

The Michigan Forester

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Proposal to End Undergraduate Forestry at MSU

Submitted by: Larry Leefers, Immediate Past Chair, MiSAF,
MSU Forestry Faculty Member, MSU Forestry Alumnus,

In December I asked Bill Cook to forward a note regarding a proposal that would end the MSU Department of Forestry, the oldest continuous undergraduate program in the US (since 1902). MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Jeffrey Armstrong has proposed to merge selected Forestry faculty members (principally ecologists) with the ecologists in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife to create a new Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management. The other faculty would be scattered in Departments around the University, but could be linked in a Forestry Program. The Program likely would not have an undergraduate Forestry degree because it would not be a Department. To date, there has been no proposal for the continuation of an undergraduate Forestry degree program.

Many of us also believe that research efforts may be hampered due to the dispersal of faculty to other departments whose focus is not on forests and forestry. Various groups and alumni are contacting Provost Kim Wilcox (kwilcox@msu.edu) and eventually to President Lou Anna K. Simon (presmail@msu.edu) to express their views regarding the end of the Department of Forestry. They will make the final decision on the Department of Forestry's future. For up-to-date details, you may want to contact Dan Keathley (keathley@msu.edu). If you wish to add your voice to this discussion, please email or write to the President and Provost.

The MiSAF Executive Committee is preparing a letter for them, but voices matter—we hope agencies, industry and legislators weigh in on this discussion. Our hope is that there will be an undergraduate professional forestry degree program at MSU that is accredited by SAF after the decisions are made this spring.

There is much strength in the current Department of Forestry, and there are many factors to consider as they weigh changing its structure.

INDEX

Topic/Column	Page
Call for Award Nominations	2
Calendar of Events/Spring Meeting	2
Chair's Corner	3
Chapter News	4
Membership Report	5
Auto Tour Volunteers	5
2009 National Chair Thoughts	6
Budget Report	7
Consulting Forester STARS	8

PROPOSAL TO END UNDER-
GRADUATE FORESTRY AT MSU

NEW IDEA FOR A 2010 RESOLUTION

From Craig Kasmer, Awards Chair

Be honest, did you make a resolution to shed a few pounds? Or maybe you decided this is the year to join a gym and get back into shape? How about the ever popular-resolution, giving up fast food? Personally I want to shed a few pounds and get back in shape but the local Taco Bell will go out of business if I don't eat lunch there on a daily basis!

So I propose you add one more resolution to the list of things you are doing/not doing in the year TWENTY-TEN. Be on the look-out early for the 2010 **Forester of the Year**, **Young Forester of the Year** and **Retired Forester of the Year**. You can contact Awards Chair, Craig Kasmer at kasmerc@michigan.gov or call him at The Michigan Forest Visitor Center at Hartwick Pines State Park at (989) 348-2537.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Michigan Association of Consulting Foresters
Meeting March 1, 2
Grayling, MI
Contact: Justin Miller
gtfc@up.net, 906.281.4832

Michigan/Wisconsin SAF Spring Meeting
March 10, 11
Marinette, WI
Contact: Maria Janowiak
janowiak@mtu.edu

Symposium on Ash Trees
March 9, 10, 11
Purdue University, West LaFayette, IN
<http://www.fnr.purdue.edu/ashsymposium/index.htm>

Michigan Association of Timbermen
Annual Meeting
April 22, 23, 24
Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls
Call: 906.293.3236 for more info

Joint Spring Meeting Planned with Wisconsin SAF and Michigan SAF

The UP Chapter is currently gearing up to host the **Spring meeting**, which we are co-hosting with the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters:

"Recreation and Forest Management"

March 10-11, 2010
Marinette, WI

Additional details about the meeting will be arriving in your mailbox (both postal and electronic types) very soon, so keep your eye out for the agenda and registration form. However, I am happy to give you a sneak peek at some of the topics that will be covered:

- * Recreation in Lake States Forests
- * Engaging and Working with Recreational Groups and Organizations
- * Forest Certification and Recreation
- * Addressing Impacts from ATVs/ORVs
- * Silvicultural Modifications and Timber Sale Administration for Recreation

Submitted by: Maria Janowiak, 2009 UP Chapter Chair

2009 YOUNG FORESTER OF THE YEAR **MARIA JANOWIAK**

Award presented by Craig Kasmer at 2009 Fall Meeting



A Note From Our 2010 Michigan SAF State Chair

Hello! I'm your State Chair for 2010. Most of you know me. I've been practicing forestry since 1976. Most of my work has been in Michigan, and most of that has been in the Upper Peninsula.

I believe that 2010 will be a very tough year. We are presently in recession. I honestly don't know if we can pull out of this recession in 2010. Because of this downturn, I don't know if we can increase our membership. Historically, most professional societies shrink during times like this. I'm very hopeful that we can, at least, maintain our membership through these hard times

When I attend SAF functions, I'm usually struck by how few private foresters are in attendance. I've never gone through the membership roster to see what percentage of SAF members actually work for private firms. I do believe, however, that the membership is somewhat equally divided between private and public forestry. However, I also believe that a much higher percentage of public foresters also belong to SAF. Our largest block of private foresters seems to be those who are consultants (including myself). Our biggest shortfall appears to be industrial foresters. These are the folks that work for timber companies and provide the revenues that keep most of us out of the unemployment lines.

With that in mind, I believe that the major draw to MISAF are well planned and engaging meetings. We have an excellent one planned for March 10th and 11th in Marinette, WI. The primary topic will be forest recreation relating to both public forests and industrial private forests. There will be time devoted to forest access. Access on both public and private land is shrinking for a variety of reasons. I believe that the long term ramifications of this trend could be detrimental for both the public and the foresters who rely on this access to accomplish jobs in the forest. As such, forest access has become a "hot button theme" in many national, state and industrial forests within this region and at a national level. These topics should interest any of us who work in the field or play out there. I look forward to seeing you on March 10th.

JACK PENEGOR

OBITUARY

With deep regret we issue the following partial obituary for the recent passing of Randy Marzolo.

Aurelio "Randy" Marzolo, age 64, of Fairview, passed away Friday, January 8, 2010, at his home, surrounded by his family. Aurelio graduated from Michigan State University with degrees in Forestry and Environmental Education. After graduation, he worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Colorado and Manistique, MI before settling in Mio in 1978. During his career in Mio, he was responsible for planting over 16 million trees.

He married Laurie (Duemler) in 1980, and they had three children: Matt, Angela, and Lea. Aurelio was a longtime member of the Society of American Foresters. Aurelio was an avid gardener- supplying many in the community with vegetables, a Christmas tree farmer, and loved spending time with his family. Aurelio is survived by his wife Laurie; his children: Matt, Angela and Lea.

Memorial donations may be made to either St. Mary's Scholarship Fund c/o St. Mary's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 189, Mio, MI 48647; or to the family for the creation of a scholarship fund for student study abroad.

Lower Peninsula Chapter News

Jason Stephens,
2009 (Outgoing) LP Chapter Chair

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the 2009 Lower Peninsula Chapter Chair. I've had a wonderful time. It was a great to step outside of what I do on a daily basis, and participate in furthering the work and mission of SAF. Our Chapter had an event-filled year. We met several times last winter and spring for weeknight socials and organized a dinner with a historical presentation on the Metz Fire in Presque Isle County in 1908.

In July, Pete Squibb (this year's LP Chair), and Terry Manty led an informative tour of the current and past forest management activities at the Lost Lake Woods Hunt Club in Alcona County. The club members were great hosts. We had wonderful weather and enjoyed a tasty picnic lunch.

The highlight of the year was planning and hosting the State Society Meeting in October on Managing Oak in the Northern Forest. I really enjoyed working with the rest of the planning team that came together for this event. We had some wonderful presenters who explained the challenges of oak management in its varied settings, and brought us some of the latest information on regeneration opportunities.

This fall's elections created two-year terms for our State Chair. In the coming year, our chapter will look to revise our bylaws. I encourage all SAF members to consider serving as an officer, either in their local chapter, or the State Society. It's a great chance to broaden your perspective on Forestry and our roles as professionals. I thank you all again for the opportunity I had this year, and wish incoming Chair, Pete Squibb, all the best.



Upper Peninsula Chapter News

Maria Janowiak,
2009 (Outgoing) UP Chapter Chair

Congratulations to Terry Manty, who was elected to be the 2010 UP Chapter Vice-Chair and UP Chapter Chair in 2011! I'm confident that his leadership, along with that of Bill Hasse, our UP Chapter Chair, and John Hamel, our UP Chapter Treasurer, will make 2010 a great year for MSAF.

The UP Chapter is in cooperation with the Wisconsin SAF to host the Spring meeting. See the second page of this issue for full details.

In other news, now that the new bylaws have been accepted for the State Society, the UP Chapter will be working to update its bylaws as well. And, as always, there is always the desire to do a summer activity. It sounds like Glenn Moll will have plenty of work for anyone willing to help replace signs for the UP Auto Tour, so please contact him if you'd like to help out. Also, it would be great to have another field tour this summer. If you have any ideas for a tour that you think would be interesting, please send a note to me or one of the fellows named above and we'll see what we can get on the summer agenda.

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
Evening Phone: 906.293.8874
Day Time Phone: 906.450.1964
E-mail: bowen@up.net

MI SAF Membership Report for Year-End 2009

Our 2009 Year-end membership totals 421 members. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2010 yet, please do so! We need to retain the members we have and ask others to join so they can benefit from what SAF provides.

Here's where we stand starting off in 2010 vs. the past 15 years:

SS/ Chapter	Beginning of year totals:				
	1995	2000	2005	2009	2010
MI SAF	11	7	5	6	6
Lower Mi	288	292	230	196	179
Student Total	122	71	38	53	67
Upper Peninsula	239	227	221	190	169
Total Members	660	597	494	445	421

Please welcome new members to MI SAF in late 2009:

August:

Jason Holmes
Sally J. Sanderson
Joseph L. Musolf

September:

George Berghorn
Alyssa Marie Sloan
Graham K. Baker
Travis Coughlin

October:

Denise M. Keele
Erica Popovich
Jacob J. Delvaux
Eric S. Dunnack
Grant R. McAdams
Greg P. Rekowski
Eric M. Serrine
Joe V. Ventimiglia
Raymond R. Gurley
Megan Shanahan Matonis

November:

Jason Bramstadt
John A. Niskanen

December:

Andrew P. Hayhoe
Cary Rouse
Anthony J. Regan
Margaret Studer



Volunteers Needed for Sign Replacement

Upper Peninsula Forestry Auto Tour
Glenn Moll, Tour Director

The Upper Peninsula Forestry Auto Tour was conceived in the mid '90s and implemented in 1997 and 1998. Over the past 10+ years, the road signs have become faded and shabby looking, while some are missing entirely – not too professional.

In 2007, the signs and posts in the eastern half of the U.P. were replaced, and this spring 2010 we will begin replacing the remaining signs and posts in the central and western half of the U.P. The new signs for 72 sites will be delivered to Chairman Penegor's storage unit soon.

We need as many volunteers as we can round-up to replace 72 signs around the central and western Upper Peninsula. Although not at all a necessity, sign installation works smoother and faster with pairs of volunteers. All hardware will be available, we just need willing volunteers!

Folks willing to volunteer are requested to please contact Jack Penegor, 906-428-4735, cell 906-235-0053, forester@chartermi.net, or Glenn Moll, 906-293-8197, cell 906-630-0656, gfmoll@up.net.



Above: Dr. Don Dickman speaks during the 2009 Fall conference on Managing Oak in the Northern Forest in Grayling.

Report submitted by: Amy Douglass, Membership Chair

National SAF Thoughts and Reflections

From Bernie Hubbard – Immediate Past President

This was a great year for SAF. It appears we have slowed or stayed about even with membership numbers, we had a great convention in Orlando, the program was outstanding with several top notch general assembly speakers that sparked interest in many forestry issues we face.

This past year I had the opportunity to visit with foresters from across the country and I am extremely proud to be part of the forestry profession. Everywhere I went I met truly outstanding dedicated foresters that are performing a fantastic job managing the natural resources of this great country. All foresters are to be congratulated for the job they are doing ensuring that we have clean water, a sustainable supply of commodities from forest resources, places where one can go to get away from it all or to recreate whether it be a silent sport, a mechanized sport or gathering berries, mushrooms etc.

As we look forward we will face many new opportunities as we manage our forests for biomass, carbon sequestration and invasive species. As we have in the past we will be up to the challenge. SAF members that do the research at the universities will provide those of us who apply management on the ground the tools and knowledge to get the job done and we will make sure we are managing for healthy and sustainable forest resources.

The Society of American Foresters is still facing challenges that all foresters will need to assist the society in overcoming. Revenues to provide foresters the services and products we have come to expect from SAF are down and this last year we did spend more that we took in. Over the past five years we have cut the number of employees in the National office by about 40% and as a result we are seeing a drop in the quality and timeliness of product and services delivery. We cannot continue to trim staff and expect to have a top notch program. We have set up an ad hoc council committee to address these issues and think out of the box to develop additional revenue streams or improve our current revenue sources. I am asking all of you to send me any ideas or thought you may have on how SAF can raise funds for both the National level and the State societies and chapters. A committee has been formed to address this and no matter how outrageous you think your thoughts may be pass them on to me at forestmeister@sbcglobal.net. We are looking for both short term quick fixes and long term solutions.

Our current main revenue sources are membership dues, about 40 % of the total, subscriptions, vested income, advertising (down over 50% this year), certification programs and convention which can be a crapshoot depending on location and economic conditions. If you have any thoughts on how to enhance any of these and any additional sources send them on to me.

Obviously increasing member numbers is one way to increase revenue. The old way of doing business has not been working and we need the help of all foresters to determine what values the foresters that are not members desire and how can we bring those folks into SAF. We have a great dynamic society and we need to get the word out that this is a valuable organization to belong to and to be a part of.

As I started out this was a great year for SAF and I believe that the years ahead are going to be even greater and a whole lot of fun for foresters as we make sure we are doing all that we can to address fossil fuel problems with renewable woody biomass, make sure our industries have a sustainable supply of raw material, that all people have a place where they can sit back and relax or play in the woods and all of those little critters that seem to be eating up and killing our forests are dealt with. As a profession we are well prepared to accomplish these tasks and I am confident foresters will succeed.

Michigan Society of American Foresters

Year-end 2009 Budget Report

Cash brought forward from previous year	\$	2,589.88
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Revenue	Expected 2009 Revenue	Revenue received as of December 31, 2009
Membership Dues	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,071.50
Account Interest	\$ 30.00	\$ 15.24
Spring Conference Proceeds	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 2,291.39
Fall Conference Proceeds	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,774.40
Michigan Forester Ads		\$ 255.00
Michigan Forester Acct closed and transferred		\$ 493.74
Other		\$ 110.51
Total	\$ 6,230.00	\$ 8,011.78

* Fourth quarter interest not posted.

Expenses	Budgeted for 2009	Funds disbursed as of December 31, 2009
House of Society Delegates	\$ 240.00	\$ 232.00
UP & LP Chapter Dues	\$ 510.00	\$ 508.50
Michigan Forester	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,284.00
Society Administration	\$ 150.00	\$ 180.00
Michigan Forester Editor Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Michigan Forester Bus Mgr Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Secretary Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Treasurer Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
MTU & MSU Students to attend Nat'l Meeting	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Misc in-state travel expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Michigan Bird Council Travel Support	\$ -	\$ -
National Meetings Attendance by Chair	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 978.15
Donation to raffle at National Meeting	\$ 150.00	\$ -
Leadership Academy (chair-elect) cancelled	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Awards	\$ 200.00	\$ 102.00
Policy and Legislative Event		\$ -
Misc		\$ 97.21
Total	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 4,981.86

Total Michigan SAF cash as of December 31, 2009 \$ 5,619.80

**Michigan Society of
American Foresters
has cash assets only.**

Prepared by: John Pilon, Treasurer

Michigan's Forestry Consultants... The "stars" of Michigan's forests!



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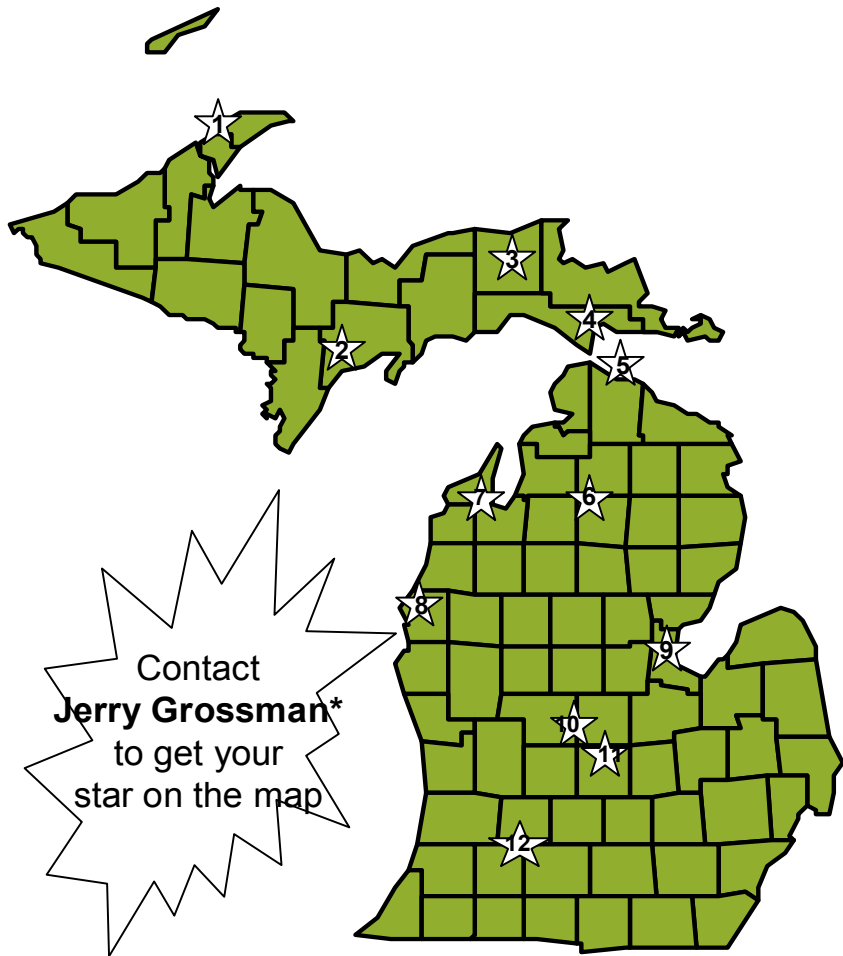
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