



THE REGISTERED FORESTER

513 Madison Avenue • Montgomery, Alabama 36130
phone (334) 353-3640 • fax (334)-353-3641
email pbsears@earthlink.net

Spring, 2002

Governor Appoints Rhett Johnson to Board

In January Governor Siegelman filled a vacancy on the State Board of Registration for Foresters by appointing Rhett Johnson to fill the position previously held by Leonard Breeman. Rhett is the Director of the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center in Andalusia. Everyone who has graduated from Auburn's School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences in the past 20 years knows Rhett well. Rhett's knowledge of forestry, its practical application and his years of involvement in Alabama's forestry community will make him an important addition to the Board.

Rhett has been a Registered Forester for over twenty years, since 1981. He holds a B.S. in wildlife biology from North Carolina State University and a Masters of Science in forest management from Clemson.

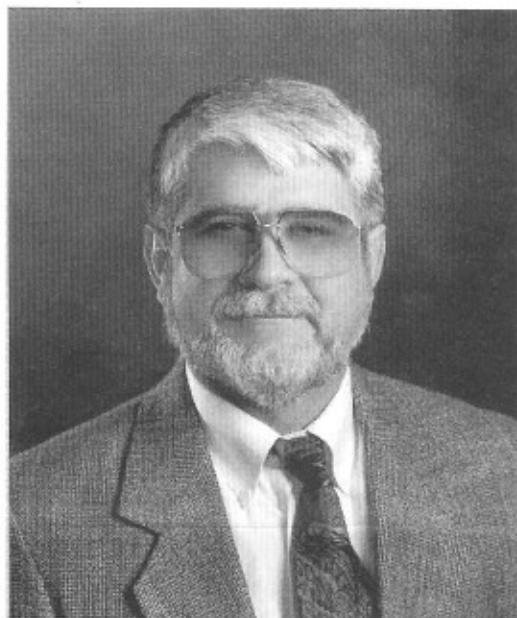
Rhett began his service to Auburn and the Dixon Center as construction on the facility began in 1979. He is responsible for managing the six thousand acres of forest land surrounding the Dixon Center as well as the facilities that serve the sixty forestry students each summer. His love for the Dixon Center is obvious to anyone who has either spent a summer at "camp" or even asked him a question about the Center.

During his tenure on the Board, Rhett looks forward to seeing the standards of professional foresters maintained to enhance the public's confidence in those who manage our forest land and to provide a benchmark for professional competence within the forestry profession. Rhett proudly tells us, "You don't have to be a Registered Forester to be a good forester, but you do have to be a good forester to be Registered!"

Rhett and his wife Kathy live "on campus" at the Dixon Center outside Andalusia where he can more closely oversee the activities at the Center. They have one son, Brian who with his wife Kim has a five month old son Jake.

Outside of forestry, Rhett spends his spare time

Please See Rhett, Page 6



Auburn's Forestry Building Becoming a Reality **Planning Has Begun!**

All Auburn University School of Forestry graduates should mark November 8, 2002 on their calendar! That is the date for the ceremonial groundbreaking for the School's new building. This is the Friday afternoon prior to the homecoming football game against the University of Louisiana-Monroe. Major benefactors of the new building (there's still time to become one--call Angie Stephens at the University to find out how) will be on hand to help break ground.

The Auburn University Board of Trustees approved the building project last August and authorized the hiring of two architectural firms to begin the design process. Schematic and architectural drawings are being worked on now and will be ready for Board approval at their June meeting.

During the design process many additions to the

Please See Building, Page 6.

Board Highlights

Board of Registration for Foresters Holds April and January Meetings

The Board met on January 23 and April 24. Members present were Board Chairman, Emmett Thompson, Lehman Bass, Karen Boyd, and Kenneth Day. New Board member Rhett Johnson attended the April meeting. Also, Executive Secretary, Pam Sears and Legal Counsel Olivia Martin were present.

Four applications were approved for examination and certification in January and ten in April. One was approved for reinstatement and four Foresters were granted reciprocity from the State of Mississippi and one from Georgia. Six applicants passed the written exam in January and seven passed the April exam; all were approved for registration by the Board. Three applicants did not pass the exams.

Applications for Forestry Internships were reviewed and certified for Lawrence C. Ross, Darrell Densel and Rebecca C. Davis. They will be eligible to take the RF exam in 2004.

The Continuing Education Committee reported that a random audit was conducted on the continuing education credits turned in by Alabama Registered Foresters. All were reported to be in compliance with the requirements.

The Board discussed the legislation concerning the continuation of the Board of Registration for Foresters. Senate Bill 62 was passed by both houses and signed by Governor Siegelman. Representative Allen Layson, RF #660, (the only RF in the Alabama legislature) was instrumental in passing this bill with needed changes to enhance the operation of the Board. The Board thanked Allen by way of a letter from Chairman Thompson for helping to pass this bill.

The Board reviewed the fees to be charged for FY 2003 and recommended that the fees for 2003 remain the same as they were in 2002.



State Board of Registration for Foresters

Emmett Thompson

Chairman

Forest Stewardship Committee

Public Information Committee

Karen Boyd

Vice Chairman

Examination Committee

Rhett Johnson

Finance & Administration Committee

Rules & Regulations Committee

Lehman Bass

Violations Committee

Kenneth Day

Secretary

Continuing Education Committee

Staff

Executive Assistant - Pamela B. Sears

Editor - Rick Oates

Asst. Attorney General - Olivia Martin

Don't Forget!!!

You must renew your license by September 30, 2002. You must have your CFE hours by this time or you will be required to pay a late fee of \$50. If that fee is not paid by December 31, 2002 you must reapply for registration.

2003 Fees for Registered Foresters

Application Fees	\$ 50
Renewal Fees	
Active	\$ 75
Inactive	\$ 30
Late	\$ 50
Reinstatement	\$125
Reexamination	\$100
Lost License	\$ 10

Continuing Education Opportunities

Prescribed Burning for Experienced Burners Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	June 19-20	Auburn
Boundary Law, Easements and Right-of Ways Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	June 26-27	Tuscaloosa
Managing Forest Soils & Soil Productivity Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	July 17-18	Tuscaloosa
Timber Income Tax Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	July 23-24	Auburn
Conservation Easements Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	August 6-7	Tuscaloosa
Business Management Skills for Foresters Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	August 21-22	Auburn
Forestry Forum Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	September 12-13	Auburn
Thinning Southern Forests Contact: Preceda; (334) 514-3000	September 17-18	Auburn

If you have any educational courses you would like listed in the RF Newsletter, please contact Rick Oates or Pam Sears.

Change of Address Form

Please note any changes to your personal information as found in the Roster of Registered Foresters and fax, mail, or email them to the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters at: 513 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36130; (fax) 334-353-3641; pbsears@earthlink.net.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____ Email: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

New Registered Foresters

Terry W. Jacobs, #1873
LANDMAX, Inc.
14121 Preston Woods Drive
Northport, AL 35475
(205) 333-5879

William T. Browning #1874
Alabama Forestry Commission
6650 Old Hwy. 31 North
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-2552

John M. Mathis #1875
Southern Forestry Consultants
103 Dixie Drive
Enterprise, AL 36330
(334) 347-7973

James T. Lawler #1876
Lawler Timber Company
P.O. Box 131
Cameden, AL 36726
(334) 682-9859

Charles B. Smith #1877
MeadWestvaco
P.O. Box 366
Waverly Hill, GA 31831
(706) 582-2026

Angela J. Hall #1878
Molpus Timberlands
P.O. Box 39
Huxford, AL 36543
(251) 294-5424 ext. 6

Michael S. Ashe #1879
Jamie H. Ashe, Consultants
137 Poplar Drive
Bellamy, AL 36901
(205) 392-4435

Jason S. Reeves #1880
Resource Management Service
P.O. Box 1933
Andalusia, AL 36420
(334) 313-7515

David B. Helm #1881
International Paper
200 Jensen Road
Prattville, AL 36067
(334) 361-5804

Joshua Denney #1882
Gulf States Paper Corporation
3610 Skyland Blvd. East
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405
(205) 345-9457

Callie Shea Dixon #1883
MeadWestvaco
1611 County Road 85
Stevenson, AL 35772
(256) 437-4775

Mark Paul Sheils #1884
Larson & McGowin
254 North Jackson Street
Mobile, AL 36603
(251) 458-4581

Scott Douglas Helms #1885
MeadWestvaco
P.O. Box 508
Stevenson, AL 35882
(256) 437-4712

Adam McKay Howard #1886
International Forest Company
P.O. Box 490
Odenville, AL 35120
(205) 629-6461

RF John Sutton in Serious Condition

John Sutton, RF# 953, Pickens County Manager with the Alabama Forestry Commission, has been confined to the hospital since mid March and due to medical reasons had to retire effective May 1, 2002 with over 26 years of service. John has been diagnosed with brain cancer.

He and his family are facing excessive expenses due to chemotherapy treatments and general hospital care. He has shown considerable improvement within the last week and has been put in a private room recently at UAB Hospital, 619 South 19th Street, Birmingham 35249. At this time it is uncertain as to just how long he will be confined to the hospital.

For updates on John's conditions you may contact Wayne Strawbridge at 205/333-1590 or

you may send an email to Wayne at strawbridge@forestry.state.al.us for updates on John's condition.

Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible contribution to John Sutton and his family to help them meet expenses associated with his medical condition can do so by making a check payable to First Baptist Church, Reform and mailing it to the address below. Be sure to write "John C. Sutton III Benevolent Fund" in the For/Purpose section of your check.

First Baptist Church, Reform
Post Office Box 100
Reform, Alabama 35481
John Sutton Benevolent Fund

Forest Inventory Analysis shows good news for Alabama's forests:

Alabama's Forestland Increases by Over 1,000,000 Acres

According to the recently completed Forestry Inventory Analysis, Alabama's forestland has increased by over one million acres in the last decade. The survey, jointly conducted by the U.S. Forest Service and the Alabama Forestry Commission provides some good news for us to use to dispel much of the misinformation being put out by environmental groups.

Previously done by the Forest Service, approximately once every ten years this survey will now be done continually by the Alabama Forestry Commission. Twenty percent of the survey plots will be measured every year, giving a complete survey every five years. Below is a summary of some of the important information found in the report.

Timberland Area

- ♦ Timberland in Alabama has increased from 21.9 million acres to 22.9 million acres since 1990.
- ♦ Forests now cover 71% of Alabama's land mass.

Ownership of Timberland

- ♦ Some 78% of Alabama forests are owned by non-industrial private landowners, an increase

of 12% over the last decade.

- ♦ Timberland owned by industry dropped to 16% of the total.
- ♦ Local, state and federal government still owns about 6% of Alabama's forest land.

Forest Stands and Harvests

- ♦ Hardwood stands increased by 7%; up to 46% of the total timberland area.
- ♦ Pine stands increased 9%; to 35% of the total.
- ♦ Planted stands account for 24% of timberland, a 6% increase.
- ♦ Each year for the last decade, 200,000 more acres of trees are regenerated than were harvested.

Forest Wood Inventory

- ♦ Total live softwood volumes are up 12%; to 13.3 billion cubic feet.
- ♦ Hardwood volumes were up 20%; to 17.9 billion cubic feet.
- ♦ Trees dying from fire, insects and disease increased by 40%.

Reprinted from Alabama Forests Magazine, Spring, 2002

Forestry Tag Provides Funds to Educate Public

Do you have a forestry license plate on your vehicle yet? If not please consider purchasing one of these attractive tags for your company vehicle and/or your personal car. These tags provide funds to a variety of projects in the state aimed at teaching the public about the importance of forestry.

They also fund the Alabama Forests Forever Campaign.

Many of you have heard the recent series of Forests Forever radio advertisements on stations across the northern half of the state. Or, you surely heard the radio ads played during the Auburn and Alabama football games last fall. These ads did a great job telling the public about the im-

portance of forestry to Alabama.

Perhaps the most important part of the Forests Forever Program is the series of forestry educational software offered by the Forests Forever Foundation. Three CD-Roms, *Forest Friends*, for K-3rd grade, *Forests Forever* for 4th-8th grades and the soon to be released *Forest Fever* for high school students are

Please See Forestry Tag, Page 6



Rhett, continued from page 1

either quail hunting, or working with his bird dogs in the off season. Rumor has it he can also occasionally be seen fishing or turkey hunting during certain times of the year. Also, when he is not out in the woods, Rhett enjoys reading. His tastes in literature include all types of writing.

Rhett wants Alabama's Registered Foresters to know he is honored by the appointment to the Board and looks forward to serving with the quality people already there. He also looks forward to renewing his working relationship with retired Dean of the School of Forestry, Emmett Thompson, who is the current Chairman of the Board.

Building, continued from page 1

jected amount of money to be raised. This means that some of the proposed building projects will be put on hold as additions to be added later as money is raised. Currently the building is expected to cost approximately \$25.3 million. Only \$21.3 million has been raised to date.

Construction is scheduled to begin in July 2003 and expected to take eighteen months, allowing the faculty and students to be in the new building by February 2005.

Though this has been a lengthy and complex process, Dr. Dick Brinker, Dean of the School of Forestry & Wildlife Sciences wants everyone in Alabama's forestry community to know they are working hard to ensure that the new building is efficient and effective. He assures us it will serve the instruction needs of the students, the research needs of the faculty and the extension education needs of the landowners and public for many years to come. Dick appreciates the support of everyone in forestry as this much needed building becomes a reality.

Forestry Tag, Continued from page 5

ing distributed to educators across the state to teach the importance of managing our forests to provide the maximum benefits possible.

If you know a teacher who would benefit from some forestry education, contact Chris Erwin at the Alabama Forestry Association office to learn how to get this software in your local schools.

Also, if you are interested in receiving a grant from the Forests Forever Foundation to conduct your own forestry educational activities, call Chris for a grant application, or go to www.forestsforever.org. Grants of up to \$15,000 are available. The deadline for submitting an application is June 15, 2002.

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

PRESORTED STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 275
MONTGOMERY, AL

**PAMELA BROWN SEARS EXEC ASST
STATE BOARD OF REG FOR FORESTERS
513 MADISON AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130**