

The Registered FORESTER



Volume 28, #4
Fall, 1998

Stump Talk

by Charles E. Tomlinson

I am watching a squirrel at work. He leaps up on the railing at the end of the drive, then jumps to and runs across the railing on the porch of my office. He stops when he sees me, checks out the bird feeder, which he considers a squirrel feeder, looks with disdain at me for not filling it up, then climbs the 2 year old Paulownia next to my deck, jumps to the roof of my office and disappears. In just a few minutes he is back with his mouth full of acorns. He retraces his route until he comes to the TV antenna tower which he climbs to its closest proximity to a large dogwood where he leaves my man-made highway and returns to the forest canopy. He does this all day long.

I wonder why. Does he feel good about himself when the sun goes down on another day of purposeful activity? Or is there some pleasure center in his brain that gets stroked after each trip? I conclude that his activity must just be "the nature of the beast".

The political scene inside the beltway also seems to reflect "the nature of the beast", of another species. I don't have a problem with that and I don't really care where "Slick" puts his "Willie", but I seem to remember that perjury violates some

Continued



MY FINAL SAY

by Phillip Sasnett, retiring
Board Chairman

As I conclude my term of office, I am confident that your board has continued to improve its service to the citizens of Alabama. I am also distinctly aware that a continuous process of change and renewal must go forward at a quickening pace to maintain our standard of service to our citizens and the foresters who serve them. With Rick Jones, Mike Beach, and Leonard Breeman at the helm, we are in good hands.

It seems like only yesterday (April, 1994) that I first sat down with mentors like board members Jim Spears, Bob Lowe, Bill Sahlie, and Bob Nonnechmacher. It's impossible to forget the thorough orientation personally provided by Wilbur Devall, then editor of the newsletter and advisor to the board. An original board member in 1958, Wilbur proved to be a valuable resource, having provided uninterrupted service as a board member and, subsequently, as an advisor until 1996. Then Charles Tomlinson, a former Board member, agreed to fill those shoes. Everyone who reads his newsletter realizes the special talents Charles brings in communications and in so many other ways.

Pam Sears completed her twenty-third year of service to the board and her first year as the board's full time employee. I cannot imagine operating without Pam. Her experience and knowledge of the board's operations reflects her commitment and dedication to meeting the board's purpose of service to our citizens and forestry alike. With a real sense of pride and family, Pam always refers to each of you -and to us collectively as "her foresters". Sometimes she has to deliver news we'd rather not hear like "your CFE is late" or "you'll need to take another shot at passing the exam". But, she is always sensitive to your plight and finds a way to do her best. Make it a point to stop and visit Pam on your next trip to Montgomery. She will proudly show off our new office and Board Room at 513 Madison Ave.

As I reflect back over the last five years, the board's routine annual business consisted of: receiving applications for interns, registration and reciprocity; reviewing qualifications and giving oral or written examinations to 50-75 foresters; processing 10-30 reports of violation; publishing a quarterly newsletter and a biannual roster; etc.

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REORGANIZATION OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY

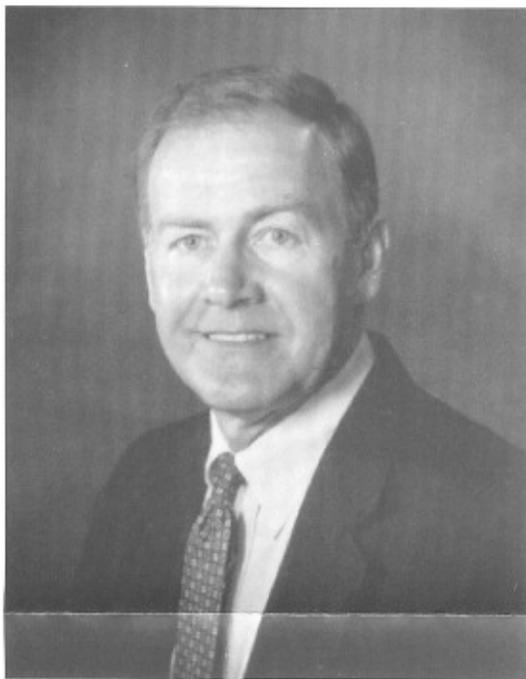
By: Richard W. Brinker, Dean, School of Forestry

The School of Forestry at Auburn passed a milestone last year as it reached 50 years since its establishment. The first class of 14 seniors graduated in 1948, and will return to campus during homecoming on October 24th. They saw many changes, but also many similarities. We have evolved from a discipline within the Department of Horticulture to a separate department within the School

(later College) of Agriculture in 1948 to an autonomous School in 1984. We have continually changed during this time. Many students have received a strong forestry education, many faculty members have spent careers as molders of minds, and the curriculum has evolved as the needs of the profession have changed. The School of Forestry has improved with each passing decade. I assumed the role of Dean of the School of Forestry this past April 1, but as many of you know, have been on the School of Forestry faculty for the previous 10 years. I look forward to the many challenges that await us as we move into the next millennium. It is exciting to work with the students, faculty, and staff of the University and with forest landowners, loggers, professional foresters and managers within the forest products industry who want to be a part of our efforts to make the School of Forestry

the premier forestry program in the country.

There are numerous issues currently facing us as we look towards becoming the leading program in the country. Two of these are going to impact our program in the very near future, and I would like to update you on these opportunities.



We have been discussing the need for a new state-of-the-art facility for the School. We developed a

conceptual plan four years ago, and estimated that the cost of the 100,000 sq. ft. facility would approximate \$15 million. At that time we received an offer of \$7.5 million towards the project if the University would provide a 50% matching contribution to build our building. Based primarily on debt load resulting from the campus building boom of the 80's, the Auburn University Board of Trustees were unwilling to assume any additional debt for the University to build new buildings and did not match the offer. The offer was withdrawn after several months. We have been working to develop support from both state and federal sources, and are seeing some potential action from both sources.

We have, through the efforts of the Alabama Forestry Association and several agricultural commodity

groups, been able to get a \$52 million Agricultural bond issue passed by the Legislature. It will provide \$7 million for a new building to the School of Forestry. This bond issue was a referendum on the November ballot. As this was written prior to the election, I hope that you were able to vote "yes" on the Agricultural Bond Issue Referendum. The \$7 million resultant from this bond issue will provide approximately 40% of the necessary funds to construct a new forestry building.

Through the efforts of Senators Shelby and Sessions we are also hopeful that we can obtain federal funding assistance. They have included \$10 million in the federal budget to support construction of forestry research facilities at Auburn University. We are appreciative of the support of our state's delegation in Washington and are hopeful that these funds will remain in the budget.

These state and federal funds will cover about 75% of the projected cost of a new forestry facility, which we estimate will cost around \$20 million today.

The second issue facing us is the current efforts of the Board of Trustees to address the reorganization of Auburn University. Last April, the Board of Trustees appointed a ten person Commission to investigate the role of Auburn University in the 21st Century. This Commission is made up of five Trustee members, four Auburn faculty and administrators, and one Auburn University at Montgomery administrator. Their mission is to evaluate ways to reorganize the administration of the University and identify programs that can be reduced or eliminated. The savings from these efforts are to be used to support faculty salary enhancement to bring Auburn faculty salaries up to or near the regional average for university faculty. Currently Auburn University faculty salaries are at 86% of the regional average. The Trustees are hopeful that bringing faculty salaries to the regional average will stop the loss of some of our most highly qualified faculty at Auburn

to competing universities.

In this light, proposals have been requested by President William V. Muse to reorganize the University to enhance efficiency, productivity, educational enhancement, and reduce costs. Forestry is the smallest school on campus and, as such, is certainly subject to being viewed as a management unit that for increased efficiency could be incorporated into a larger college. I know that the School of Forestry has flourished since gaining School status in 1984. Our faculty members are highly productive in teaching, research, and extension activities. Any recommendation that would incorporate the School of Forestry as a non-autonomous department or school within a larger non-natural resources college could seriously impair our ability and goal to become the premier forestry program in the country.

More than one proposal suggested putting the School of Forestry back into the College of Agriculture. In my opinion, reverting to a 1960s era academic structure is not the answer to solving problems of the 21st Century. However, there are many positive opportunities that exist if forestry and other natural resource disciplines, such as Wildlife, Fisheries, and Forest Engineering, are combined into a single program. We have submitted a proposal to merge the Wildlife Sciences program into the School of Forestry. President Muse has concurred with this proposal and included a School of Forestry and Wildlife Resources in his recommendation for reorganization to the Trustee's Commission on September 19th. The Commission will make their final recommendation on November 18. I hope we know more about our future structure as you read this.

I look forward to the many opportunities that await the School of Forestry as we move into the next millennium. I certainly have a positive and progressive outlook to the future. We will continue the tradition of educating well-

prepared professional forestry graduates, and striving to make the School of Forestry at Auburn THE school to attend to get the best forestry education in the country.

My Final Say (continued)

In addition, your board has achieved several other major milestones, including:

- Adoption of a formal procedure for processing reported violations of the Forester's Law;
- Commissioning a study of its operations by Charles Tomlinson, from which the Board started several initiatives, including changes in the Law, providing permanent office space, increasing license fees, and employing a full time office manager.
- A much needed updating of the written examination question bank, thanks to the invaluable assistance of Dean Bengston, the Auburn Faculty and the persistence of Bill Sahlie.
- Initiating an annual audit of CFE;
- Moving into the board's new office and board Room in the fall of 1997, with support from State Forester Tim Boyce, the board and several private benefactors;
- Holding a reception at its new facility followed by a dinner attended by over forty guests to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the first board meeting (January, 1958). At the dinner, Harry Murphy presented the board an impressive "Historical Perspective" which featured a detailed summary and a wonderful collection of exhibits highlighting the development and chronology of the board and the foresters and supporters who made it a reality;
- Through a combination of a year long study of our law by current and past board members; a six month Sunset Committee review of the board's operations; the board's appearance before the Sunset Committee in the fall of 1997; the board received a favorable recommendation from the Sunset Committee including all recommended law changes which the Alabama leg-

islature approved and the Governor signed into law in March, 1998.

As board chairman, I have certainly gained a greater insight into our law. To even a greater degree, I am in awe of the wisdom of those Alabama Division SAF members who worked hard from 1950 thru 1957 to gain its enactment. With only minimal changes it still serves forestry in Alabama well today. Our law is and has been a model law for other states seeking to adopt licensing of foresters. Additionally, by meeting and talking with many of you from around the state, I have gained a better appreciation of our diversity. We, as Registered Foresters, are as diverse as the forest resources we manage, renew, and utilize. This diversity can be our strength. We must focus our efforts on educating landowners and the general public that sound science, when applied to real life situations, benefits society and equates to good stewardship of the land and timber resource. I encourage — and, in fact, challenge — you as the professional forestry resource of Alabama to step up your involvement, visibility and communications with your board of registration, your SAF chapter and in any public forum. Remember, you *are* the voice of forestry.

Stump Talk (continued)

principle that our species has adopted to help us in our dealings with one another.

As Registered Foresters, we have a code of ethics by which we wish to be judged by others. We call it Rules of Professional Conduct and each of us has signed a sworn affidavit affirming our commitment to its principles.

If Bill were a Forester, I suspect that the Board would revoke his license to practice.



NEW REGISTERED FORESTERS

Stewart, Francis M. III #1722

Principal
Washington Resource
Business: 707 S. Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-549-0347
Home: 707 S. Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-549-0347

Brinson, Dorothy Mabel Blaser #1724

Home: 908 Greenbriar Terrace
Monroeville, AL 36460
Phone: 334-743-2091

Walthousen, Thomas David #1729

Forester
International Paper Company
Business: P.O. Box 159
Bay Minette, AL 36507
Phone: 334-937-2691
Home: 218 Maplewood Loop
Daphne, AL 36526
Phone: 334-621-1870

Tucker, John Sterling #1739

Lands Manager
Dudley Lumber Company
Business: P.O. Box 7
Salem, AL 36874
Phone: 334-745-4695
Home: 2003 Baton Court
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 334-742-0199

Powell, Michael Douglas #1732

Land Management Forester
Alabama River Woodlands
Business: P.O. Box 99
Perdue Hill, AL 36470
Phone: 334-743-8607
Home: P.O. Box 749
Excel, AL 36439
Phone: 334-765-3023

VanHoveln, Scott Joseph #1731

Forestry Intern
Forestry Consultants, Inc.
Business: P.O. Box 684
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 334-745-7530
Home: 1108 Elliott Avenue, Apt. 1
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 334-705-8601

Stone, Darnel Edward #1727

Timber Buyer
Kimberly Clark Corporation
Business: 2202 Alliance Road
Quinton, AL 35130
Phone: 205-436-3331
Home: 2405 Stewart Road
Leeds, AL 35094
Phone:

Sheffield, Douglas Lamar #1723

Area Procurement Assistant
T.R. Miller Mill Company
Business: P.O. Box 708
Brewton, AL 36427
Phone: 334-867-4331
Home: 208 Halsey Street, Apt. 3
Brewton, AL 36426
Phone: 334-867-2421

Milburn, Daniel Wayne #1737

Forestry Technician
NRMB
Business:
GA, 36871
Phone: 706-544-6206
Home: 325 Gateway Road
Pittsview, AL 36871
Phone: 334-855-9619

Long, Michael Jason #1740

Procurement Technician
Mead Coated Board
Business: 2564 Lee Road 151
Opelika, AL 36801
Phone: 334-745-5666
Home: 20 Brown Road
Phenix City, AL 36869
Phone: 334-297-0985

Townsend, Colin Withers #1725

District Operations Manager
Champion International
Business: P.O. Box 365
Citronelle, AL 36572
Phone: 334-866-8008
Home: P.O. Box 242
Jasper, TX 75951-0242
Phone:

Merrill, Anthony Scott #1733

Timber Buyer
Robinson Land & Timber, Inc.
Business: 31090 Highway 431
Five Points, AL 36855
Phone: 334-864-2233
Home: 404 Peachtree Street, Apt. 500
Roanoke, AL 36274
Phone: 334-863-5951

Woodall, Scott DeWayne #1734

Procurement Forester
Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods
Business: 430 Cumberland Boulevard
Huntland, TN 37345
Phone: 931-469-7272
Home: 915 County Road 144
Scottsboro, AL 35768
Phone: 256-587-9092

Sikes, Russell Land #1730

Field Technician
Dixon Family Partnership
Business: P.O. Box 908
Andalusia, AL 36420
Phone: 334-222-1168
Home: 202 Third Avenue
Andalusia, AL 36420
Phone: 334-222-5128

Russell, Richard Bradley #1735

Procurement Forester
Canal Wood Corporation
Business: P.O. Box 128
Greenville, AL 36037
Phone: 334-606-8199
Home: 7069 Buckingham Oak Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
Phone: 334-277-7666

Cobb, Jimmie O. #1728

Market Manager
Monsanto
Business: 664 Longwood Circle
Auburn, AL 36830
Phone: 334-887-2803
Home: 664 Longwood Circle
Auburn, AL 36830
Phone: 334-887-2803

Kleto, Pete Tom #1726

President
Forest Soils Consultant
Business: 144 E. Broad Street
Eufaula, AL 36027
Phone: 334-687-9305
Home: 142 Chewala Circle
Eufaula, AL 36027
Phone: 334-687-5545

Lowe, Robert Keith #1738

Procurement Forester
Mid State Wood
Business: P.O. Box 984
Wetumpka, AL 36092
Phone: 334-569-1991
Home: 2221 W. Gantts Mill Road
Talladega, AL 36078
Phone: 334-283-2718

Dukes, Charles Christopher #1736

County Forester
Alabama Forestry Commission
Business: P.O. Box 61
Ozark, AL 36361
Phone: 334-774-8112
Home: 102 Mill Pond Drive
Dothan, AL 36305
Phone: 334-792-8850

CONGRATULATIONS!

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

The Board met in regular session on October 28, 1998. Chairman Sasnett called the meeting to order at 8:08 A.M. After opening comments by Sasnett, the gavel was passed to the incoming Chairman, Leonard Breeman.

In summary, the Board reviewed 2 pieces of violation correspondence. The Board approved 8 applications for Intern status, 6 recent graduates of Auburn University and 2 graduates from Mississippi State University. The Board approved 8 new applications for license, and granted 1 request for reciprocity. The Board granted licenses to 6 applicants who passed the oral exams (out of 10 who had taken the exams) and to 11 applicants who had taken the written exam (out of 12 who had taken the exam). The Board granted reinstatement to 1 applicant.

After committee reports, the discussion of recent correspondence, and the Annual Report from the Office Manager, the meeting adjourned at 1:36 P.M.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Please copy, note changes, and **fax** (334-353-3641)

or **mail** (513 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36130-2551) to Board Office. **THANKS**

NAME: _____ Title _____ Company _____

Business Address _____

Business Phone _____ Fax _____ email _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Fax _____ email _____



Tim Gothard (#1606) recently left the Alabama Forestry Commission to become the new Executive Director of the Alabama Wildlife Federation.

Board Member Mike Beach (#1307) has accepted the position of State SFI coordinator for the Alabama Forestry Association.

Applications are now being accepted for projects to be funded by the Forestry License Tag fund. The fund now has almost \$400,000 available for forestry education in Alabama.

STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS MEMBERS:

LEONARD G. BREEMAN (02) CHAIRMAN

Public Information Committee

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

Examination Committee

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

Violation Committee

PHILLIP SASNETT (99)

STAFF:

PAMELA B. SEARS - Office Manager

CHARLES E. TOMLINSON - Editor

GERRILYN V. "GERRI" GRANT - Asst. Attorney General

KILLER TICKS

Although summer is gone and the first killing frost should put the ticks to bed, those of us who work in the woods should take note of a problem that seems to be increasing in severity in our area.

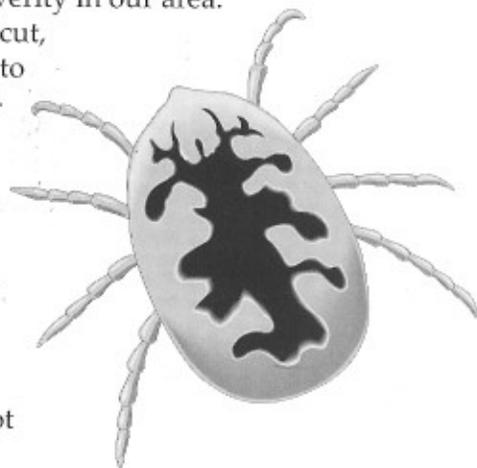
Lyme disease is named for the village of Old Lyme, in Connecticut, where it was first described in 1975. Originally the disease was confined to the northeast, but it has now spread throughout the country and you probably know or have heard of someone who has contracted it near you in Alabama.

Apparently the disease is carried by what we call "seed ticks", those tiny little deer ticks that are so hard to see and are so plentiful here in Alabama. It is now even more important to check yourself carefully for these little rascals and to use repellent before entering the woods.

Become aware of the symptoms:

- a red dot at the site of the bite
- a large ringlike and reddish rash that expands from the dot
- fever
- headache
- stiff joints
- chronic fatigue
- flu symptoms

Only a blood test can confirm infection, so check it out if you think that you might be infected. This disease can be serious, painful, debilitating, and deadly if left untreated. The sooner it is treated, the more likely is recovery.



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

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