**Newberry, MI 49868**  
**Phone: 906.293.8874**  
**Fax: 906.293.8995**  
**E-mail: bowen@up.net**

### 2009 Schedule

<u>Issue/Publish Date</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Feb. 2009	Jan. 5, '09
May 2009	March 25
August 2009	June 25
Nov. 2009	Sept. 25



### **You CAN NOW Advertise Your Business in the Michigan Forester**

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## State Society Chair 2008 Ernie Houghton

Wow, has it been a busy year for the Michigan Society of American Foresters! We started in April with the UP Chapter hosting the spring meeting in Marquette. The meeting, titled "The Northern Hardwood Resource: Where We've Come From and Where We're Heading", updated us on the latest in northern hardwood management. We learned the importance of mid-tolerant hardwood and conifer species to wildlife and how to manage for them. The meeting concluded



with a walk through the late season snowpack of the Dukes Experimental Forest. UP Chapter Chair, Mr. Tom Seablom, and company put on an informative and enjoyable meeting.

The Lower Peninsula Chapter hosted our fall meeting in October at the Kellogg Center on the campus of Michigan State University. LP Chapter Chair, Mr. Jason Hartman, along with Dr. Don Dickmann and Mr. Michael Moore, put together an outstanding meeting with the timely topic of "Forestry in the 21 Century: Does It Have a Future?" I learned that there indeed will be an enormous amount of forestry work to do in the future. In many cases it will include using the latest technologies designed to address new forest management concerns. What is not so clear, as some universities combined forestry with other curriculums, is whether the work will be done by foresters or a new type of hybrid professional resource manager.

The Michigan SAF also participates in a variety of other forest resource management efforts. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has set up two advisory councils in the Upper Peninsula. Ms. Brenda Owen and Mr. Jim Schmierer represent the MSAF on the east and west councils, respectively. Mr. Scott Jones has been working with the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative. Mr. Jerry Rose is participating in the Natural Resource Commission's UP Wildlife Habitat Work Group. The Michigan United Conservation Clubs is spearheading an effort to provide technical assistance to non-industrial private land owners. A number of MSAF members are working on that effort.

So what does the MSAF have to look forward to in the coming year? On January 1, 2009 Dr. Larry Leefers will take over as state chair. The UP Chapter is working with the Canadian Institute of Forestry on a joint spring meeting, scheduled to take place in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. Remember, if you would like to take a side trip to Canada you may need a passport. Looking a little farther into the future, the MSAF is planning a joint meeting with Wisconsin and Minnesota for the spring of 2010. It will be held in north central Wisconsin and tentatively will cover forest and recreation management.

I want to thank the membership and the executive team for supporting me during my time as state chair. At the fall meeting, keynote speaker Mr. Kent Connaughton spoke at some length about his involvement in the SAF and the great satisfaction he got from all the leadership roles he chose to take on. I can certainly attest to that! Over the course of the last year I gained a fresh perspective on the SAF and the profession of forestry. And I had the opportunity to network with foresters from around the country whom I may not have met otherwise. I would encourage anyone who is interested to take on an active role in the MSAF, which can be even stronger and more relevant with a diverse membership's experiences and ideas.

# WRAP UP IN RHYME TIME

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Michigan SAF Fall Conference Wrap-Up,  
East Lansing, Oct. 22, 2008  
by Bill Botti

Mike Moore called some months ago,  
he said he'd really like to know  
that in the fall I'd plan to go  
to th' SAF fall ditty.  
I said I would – it sounds like fun  
It's been awhile since I went to one  
and before our little talk was done,  
I was part of his committee.

My part in the play would be quite small,  
it wouldn't take much time at all  
and special needs, as I recall,  
might be in the timing.  
I'd have the job of closing out,  
the last hurrah; the final shout,  
but one part gave me a bit of doubt:  
my wrap-up must be rhyming.

The theme of this – that brought us here,  
our future isn't very clear;  
the very things that we hold dear  
may fall away unheeded.  
With a cast of speakers long and deep,  
each with a special role to keep,  
toward future times we took a peep,  
and saw we'll still be needed.

The day began with business meets,  
with coffee and assorted treats.  
Discussions kept us in our seats.  
We need to seek new members.  
The students want to be involved  
and if this problem's to be solved,  
we'll have to sharpen our resolve  
and see that we remember.

Mike Moore called us to gather 'round,  
and spent some time adjusting sound,  
then covered much historic ground  
just to "set the table".  
He cited his father and our late friend, Vic,  
and pioneers like Bitterlich,  
and charged us to continue to kick  
as long as we are able.

Kent Connaughton then gave us pause,  
saying forestry is an important cause,  
as shown when we faced the open maws  
of fires in the West.  
The benefits that will accrue  
are to communities and people, too;  
the challenge that he posed to you:  
"Go out and do your best".



After lunch the show began  
with Larry, Peggy; also Dan.  
It might work better if we can  
restructure education.  
New courses in and throw some out,  
"recruit and market" some folks shout,  
all in all, the effective route  
may not be accreditation.

Michael Goergen spoke of how  
the SAF is doing now.  
Through all the turmoil, he'd avow  
we're really fairly stable.  
"All these things", he said, "are signs,  
that we're living in improving times"  
A good example along these lines:  
we're discussed at the dinner table.

Are we to sense that we should fear  
being labeled as "in mid-career"?  
But we don't think the end is near –  
the forests are still standing.  
The midlife folks said with a smile  
they're confident in this job "life-style"  
and plan to continue quite a while  
and watch uses keep expanding.

David Glenn showed us he's found  
a way to bring young students 'round,  
and show them science on the ground,  
and treat the trees with prudence.  
He and Dickmann wrote a book –  
it sounds as if it's worth a look;  
it may turn out to be the hook  
to attract young promising students.

This morning first was elder kids,  
Ned and Ron told of things they did  
and how things tend to change amid  
the pressures of the work.  
Our kids today don't play outside;  
recreational interests override;  
though our int'rests oft' don't coincide,  
be nice; don't be a jerk!

And then the students took a turn.  
It's clear that they expect to learn  
throughout the years that they will earn  
their wages as they lead.  
Lee Mueller said there is a danger  
folks will see him as a ranger.  
Sustainability's remainder:  
healthy forests and trees.

As we listened to the students here  
it quickly as become quite clear  
that there's no need that we should fear  
the future of our lands.  
They've shown they already know a bunch,  
and when life's pressures come to crunch,  
we'll look to them, I have a hunch;  
we'll see we're in good hands.

Doug Pearsall told us we're a part  
of nature – told us from the heart:  
conserve diversity, which, in part,  
is trees and squirrels and tanagers.  
Jon Fosgit told of their regime  
for managing on a sustainable scheme;  
from his description, it would seem  
he's the Conservancy's kind of manger.

From stands of poles to stands of sap's  
through judicious use of canopy gaps,  
and, given years of time to elapse,  
he'll soon see more diversity.  
Protect the water; leave coarse debris,  
no new roads; all streams flow free;  
many research opportunities  
for local universities.



Bernie Hubbard clued us in  
to where the society's work has been.  
(He's worked a lot of new things in  
this morning's presentation.)  
Membership, it seems, is key –  
just who our members ought to be,  
we've not reached unanimity –  
still needs deliberation.

Exotic species threaten us;  
ash borer creating quite a fuss;  
the longhorn beetle could be much worse;  
it's really pretty scary.  
Somehow, we should take heart, he taught,  
new borer sites are older than thought,  
we can't afford a new onslaught  
on our maple, oaks or cherry.

Deadline for the next issue is  
January 5, 2009!

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"But are we relevant," he asks  
What are the needed research tasks?  
Our science basis often masks  
the social-related lessons.  
Our regional structure's not the same –  
in different places – different names;  
these are some of the factors in the game  
of dynamics in our profession.

So now we've looked at where we're from;  
we've sat until our butts were numb,  
and talked about the times to come  
at this important session.  
Our forebears set us quite a pace,  
but still there are many paths to trace,  
and challenges we still must face,  
in pursuing our profession.

So let's set out with new resolve  
to get new members and involve  
the students 'round whom we'll revolve  
in seasons yet to be.  
We'll serve communities with cheer  
and to our ethics we'll adhere  
and all the while it's very clear,  
it's more than a job, you see.

Our thanks to Mike and thanks to Don  
for putting this fall meeting on,  
may all the headaches now be gone  
from putting this together.  
To all the others, thank you much,  
we must strive to keep in touch.  
Keep working on the trees and such.  
Now go enjoy this weather!



## Michigan Society of American Foresters

### Year 2008 Budget Status Report

Revenue	Expected 2008 Revenue	Revenue Received as of November 7, 2008
<b>State Society</b>		
Membership Dues	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,459.50
Interest	\$ 30.00	\$ 22.82
Spring Meetings Proceeds	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,168.41
<b>Education Fund</b>		
MSU Student Sponsorship contributions		\$ 245.00
MTU Student Sponsorship contributions		\$ 525.00
Michigan SAF Ed Fund (UP Auto tour Carry-over)	\$ 800.00	
National SAF Education Fund Grant	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,930.00</b>	<b>\$ 6,820.73</b>

Expenses	Budgeted for 2008	Funds Disbursed as of November 7, 2008
<b>State Society</b>		
HSD	\$ 225.00	\$ 237.60
Chapter Dues	\$ 540.00	\$ -
Michigan Forester	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 871.00
Society Administration	\$ 500.00	\$ 136.36
State Chair		\$ -
MI Forester Editor Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
MI Forester Bus Mgr Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Secretary Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Treasurer Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
MTU & MSU Students to attend Nat'l Meeting	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
State Meetings		\$ -
Michigan Bird Council Travel Support	\$ 200.00	\$ 198.38
National Meetings Attendance	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Leadership Academy Attendance (chair-elect)	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Awards	\$ 450.00	\$ 580.29
Donation to national raffle	\$ 120.00	\$ -
Misc		\$ -
<b>Education Fund</b>		
UP Auto Tour Signs	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
MTU & MSU Student Scholarships	\$ 1,000.00	
Sponsorship disbursements	\$ 770.00	\$ 700.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,005.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,923.63</b>

Total Michigan SAF cash as of:	November 7, 2008	\$ 6,153.02
Total Michigan SAF Education Fund cash as of:	November 7, 2008	\$ 5,166.28

**Michigan Society  
of American For-  
esters has cash  
assets only.**

**Prepared by: John Pilon, Treasurer**

## QUOTES AND QUIPS FROM THE FALL MEETING

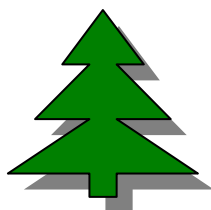
Ned Caveney spoke with the Panel of Elders and relayed to the group that at the early age of 14 he knew he wanted to be a forester but *“before that, I wanted to be a cowboy”*. Excellent choice either way Ned but we’re happiest about the forester selection.

Ron Scott stunned many of us with his information about time he spent in West Virginia on the Monongahela National Forest during a critical time in forest management and told us that *“it was almost heaven in West Virginia, but it wasn’t right then”*. *“I couldn’t get gas or a haircut in town”*. We’re glad Ron made his way back to Michigan but the majority rules and he really needs to write that book!

The student panel gave us an excellent feeling of the quality education that is being provided by our accredited universities. Marcella Campione from Michigan Tech was able to narrow down her likes and dislikes within the various areas of forestry especially *“after taking ornithology I found I don’t really like birds that much. I like trees more, they stay in one place so I can identify them easier”*. Excellent point, chalk another one up for the trees!

Kent Connaughton, Regional Forester for the USFS Eastern Region gave a rousing key note address and spoke poignantly about the membership of SAF summing it up as *“Do they associate themselves with their employer or their profession?”* This is a powerful point when we ponder a lack of members from one sector of forestry.

Compiled by: Brenda Owen, Editor



## FALL MEETING SOCIAL HOUR!



Great conversation, good libations



*Upper Peninsula Chapter News*

Tom Seablom, UP Chapter Chair

*Spring Meeting*

The Upper Peninsula Chapter is planning a joint meeting with the Canadian Institute of Forestry to be held in Sault Ste Marie Michigan. The targeted time is the end of March to try and capture everyone before the fire season starts, the snow finishes melting, the roads dry up and the busy season in the field rolls in.

Please plan on attending and make some connections with our northern neighbors.

Don't forget to have your identification handy if you'd like to venture to across the International Bridge. Currently you're required to have a copy of your birth certificate and photo id or a passport. It is possible that by the time our meeting is in session a passport will be required to cross the border so plan ahead.

Keep your eyes open for more information about the Spring meeting in the next issue of the *Forester*.

*Lower Peninsula Chapter News*

What can we say except the Fall meeting was outstanding and worth every effort of every individual that helped make it the success it was!

*Michigan Technological University Student Chapter News*

The 57<sup>th</sup> annual Forester's Conclave was held at the Ford Forestry Center in Alberta, part of Michigan Technological University. Some of the events included bolt throw, two man buck saw and pulp toss among others. As is typical, the day preceding the events was beautiful, as was the day following the competition. However as the events were happening it was a rainy, cold Upper Peninsula fall day.

The overall winner was Southern Illinois University followed closely by the University of Missouri in second place. Michigan Tech took third place while Michigan State took sixth out of eight. Michigan State placed in the dendrology and chain throw competitions. Michigan Tech took first in match split, dendrology and wood id.

Conclave turned out to be a huge success and the Michigan Tech student chapter of SAF would like to thank all who helped us to make it work. Submitted by the Student Chapter

Editor's note: After attending numerous Conclave's throughout my time at MTU I find it quite surprising that no mention was made to the evening events that many of the students would partake in. Are we to assume that malt beverages are no longer consumed after the day's events are completed?

The Very Best Wishes to Everyone for a Wonderful Holiday Season but.....

The next deadline for the *Forester* is ...

JANUARY 5TH OF 2009!

New chapter chairs and state chair take notice and be prepared for the onslaught of email reminders for submissions from your Editor.









## Raymond Miller Named Forest Biomass Development Coordinator by Michigan Ag Experiment Station

With 19.3 million acres of forestland, Michigan is primed to be a national leader in producing renewable fuels from cellulose -- trees, stems and stalks that aren't food products.

In recognition of the growing importance of trees as raw materials for bio-products, Raymond Miller, who oversees forestry research at Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) properties in the Upper Peninsula and serves as director of the U.P. Tree Improvement Center, added MAES forest biomass development coordinator to

his duties Sept. 1.

In this new role, Miller will coordinate many of the forest-based bio-fuel relationships between Michigan State University and other entities, including Michigan Technological University, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the Swedish Forest Agency. He also will work with Michigan State University Extension to facilitate education and outreach on the bio-economy.

"I'm now the university's point person for forest biomass production," Miller said. "Besides working with faculty members in the Forestry Department that are already studying cellulosic biomass, I'll be learning more about what's going on outside forestry so I can connect faculty members from across departments."

In 2007, MSU announced a bio-fuel partnership with Michigan Tech to create new collaborative research, outreach and economic development programs centered on fuels and energy made from forest biomass. The programs are overseen by the eight-member Renewable Fuels Working Group, made up of four scientists from each university. Miller and David Shonnard, Michigan Tech professor of chemical engineering, are co-chairpersons of the group.

With his colleagues on the Renewable Fuels Working Group, Miller hosted a bio-fuels summit in Escanaba in February attended by 50 representatives of businesses from all aspects of the forest-based bio-economy and state and local government agencies. The goal of the summit was to identify key questions the universities should address in three priority areas: feedstock production, feedstock supply chains, and feedstock conversion systems and integration. The summit also furthered the MSU-Sweden relationship by featuring presentations from four Swedish bio-energy researchers, who explained Sweden's transition to renewable fuels. Sweden has 69 million acres of forestland and an enormous forest products industry, so wood is the raw material of choice for Sweden's bio-economy. Miller and other researchers believe that Michigan can use Sweden as a model when developing the state's forest-based bio-economy.

"I'm very pleased that Ray has added this new role to his responsibilities," said Steve Pueppke, MAES director, who also heads the MSU Office of Biobased Technologies. "This formalizes a lot of the work he has been doing and will solidify our relationships with businesses and state agencies. Our research and development emphasis is on making cellulosic bio-fuels, and it makes sense for Ray to help lead this effort."

Miller's research focuses on forest establishment and management systems and how various systems affect growth and yield. He came to MSU as a research assistant in 1978 and served as associate director of the Michigan Cooperative Tree Improvement Program from 1981 to 1988, after which he was named manager of the U.P. Tree Improvement Center in Escanaba. The U.P. Tree Improvement Center is one of 14 MAES field research stations located around the state.

Miller received his bachelor's degree in forest resource management in 1975 and his master's degree in silvics in 1978 from the State University of New York, Syracuse. He received his doctorate in forestry from MSU in 1984.

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Submitted by: Amy Douglass, Membership Chair

Membership has remained steady since the last report in July. Unfortunately we have lost 3 more members since July to the big forest in the sky. They are:

- \* John Arend, LP Chapter, retired Fellow, 71 active years.
- \* Dr. G. Robinson Gregory, LP Chapter, retired Fellow, 66 active years.

And most recently:

- \* Dr. McClain (Mac) B. Smith, Jr., LP Chapter, retired Fellow, 47 active years (but originally joined SAF in 1947).

As of the end of September we have 431 total members. Both the LP Chapter and the UP Chapter each have 191 members; MSU has 16 members, U of M has 1 member and MTU has 26 members. There are 6 members just affiliated with the State Society. Not that there's any ongoing competition, but I'd say the Yoopers have it!

Over the year our member fluctuation has been:

- New – 25
- Reinstated – 8
- Deceased – 5
- Resigned – 7
- Purged – 39
- Transfer In – 21
- Transfer Out – 25

Welcome new members for the year!

## January:

Mr. Benjamin Stein  
Mr. Trevor Hahka  
Mr. Chad Jacobson

## February:

Mr. Robert Miller

## April:

Mr. Chad Babcock

## May:

Ms. Suzanne Brush  
Ms. Jennifer Hamilton  
Mr. Mickey Jarvi  
Mr. Scott Kenter  
Mr. Jacob Oswald  
Mr. Michael Pindral  
Mr. Matthew Powers  
Mr. Andrew Quinn  
Mr. Karl Romanowicz  
Mr. Joel Saaranen  
Ms. Hannah Williams  
Mr. Derek Cross  
Ms. Allison Esper  
Mr. David Minor  
Mr. Patrick Oakley  
Ms. Lisa Parker

## New members continued:

### June:

Mr. Brett Kuipers

### July:

Mr. Doe Adovor

### September:

Mr. Ryan Holihan

Mr. Joshua Penny



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## IN MEMORIAM

### John L. Arend

John L. Arend, forester, conservationist, scientist, writer, consultant and businessman of East Lansing and Brooklyn, Michigan, completed his mission on earth on Friday, September 19, 2008.

He attended the University of Michigan from 1931 to 1937. He received a B.S. Degree in Science and B.S.F. and M.F. Degree in Forestry and completed all the course work for a doctorate in Forest Pathology. He also pursued post graduate work at the National Forestry School, Nancy, France and the National Institute of Forestry at Zurich, Switzerland.

He started his forestry career with the U.S. Forest Service on the Mark Twain Research Forest in Missouri, but was soon transferred to the Research Branch. He worked at 3 different Forest Experiment Stations during his 30-year career--Central at Columbus, Ohio, Southern at New Orleans, LA and North Central at St. Paul, MN except for 3 years in World War II. After World War II, he worked for the Southern Forest Experiment Station in Northern Arkansas and the University of Arkansas. In 1949, he was transferred to Michigan State University to be in charge of Federal Forest Research in lower Michigan.

He was one of the co-authors of Michigan Foresters Registration Act and was Registered Forester No. 9 and Profession Certified Forester No. 2, Michigan Association of Consulting Foresters. His professional affiliations included Golden Member and elected Fellow, Society American Foresters (72 YEAR MEMBER); past chairperson, Lower Michigan Society of American Foresters; past member, Mich. Academy of Science; past chairperson, Forestry Section and Michigan Academy of Science; and past member of the Michigan Forest Association, Michigan Forest and Park Association, National Woodland Association, and the Michigan Consulting Foresters Association.

He established a permanent endowed fund at Michigan State University for cash awards to any scientist for excellence in innovative forest research. He married Viola Sanderson, Ann Arbor, Michigan on June 20, 1937, who survives him.

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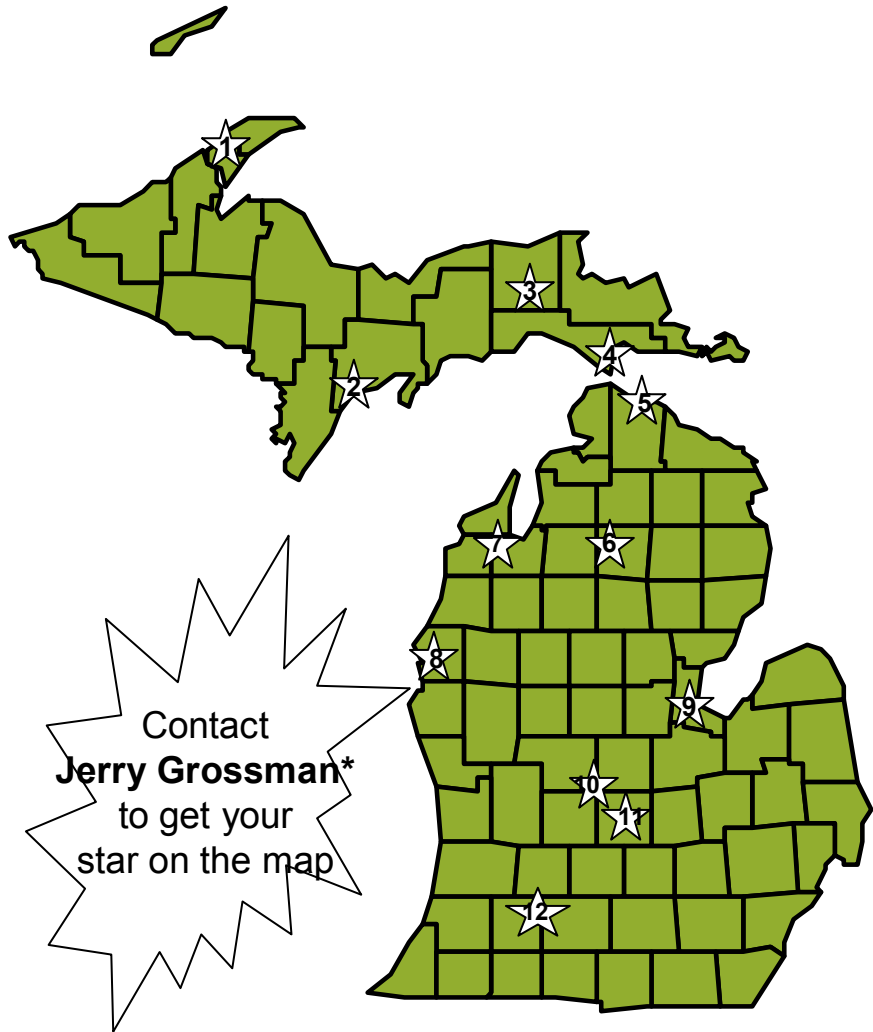
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