

STUMP TALK

by Charles E. Tomlinson

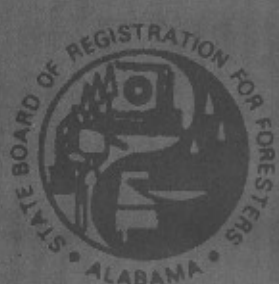
The October Board meeting was a watershed event, the first in the new Board Offices. It is interesting to reflect on all of the people and the actions that were responsible for these new quarters. As I am a stump sitter and not a scribe, I will not attempt to list those who made this new facility possible, but I am struck with the large numbers of foresters who have played a part and the spirit of cooperation that has existed since the concept was first proposed.

Sometimes we get caught up in the daily battles of our profession and forget that we share something as foresters that not many professions can duplicate. It is hard to put a finger on, but there seems to be a common starting place from which foresters develop into the widely divergent group that we are. Perhaps it is a love of the natural, a commitment to improving the planet, or just a desire not to spend our lives behind a desk, but whatever the common thread, it seems to give us a purpose in common that is missing from the professions of many of our brethren.

January will also mark a watershed event, the fortieth anniversary of the Board's formation. Plans are being made to hold an open house on Tuesday, January 27 from 5 P.M. to 7 P.M. to show off the new Board offices, so plan to drop by if you are in town. For those who cannot make it, please stop in on your next trip to Montgomery and visit Pam in her new location. You will be welcome!

The Registered FORESTER

Volume 27, #4 Fall, 1997



WELCOME TO YOUR NEW OFFICES



The New Alabama Forestry Commission Building

As you walk or drive down Madison Avenue in Montgomery these days, you will see a newly renovated building in wood and stone. A welcome change from the white concrete and marble that is so typical of our state capital buildings. On this building is the number 513 and little else to identify its purpose or its inhabitants. Stop and tarry, for this building houses the new offices of the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters. Oh, yes, in addition, the Alabama Forestry Commission also seems to be in this place. Theirs is the big part, but we like to think that ours is the prettier. Come in the door and into the large reception room manned by AFC personnel, but instead of walking all the way across this impressive room to be greeted by one of these warm people, break at the door to your immediate left and discover the sloping corridor that will take you to the office of our own Pam Sears and the headquarters of your Board of Registration.



Our Front Door

Continued

NEW OFFICES

continued from cover



Just glad to be here!

Come in and let Pam get you some coffee while you take a look at the beautiful cypress paneling that covers the walls of all of the rooms of the Board's quarters. She will show you the break room, the storage room, the reception room which is her office and the Board room where Board meetings take place and the oral exams are given. Please exclaim over the pictures on the walls, the furniture, and the equipment and let Pam tell you how grateful the Board is to the Alabama Forestry Commission, the Southeastern Society of American Foresters, Gulf States Paper Corporation, Alabama River Corporation and Harry Murphy for their contributions to the decor. Then let Pam tell you how grateful the Board is for your support during this transition phase in its forty year history.



Hall conversation



Board at work.



The new break room

So that's a Mac!

Editor's Note: Patrick Moore was co-founder of Greenpeace

GREEN BANS WON'T SAVE THE FORESTS

By Patrick Moore, as published in the Canberra Times, Australia, July 14, 1997

At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, and recently at the Earth Summit +5 in New York, climate change, biodiversity, and forests emerged as the top three items in the global environmental agenda. Governments have been able to hammer out agreements on the first two. The Climate Change Convention calls for a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and The Biodiversity Convention calls for the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity.

There was no agreement on forests, however, because there is too wide a gap among countries on what such an agreement should

contain. Some countries are concerned mainly with forest management issues while others are more concerned with conservation and protection. The environmental movement initially voiced strong support for a convention.

In the wake of the 1992 Earth Summit the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests was formed in order to pursue the idea of an international agreement on forests. The Panel held meetings in Geneva and New York between 1995 and 1997. It became clear that any international convention must address the subject of forest management as well as preservation. As proof of

their real agenda, nearly all the environmental groups reversed their position and came out against an agreement. Greenpeace referred to it as the "Chainsaw Convention", as if to say it would be fine to have an agreement as long as it banned cutting trees.

Partly as a result of this sudden about-face, the international community remains in complete confusion regarding global policy on forests and forestry. I believe this is because the environmental movements position is misleading, illogical, and most important, inconsistent with their more reasonable policies on climate

change and biodiversity. In fact, their forestry policy is diametrically opposed to their policies in these other areas and is therefore an anti-environmental policy.

The environmental movements opposition to forestry is squarely based on their contentions that it is the main cause of forest loss (deforestation) and of biodiversity loss (species extinction). They are wrong on the facts on both these charges.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, which is responsible for both agriculture and forests, defines deforestation as "The permanent removal of forest cover and conversion of the land to another use such as agriculture or human settlement". They estimate that 95% of deforestation is caused by clearing for farms and towns, not forestry. This only makes sense as the whole purpose of forestry is to grow trees, i.e. to keep the land forested. Forestry causes reforestation, the opposite of deforestation.

Both the World Wildlife Fund and Greenpeace have stated that logging is the main cause of species extinction. Yet they are unable to provide the Latin name of a single species that has gone extinct due to forestry. The truth is, species extinctions are generally caused by deforestation, hunting, and introduced species of predators and disease, not by forestry. Why do these groups accuse forestry of causing extinction? I don't know their precise motivation, but consider the question from another angle. If logging is not responsible for species extinction, what other good reason is their for opposing it, provided it is done sustainably?

Based on these two false allegations, the movement has adopted a policy that would see a major reduction in the use of forests as a supply of wood. They argue, unfortunately with apparent logic, that by drastically reducing the use of wood, the forest will be saved along with all the creatures that live there.

How could we reduce wood consumption? First, it is important to note that fully 50% of all wood used in the world is burned to supply energy for cooking and heating, mostly in developing countries where the people cannot afford fossil fuels. And that is probably good because if they could it would only add to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. The environmental movement is surprisingly quiet on this major use of forests even though unsustainable fuel wood gathering is a major cause of deforestation in the tropical countries.

The environmentalist agenda for wood-use

reduction is two-pronged. First, they want us to stop making paper from trees and to use "non-wood fibers" to make "tree-free paper". Some of the candidate crops are hemp, kenaf, cotton and wheat straw. This may sound good at first but there is a serious problem. Where will we grow all these exotic, annual, monoculture farm crops, enough to provide 300 million tonnes of paper per year? Unfortunately, we would have to grow them where we could be growing trees. It simply makes no sense for groups who say their main concern is the protection of biodiversity to advocate massive monocultures where there could be forests. It's not as if there is a huge surplus of extra land in the world. Therefore, the environmental movement's position on paper production is diametrically opposed to their position on biodiversity. Birds and squirrels prefer trees to hemp farms. The plain fact is, if you don't use wood to make paper, there is less reason to grow trees.

The second prong of their agenda is to reduce wood use as a building material and substitute it with so-called "environmentally appropriate alternatives." Just what are these alternatives? The only viable substitutes for wood as a building material are steel, cement, plastic, and bricks. All of these materials require a great deal more energy to make than wood. Why, because wood is renewable and is made mainly with solar energy in a factory called the forest. All these substitutes are non-renewable and have severe negative environmental impacts of their own. But most significantly, because they require more energy, they inevitably result in more carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel use and are therefore contributors to climate change. Again the so-called environmental position on wood use runs 180 degrees opposite the position that would support climate change policy.

All resource use has environmental impacts but wood is the most renewable material we use and forestry is the most sustainable of all the primary industries that supply us with our materials. It is time the environmental movement recognized the basic contradictions in their policy on forests and forestry.

There is a simple way to bring the environmental movement's policy on forests in line with their policies on biodiversity and climate change. The fundamental requirement is to take the focus off reducing wood use and to put it on increasing forest cover and wood produc-

tion. This means growing more trees, putting the millions of hectares of unused and inefficiently used farmland back to forests, and reversing deforestation in the tropics. It means using our international assistance budgets to help developing countries grow their fuelwood sustainably and in the end it means using more renewable wood and less non-renewable steel, cement, plastic and fossil fuels.

It makes no sense at all for environmentalists to be in favour of renewable energy such as solar and wind while at the same time being opposed to renewable materials that are produced by solar energy. This is the case whether the material is used for fuel, as in the case of ethanol made from sugar cane and wheat, or for fiber, as in the case of cotton, flax and wood chips, or for building materials such as wood timbers.

There is no doubt, that from the point of view of preserving biodiversity, trees are the best of all crops because forests provide more habitat than any other environment. There is also no doubt that when it comes to making a positive contribution to climate change, trees are the best, both because trees are the greatest absorbers of carbon dioxide and because using wood results in lower carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels.

Many environmentalists seem to forget that there are 5.9 billion humans on this earth who wake up every morning with real needs for food, energy and materials to maintain our civilization. Over the past 10,000 years we have helped satisfy those needs by gradually cleared away about 30% of the world's forests and replacing them with farms and pastures. This trend must now be partly reversed if we want to protect biodiversity and prevent climate change. It cannot be reversed by the idealistic notion that if we stop using wood the forests will be saved.

What thinking people will eventually come to realize is that the present policy of most of the environmental movement on forests is, in fact, an anti-environmental policy. The movement is entrenched in their position, partly because they are very shallow in forest science, and partly because it has proven so effective as a fund-raiser. A major effort is needed to give the public and our political leaders a more logical, internally consistent, science based perspective on the issue of forests.

pmoore@rogers.wave.ca

NEW Registered Foresters

Cooper, John Michael 1682Vice President

Cooper Forest Management Service
Business: 220 Deer Trace
Prattville, AL 36067
Phone: 334/365-2263
Home: 804 Cobbleston Curve
Prattville, AL 36067
Phone: 334/358-6292

Donaldson, David Wayne 1680Area Forester/Forest Technician

Gulf States Paper
Business: Route 2 Box 106
Gordo, AL 35466
Phone: 205/373-8515
Home: Route 4 Box 2A
Gordo, AL 35466
Phone: 205/364-6107

Dorrance, Ritchard L. 1677Forestry Instructor

Ala Southern Community Clge
Business: P. O. Box 2000
Monroeville, AL 36464
Phone: 334/575-3156
Home: 328 Westbrook Drive
Monroeville, AL 36460
Phone: 334/743-2971

Dozier, Eddie Lee 1687President

ProForest inc.
Business: 448 County Road 80
Fayette, AL 35555
Phone: 205/932-9502
Home: 448 County Road 80
Fayette, AL 35555
Phone: 205/932-5599

Drain, David Lee Jr 1689Contract Forester

Business: self employed
26191 Veterans Mem Parkway
Camp Hill, AL 36850
Phone: 334/704-8286
Home: 26191 Veterans Mem Parkway
Camp Hill, AL 36850
Phone: 205/896-2195

Dyer, Bradley Joel 1678Area Forester

Union Camp Corporation
Business: 200 Jensen Road
Prattville, AL 36066
Phone: 334/361-5807
Home: 811 Sweet Ridge Road
Prattville, AL 36067
Phone: 334/365-7405

Frazier, Brian C. 1691Land Management & Procurement

Branco Inc.
Business: P. O. Box 676
Brewton, AL 36426
Phone: 334/867-7100
Home: 1103 23rd Street N. #E 5
Pell City, AL 35125

Fuller, Gregory Blair 1681Forester

Coosa Forestry Services Inc.
Business: 400 W 5th Street
Rome, GA 30165-2821
Phone: 706/232-6564
Home: 12 Cordele Drive Apt. B
Rome, GA 30165
Phone: 706/235-6351

Giles, Daisy Brigetta 1690Forester

Alabama Forestry Commission
Business: 221 County Road 423
Clanton, AL 35045
Phone: 205/755-3042
Home: 17394 County Road 16
Plantersville, AL 36758
Phone: 334/366-5276

Holley, Jeffrey James 1686Timber Buyer

Sumter Timber Company
Business: 25000 Alabama Highway 28
Demopolis, AL 36732
Phone: 334/289-3100
Home: 1710 Hackberry Lane
Demopolis, AL 36732
Phone: 334/289-3551

Howell, Richard Luther Jr. 1693Forest Technician

Timber Managers Company
Business: P. O. Box 48999
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
Phone: 205/556-5588
Home: 402 Timber Line West
Bessemer, AL 35023
Phone: 205/423-3140

Jones, John Bryon 1676Timber Buyer

Gulf Lumber Company
Business: P. O. Box 1663
Mobil, AL 36633
Phone: 334/457-6872
Home: P. O. Box 282
Foley, AL 36536
Phone: 334/575-7463

Knight, Benjamin Harris Jr. 1694Wood Procurement Specialist

Kimberly Clark Corporation
Business: 12916 Highway 280
Jackson's Gap, AL 36861
Phone: 205/825-7168
Home: 267 Black Street
Dadeville, AL 36853
Phone: 205/825-1832

Kuhn, James Franklin III 1688Inventory & Planning Forester

Resource Management Service
Business: P.O. BOX 380757
Birmingham, AL 35238
Phone: 205/980-7354
Home: 2219 Avant Lane
Hoover, AL 35226
Phone: 205/978-9678

McKee, Billy Gene 1675Area Manager - Wiregrass Area

Drennen Forestry Services
Business: P. O. Box 1029
Cullman, AL 35056
Phone: 205/739-8344
Home: 6438 Highway 52 W
Dothan, AL 36301
Phone: 334/793-7351

Moon, Joel Ford 1679Operations Forester

Champion International
Business: P. O. Box 1796
Cullman, AL 35056
Phone: 205/739-6041
Home: 1555 Pansy Street
Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: 205/737-5048

O'Rear, Clifford Mack 1685Contract Manager

Drennen Forestry Services
Business: P. O. Box 1029
Cullman, AL 35056
Phone: 205/739-8344
Home: 169 County Road 996
Cullman, AL 35057
Phone: 205/747-1690

Scott, Michael C. 1684Procurement Forester

Scotch Lumber Company
Business: P.O. Box 38
Fulton, AL 36446
Phone: 334/636-4424
Home: 27 Timberlane
Butler, AL 36904
Phone: 205/459-2454

VanZile, Charles Jason 1692Assistant Forester

Soterra, Inc.
Business: 26411 County Road #49
Muscadine, AL 36269
Phone: 205/463-7323
Home: 26411 County Road #49
Muscadine, AL 36269
Phone: 205/463-7323

Welsh, Kelvin Frederick 1683Field Forester

Piedmont Foresters
Business: P.O. Box 250
LaFayette, AL 36862
Phone: 334/864-9542
Home: 317-A Padgett's Road
Seale, AL 36875
Phone: 334/298-0769

CONGRATULATIONS!

JULY BOARD MEETING

The Board met in regular session on October 29, 1997. Chairman Sasnett called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m..

In summary, the Board reviewed 7 pieces of violation correspondence and acted on 6 violation cases. The Board approved 2 applications for Intern status, all recent graduates of Auburn University. The Board approved 9 new applications for license and granted 5 requests for reciprocity. The Board granted licenses to 6 applicants who had passed the oral exam and to 14 applicants who had passed the written exam.

The Board welcomed Ex-Board member Wilbur DeVall and applauded his desire to attend the first meeting in the Board's new quarters. Wilbur has been present at all of the previous meetings initiating a new Board facility.

Billings for Legal Counsel Services - a letter from the Attorney General outlining the charges to be made to all agencies for legal services was discussed.

Sunset Hearing - The November 4th meeting with the Legislative Sunset Committee was discussed.

40th Anniversary Committee - Sasnett has formed a committee to plan a celebration of the 40 years of the Board's existence. The committee consists of Bob Lowe, Harold Hill, Jim Spears, Rick Jones, Phillip Sasnett and Pam Sears. The first meeting was set for Sunday afternoon at the SAF annual meeting in Eufaula.

Forestry Law Study Committee - The Chairman dismissed this committee as their mission has been

accomplished. He expressed the Board's gratitude for their participation in this important study.

The Office Manager reported that information sheets will go out to Alabama Registered Foresters around the first week of December to confirm information to be used in compiling the **1998-99 Roster of Registered Foresters**.

The lease agreement between the Alabama Forestry Commission and the Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters was discussed. The lease will be for a period of ten years with the right of renewal.

Chairman Sasnett made the following committee assignments for the 1997-98 fiscal year:

Rules & Regulations	new member
Public Information	Phillip Sasnett
Examinations	Rick Jones
Finance and Administration	new member
Violations	Mike Beach
Continuing Education	Leonard Breeman
Forest Stewardship Education	Phillip Sasnett
40th Anniversary	Jones & Sasnett

The Oral examination panel was discussed. It was decided that the 1998 Examination panel will consist of five members and eight alternates. Jones will coordinate the expansion of these panels with the Office Manger.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Faces and Places

Edward H. Givhan, Jr (Inactive) was recently named the Outstanding Auburn Forestry Alumnus for 1997. Ed is the former President of Resource Mangement Service Inc., and a founding member of the Hancock Timber Resource Group, the world's leading manager of forest land investments for institutional investors

Catharine W. Heath (#1242) was recently promoted to management forester for Gulf State Paper Corp's Columbiana timber management district.

Eley C. Frazer III (#372) was named Distinguished Alumnus of the year for 1997 at the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation's Flatwoods Fiesta. Eley is best known for his role in establishing F&W Forestry Services, a consulting firm for which he is CEO and Chairman of the Board.

**STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR
FORESTERS MEMBERS:**

H. PHILLIP SASNETT (99) CHAIRMAN
Public Information Committee

RICHARD H. "RICK" JONES (00) VICE CHAIRMAN
Examination Committee

O.M. "MIKE" BEACH (01) SECRETARY
Violation Committee

WILLIAM ALAN "BILL" WHITING (98)
Continuing Education Committee

LEONARD G. BREEMAN (02)
Rules & Regulations Committee

STAFF:

PAMELA B. SEARS
Office Manager

CHARLES E. TOMLINSON
Editor

GERRILYN V. "GERRI" GRANT
Asst. Attorney General

**NEW BOARD PHONE
NUMBERS**

Office:

(334)353-3640

FAX:

(334)353-3641

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

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 069
FLORENCE, AL