



# THE Registered Forester

A News Bulletin

Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters  
513 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130  
(205) 240-9368



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## ITS BEEN SAID BEFORE

Charles S. Walsh, R. F. No. 293

Some time ago it was decided that the Board member whose term expires should write a parting editorial for *The REGISTERED FORESTER*. In winding down my five-year term, including 400 or more hours involving Board business, one ponders over what should be said in his chance to 'editorialize'. What has been learned? What might be said that hasn't already been said better? What needs to be said again? These questions I have pondered. My parting thoughts are those expressed in the paragraphs which follow.

A review of the last 40 issues of *The REGISTERED FORESTER* suggested many words in need of repeating. As we move forward in this decade that will involve new problems and opportunities in addition to most of the old ones, consider the following excerpts from some previous editorials. They can remind us of where we've been, where we are, and what's ahead. Collectively they speak to us of stands taken as well as challenges to be undertaken.

*"The nature of forestry is such as to require a large measure of work to be performed for the benefit of future generations." Gene Keller, SUMMER 1987.*

*"Licensing of foresters is necessary to insure that the professional services offered to the public are by trained and qualified practitioners and subject to the review of the Board." John Clark, SUMMER 1990.*

*"Although it sounds pious, the fact is that registration boards do protect the public." Steve Nix, SUMMER 1985.*

*"Undoubtedly our profession will continue evolving, becoming more complex." L. Keville Larson, FALL 1982.*

*"Protection of public interest is a continuing responsibility; it does not end with the issuance of a license. The establishment of continuing education requirements for license renewal is, therefore, the next logical step for the Board." Harold Hill, FALL 1989.*

*"Professionalism and prestige are highly ranked as objectives sought after by practicing foresters. Far less is said, or done, however, about the responsibilities and obligations that inseparably go along as a part of the position, or role, that each of us fills." R. C. Wakefield, FALL 1984.*

*"It is urgent that we get on with the job. If we fail to sell landowners and loggers on voluntary use of BMP's, we will have sold Alabama's soil down the river." Bob Lee, FALL 1981.*

*"We are embodied now in the 'Decade of Environment.' Preservation is the key word. It is the biggest challenge to forestry and foresters that we have ever faced during my 33 years in the profession... So far I think that we have been part of the problem, and to become part of the solution, we must re-examine our attitude and change some of our actions." Ken Bailey, SPRING 1990.*

*"Now more than ever is the time we as foresters must stand up, be counted... We should be counted without having to stand up." Bill Bustin, SPRING 1983.*

*"I believe the future is bright." Doug Smith, WINTER 1989.*

## TERMINOLOGY CLARIFIED/Board Cites Actions



**Jack Fillingham**  
Chariman

Section 34-12-2 of the 1975 Code of Alabama requires registration for the practice of forestry and lists six exceptions to this requirement. In summary, the Forester Registration Law cannot prevent, 1) the practice of another legally recognized profession or trade, 2) the application of forestry principles on one's own lands or as an employee of a corporation or partnership on the companies lands, 3) the work of an employee or subordinate of a licensed forester provided that work is done under the direct supervision of the person holding the license, 4) the practice of forestry by employees of the Federal Government on federal lands, 5) the practice of forestry by state employees on state lands, and 6) employees of Governments and educational institutions conducting educational programs.

The Board has recently reviewed a couple of complaints involving people practicing forestry without a license. Upon inquiry, the accused in these cases indicate they are practicing 'under the supervision' of a Registered Forester.

In 1978 and 1981 respectively, the Board further clarified the meaning of Section 34-12-2 by adopting Policy Statements 380-X-6-.01 and 380-X-6-.03. Policy (6.01) defines supervision as used in the third exemption cited above, as follows: "The word 'supervision' should mean the direct personal inspection and approval of all work of such employee or subordinate which is presented to the public in any form as being the effort, the result of the efforts, opinion, advice or recommendation of a Forester."

In Policy (6.03), the statement infers that the exception listed in Section 34-12-2(3), allowing for work performed under supervision of a licensed forester, excludes the work only and does not permit the public use of the title Forester for those being supervised.

If someone is operating a forestry business and using a supervisor 200 miles away, it is unlikely he is being supervised as construed by the Alabama law. Likewise, there are probably a lot of people in government and industry positions who provide management services or represent themselves as foresters when dealing with the public when not operating on their own lands. Most of the time these people are not aware of the violation and when told, they proceed to correct the situation. If you know of a situation in which this is occurring, please notify the Board and the Board will contact the person in violation of the law.

The Board adopted a Rule and Policy Statement related to Continuing Education during the October 23, 1991 meeting. The Rule requires reporting of continuing education credits as part of the license renewal process and on the form to be provided. Documentation will be retained by the applicant. The original Policy stated that verification would be sent with the renewal.

The Policy pertains to the board's action in the event a Registered Forester does not fulfill the continuing education requirement. Each case will be reviewed on its merits by the Board and the applicant notified of the deficiency and required corrective action.

We have been asked to list acceptable providers for continuing education credit. The list is included in the Policy and identifies the following as qualified providers: Forest Industry, State and Federal Government Forestry Agencies, University, and the Society of American Foresters. A few additional qualified providers have been approved following submission of proposed agendas or programs. Those approved to date are: Southern Forest Insect Work Conference, Chambers County Forestry Committee, several seminars by Don Burdette related to Best Management Practices, and several minor seminars in the Tuscaloosa area organized by Jim Jeter, Alabama Forestry Commission.

We will list other proposed courses of instruction, when approved for credit, in the pages of The REGISTERED FORESTER for your convenience. However, the Board's office must be notified of any planned courses for which approval is required, on a quarterly basis for publication in this newsletter. Deadlines will continue to be February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 for publication in the issue next following these dates.

1991 BOARD SESSION - Day-long sessions have characterized the quarterly meetings of the Board. Current members of the board are (from the left) Waymon Paul, now Vice Chairman, Pamela Sears, Office Manager, Jack Fillingham, Chairman, Charles Walsh, Bobby Lowe, and James Spears, Secretary. The chairmen of Standing and Special committees are shown on page 4 of this issue, as are the officers and Adjunct Officers. All regular sessions of the Board are held in Montgomery and normally take place in a conference room of the Alabama Forestry Commission.



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

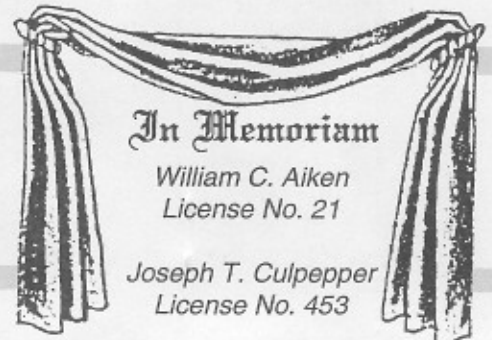
FROM

# YOUR STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION



**HALL OF FAME INDUCTS FORMER BOARD MEMBER -**  
At the 1991 annual meeting of the Southeastern Society of American Foresters held at Orange Beach, Alabama, Eugene Keller III (shown receiving his framed citation and flanked by his wife), is congratulated by David Long, Chairman, Alabama Division, SAF. Gene served a 5-year term on the Board of Registration for Foresters and two as chairman in 1987 and 1988. Keller joins the 32 previously named to the Hall of Fame. His accomplishments were recited by Dr. William R. Sizemore, a 1988 inductee.

*Forestry leaders no longer among us or their friends will long be remembered for their practice of the Art of Reverence for Life. Each in his own way reached out to life in order to help it grow. Looking for a good life and glorifying in it were traits of those named in this MEMORIAM. In practice, all had a deep sense of obligation for the precious gift of life - A Reverence for Life!*



*(please cut along dotted line)*

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Residence \_\_\_\_\_

NEW TELEPHONE: Business ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Residence ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL FORM TO: Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters  
513 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130



**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

Charles S. Walsh (92)  
601 Gayfer Avenue  
Fairhope, AL 36532

Jack P. Fillingham (93)  
Chairman  
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Thomas Waymon Paul (94)  
Vice Chairman  
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Birmingham, AL 35202

James D. Spears (95)  
Secretary  
600 S. Trammel Street  
Atmore, AL 36502

James R. Lowe (96)  
451 Edgewood Circle  
Jackson, AL 36545

**COMMITTEES**

Public Information  
Jack Fillingham, Chr.

Examinations  
Charles Walsh, Chr.

Rules and Regulations  
Bobby Lowe, Chr.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Finance & Administration  
Waymon Paul

Continuing Education  
Jack Fillingham

Violations  
Jim Spears

**ADJUNCT OFFICERS**

Assistant Attorney General  
Gerrilyn V. Grant

Office Manager  
Mrs. Pamela B. Sears

Contractor/Editor  
Wilbur B. De Vall

**VIOLATIONS TAKE MANY FORMS/Detection Necessary**

James Spears, Chairman, Violations Committee

The committee reported three (3) new cases of alleged law violation during the quarter ending October 23, 1991. On this date three (3) pending violation cases were reviewed along with the three (3) new ones. Two (2) cases were 'closed' since all requirements and stipulations imposed by the Board on the violators had been met. Four (4) cases were carried over pending receipt of further information and will be reviewed in January 1992 with any new evidence obtained. Appropriate action will be taken on each case during the quarterly meeting.

**FINANCIAL STATUS/Board Solvent as Year Begins**

A Registered Forester has suggested that The REGISTERED FORESTER report periodically on the cash flow of the Board. Herewith is a summary of the financial report prepared at the end of fiscal year 1990-91.

Treasury Balance, October 1, 1990.....	\$ 24,764
Receipts from fees .....	24,050
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE.....	
Expenditures (contracts/travel/utilities/etc.).....	33,727
Treasury balance September 30, 1991 .....	\$ 15,087

(Pursuant to the authority contained in Title 34-12-37, 1975 Code of Alabama, this statement has been attested to by the Chairman and Secretary of the Board and a copy is on file in the Minute Book as an attachment to the minutes of the Board meeting held October 23, 1991.)

**SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED/Readers Respond**

Your Editor requested that Registered Foresters with suggestions for The REGISTERED FORESTER make them known. Two were kind enough to write letters. Their comments are briefly set forth in what follows.

R. F. No. 230 said in part "The entire program for licensing in Alabama has been extremely well handled from inception." Another, R. F. No. 671 offered, "I would suggest a questionnaire on usefulness, meeting needs, cost effectiveness, etc." and then added that "...details on violations, ...more on continuing education and less on historical..." would be an improvement. Finally, it was suggested that the newsletter be "...an annual rather than quarterly..." Please feel free to write your Editor.

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS  
513 MADISON AVENUE  
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**Dean, Olin J., Jr** .....1454

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