

# Stump Talk

by Charles E. Tomlinson

The January Board meeting was of great significance to me, since it was at this meeting that I presented my final report on the task assigned to me by the Board last fall. My job was to analyze the structure and operations of five regulatory boards in Alabama (Pharmacy, Healing Arts [Physicians], Engineers and Surveyors, Appraisers, and the Real Estate Commission) and five other boards of registration for foresters in other states (Maine, Georgia, South Carolina, Arkansas, and Mississippi). I was then to analyze the operations of the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters and to make recommendations for changes to their operations.

The job was a challenge, produced interesting data, and led to several recommendations to our Board. Since these reports are fairly voluminous, I will not attempt to summarize them here, but they have resulted in two items that will quickly affect all of us.

The Board determined that a system needs to be implemented to audit the licensees for compliance with continuing education requirements. Therefore, several of you will soon receive requests for additional information concerning your continuing education credits for last year. Please don't become paranoid, for your number was picked by the computer and no one is mad at you yet, just be sure to return the form quickly! Remember to keep documentation of CE credits for three years in case you get picked next time.

Much of the January Board meeting was spent in discussions of the financial aspects of the operation of the Board. Changes in state appropriations for the Alabama Forestry Commission and the necessity for the Board to remain completely autonomous have combined to present the Board with some knotty financial choices. A committee of the Board was appointed to examine in more detail the Board's options. The bad news is that all of the options seem to point to additional registration fees for us all.

The Board was recently gifted with a new computer and laser printer. The entire operation of the board is being programmed into this computer and soon will result in quicker responses, prettier letters, and an easier time for our over-worked office manager. Meanwhile, please bear with us while the transition takes place.

# The Registered FORESTER

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## Your Voice of Experience is Needed

by Past Chairman, J.R. (Bob) Lowe (492)



I appreciate the opportunity to have served on the State Board of Registration for Foresters during the past five years. Members serve a five year term with one person rotating off the board each year. New members are appointed by the Governor from a list of three foresters submitted by the Alabama Chapter of the SAF. Members come from all endeavors of forestry to include industry,

teaching, consulting, finance and public agencies. I gained a greater appreciation of how important it is to have individuals with different viewpoints resolving issues and making decisions that affect our profession.

This brings me to the point that I would like to address in this article. The Society of American Foresters is a major voice of forestry in the United States. The SAF is being called on more than ever to help resolve forestry issues and to participate in the formulation of policy. It is imperative that the Society have the diversity of membership necessary to speak for the profession as a whole. This can occur only if foresters from all disciplines of forestry actively participate in the Society.

There are 960 registered foresters in Alabama, yet the membership in the Alabama Chapter of SAF stands at only 600. I suspect that most of the 360 foresters who are not members of the Society work in industry or as consultants. Foresters have expressed to me that they feel the society does not adequately represent their viewpoint and therefore have discontinued membership. When this happens the Society loses valuable input and the former

See VOICE, page 2

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dave Holley . . . . .	2
Jim Spears . . . . .	3
January Board Meeting . . . . .	4
New Registrants . . . . .	5

## VOICE, from page 1

member foregoes the opportunity to influence forestry issues through the collective voice of the profession. On the national level the employment settings of SAF members are as follows:

College/University.....	7%
Federal/State/Local Government.....	28%
Private Industry.....	20%
Consultants/Other self employed.....	13%
Retired/Students/Others.....	32%
Total.....	100%

I don't know if the ratio of employment settings of SAF members is representative of all practicing foresters. But the leadership of the Society will ultimately reflect the consensus of the membership and if you are one of the 360 foresters in Alabama who are not members of the SAF I would like to encourage you to join. Some of the important reasons of supporting the SAF with your membership are listed below.

- The SAF plays an important role at the national level in helping to resolve forestry issues and in the formulation of policy. It must speak with a strong voice that is based on sound science and regional input.
- The SAF provides communication channels so that foresters can keep abreast of developments. These channels include meetings and publications to include the Journal of Forestry, The Southern Journal of Applied Forestry, The Forestry Source (new publication) and the Southeastern News.
- The South represents a very large percentage of the privately owned forests and the SAF should take a leading role in protecting the interests of private forestry. The influence of all foresters in the South is needed to assure that the SAF speaks from a position of strength.
- The SAF provides a forum for the expression of ideas. I encourage you to read the position statement on forest health and productivity published in the October issue of the Southeastern News. This statement provides an excellent perspective on the issue. Our voice from the SESAF can be even stronger with additional membership.
- Other issues before the Society include private property rights, ecosystem management and green certification. The practical resolution of these issues is important to each individual as well as the profession as a whole. Your perspective is needed to make sure that private forestry in the South is adequately represented.

In summary, the management of our natural resources is being debated at all levels of government. There are many forces that advocate greater regulation of the forest and therefore less freedom of the private landowner to manage his property. Poorly formed regulations could take away our ability to manage the forest according to good science, reduce the standard of living for society and adversely affect our ability to earn a livelihood as foresters. I encourage you to become an active member in the SAF and to lend your voice of experience to the decision making process.

## DAVE HOLLEY

*excerpted from an article by Wanda Holley*

Dave was born October 8, 1919, in a log cabin in Walker County. He started to school when he was five but spent most of his time in the woods. By the time he was in the tenth grade he knew he wanted to be a forester.

There were no forestry schools in Alabama at that time, so he decided to attend the University of Georgia. His first trip to Georgia, by train, convinced him that he was going to need some means of transportation. A car was definitely out of the question but he did have a bicycle back home, so he peddled from Pisgah, Alabama, through Atlanta and across Georgia to Athens to begin his college education. Studying took up most of his time, but he waited on tables and washed dishes to pay for his meals.

On the senior trip to Olustee National Forest in Lake City, Florida he met the attractive blond who later became his bride. They are still happily married after fifty years. They have four sons, four daughters-in-law and eleven grandchildren. James, the oldest, works with Boise Cascade Paper Mill in Jackson. He is also a Colonel in the Army Reserve. Edwin, the second son, is Soil Conservation Manager in Barber County. Wayne, the third boy, is with Conecuh Timber Co., in Frisco City. He also does consulting work. Keith, the fourth son, works with James River Paper Mill in Pennington. All of the children are in Alabama.

Dave's first job was with the Alabama Division of Forestry. World War II cut this job short and he entered the Air Force and served as gunnery instructor until released in 1945. After another stint with the Division of Forestry, he was granted a Fellowship from Union Camp Corp. to attend Duke University at Durham, N.C., where he received a Master's Degree.

He worked in the woods with Florida Pulp and Paper Co. for several years and then went with Branco Wood



Products of Brewton to buy and ship wood to St. Regis Paper Company. After several years this business was sold and he decided to get into consulting. After a tough three years working in the woods from sun up until sun down (his idea of a days work) he began to get established. Ultimately he helped put three sons through school at Auburn University without debt.

He was raised in the woods and still spends most of his time there. He is much in demand and going strong at the age of 76, but he does notice that the days are getting longer and the hills seem steeper. But things have always come to Dave through hard work and he continues, shining as a beacon to those who wonder what it takes to be a forester.



## Jim Spears appointed to A.F.C.

Governor Fob James recently appointed James D. Spears to a full term on the Alabama Forestry Commission.

A native of Arkansas, Jim was born in Greenbriar in 1932, educated in Conway, and was on Athletic Scholarship to Arkansas State Teachers College in 1950 when the Korean War interrupted his education. He served four years in the Navy Hospital Corp., two on the aircraft carrier USS Valley Forge. After service he entered Utah State University but transferred to Auburn University where he got his degree in Forest Management in 1958.

He started his work career with Dixie Timber Dealers in Cuthbert, Georgia, but soon moved to St. Regis Corporation where he progressed up the ranks from Land Management Forester to Regional Timberlands Manager for St. Regis at Cantonment Florida. After Champion International purchased St. Regis, Jim became Regional General Manager of Timberlands for Champion until his retirement in 1987.

Jim is a past member and Vice Chairman of this board, has served as President of the Alabama Forestry Association, been prominent in the activities of the Society of American Foresters, was named Outstanding Alumnus of the School of Forestry of Auburn University in 1992 and was inducted into the Alabama Foresters Hall of Fame in 1994.

The A.F.C. has another productive and valued member with the appointment of Jim Spears.

### STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS MEMBERS:

WILLIAM F. 'BILL' SAHLIE (98) CHAIRMAN  
*Public Information Committee*

ROBERT M. 'BOB' NONNEMACHER (97)  
VICE CHAIRMAN

*Examination Committee*

H. PHILLIP SASNETT (99) SECRETARY  
*Violation Committee*

RICHARD H. 'RICK' JONES (00)  
*Continuing Education Committee*

O.M. "MIKE" BEACH (01)

*Rules & Regulations,*

*Finance & Administration Committee*

STAFF:

PAMELA B. SEARS - OFFICE MANAGER

CHARLES E. TOMLINSON - EDITOR

GERRILYN V. 'GERRI' GRANT - ASST. ATTORNEY GENERAL

BELOW: Dave Holley (right) receives the Chairman's Award from the SESAF.



## January Board Meeting

The Board met in regular session on January 24, 1996. The meeting began at 8:10 a.m. and continued until 4 p.m.. The Chairman welcomed the newest appointed board member, O.M. (Mike) Beach to the board. Mike will serve a five year term until January 6, 2001.

The Board, with Legal Counsel Gerri Grant, reviewed 16 violation correspondences, and handled eight violation cases, closing six. The Board approved six applicants for examination, one intern application, and acted on one request for reinstatement. Six of those taking oral exams prior to this meeting were granted licenses.

Reports were made by standing and special committees and correspondence was reviewed.

Much of the meeting was spent in the presentation and discussion of Tomlinson's report to the Board on his recommendations for changes to the Board's operations. The following are the recommendations made in this report:

I

It is recommended that the Alabama Code be amended to exclude the word "forester" from its purview and to concentrate instead on the practice of forestry by those only who are licensed and designated as "Registered Forester" according to the 1975 Code of Alabama, Title 34-12. As a matter of personal preference, the Board might also consider changing the designation to P.F. or Professional Forester.

II

It is recommended that, until such time as these changes to the law can be made expeditiously, the Board refrain from actively pursuing those who use the term forester in a manner not allowed by present law.

III

It is recommended that the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters become completely autonomous and that it acquire office space, a staff that is employed only by the Board, and equipment and materials sufficient for its operations.

IV

It is recommended that the continuing education requirements be monitored as at the present, but that a percentage of these forms be selected each year for audit. Additional verification would be requested from those audited to prove compliance with the continuing education requirements. This audit procedure should be known to all registrants and they should retain proof of completion of continuing education requirements for a three year period.

V

It is recommended that the Board accept the computer and the program offered and that the office manager actively participate in the application of this program to the business of the Board.

After much lively discussion, the Board approved each of these recommendations.

## Beginner's Luck

*As you may know, I began editing the Registered Forester with the Fall issue in 1995. I struggled with the content, found the pictures, and hassled with the layout in order to impress all of the R.F.s of Alabama with my diligence. Admittedly, the newsletter was a little late when it was submitted to the State Printing Office just before Christmas, but I assumed that I would be forgiven, since this was my first time.*

*Operating with the amazing speed and agility of a typical governmental agency, the printing office had proofs by January 15th and had completed the printing by January 29th.*

*The finished product was turned over to Pam on the 29th; she affixed the mailing labels, and delivered newsletters to the State Mail Room on the 31st.*

*When we had not received our newsletter by February 7th, the search began. After many inquiries, we discovered that the newsletters had been misplaced by the Montgomery Post office - something about being put on top of a filing cabinet for aging. Then, for some unknown governmental purpose, they were recaptured and sent back to the State Mail Room. Somewhere in route they seem to have been lost again. As I write this for inclusion in the winter issue of the Registered Forester, it is February 26, 1996. We plan on sneaking this issue to a private printer and then testing the Post Office in a northern city of the state. If this doesn't work, we will begin talks with the Pony Express.*

# *NEW Registered Foresters*

License No. 1609  
Name: JAMES ROBERT SCHMIDT  
Title: Procurement Field Forester  
Business Name: Union Camp Corporation  
Address: 1800 Industrial Boulevard  
City: Opelika State: AL Zip: 36801  
Phone: 334/745-5514 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: 775 Rowland Road  
City: Bowdon State: GA Zip: 30108  
Phone: 334/258-9718 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Business  
Current Status: Active

License No. 1610  
Name: PAUL KEITH HODGES  
Title: Project Manager  
Business Name: GR Manufacturing Company  
Address: 4800 Commerce Drive  
City: Trussville State: AL Zip: 35173  
Phone: 205/655-8001 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: 443 Skyview Trail  
City: Trattord State: AL Zip: 35172  
Phone: 205/681-3002 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Home  
Current Status: Active

License No. 1611  
Name: DALE TULLIE THOMPSON  
Title: Senior Forester  
Business Name: Bowater Inc  
Address: P. O. Box 1008  
City: Jasper State: AL Zip: 35501  
Phone: 205/387-1214 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: 1004 So Walston Bridge Road  
City: Jasper State: AL Zip: 35501  
Phone: 205/387-8556 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Business  
Current Status: Active

License No. 1612  
Name: WAYNE KEEFE WEBB  
Title: Timber Buyer  
Business Name: Ziebach & Webb Timber Company  
Address: 2062 Highway 21 N  
City: Peterman State: AL Zip: 36471  
Phone: 334/564-2341 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: P. O. Box 8  
City: Camden State: AL Zip: 36726  
Phone: 334/682-9783 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Home  
Current Status: Active

License No. 1613  
Name: JEFF LANDON BEUTEL  
Title: Forester (procurement)  
Business Name: Bowater  
Address: P. O. Box 950  
City: Albertville State: AL Zip: 35950  
Phone: 205/878-8202 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: 3830 Friendship Road  
City: Arab State: AL Zip: 35016  
Phone: 205/586-0481 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Business  
Current Status: Active

License No. 1614  
Name: DANIEL NIX  
Title: Forester I  
Business Name: Alabama Forestry Commission  
Address: P. O. Box 768  
City: Columbiana State: AL Zip: 35051  
Phone: 205/669-4133 Fax: e mail:  
Home Address: 373 Mooney Road Apt. 1  
City: Columbiana State: AL Zip: 35051  
Phone: 205/669-2739 Fax: e mail:  
Primary Address: Business  
Current Status: Active

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**FORESTERS  
NOT RENEWING THEIR LICENSES FOR 1996**

JOHN M. ANDREWS	CURTIS N. HAMMOND
JAMES H. COLLINS	JOHN A. HIOTT
ROGER L. EUBANKS	RONALD G. MILLER
ARTHUR S. HAMMAN	FELIX PRATHER
MICHAEL A. MCCORVEY	DAVID W. BECKER
WILLIAM W. PEALE	DOUGLAS L. DOWDELL
MARCUS R. SCHUCHS, JR.	GEORGE E. GIBSON, SR.
CHARLES H. BARNES	DONALD L. HARPER
FOREST R. DAVIDSON	ROBERT C. KUCERA
JAMES E. FINDLEY	HENRY T. PARSONS

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