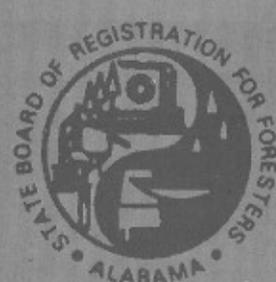


The Registered FORESTER



Volume 28, #3 Summer, 1998

STUMP TALK

by Charles E. Tomlinson

It is really amazing how, just when things look like they are going well, Murphy's law steps in and tries to put everything wrong again.

The way I hear it, the Cattleman's Association decided that the best way to modernize the School of Agriculture at Auburn was to demote the School of Forestry to the status of a Department under the School of Agriculture. Back to 1984!

It is really difficult to understand how this could even be considered by the Administration at Auburn, but politics seems to get into every sphere of our lives and I suppose this is no exception. It is astonishing, however, that Auburn's Forestry School, representing the largest industry in the state and one of the best Schools of Forestry in the nation, should be subject to such nonsense.

We have made Alabama's forest resource the base for the future prosperity of our state and for our efforts we are under siege from those who think we didn't do it "pretty" enough, so it is disappointing to have to defend our professional educational institution from those who should be supportive.

The reasons for keeping the School of Forestry as a separate school of Auburn University are numerous and obvious, so I will not repeat them, but I suggest that any of you who have any clout with Auburn University get busy and let them know what you think of this ill-advised, destructive, and blatantly political power grab.

Bill Whiting Leaves

Many of you already know that I have accepted a job as System Forest Manager for the University of Arkansas. The University owns everything from Delta bottoms to Ozark Mountain highlands and I'm really enjoying the challenge. Consequently, I've had to resign my position on the Alabama Board of Registrations for Foresters. For the past eighteen years I've been a forester in Alabama. I'll miss that.

I've had the privilege to be associated with a lot of good people. Each different, but each a jewel - some in the rough, some polished. The names of Harry Murphy, Bob Lee, Bill Sahlie, Tom Glass, Gordon White, and Bob Mitchell come to mind, but there were many others. These were Alabama Registered Foresters, and each had an impact on me. I'll try to take those lessons with me. The nice part is that they had an impact on young people besides myself. You can see it in the quality of forestry in Alabama. A legacy, if you will, a professional dedication passed along.

The Board of Registration is part of that legacy. For the protection of the public and to assure the people of Alabama access to competent forestry skills. That's what the law says and that's what the Board does. The testing, continuing education requirements, and keeping track of who is (and sometimes who is not) a registered forester are all done with the protection of the public in mind. And, I think, done very well.

The Alabama Forestry Association is also part of the legacy. The plaque on my wall says "The Voice of Forestry in Alabama". Made up of landowners, loggers, foresters, and others who derive their livelihood in part from the forests, that diversity ensures that the voice of forestry in Alabama is strong by consensus. They also keep an eye on Goat Hill because, in a State where most of the land is covered by forests, the rules governing that land are not made by people that depend directly on those forests.

A third portion of that legacy is the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters. The purpose of the SAF is to advance the art and science of forestry, to increase the knowledge. The continuing debate of its members serves to disseminate the body of forestry knowledge.

If you want something to stand upright, elevated, it must have at least



Continued

EMMETT IS SMILING!

It may be my imagination, but I think that Emmett Thompson is smiling more! I would not go so far as to say that he was jovial all of the time, but the smile is much more accessible than in the past. Although I think we all know the reason for this increase in facial activity, I thought I would ask him a bit about his youth and his career in hopes that I too could learn to smile like Emmett.



Born and raised in El Reno, Oklahoma, he got his first degree in forestry from Oklahoma State University. Having noticed that Oklahoma was not the center of forestry activity in this country, he went to North Carolina State University for his Masters in Forestry, but was then seduced by big trees and a financial package to Oregon State University where he received his PHD in Forest Economics and met and married Vi in 1961.

When Emmett received a job offer from Virginia Tech, he promised Vi that they would move to the southeast for 5 years and then return to the west coast. He now says that math never was his strong suit, since he spent almost 12 years on the faculty of Virginia Tech and then moved to Mississippi State as the head of the Forestry Department for three years before he moved to Auburn in January of 1977 as Head of the Department of Forestry. In 1984 the department became a school and he became its first Dean. Dean Thompson remained at Auburn until his retirement in the spring of 1998.

Emmett and Vi have three children;

Juli, who is married and lives in St. Paul, Minnesota, is a graduate of a Lutheran seminary and has recently completed her class work for her Doctorate at the University of Virginia; Chuck, who lives in Birmingham, is married and will soon provide the first grandchild; and Meri who just graduated from Auburn and has accepted a job with Rich's in Birmingham in the fall (after she finishes her tour of Europe).

When Emmett reminisces about his time at Auburn, he focuses on being able to play a part in getting the School of Forestry established and in the creation of the Dixon Center, which he considers to be a unique asset. He also reflects on the changes in curriculum that came about under his watch: the establishment, with the Ag Engineering Department, of a Forest Engineering program, a Masters of Forestry Program to provide professional forestry education for those without undergraduate forestry degrees, the requirement that prospective forestry students must complete two years of general studies and then apply to the School of Forestry (which limits numbers and requires

a level of academic excellence) for admittance to the professional level of education. Emmett also thinks the integration of Teaching, Research, and Extension faculties in the School of Forestry has been a great help in keeping the school active in and connected to the real world. Every faculty member at the School of Forestry is involved in more than one of these three areas.

When Emmett thinks about the challenges facing Dean Brinker and others in the years to come, he voices the opinion that Auburn, to be truly successful in the future, must attempt to acquire additional funding from private endowments, grants, and legacies. This infusion of private capital he views as the means to provide quality education for foresters in a world of declining governmental funding.

The smile creeps in when you ask Emmett about his future plans. He and Vi intend to continue to live in Auburn and Emmett will stay connected to the profession of Forestry through active participation in the various organizations to which he belongs. But, he says, his tree farm in Chambers County needs lots of attention. In particular, a certain pond on the farm inhabited by a finny life form needs intense and frequent examination. Emmett and Vi plan to travel as the mood strikes, maybe chase a few pheasants in South Dakota, Vi's home state, and generally live a smiling life.

We all wish them well.

We all know who she is, most of us have seen her at least once, we have talked to her on the phone, and she pesters us all the time to get our money and CFI information in on time. She is, of course, the mother hen of Registered Foresters, the task master of the Board, the professional sales force for Foresters, and one of the nicest people in the city of Montgomery, Pamela B. Sears.

A product of Montgomery where she was born on December 4, 1947, raised, educated at R. E. Lee High School and Massey-Draughon Business College and began her career at Interstate Life Insurance Co.

She married Lanny Sears in 1968 and they have two children: Robert E. Sears who is a graduate of the University of Alabama and now is the Manager for Olympia in Tuscaloosa, and Shea S. Gill who graduated from AUM, lives in Montgomery with her husband Paul (Manager for Pool Solutions), and has a new baby boy born in May of this year. Pam and Lanny were divorced in 1996, but both figure that this grandson is something special.

Pam began work with the Personnel Division of the State Health Department in January 1969 and worked until Shea was born. She spent a few months at home raising kids, and then accepted a position with the Alabama Forestry Commission in 1973. In



1975 she was assigned to look after the Board affairs and soon was totally occupied by Board business. This arrangement continued until she became an employee of the Board in 1997. She muses that Board Members, even though demanding, must be pretty good to work for since she is only the second office manager (after Mary Autrey) and she has been at it for over 23 years.

Paul Arbogast is the man in Pam's life. They are engaged and Paul is finishing up a career in the Air Force where he is presently NCO in charge of the tower at Maxwell Air Force Base.

When asked about her loves, Pam says that, after Paul, she loves fishing, working out, and Macintosh Computers. She is also very job oriented, since she requested several times during this interview that she be quoted in large black type as saying "GET YOUR RENEWALS IN - NOW"!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Roberson/Archer Act of 1994 requires that every person 12 years of age or older who operates a motorized vessel on the waters of our State, shall obtain a boater safety certification on or before **April 28, 1999**. To get certification you have to have been over 40 years old on April 28, 1994, or take an examination, or have completed an approved boater course. The certification will be incorporated with your driver's license and will be required for all motorized vessels, including ski-dos.

Whiting

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three strong legs. The forestry community in Alabama has that. I'm not ignoring the contributions of the Alabama Forestry Commission, Auburn University, or the many groups of landowners, consultants, and other interests that buttress the natural resources community. I'm talking about a foundation that all Alabama Registered Foresters can and should be a part of. Each of you can contribute in your own unique way, but DO contribute. Each of these groups are vehicles to a goal. You may not like the direction your vehicle is headed, but it's hard to steer the car if you are not in it.

We like to say that it is our intention to leave a place better than it was given to us. The people I mentioned above did that. It wasn't without a struggle, but they found a way to add to it. You have a great foundation. I have tried in a small way to add something. Now it's in your hands. I wish you the very best.

NEW Registered Foresters

Autrey, Russell Dean #1719

Forest Intern

I & M, Inc.
Business: P.O. Box 157
Greenville, AL 36037
Phone: 334/382-3210
Home: 241 Country Club Drive
Greenville, AL 36037
Phone: 334/382-6817

Carignan, Thomas E., Jr. #1720

District Manager

James M. Vardaman & Company
Business: 1266 Perry Hill Road
Montgomery, AL 36109
Phone: 334/271-1007
e mail: tc@zebra.net
Home: 214 Foxball Road
Pike Road, AL 36109
Phone: 334/270-9441
e mail: tc@zebra.net

McIntyre, Kersh Jr. #1717

Senior Resource Forester

Union Camp Corporation
Business: 19953 U.S. Highway 31
Thorsby, AL 35171
Phone: 205/646-3346
e mail: KERSHJR@aol.com
Home: 816 Cobblestone Curve
Prattville, AL 36067
Phone: 334/361-7041
e mail: KERSHJR@aol.com

Nelson, Roger Lynn #1721

Timber Buyer

James M. Vardaman & Co.
Business: P.O. Box 397
Beatrice, AL 36425
Phone: 334/789-2516
Home: Route 2, Box 1906
Thomasville, AL 36784
Phone: 334/636-0274

Norton, Joseph Sledge III #1716

Consulting Forester

self employed
Business: P.O. Box 160
Loxley, AL 36551
Phone: 334/454-9507
Home: 17106 Truce Trail #17
Loxley, AL 36551
Phone: 334/454-6264

Thurber, John Thomas #1715

self employed

Business: P.O. Box 22
Myrtlewood, AL 36763
Phone: 334/295-5082
Home: P.O. Box 22
Myrtlewood, AL 36763
Phone: 334/295-5082

Voss, Jason Bradley #1718

Forester

Union Camp Corporation
Business: P.O. Box 191
Chapman, AL 36015
Phone: 334/376-4190
Home: Route 2, Box 121B
Georgiana, AL 36033
Phone: 334/376-0027

CONGRATULATIONS!

1998 Schedule of Programs

Auburn University - School of Forestry Continuing Forestry Education

Course Title	Hrs	Location	Dates
Statistics for Forest Inventory	10	Tuscaloosa	September 14-15
Global Positioning Systems & Data Recorders	10	Tuscaloosa	September 16-17
Estate Planning for Forest Land	12	Nashville	September 17-18
Timberland as an Investment	7	Birmingham	September 17
Forestry for Non-forestry Professionals	-	Auburn	October 6-7
Forestry Herbicides	10	Auburn	November 10-11

For More Information:

Kathryn Besong or Chris Isaacson
PRECEDA Education & Training
P.O. Box 410
Auburn, AL 36831-0410
(334) 821-9222
e-mail: besong@preceda.com

JULY BOARD MEETING

The Board met in regular session on July 29, 1998. Chairman Sasnett called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m.

The Chairman announced that Bill Whiting, the most recent appointee to the Board, has accepted a position in the State of Arkansas and has resigned his position on the Board. The Board requested the Alabama Division, Society of American Foresters provide three names for a replacement nomination to the Governor along with the names for the nominee to replace Phillip Sasnett whose term expires in January, 1999.

In summary, the Board reviewed 3 pieces of violation correspondence and acted on 5 violation cases. The Board approved 5 applications for Intern status, all recent graduates of Auburn University. The Board approved 20 new applications for license, and granted 8 requests for reciprocity. The Board granted licenses to 5 applicants who passed the oral exams (out of 8 who had taken the exams) and granted reinstatement to 2 applicants.

Election of officers was held and the following were elected to serve for fiscal year 1999:

Chairman - Leonard G. Breeman
Vice Chairman - Richard H. Jones
Secretary - O.M. Beach

The present Chairman of the Alabama Division of SAF, Dr. Richard Brinker, joined the Board to discuss matters of joint interest. Qualifications for 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 (03)
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

members and the need for representation on the Board from all sectors of forestry were discussed. Examination schedules were reviewed, the Sunset Audit was discussed and all of the committee chairmen presented reports on items of mutual interest.

After committee reports, the Office Manager demonstrated the new Board Web Site. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Faces and Places

Sam R. Murphy (Inactive - #144), a well known businessman and forester from Jasper, Alabama recently passed away. He was the retired President of Murphy Furniture Manufacturing Co., a major manufacturer of Eastern Red Cedar furniture.

Harry L. Haney, Jr. (#424) was granted the Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension by the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources at Virginia Tech.

C. William McKee (#1134) has been named chief executive officer of the Molpus Woodlands Resource Management Group based in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

The annual meeting of the **Alabama Forestry Association** will be held at the Perdido Beach Resort Hotel at Orange Beach, Alabama on September 20-22, 1998.

The annual meeting of the **Southeastern Society of American Foresters** will be held on November 1-3, 1998 at the Boardwalk Hotel, Panama City, Florida.

Notification was just received that **Gordon White (Inactive - #673)** was killed in a tragic accident while camping somewhere in the upper mid-west.

BOARD INVADES CYBERSPACE!

Quick, get on the web and check this out! The Board has a web page with all sorts of goodies that can be viewed at:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~pbsears/index.html>

Pam would like your input concerning additions or changes to the site.

Pam also asks that foresters be reminded that only 10 hours of CFI credits can be carried forward and only for one year. She also asks that you be reminded that:

THE DEADLINE FOR RENEWAL IS SEPTEMBER 30, 1998

She does not wish to be known as a nag, but her life would be much easier and "her foresters" would save lots of money and anguish if they would just get it done.

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

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