

# The Michigan Forester

Number 81 Summer 2015

## Spring Conference Recap

Submitted by Andy VanDyke, Past UP Chair

Over 160 people from all aspects of the forestry community came out to attend the 2015 Spring Conference at the Ramada Inn, in Marquette, MI. The focus of the conference was *Forestry's Future: People, Products, and Technology*.

The event kicked off with Peter Eredics, from Esri. Peter spoke on some of the awesome things that Esri, and some of their products including ArcMap, ArcPad, and Collector App for ArcGIS can accomplish. Peter presented on some of the many uses for Collector for ArcGIS, which proved to be easy enough even for an old "firedog" to program!

Up next came Mark Books and Elizabeth Martinez from Esri Forestry Group (EFG). EFG represents the largest user group for Esri based products within the forestry world. They offer several resources in the form of tutorials, personal connections, newsletters, and mobile applications to help foresters gain the most out of the Esri products.

After the break, Donn Downey from Forest Metrix stepped up to the mic to speak on technologies available with smartphones and tablets. Forest Metrix offers an amazingly easy-to-use forestry inventory app. In addition to forest inventory, the app can be tailored to a variety of uses. It was really amazing to see how easy phone applications can work for forestry. Donn also highlighted several GIS software options that are available for free or a very value-oriented price.

Next, Zack Parisa from SilviaTerra spoke on ways to manage forest data, specifically how to reduce the amount plots recorded, while increasing the quality of data collected. Zack's company offers several different forestry cruising applications including Plot Hound and Plot Reduce. Silvia Terra is really working on some cutting edge technology that may change the way we look at cruising. (Recap, Cont'd on page 3)



More than 30 students attended the Spring Conference. Some of them are photographed above with a past president from National!

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2015 SAF National  
Convention  
Baton Rouge,  
Louisiana  
November 3-7, 2015

Have something to contribute or would you like printed copy of the *Michigan Forester* Please contact Tori Irving at [irvingt@michigan.gov](mailto:irvingt@michigan.gov) or at (906) 458-1210.

# Michigan's Forestry Consultants

**1** **Glen Tolkdorf, CF**  
Tolkdorf Forestry  
Calumet, MI  
906-482-9366

**2** **Dean Francis**  
Upper Michigan Land  
Management & Wild-  
life Services, Inc.  
Escanaba, MI  
906-786-3488

**3** **Gerald Grossman, CF**  
Grossman Forestry Co.  
Newberry, MI  
906-293-8707

**4** **Dean Reid, CF**  
D&S Forestry  
Services Co.  
St. Ignace, MI  
906-643-7515

**5** **Jerry Lambert**  
Forest Resource  
Services  
Frederic, MI  
989-619-2882

**6** **Richard Cooper**  
Honor, MI  
231-325-2175

**7** **Paul Drysdale, CF**  
Drysdale Forestry  
and Consulting  
Cadillac, MI  
231-779-2989

**8** **Scott Erickson**  
MichiTree, Inc.  
Manistee, MI  
231-723-9946

**9** **Doug Lee, CF**  
Lee Forestry Services  
Auburn, MI  
989-662-0139

**10** **Bill Rockwell, CF**  
Plum Line & Metro  
Forestry Consultants  
St. Johns, MI  
989-224-4600

**11** **Robert A. Cool, CF**  
Metropolitan Forestry  
Consultants  
Lansing, MI  
517-349-0999

**12** **Jeff Steinkraus, CF**  
Steinkraus Forest  
Management, LLC  
Marcellus, MI  
269-228-0139

**13** **Justin Miller, CF**  
Green Timber  
Consulting Foresters, Inc.  
Pelkie, MI  
906-353-8584

**14** **Keith Martell, CF**  
Martell Forestry, Inc.  
Gaylord, MI  
989-732-6774

**15** **Brock VanOss**  
VanOss Forestry  
Services, LLS  
Crystal Falls, MI  
906-367-0777

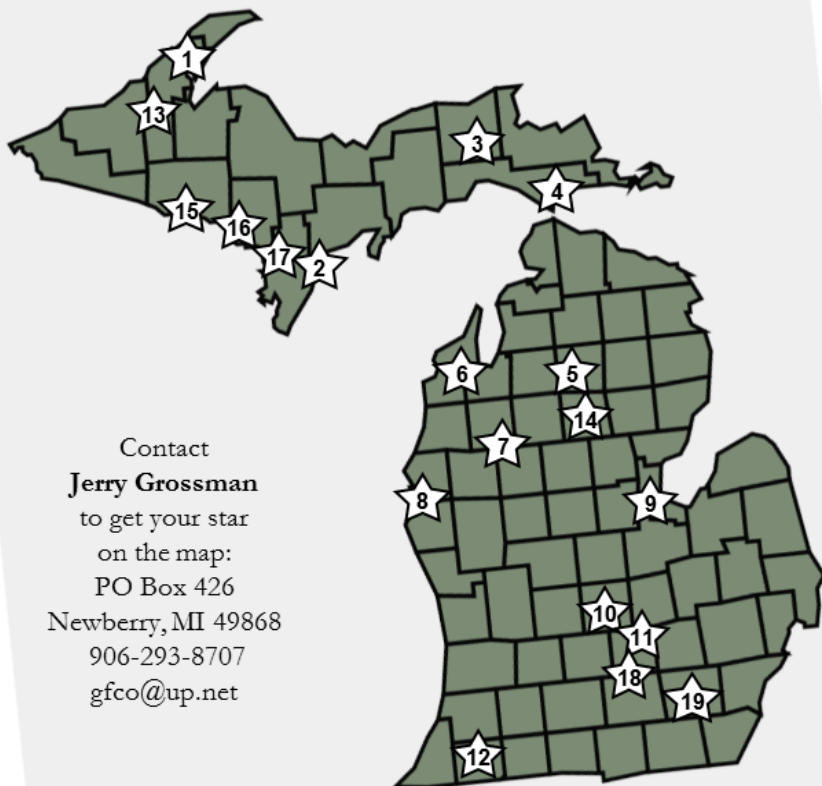
**16** **Bill Hasse**  
Paladin Forestry  
Iron Mountain, MI  
906-396-5783

**17** **Shawn Cannon**  
Cannon Forestry  
Resources, LLC  
Bark River, MI  
906-241-3141

**18** **Jason W. Darling**  
Darling Forestry, LLC  
403 E. Ash St.  
Mason, MI 48854  
517-243-2000

**19** **Carl Burhop**  
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Consulting  
Dexter, MI. 48130  
(734) 426-6967

*The STARS of Michigan's Forests!*



Contact  
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on the map:  
PO Box 426  
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## Recap (Cont'd from page 1)

Mark Milligan from F4 Tech gave an excellent presentation covering two case studies on how F4 provided integrated solutions in forest inventory. F4 offers several software and hardware solutions designed exclusively for forestry use. They include the Flint and Forge handheld units, as well as SilvAssist software package. Their software can even allow a supervisor see how long their cruisers spend at each plot. No more “bar plots” allowed!

During the lunch hour Mark Rudnicki, MTU professor and Director of the MI Forest Biomaterials Initiative, gave an update on MIFBI happenings. After the lunch hour, we broke out into chapter meetings, followed by a nice information session provided by immediate past SAF president Dave Walters. Dave updated the group on SAF topics. Gary Vander Wyst, District V SAF representative was also on hand to provide answers of SAF National questions.

Right back on track with the conference, Kamlakant Tripathi from MTU gave a very informative presentation on hyperspectral remote sensing for forestry. Spectral imaging divides light into many more bands than the eye can see, allowing very small details to be picked up from very far away. Yvette Dickinson, also from MTU, spoke on using remote sensing for forest management and restoration. She presented a case study from her work restoring dry pine forests in Colorado.

After a quick break, Terry Porter from ForesTech was up. ForesTech is actually a dealer for several of the units talked about during the day. He also spoke on some interesting enterprise solutions including an woods to mill tracking program called 4loads. He prides himself on being an “old school” forester that learned and embraced technology. He now knows more than most of the millennial foresters out there! Next came Brandon Bal from American Forest Management (AFM). Brandon’s presentation covered a few different techniques and shortcuts AFM uses to get non-technology savvy foresters useful maps. AFM also utilizes some of the products offered by vendors at the conference. AFM manages over 5 million acres across the world, and effectively utilizing technology is essential to what they do. Moving to the panel discussion, Peter Eredics, Zack Parisa, Donn Downey, Mark Milligan, and Terry Porter fielded a variety of technology related questions from the audience. Chris Hohnholt served as an excellent moderator, providing a few questions to get the ball rolling. Great audience questions came up to fill the hour long slot, right up until social hour and banquet.

Day two started with a great presentation from Karen Potter-Witter on logging capacity in Michigan. Her findings through logger surveys revealed, not surprisingly, that the state has lost up to 30% of the logging capacity do to a variety of factors. Some of the factors included high stumpage prices, difficulty in financing new equipment, and aging owner-operators.

Warren Suchovsky was next, with a talk on his experiences owning and operating a logging company over several decades. He reiterated several of Karen Potter-Witter’s findings, and felt that finding able bodied workers proved to be one of his greatest challenges. In his view, many young, would-be loggers find themselves going on to college rather staying home working for a family logging outfit, much like farmers across the country have seen. This has resulted in increased competition over a decreased supply of skilled operators. There are many operators that would rather work a defined set of hours, and be home for dinner, rather than the extended, seven day a week schedule that loggers often work.

Gordy Mouw, from Verso Corporation was next, to speak on the current and future outlook for his company. As many know, Verso recently completed a merger with NewPage, creating the largest paper company in North America. Gordy spoke on a few of the changes taking place through the merger. Most focused on increasing efficiencies between the two companies, in both fiber supply and personnel. A challenge the company has been facing over the past two decades is the dwindling use of paper worldwide, to a tune of 2-3% annually. This has made it necessary to maximize efficiencies and develop alternate uses for paper and fiber. Despite the challenges, Verso is very confident in their mill portfolio, and is optimistic looking forward. They operate three mills in the Lake States region, and Gordy was quick to point out that they are some of the best mills in the company, if not North America.

Diving further into industry was James Mennell, of Biogenic Reagents. Biogenic Reagents uses mostly sawmill residuals to make activated carbon, which is used in water filtration/purification systems, as well as fertilizer applications. Located in Gwinn, MI, the company employs about 40 people in the area. The operation is relatively new, but has seen much success. Their activated carbon technology is being used in some of the country’s largest cities. They are hoping continued success will allow them to grow operations in Gwinn, as well as other areas.

Wrapping up the presentation portion on day two was Jim Charlier, from Ponsse. Ponsse is a logging equipment manufacture out of Vieremä, Finland, with North American headquarters in Rhinelander, WI. Jim showed several videos on some of the equipment offered by Ponsse. He also spoke on some of the challenges loggers face when getting new equipment. Some issues include finding adequate financing, fully utilizing the technology available, and meeting production goals. To the latter, Jim finds that many loggers think that more hours spent in the machine equates to greater production. The key to greater production is to maximize every motion while operating, and utilizing the machine to its highest potential. He has found that the most productive hours are at the beginning of the day, and after lunch. To think clearly, the mind needs a break from the sometimes monotonous work of operating. (Cont'd on pg 4)



Over 160 people attended the Spring Conference on April 9, 2015. The conference also had a spot on TV6 News.

## *A Short History of the American Tree Farm System*

*By Mike Smalligan, MDNR Forest Stewardship Program Coordinator*

The American Tree Farm System is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2015. Tree Farm is a national organization that provides many services for private forest landowners and also certifies their sustainable forest management. Tree Farm has been operating in Michigan since the early 1950's. Today there are 539 certified Tree Farms covering 153,292 acres in 78 of Michigan's 83 counties. There are 107 professional foresters who are active Tree Farm Inspectors in Michigan. The Michigan Tree Farm is administered by a volunteer committee of foresters and landowners that help other private forest landowners learn about their forests and certify their sustainable forest management. The Weyerhaeuser forest products company started Tree Farm in 1941 in Montesano, Washington. The historical context 75 years ago is important to the creation of the American Tree Farm System. In the early part of the last century, property taxes were very high and catastrophic forest fires were rampant. It was often cheaper for a landowner to liquidate all of their timber, give up the land to tax reversion, and buy new land instead of sustainably managing their forest for decades. Weyerhaeuser wanted to prove that private forest lands can be protected and managed for "continuous forest production" of commercial forest products.

The government was skeptical about Tree Farm at its origins. The United States was still recovering from the Depression in the 1930's when the federal government had to rescue and operate many sectors of the economy. The federal government also wanted to regulate forestry practices on private forest lands. Lyle Watts, the Chief of the US Forest Service in 1941, wanted to stop Tree Farm before it spread. He asked the Society of American Foresters (SAF) to speak out against Tree Farm, but SAF actually supported Tree Farm in their August 1942 *Journal of Forestry* editorial. SAF agreed with Tree Farm that private landowners who voluntarily adopt improved forestry practices should not be subject to federal regulation.

The American Forest and Paper Association took over the national administration of Tree Farm in 1946 and helped it spread to 44 states today. Each participating state has its own committee made up of volunteers in the forestry community to implement Tree Farm in their local context. For its first few decades, the forest products industry used Tree Farm to recognize and reward private landowners for their good forest management and for supplying wood to their mills. Since 1991, Tree Farm has been administered nationally by the American Forest Foundation ([www.forestfoundation.org](http://www.forestfoundation.org)).

As the environmental movement developed in the 1970's and 1980's, society also focused their attention on forests and forest management. Many people were concerned about air and water pollution, forest management practices, and deforestation in tropical countries. In 1992, leaders from 172 countries and hundreds of environmental organizations met in Brazil for the "Rio Earth Summit" to declare international support for taking better care of our natural resources. A year later, "forest certification" was created as a means to document for society that forests are being sustainably managed in conformance to high quality standards and verified by independent, third party auditors. The American Tree Farm System has adapted to meet these societal concerns. Tree Farm developed their first "Standards of Sustainability" in 2000 to provide a forest certification program designed for family forest owners in the United States. The first forest certification programs were more focused on international forestry and large, multi-national corporations. However, the American Tree Farm System is recognized internationally by the Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certifications ([www.pefc.org](http://www.pefc.org)).

Although Tree Farms can range from 10 to 10,000 acres, they are usually in the 40 to 240 acre sizes in Michigan. Tree Farm requires that landowners have a written forest management plan and comply with the eight Standards of Sustainability to document their good forestry practices. These Standards are available on the Tree Farm website at [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org). Tree Farm is an accessible, low cost option for family forest owners to learn about their forests, and brag to their neighbors about their excellent forest management.

Forest certification is important because it provides credibility to the general public that forest landowners are providing forest products and ecosystem services for society in a sustainable manner. The big green Tree Farm sign proclaims that well managed forests provide wood, water, recreation, and wildlife benefits for all of us to enjoy. For more information about the Michigan Tree Farm, explore [www.treefarmssystem.org/michigan](http://www.treefarmssystem.org/michigan) or contact Mike Smalligan at [smalliganm@michigan.gov](mailto:smalliganm@michigan.gov).



### ***Recap (cont'd from pg 3)***

The conference concluded with a final panel discussion focused on the people and products side of forestry. The panel included Jake Hayrynen of J.M. Longyear, Charlie Becker of Plum Creek and Michigan Forest Products Council, Warren Suchovsky of Suchovsky Logging, and Jim Charlier of Ponsse. Chris Hohnholt was on the mic again to moderate, and only had to ask one question before the audience took over. The audience provided topics including forestry outreach and education, the value of forest certification systems, the movement towards company-owned logging crews, and issues facing loggers. The panel members did an excellent job answering all of the topics, and there simply was not enough time to dive into all of the questions folks had.

In all, the conference proved to be extremely successful. There were 18 presenters and panel members, from 13 organizations, three universities, and 10 states! Total attendance hit the 160 mark, with 30+ coming from student chapters at MTU and MSU. Vendors and sponsors included F4 Tech, Trimble, ForesTech Resource Solutions, Plum Creek, J.M. Longyear and NCP Coatings. Much gratitude goes to Tara Bal and Chris Hohnholt for all of their hard work in the planning, and execution of the conference. Through it all, it proves that if you don't attend MI SAF conferences, you are really missing out! The learning, communicating, and networking gained by attending these conferences is hard to match anywhere else in the forestry community.

To see the lineup as well their presentations, please visit <http://michigansaf.org/Tours/1-MainTours.htm>

## ***Membership News***

Submitted by Amy Douglass, Membership Chair

Did you know?

39% of our membership has been a member for 0-9 years

Of that number, 35% are student members

18% of our membership has been a member for 10-19 years

15% of our membership has been a member for 20-29 years

16% of our membership has been a member for 30-39 years

5% of our membership has been a member for 40-49 years

5% of our membership has been a member for 50-59 years

2% of our membership has been a member for 60-69 years!

As of the end of April 2015, the National Office shows us with 442 members in Michigan SAF. Of these 442 members, 369 are currently paid through 12/31/2015; 36 memberships expired on 12/31/2014 and 37 memberships expired on 12/31/2013.

We need to keep everyone involved as members! If you know of someone who has let their membership lapse, please invite them to rejoin SAF. If you know foresters who are not members, invite them to join. Share your magazines, invite them to meetings, and let them know how you benefit from being a member and how membership can benefit them also.

In 2012, the dues structure was redefined to better serve the members. There are several levels (tiers) of membership that afford you choices of products, services and discounts that best suit your needs. The National Office will also work with individuals to develop payment plans if needed. Please don't let the cost of membership be the deciding factor for not being a member!



Michigan SAF has a Facebook page! Log on and "Like" our page to keep up to date on forestry events and connect with other MSAF Fans!  
[www.facebook.com/michigansaf](http://www.facebook.com/michigansaf)

## ***Statewide Wood Energy Team for Michigan***

Submitted by Bill Cook, Communication Chair

The US Forest Service has recently funded a three-year project to support the development of a Statewide Wood Energy Team (SWET), similar to teams in Wisconsin and Minnesota. This project will attempt to move along wood energy projects.

There are four main goals of the project; 1) identify opportunities and limitations, 2) develop outreach resources, 3) engage stakeholders, especially those around highly eligible sites, and 4) create success stories in deployed technology. The project will incorporate past project results, research, and inventories.

For more information about the project, contact either Ray Miller or Bill Cook at the MSU Forest Biomass Innovation Center; 906-786-1575, [rmiller@msu.edu](mailto:rmiller@msu.edu), [cookwi@msu.edu](mailto:cookwi@msu.edu).

## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### **Forest Health & Invasive Plant Workshop**

July 1

Gogebic Community College

Ironwood, Michigan

Contact: Cory Howes at [cory.howes@macd.org](mailto:cory.howes@macd.org)

### **Michigan Forest Association Board Meeting & Michigan Forest Association Annual Meeting**

August 13 & 14-15, respectively

Munising, Michigan

Contact: Bill Botti at [miforest@acd.net](mailto:miforest@acd.net)

### **Logging Congress**

September 10-12

UP State Fairgrounds

Escanaba, Michigan

### **MACD Fall Convention & Annual Meeting**

September 26-28

Shanty Creek Resort

Bellaire, Michigan

### **SAF National Convention**

November 3-7

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **Michigan Forest Association Board Meeting**

November 6

Hartwick Pines State Park

Contact: Bill Botti at [miforest@acd.net](mailto:miforest@acd.net)

**For more upcoming events and additional information, visit:**  
<http://michigansaf.org/Calendar/calendar.htm>

## Summer Forestry Student Interns Provide a Big Boost for the State Forests

*Submitted by the Michigan DNR*

For more than 20 years the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' Forest Resources Division, has hired forestry students during the summer. These student interns are hired during their breaks from college and typically work for about three months. During this time they assist full-time staff with a variety of work assignments. Some of these assignments include preparing timber harvests, forest regeneration surveys, and when qualified, assisting with prescribed burns and wildfire suppression. Other opportunities include public outreach to assist with Forestry education to elementary school students, and participation in public review meetings related to forest management practices. Interns are exposed to the widest variety of work experience possible from cruising timber, to delineating timber harvest boundaries, to applying technology skills; all have become a vital part of the overall management of state forest land.



"Hiring summer forestry students is good for us and good for the student," said Bill O'Neill, chief of the Forest Resources Division. "We accomplish critical forest management work while students gain valuable experience that helps them further their career goals. We are always looking for the brightest and best to help us manage our 4 million acres of public forests. Students have been a part of that legacy for over 20 years."

There is always a desire to hire as many students as possible but that must be balanced with available funds. It is expected that 17 students will be hired statewide this year, a larger-than-normal average. In most years the largest number of students come from Michigan State and Michigan Tech but students from other forestry accredited colleges are recruited to help fill the available positions.

O'Neill added that many current FRD employees started as students, some of them now in positions charged with hiring the next generation of DNR foresters.

"It is a tremendous opportunity for us in FRD to evaluate and train our potential career employee," he said "We see our investment in students pay off time and time again as they help us achieve our Division goals."

"Working in the FRD student program provided me many unique opportunities that helped prepare me for my professional career in resource management," said Matt Fry, current FRD employee who worked as a summer student in 1998 and 1999. "The opportunity to work with experienced department professionals provided an invaluable learning opportunity that greatly expanded upon my college course work. My participation in the program led to lifelong relationships that have shaped my professional and personal life. I highly recommend that any forestry student take this opportunity if it is available to them."

We encourage those attending college in the natural resources field to think about working for the DNR. It is a great way to get practical, on the job forestry training and earn money for college and to find out if a career with the state is right for you.

For more information on the student forestry program, contact Fran Ryan at [RYANF@michigan.gov](mailto:RYANF@michigan.gov) or by calling 517-284-5897.



### *Upper Peninsula Forestry Auto Tour Update*

*Submitted by Glenn Moll*

The SAF executive Committee which met April 8, 2015 approved printing of 25,000 brochures. The funding has been obtained so we should have new brochures within two months.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** This coming summer we are conducting a campaign to complete the replacement of the remaining western U.P. roadside signs. The new signs and related materials are at the Alberta Ford Forestry Center. Volunteers who are willing to replace some signs should contact Jim Schmierer, MTU, or myself, for making arrangements to pick up signs, 4 X 4s, MDOT permit, instructions, etc.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Jim Schmierer by phone at (906) 487-2963, (906) 281-3619 (cell) or at [jmschmie@mtu.edu](mailto:jmschmie@mtu.edu) or Glenn Moll (906) 293-8197, (906) 630-0656 (cell), or at [gfmoll46@gmail.com](mailto:gfmoll46@gmail.com).

## *MiSAF Members Receiving Membership Pins in 2015*

Submitted by Craig Kasmer, Awards Chair

Every Spring Conference and Fall Conference, Membership Recognition Pins are handed out at the evening banquet. Please take a moment to see if your name is on the list of pin recipients for this year. If it is, be sure to attend one (or why not both?) of the conferences this year; if you recognize a friend/colleague/neighbor etc. that is on the list, please let them know that they are on the pin recipient list.

**10 Year Pin 20125 Recipients**  
(Member Since 2005)

**20 Year Pin 2015 Recipients**  
(Member Since 1995)

**30 Year Pin 2015 Recipients**  
(Member Since 1985)

**40 Year Pin 2015 Recipients**  
(Member Since 1975)

Mr. Bryan Carlson  
Mr. Paul Drysdale  
Mr. Scott King  
Mr. Keith Martell  
Mr. James Scarlata  
Mr. James Schmierer

Ms. Heather Butler  
Mr. Anthony Fulich  
Ms. Debra Huff  
Mr. Joe Jarecki  
Mr. Boyd Kahler  
Dr. Deborah McCullough  
Dr. James Pickens  
Mr. Chad Radka  
Ms. Barbara Van Alstine

Mr. Tim Baker  
Dr. Donald Dickmann  
Mr. Gregory Lusk  
Mr. Richard Mergener  
Mr. Gerald Tomandl

**50 Year Pin 2015 Recipients**  
(Member Since 1965)

Dr. James Kielbaso

**60 Year Pin 2015 Recipients**  
(Member Since 1955)

Dr. John Schultz  
Mr. Joseph Zylinski

<b>Michigan SAF Education Fund - 2015 Prepared by Chad Fate</b>	<b>Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>Budgeted Revenue</b>
Beginning Balance		\$493.27
<b>Income</b>		
Raffle Tickets Spring		\$800.00
Raffle Tickets Fall		\$800.00
Donations Spring		\$150.00
Donations Fall		\$150.00
<b>Expenses</b>		
MSU Scholarship	\$250.00	
MTU Scholarship	\$250.00	
Raffle prizes/supplies spring	\$150.00	
Raffle prizes/supplies fall	\$150.00	
National SAF Education Fund (2/3 raffle ticket sales)	\$1,066.67	
<b>Balance</b>		<b>\$526.60</b>

## Budget and Report

<b>Michigan Society of American Foresters</b>		
Year 2015 Budget and Report		
<b>Revenue</b>	Expected for 2015	Revenue Received as of March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015
Membership Dues	\$2,600.00	\$1,760.00
Interest	\$45.00	\$8.77
Spring Conference Proceeds	\$1,750.00	\$-
Fall Conference Proceeds	\$1,000.00	\$-
Michigan Forester Ads	\$1,200.00	\$900.00
Donations, Sponsorships, etc. <sup>1</sup>	\$250.00	\$-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,845.00</b>	<b>\$2,668.77</b>

<b>Expenses</b>	Budgeted for 2014	Funds Disbursed as of March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2015
HSD Dues	\$225.00	\$-
Chapter Dues	\$550.00	\$-
Michigan Forester	\$100.00	\$-
Society Administration	\$400.00	\$288.14
Honorariums <sup>2</sup>	\$800.00	\$-
Support for Chair Attendance at National Meeting	\$1,500.00	\$-
Donations, sponsorships, etc. <sup>3</sup>	\$1,100.00	\$-
Leadership Academy	\$800.00	\$-
Awards	\$200.00	\$-
Student Participation Support	\$500.00	\$-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,175.00</b>	<b>\$288.14</b>

Budget Balance:	\$670.00	\$2,380.63
Cash on Hand:	\$9,696.56	\$12,077.19

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

**Prepared by: Lee Mueller, Treasurer**

<sup>1</sup> Donations, contributions, or other sponsorships.

<sup>2</sup> Editor, Education Fund, Treasurer, and Secretary each receive \$200.00 at end of year.

<sup>3</sup> Sponsorships or donations to conferences, education, or other initiatives.



## *Prentiss & Carlisle Celebrates 10th year in the Lake States*

*Submitted by Matt Carothers*

Prentiss & Carlisle has one aim: to consistently meet the diverse needs and objectives of our clients through effective and responsible forest resource management and timberland services. Headquartered in Bangor, Maine, the company was founded in 1924 by George T. Carlisle, a University of Maine graduate in forestry, and Henry Prentiss, a businessman and third generation timberland owner. The company has grown and undergone many changes in the 90 plus years since.

P&C expanded into the Lake States region with the 2005 acquisition of 80-year-old forest resource consulting firm George Banzhaf & Company (GB&Co). This added the assets of GB&Co's experienced foresters and consulting and appraisal business. P&C Lake States continues to grow in keeping with the legacy begun in Maine.

P&C's Lake States Regional office is in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, at the Great Lakes Timber Professionals building. However, our staff of foresters is equipped to operate in locally responsive fashion from satellite outposts in South Range, L'Anse, Ironwood, and Rapid River in Michigan and Barronett, Conover, and Minocqua in Wisconsin. In 2014, P&C also opened an office in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada.

We offer complete forest resource management and timberland services to a wide range of organizations, investment groups, landowners, and agencies across the region. Major services include: forestland management, consulting services, industry and supply chain analysis, land appraisal and valuation, woodlot services, harvest operations and administration, accounting and reporting, forest products marketing, technical advising and policy development, and timberland investment management. A current major focus is our Private Landowner Assistance (PLA) program, aimed at providing small woodlot owners the same level of in-depth services and capabilities P&C has become recognized for across the U.S. Northeast and Canada.



Bottom row: Ryan Bourassa, Area Forester, Wisconsin Valley District; Rich Congdon, District Forester, Rhinelander-Monico-Crandon District; Tyler Rathbun, Area Forester, Eagle River-Iron River District; and Tom Tompkins, District Forester, Gogebic-Penokee Range District.

Top row: Matt Carothers, Operations Forester, Headwaters & Flambeau-Chippewa District; Jesse Lehner, District Forester, Copper Country District; and Dean Tatu, Area Forester, Sturgeon-Peshekee District.

Missing: Jake Delvaux, District Forester, Escanaba-Menominee District.

### *A Little Bit of History*

On the following pages are two different historical publications. The first is an editorial from the *Journal of Forestry*. It was published in August of 1942 and expressed SAF's support for the Tree Farm system. The copy of this journal was submitted by Mike Smalligan.

The second publication is from the University of Michigan's, *The Michigan Forester*, which was put together by the UM Forestry Club. The author of this article is Bruce Buell, Logging Superintendent of the Patten Timber Company in Amasa, Michigan. He talks about the practical side of forestry. The copy of this publication was submitted by Doug Heym.

Thanks to both gentlemen for these documents. If you have any historical publications or photos that you think would be beneficial to our publication, please contact Tori Irving at [irvingt@michigan.gov](mailto:irvingt@michigan.gov) or [toriiirving@gmail.com](mailto:toriiirving@gmail.com) or at 906-458-1210.

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## EDITORIAL

### "What's In a Name?"

"TREE farming" is on the march. Starting only a little more than a year ago in the Pacific Northwest, the movement has now attained national proportions. At that time the *Conservation News Digest* remarked, "The 130,000 acre Clemons tree farm in Grays Harbor County, Washington, is an important milestone in the progress of private forestry. About half of the area belongs to the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and the remainder to the State of Washington and to Grays Harbor County. It marks the initiation on a large scale of an effort to regrow trees on lands which have produced a great crop in the past and can do so again in the future."

Subsequent events lend weight to this optimistic forecast. Last spring the West Coast Lumbermen's Association reported that 16 tree farms comprising 727,000 acres had been examined and officially approved for designation as "Tree Farms," and that applications had been made on an additional 1,005,000 acres. On April 4, 1942, the "Alabama Tree Farm System," sponsored by the Alabama State Chamber of Commerce, was inaugurated with the presentation by Governor Frank M. Dixon of "Tree Farm" certificates to 25 individuals or companies whose forest land management policies had been approved by State Forester Brooks Toler as conforming to state standards. To receive one of the certificates an owner must protect his property from forest fire, and must practice selective logging or other controlled partial cutting with the view of assuring continuous production of commercial timber crops in accordance with practices approved by the State Conservation Commission. In pledging his cooperation in the enterprise the governor stated that "there is almost no limit to the benefits which perpetual forestry can bring to the people of Alabama," and warned against the danger of "regimentation from outside the state."

Arkansas on June 6, 1942, launched the Arkansas Tree Farm System with a celebration featured by a barbecue lunch and the crowning of an Arkansas Tree Farm Queen, whose coronation was preceded by a skit symbolizing the contribution of the pine forests to the war effort. Official Tree Farm signs and certificates were presented by State Forester Fred Lang to 22 forest owners whose lands had been examined and found to be managed in accordance with the Tree Farm requirements of the State Forestry Commission. Governor Homer Adkins, himself the recipient of one of the certificates, predicted that through tree farming growth in the forests of Arkansas, which he stated is already in excess of the drain, can be increased by 25 per cent with a resultant increase in income in the form of pay rolls and of wood purchases of 10 to 15 million dollars a year and as many as 15,000 new jobs. This result, he emphasized, will be achieved by voluntary action on the part of forest owners and not by compulsion on the part of the Arkansas Forestry Commission, which has no desire to "achieve a dictatorial strangle hold on people."

Further evidence of southern interest in tree farming is the recent action of the Forestry Committee of the Florida State Chamber of Commerce in agreeing to accept sponsorship of the movement in that state. Most important of all is the whole-hearted support that the program has received from the National Lumber Manufacturers Association and American Forest Products Industries. These organizations have gone further than merely to endorse a new and catchy name for an old idea; they have embarked on an active campaign to put it into practice.

But, someone may ask, what is the idea? Just what is a "tree farm"? According to its sponsors, it is an area "dedicated to the growing of forest crops for commercial purposes, protected and managed for continuous forest production." The term is "used to designate the application of

common-sense forestry practices to many types of privately owned forest lands. It is easily understood by the general public and accurately describes the methods now being used by lumbermen, timberland owners, and farmers in the management of their forest properties. The Forest Conservation Committee of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association is anxious to see that the use of this term be confined to describing definite and concrete forestry measures now being used in growing forest crops for sale on a commercial basis. This may range from the production of 100 million board feet per year on a single tree farm to the woodlot which furnishes one cord of wood annually for sale as a cash crop. We must guard against using it in any way than can be termed window dressing or propaganda."

Foresters generally will approve of these objectives, which they themselves have of course always advocated. Some may be irritated at the occasional suggestion by overenthusiastic spokesmen for the movement that they are the first discoverers of the fact that trees grow. Others will regret that the sponsors of the movement felt it necessary to invent a new term to describe practices which in fact and by definition are actually forestry. Still others will resent the implication that "common sense" is a novel characteristic of tree farming as contrasted with other forestry.

On the other hand, if we are honest, we must admit that as a profession we have not been conspicuously successful in presenting forest production as a business enterprise in such a way as to command public understanding or to induce its general practice by private owners. This is exactly what the tree-farming slogan and program are attempting to do. Disregarding the many other products and services with which forestry is concerned, such as forage, wildlife, recreation, amelioration of climate, protection of the water supply, and prevention of erosion, the movement centers attention on the single activity of growing wood for commercial purposes. According to Dr. Wilson Compton, "It is intended to stimulate the interest of private forest landowners everywhere to explore and utilize the permanent productive possibilities of their forest lands—to dramatize them in terms of public interest and public recognition."

Tree farming is industry's attempt to emphasize one major aspect of forest land management

in terms that everyone can understand. It aims to make this particular phase of forestry as simple, as nontechnical, and as appealing as possible. Perhaps "farming," in spite of the obvious question as to its accuracy and appropriateness, is as good a word as could have been selected for this purpose. Certainly it has the advantage of stressing the fact that forest trees are just as much a crop as are corn, wheat, and apples, and just as capable of giving increased yields under intelligent management. It implies that the forestry activities of the federal government should be centered in the Department of Agriculture, and that tree farmers, who potentially include all forest owners, should be eligible for the same preferential treatment as other farmers. Whether any unfavorable reaction will result when people discover that straight rows of planted trees, carefully pruned and intensively cultivated, are as rare in a tree farm as in any other forest, remains to be seen.

The most encouraging feature of the entire program is the fact that it originated with and is being promoted by the owners and operators of privately owned forest lands. Nine years ago, in speaking of Article X of the Lumber Code, Dr. Compton said, "This is an industry undertaking. It will be so administered." Tree farming is a continuation of that undertaking, a fulfillment of that promise. That one of its purposes is frankly to forestall federal regulation, the likelihood of which will be much increased unless private owners voluntarily adopt improved practices, is certainly not to its discredit. That it is being pushed during these troublous times, when the industry is under such pressure to increase production, deserves high commendation.

Tree farming appears to be off to a good start. Its permanent contribution to the general practice by private owners of continuous forest production in this country will depend on its success in attaining its stated objectives. This will be a difficult task, in which forest owners who are sincerely trying to improve the management of their lands should have the sympathetic support and active cooperation of foresters in public and private employ alike.

Whether the movement is called forestry or tree farming is of relatively little moment; what it does, is all-important. "That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." The question is—is it a rose?

# THE PRACTICAL SIDE

BRUCE BUELL, '19

*Logging Superintendent, Patten Timber Co., Amasa, Mich.*

Fellow Foresters at Michigan:

**Y**OUR editors have asked me to give you my viewpoints on the practical side of Forestry, and to offer my advice concerning some of the problems a young forester will meet. If the conclusions which I have drawn from my experiences may be of any value to you, I hereby offer them for what they may be worth.

In the first place, you chose one of the best forest schools in the country when you came to Michigan. You have the benefit of a fine group of instructors to give you the best possible in technical knowledge. Get all you can from them before you leave, for although a lot of it you will never use, someday, in some unexpected place, you will need some part of it rather badly. Master the fundamentals of it all from  $Fomes$  to  $I.Op^n$  and  $T = R \cdot \tan \frac{1}{2}\Delta$ ; and at the same time you should acquire some of the ideals and the ethics of the profession of Forestry.

All this is probably old news to you. You have heard it from other sources, so we will not dwell further on this side of your training, important though it is. Michigan offers you outside of your classes another field of learning that to my notion is also highly important. I mean the opportunity to get into overalls on Saturday and holidays and work up a few calluses down at the nursery, or out in Whites Woods or Stinchfield. Get acquainted with the tools used in common woods work, and learn how to use them. Learn how to sharpen and handle an axe, how to fell a tree, and find out the difference between a cant hook and a cross haul. Maybe you will land in a job where you will never be out in the woods at all, and this sort of education will not be used again, but if you ever are directly connected with woods work, you will be very glad indeed that you have had enough experience so that you know what it is all about at least.

Taking advantage of this part of your education is going to help you in a number of ways. First of all, of course, it is good exercise, and a good set of muscles to go along with a good brain is always a help.

Then it gives you an actual working insight into some of the problems and difficulties facing the average lumberjack. If you get into a job where you have to contact this class of labor, a sympathetic understanding of their problems is going to be a big help in your relations to them. If you know by first hand experience what they are up against in their work, you have a common ground where you can meet them and talk their language. If you are going to try to teach them not to cut small trees, not to slash reproduction, or to cut car stakes out of cull stuff only, you will have to be able to talk their language and meet them on their own ground. They cannot meet you on yours.

And here a man who cannot be trusted with a sharp axe, is going to be classed as a theorist and nothing else, and what he says to them will be discounted about 100 per cent. I don't mean to say that you have to be an expert. It takes years of practice to approach the expertness of a good axeman or sawyer, but you must not be a "dub". If you can pick up an axe and show a man how you want tops lopped without having to show him at the same time that you can't handle an axe, he may have some respect for you and listen to what you say.

Or when you are showing a jobber a tract of timber, if you can start from one section corner and go across the section and strike within 50 feet of another corner, especially if you are in an iron belt with a changing compass variation, he will size you up as a fellow who knows his business, and will listen to you when you start telling him about not cutting unmarked trees, saving the reproduction, etc. But if you can't do anything but talk about theories, and get lost any time you get off a road, he isn't going to pay much attention to the things to which you are trying to educate him.

And last but not least, when you are working out in the woods, keep your eyes open and learn your trees and your woods. Count the rings on the stump you have just cut. See how fast the tree has grown. Look around and see if you can tell why there was a big acceleration in growth

20 years back. See if you can tell why that tree was growing more on one side than the other, why it was crooked, or why it was stagheaded. Watch for signs of defect, look at the knots and see where you think the tree is rotten inside, and how far it will run, and then check it as you cut the tree up. It will surprise you to find out how much you can learn about what a tree is like inside and what started the defects in the first place.

Look around you and find a good thrifty tree. On the basis of what you have seen on cut stumps, how fast is that tree growing? How big is it now? How many Board Ft? How much will it have in it in 15 or 30 years from now? At 6 per cent is it a paying proposition to leave that individual tree? Do some mental gymnastics and a little rough figuring and get a vision of what that tree and that piece of woods is going to be like in the future. Check in with what you have learned in class and see how it actually applies out there in the woods, for if you can't see how it applies and are able to use it there, you might as well switch over to the law school.

When you get out of school there are two kinds of jobs that you may get into. One of course is government and state work. Here you will find that they can and will take an inexperienced man and give him a chance to develop, continue his education in a way. The taxpayer foots the bill, and they can afford to do things a little differently than a private company can. This is by far the broader field at the present time.

The other chance is in private work, with some lumber or paper company. This field is much more limited at present, and is far harder to break into. For a private company has to consider a dollar not as an alphabetical dole but as something to be put to work, and every one sent out must come back with a 6 cent increment every year. They do not want to experiment with inexperienced men, any more than they are eager to experiment with untried theories. When they are looking for a forester, or any other man, they want one who has already proved his worth.

But how, you ask, is a young fellow just out of school going to do that. That is just the difficulty, and I can't answer that one. What I have said above relative to work while you're at school, will of course apply directly, but that is not enough. The present set up, so far as private employ is concerned, is almost impossible. There is usually room for only one "salaried" forester

in any one company. His assistants do not have to have a college education and can be picked up locally and trained, for a salary of anywhere from \$50 to \$100 per month. This makes it impossible for a college man to start in that way when the Forest Service will pay them two or three times that. And on top of that, the young chap picked from the local community and trained to do what is wanted, is in 75 per cent of the cases a better man on that type of job than a college graduate. For he is accustomed to woods work, is used to hard work and doesn't expect anything better. He is used to being told what to do, and then doing it.

For the benefit of any of you who think you prefer private work to government jobs, I will say this, that my experience has been that the easiest way to break into that field is through cruising and surveying work. Those are two jobs for which the college trained man is particularly well equipped, if he has some experience to back him up. The old time cruiser cannot do as good a job, turn in as nice a map which the manager in the office will appreciate and use, as we can using the methods and training that we get in school. It may be hard to make the initial break into this field, but once given a chance, whether it be laying out a logging railroad, or staking out a "summer homes" area, it is not hard to prove our value.

One other thing that is very important in any kind of work, but particularly in private enterprise, and that is the figuring of costs. You do not have to be an expert bookkeeper, though a workable knowledge of cost accounting is a big help. You should, however, get in the habit of keeping records of costs on different jobs including both direct and indirect costs, and see how each particular piece of work is working out. The way to cut costs on any job is to keep a careful analysis of costs of each step, and then see if there is some way to cut a corner off here and another somewhere else. And when you know what a job should cost, you can make allowances for different conditions and still make a good estimate for another job.

To put the whole thing in a nutshell, get all the practical experience you possibly can to go along with your school work, study and learn trees and timberlands and costs at every opportunity, and don't pass up any chance to learn something more.