



# THE Registered Forester

A News Bulletin

Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters  
513 Madison Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130  
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"Sandy"

## A PROFESSIONAL SHARING EXPERIENCE

Raynold P. "Sandy" Sandretto  
Registered Forester - Retired  
Alabama License No. 511

My term on the Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters came to an end January 6, 1991. The five-year term flew by much more quickly than was expected. When you're having a pleasant time, time just flies!

My first dealings with the Board, after becoming registered, was as a participant on the Oral Examination panel. First, I served as an alternate panelist and then as a regular member of the group for a two-year term. This was a very rewarding time for me as I listened to the questions asked by other panel members and then to the answers given by the examinees. Some of the candidates seemed intimidated by the panel and were extremely nervous, even though they knew the answers, while others were cool, calm, and collected. It has always amazed me that foresters, when asked to serve on the Oral Panel, decline the invitation. Believe me, it is an educational experience which can't be gained elsewhere!

During my last two years on the Board, I was chairman of the Special Committee on Violations. One of the frustrating concerns of this Committee has been the reluctance of Registered Foresters to submit written complaints of a violation of the law to this committee. To have a strong and meaningful Board you, the Registered Forester, must assume the responsibility of notifying it whenever a known violation occurs. Become familiar with the law. It is always at hand in the back of the Alabama Roster of Registered Foresters following the Classified Directory of registrants. Should you have any questions or doubts about any act which you feel may be a violation, please contact your Board.

There are times when being a member of the Board may subject you to criticism. One case in point is the new requirement of Continuing Education. Some foresters felt that registrants should not have to participate in further educational experiences as a requirement for continuing renewal of a license. Actually, the Legislative Sunset Committee had enacted into law the mandate that the Board implement the requirement and set a deadline date. Other southern states, which license foresters, have a continuing education requirement. Numbered in this group are South Carolina, Georgia, and Mississippi. These states also have a similar requirement for professional groups such as Engineers and Attorneys. Continuing Education is good for the profession of forestry and is essential to the practice of forestry in a fast-changing society.

All in all, my five years on the State Board of Registration for Foresters, were a very rewarding and educational experience. I am truly sorry that not all Registered Foresters will have an opportunity to share a similar experience.

## VIOLATIONS/Responsibility for Reporting

James D. Spears, R.F., Chairman  
Violations Committee

The Violations Committee reported no new cases during the quarter ending April 24, 1991. During the regular quarterly meeting of the Board on this date, three (3) pending violations were received. One (1) case was closed since all requirements and stipulations imposed by the Board on the violator had been met. Two (2) cases remained pending and will again be reviewed and appropriate action considered at the July Board meeting.

Your Board follows a certain procedure when investigating alleged violations. First, a case must be reported in writing to any member of the Board or to the Board's Office Manager. The Complainant(s) must sign and submit complete documentation of the alleged violation in order for the Board to proceed with an investigation. A complaint(s) identity will always remain confidential with the Board.

The Board must rely on Registered Foresters to identify those practicing forestry or any person giving the impression of being a forester, without being registered. Please refer to Section 34-12-12, Violations and Penalties, 1975 Code of Alabama, in the back of your 1990-91 Roster.



Jack Fillingham  
Chairman

## POLICIES CLARIFIED/Foresters Ask Questions

The Board's Continuing Education Policy, adopted January 1991, has raised several questions related to its timing. By adopting a policy, the Board met the Legislative Sunset Committee's first deadline of October 1, 1991. In my column in the Winter Issue, The REGISTERED FORESTER for this year, I referred to a September 30, 1992 deadline. This is the deadline established for renewing licenses for 1993.

Letters will be mailed each registrant in July 1992 in connection with renewal of registration. The renewal will require a report on Continuing Education hours of registrants which have accrued since October 1, 1990. These hours should **not** be reported to the Board until the notice to report them is received in the July 1992 letter.

The use of the title Forester is, by Alabama Law, reserved for those who have been registered and who possess a valid license. It has been brought to the Boards' attention that several employee positions in the State carry titles such as District Forester, Area Forester, Procurement Forester, or Management Forester, which are filled by persons **not registered**. The Board will be sending letters to employers of forestry-related personnel asking that a review of titles assigned to such positions in their firms or agencies be conducted. Federal, State, and industry employees are permitted to "practice forestry" on lands of their employers without being licensed. However, when titles such as those just mentioned are used on business cards and in advertisements, it may convey to the public that the person is a forester under the law. Most forestry personnel, regardless of class of employment, do not confine their activities to the lands of their employers. Those who "practice forestry" on lands not controlled by their employers, are in violation of Alabama Law, if not licensed as a Registered Forester. - Jack Fillingham, Chairman.

## UNLICENSED ACTIVITY/Brings Steep Fines

The Florida Department of Professional Regulation (DPR) can now issue fines up to \$5,000 against those who practice without a license in any of the 43 professions it regulates, according to former DPR Secretary, Larry Gonzalez. He solicited help in identifying unlicensed individuals, and between 1988-89, received more than 3,000 complaints from victims of unlicensed activity. (Not included in the 43 professions are professional foresters). (SOURCE: CLEAR NEWS, Winter 1990.

## BOARD NEWSLETTER/Twentieth Anniversary Approaches in August

The REGISTERED FORESTER, official newsletter of the Board, was first published (in mimeograph form) under date of August 30, 1971 and designated Volume 1, No. 1. Issues were mailed at intervals as an enclosure when other communications were mailed to registrants. As funds became available, the newsletter was mailed quarterly in a separate mailing. This change occurred in 1978 and has been continued to the present day.

Guest editorials were solicited for the first time in 1980 with Thomas B. Kennedy, License No. 150 as author. Thirty individuals have prepared guest editorials and an additional 23 articles appeared under a 'pen name' of the editor or were taken from an anonymous source. Under present Board policy, members of the Board who end their terms are given the opportunity to write an editorial. The first was written by Charles E. Tomlinson, License No. 158 and appeared in the Fall 1985 issue. This issue's editorial was written by Raynold P. Sandretto, License No. 511. 'Sandy' has been replaced by James R. 'Bobby' Lowe, License No. 492. A number of editorials have been written by persons outside the forestry profession. Included in this group have been an employee of the Soil Conservation Service, an attorney who served the Board as an Assistant Attorney General, an archivist at Auburn University, and a chairman of a licensing board in another state.

Recently the Board approved the policy of publishing a 6-page issue following board meetings in January and July and a 4-page issue following meetings in April and October. The latter include 'crack and peel' pages to update the Roster of Registered Foresters. Also, the Board has an editorial policy in its Administrative Manual which was approved during its meeting on January 25, 1984. It specifies that quarterly issues will be printed on a specified color of paper to give identity to each.

During the Board's meeting April 24, 1991, chairman Jack Fillingham reminded the Board that The REGISTERED FORESTER has survived its twenty years under the continuous editorship of former board member Wilbur De Vall, now Emeritus Professor of Forestry at Auburn University. Copies of all issues of the newsletter are on file in the Department of Archives at Auburn University. - SOURCE, Professor W. B. De Vall.

## BOARD WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

- James R. Lowe (seated right) became the 25th forester appointed to the Board over the period 1958-91. Chairman Jack Fillingham (also seated) looks over the Annual Report of the Board with Lowe as other Board members (L-R standing) Charles Walsh, James Spears, and Waymon Paul look on. Lowe was appointed chairman, Rules and Regulations Committee as his first assignment. He brings to four the number of members on the Board with degrees from Auburn University.



## GOVERNOR APPOINTS LOWE/Auburn Gains Another

Governor Guy Hunt appointed James R. 'Bobby' Lowe of Jackson, Alabama to the board for a five-year term ending 1996. Lowe fills the vacancy created when the term of Raynold Sandretto ended in January. Lowe's appointment brings to four the number of current Board members holding degrees in forestry from Auburn University.

Bobby Lowe has devoted 28 years to forest land management, wood supply, pulp, paper, and lumber manufacturing while actively participating in community activities and professional organizations. Following graduation from Auburn, Lowe accepted appointment with St. Regis Paper Company where he served as research forester, land manager, senior forester and district manager. His tenure was interrupted with a two-year stint in the U.S. Army Artillery. In 1973 he became land manager for SCM Corporation of Jackson, Alabama where he spent time as land manager, administrative manager for the pulp and paper mill, and sawmill manager. Since 1987 he has managed special projects for Boise Cascade Corporation and is currently land acquisition forester for the business.

Lowe held undergraduate scholarships while at Auburn and was a member of both forestry and military honorary societies. He has continued his education in management and marketing as applied to forestry-related businesses while finding time to serve his local Chamber of Commerce and the Society of American Foresters. He holds Alabama License No. 492 as a Registered Forester. He attended his first Board meeting April 24th and was immediately appointed chairman of the Rules and Regulations Committee by Board chairman Fillingham.

## LECTURER CRITICIZES LOGGING/Students Hear Voice of Experience

Students at Alabama's Land Grant College heard former college professor Lou Gold say that "The logging industry in the Pacific Northwest is costing animal lives and human jobs." The speaker based his comments on observations made during a 56-day visit at the peak of Bald Mountain, eight years ago. Annual summer visits keep him in touch with nature and the forces extant in the environment visited. Gold further stated that "logging is taking place at an astonishing rate on federal lands." The speaker took advantage of his captive audience to emphasize several points which form the basis for many discussions in modern society. He pointed out that many old-growth trees are being cut down, endangering the existence of the spotted owl, for example. Other points included references to "the forest is much more than trees"; all "living organisms are delicately organized in a web", and "we have been destroying that web in a big way." The speaker was concerned about the foreign markets for the timber cut including China and Japan which he stated "is the wholesale exportation of jobs." He concluded his lecture by saying that "since 1950, more than one-half of the population of forest trees has been cut down." - The AUBURN PLAINSMAN, February 14, 1991.

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

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## ETHICS/Guidelines and Concepts

The Alabama Board has expressed a desire to include more questions on ethics in both oral and written examinations. A brief study of the subject has brought out certain guides and concepts which are shared with the reader in this issue of *The REGISTERED FORESTER*

The word 'ethics' has both a singular and plural meaning. The former relates to a study of standards of right and wrong, moral conduct, duty and judgement. The more common use of the word ethics has the plural meaning. In this context it refers to formal and/or professional rules of right and wrong. It can also mean a system of conduct or behavior. Foresters use the word with the connotation meaning "moral principles by which a person is guided."

In practice, foresters are concerned with image psychology building which must be positive rather than negative. The image of ethical conduct must be built on candor, receptivity, and diligence. Candor implies telling the whole truth and telling it straight. Receptivity implies that a receptive audience (public) must have something to be receptive to in all cases. Diligence assures the public that one is working toward avoiding trouble rather than attempting to resolve it.

Most Codes of Ethics include articles, or their equivalent, which serve as the guidelines by which individuals conduct themselves within a profession. Simply put, articles may include but not be limited to, the following: 1) dealing fairly with all, 2) conducting personal affairs in the interest of the public, 3) adhering to truth and accuracy, 4) eliminating any possibility of conflict of interest, 5) safeguarding the confidences of others, 6) engaging in practices which respect integrity, 7) refraining from use of false or misleading statements, 8) identifying sources on behalf of which statements are made, 9) avoiding use of others to make a case serving an undisclosed interests, 10) refraining from acts which could intentionally injure the reputation of another, and 11) avoiding promised results beyond the realm of possible delivery. - The Editor (SOURCE: Haberman, David A. and Harry A. Dolphin, "Public Relations - The Necessary Art", Iowa State University Press, 1988.)

## TREES/Environmental Conditioners

Trees add character to neighborhoods and soften the landscape of concrete and glass. They also provide privacy, create a feeling of serenity, and add oxygen to the air.

Credit is given trees for reducing certain pollutants in the air, lowering energy bills, providing homes for fauna, slowing surface erosion, and providing esthetics required to reduce personal stress.

Poets have written about trees and song writers use them as their subject. Celebrities have loaned their names to tree-saving campaigns, but some species may yet become 'endangered species.'

A properly watered tree can produce a cooling effect in its lifetime equal to 10 room-sized air conditioners operating 20 hours a day. (SOURCE: Elizabeth Brown, Advertiser Staff Writer.)

## STATE OF ALABAMA

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

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