



THE REGISTERED FORESTER

Winter/Spring 2007

GOVERNOR APPOINTS DARRELL GATES TO THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

On January 7th, Darrell Gates, R.F. # 949, was appointed by Governor Riley, to replace outgoing board member Everett Johnson. Darrell's term of service will expire on January 6th, 2012.

Upon notification of his being selected to serve on the Board, Darrell commented that he was honored to be able to serve the profession that he has been involved in for the last 30 years. Forestry has been good to him and his hope is to give back to his profession, in some small way, by serving on the Board.

Darrell has been a Registered Forester in Alabama since 1980. He began his career after earning a B. S. degree in Forest Resources from the University of Georgia in December of 1976. His first job was with I.T.T. Rayonier in Swainsboro Ga. He then worked with F. & W. Forestry Services, in Albany GA, before taking a position in Procurement at Georgia Pacific's plywood mill at Hurtsboro, Alabama. In 1979 he began his own consulting business as Chattahoochee Valley Forestry Services, Inc. in Clayton, Alabama. His company provides all types of forestry management services in and around Barbour County, Alabama.



Darrell comments that "The public has become much more discerning about professional forestry management services over the last 30 years. These are exciting and challenging times to be in the forestry community. I feel that the Board of Registration for Foresters can play a prominent role in advancing the perception and professionalism of Foresters here in Alabama".

Darrell is married to Sherry Gates and has 2 adopted sons: Daniel and Donnie, 2 step daughters: April and Kim, and 3 grandchildren: Wesley, Ana and Tripp. He is an active member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Eufaula, Alabama.

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NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Next Board Meeting—

July 25, 2007

Board Office, Montgomery, AL.

Renewal Notices—

To be sent out in early July. If you have not received yours by July 15, call the Board office ASAP. Also, please check your listing on the online roster to be sure all contact information is correct. Please submit any changes on the "Change of Address" form which is available on the website.

Email Addresses—

If you did not get the last copy of **THE REGISTERED FORESTER** newsletter electronically, that means we don't have a good email address for you. Please go to the Board's website and update your email address. The website is www.asbrf.alabama.gov.

STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

David Wright, R.F.

Chairman

*Forest Forever Committee, Public Information
Committee, Examinations Committee*

Al Lyons, R.F.

Vice Chairman

Continuing Education Committee

Frank Walburn, R.F.

Secretary

Violations Committee

Darrell Gates, R.F.

Member

Finance & Administration Committee

Ken Day, R.F.

Member

Rules & Regulations Committee

Staff

Alexis London, Executive Assistant

Olivia Martin, Assistant Attorney General

Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters

513 Madison Avenue

Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4500

(334) 240-9301

Alexis.London@asbrf.alabama.gov

www.asbrf.alabama.gov

NUMBER OF PERSONS HOLDING LICENSES ISSUED BY THE ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

September 1958 – September 2006

Year	January	March	September
1958	—	—	211
1960	—	289	308
1965	—	345	357
1970	—	454	477
1975	563	—	570
1980	640	—	670
1985	—	—	942
1990	—	—	1,015
1995	—	—	925
2000	—	—	1,111
2001	—	—	1,150
2002	—	—	1,202
2003	—	—	1,260
2004	—	—	1,290
2005	—	—	1,036
2006	—	—	1,078

EX-BERRY COLLEGE OFFICIAL SENTENCED FOR DEFRAUDING BERRY COLLEGE

Recently the Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters was notified by the State of Georgia that a Registered Forester in their state was convicted of conspiracy and interstate transportation of stolen property. This forester had a reciprocal license in Alabama and due to the felony conviction, lost licenses to practice forestry in both states. The violation of trust in this case unfortunately casts a negative shadow over our profession. Please read the following account of a relationship built on trust that was manipulated for personal gain.

Rome, GA – Robert Lee PARKER, 54, of Rome, Georgia, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Harold L. Murphy on charges of conspiracy and interstate transportation of stolen property that stemmed from a scheme to defraud Berry College of profits from timber on its land.

United States Attorney David E. Nahmias said of the case, "It is always painful to find out that an important institution has been defrauded by an official it trusted. Today's sentence reflects the seriousness of Mr. PARKER's crimes and brings a measure of justice to Berry College."

PARKER was sentenced to 4 years, 8 months in federal prison to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. He was also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$3,057,560 to Berry College.

According to Nahmias and the

information presented in court: Beginning in approximately 1995 and continuing until 2001, PARKER was involved in a scheme to steal timber and money from Berry College. Unbeknownst to Berry College officials, PARKER, who was the Director of Land Resources during that time period, permitted a now-defunct timber company, "North Georgia Forest Products," to harvest timber on Berry's land without paying Berry for the timber removed and sold to wood mills. In exchange for allowing the removal of Berry's timber at such a discounted price, proceeds for the timber were paid to PARKER personally or to third parties for PARKER's benefit, including to PARKER's interior decorator.

Once Berry suspected that timber proceeds were being diverted, PARKER attempted to cover up the scheme by soliciting two others to

write several back-dated checks for timber that had been removed from Berry's land. PARKER reimbursed them with his own personal check. PARKER then submitted the back-dated checks to Berry and represented that he had just found these checks.

The evidence showed that PARKER was also involved in several real estate "flips" in which he would cause the College to pay a premium for pieces of land owned by third parties and then, unbeknownst to Berry, PARKER would receive a commission for the seller of the land for setting up the transaction. After Berry discovered PARKER's scheme, PARKER was forced to resign from Berry College in August, 2001. Berry College has cooperated fully with law enforcement in the investigation and the prosecution of PARKER.

As part of the sentence and the plea agreement filed in this case, PARKER forfeits his interest in his residence, located at 21 Palmer Drive, Rome, Georgia. The house is estimated to be worth over \$400,000.

*Submitted by Frank Walburn
Article reprinted with permission from
the U.S. Attorney's Office*

Order Form Thirty-First Roster of Registered Foresters 2006-2008

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Rosters: _____

Please enclose a check for \$10/roster and mail to:

Alexis London
State of Alabama
Board of Registration for Foresters
513 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-4500

FORESTER RECEIVES SAF AWARD



Phillip Sasnett receives a special award from the Black Warrior Chapter of the Society of American Foresters from Chapter Chairman Jim Jeter recently at the SAF meeting. Pictured from left to right are Jeter, Sasnett, and SAF Vice-chairman John Tiley. Sasnett was recognized for his leadership and expertise in promoting forestry and our natural resources for 42 years as the Manager of Sustainable Forestry with Gulf State's Corporation—now The Westervelt Company. Sasnett graduated with forestry degrees from the University of the South and at Yale University. Some of Sasnett's major leadership achievements have been serving as chairman of the Black Warrior Chapter SAF for three years, Chairman of the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters, Southeast Society chairman of the SAF for 2006 and as the chairman of the Forest Environmental Committee of the Alabama Forestry Association. He served on the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters for five years and was chairman of this state board for two years. In addition, Sasnett was also a member and chairman of the Alabama Sustainable Forest Initiative.

Sasnett was also a leader in initiating the Forestry Awareness Week Now program in 1994 which is now called the Alabama Forests Forever. This annual event provides over 1000 Tuscaloosa County 5th grade students "hands-on" information better explaining the importance of their valuable natural resources.

Sasnett is also a very active community minded individual. He is a very active member of the Greater Tuscaloosa Kiwanis Club where he has also served as a two time president, Lieutenant Governor and was the secretary/treasurer for five years. He is also a member and past treasure of the Tuscaloosa Symphony. Sasnett resides with his wife, Louisa, in Tuscaloosa.

New Registered Foresters

John Bradford Dethero, Jr., RF# 2047
 President
 Geo-Source, Inc.
 115 Helton Court
 Florence AL 35630
 bdethero@geo-source.com

John Ross Havard, RF# 2048
 Contract Forester/Technician
 Heath Forestry Services
 301 Long Blvd.
 Brewton AL 36426
 havarjr0@yahoo.com

Danny A. Jernigan, Jr., RF# 2045
 Forester
 Timberland Harvesters
 P.O. Box 130
 Eufaula AL 36072
 danjernigan@hotmail.com

Joseph Boykin Smith, RF# 2049
 District Forester
 Rayonier
 P.O. Box 564
 Greenville AL 36037
 jake.smith@rayonier.com

Ronald Gordon Taylor, RF# 2046
 Resource Information Forester
 The Westervelt Company
 1400 Jack Warner Parkway NE
 Tuscaloosa AL 35404
 rtaylor@westervelt.com

Damon Eugene Wilkinson, RF# 2050
 Forester
 Gulf Lumber Company, Inc.
 PO Box 1763
 Mobile AL 36633
 dwilkinson@gulflumber.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q Does a forester need to have a minimum of two years experience before becoming registered?

A Yes, the Registration and Licensing Act and the Rules of the Board require a minimum period of two years of professional experience between graduation from an approved forestry school and the filing of an official application for a license as a Registered Forester; however, an applicant with eighteen months of qualifying experience may submit applications for licensing to the Board for consideration. The Board will consider such applicants and may schedule them for an examination to be given after such time as two years of qualifying experience so that two full years of experience will appear on the record prior to the scheduled examination date. For further information, please refer to your Foresters Hand Manual to 380-x-3.01, 380-x-3.02 and 380-x-3.03.

Submitted by David Wright

Q I am concerned that the make up of the Board is not reflective of the forest community in Alabama. How are Board members selected?

A The Governor appoints member to the Board based upon recommendations from the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters. The AL SAF submits nominations upon expiration of terms or to fill unexpired terms due to member resignations. Based on staggered 5-year terms, there is a vacancy on the five-member Board every year requiring action by the AL SAF and the Governor.

At the expiration of the term of any member of the initial board, the governor shall, from a list of three nominees recommended to him by the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters, appoint for a term of five years a registered forester having the qualifications required by section 34-12-31 to succeed the member whose term on said board is expiring.

Reference Code of Alabama 1975 Chapter 12:

Section 34-12-30. Creation, composition; appointment; oath of office; terms of office.

Submitted by Ken Day, RF

Q What process does the Board go through when investigating a complaint against a non Registered Forester?

A The complaint will be documented using the SBRF Complaint Form. Once the complaint has been received, the Violations Committee of the Board will conduct an investigation. The investigation can involve personal interviews and review of any documentation that may be available. The Chair of the Violations Committee will report the findings of the investigation to the Board and the Board's representative from the State Attorney Generals Office. The Board in consultation with the Attorney Generals representative will decide on the appropriate corrective action. See Chapter 380-X-5.01 in the Administrative Rules for more information on Procedures for Handling Alleged Violations Regarding the Practice of Forestry Without a License.

Submitted by Frank Walburn

SUMMARY OF BOARD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

The philosophy of the Board is that educating and seeking voluntary compliance best serves the public interest. Therefore enforcement actions first seek to correct and rehabilitate before pursuing punitive measures. A summary of ongoing, or recently closed complaint investigations is presented below in tabular format.

Complaint Number	Status
2004-002	Non-forester advertising forest management; satisfactory cease & desist obtained. CLOSED
2007-001	Non-forester conducting timber sale; complainant has obtained supervision statement from RF. CLOSED
2007-002	Non-forester advertising as a forester; complainant has obtained a supervision statement from RF. CLOSED

REGISTRATION FEES INCREASED FOR 2008

After careful consideration, the Board voted to increase the annual fee for active registrants from \$75 to \$100 beginning with the 2008 registration cycle. Although reluctant to increase the financial burden on Registered Foresters, the change is needed to ensure the long-term solvency of the Professional Foresters Fund. As many of you know, the Board receives no State funding and operates exclusively on fees generated from the application and registration process. The Board recently experienced a significant unforeseen expense associated with personnel costs that become payable upon employee retirement. This increase in the registration fee will enable the Professional Foresters Fund to recover from the unanticipated personnel expense and begin to escrow amounts to be able to cover such costs in the future. Additionally, the increase will accommodate the normal increase in operational expenses due to inflation. This is the first increase in the registration fee since 1996.

Changes are reflected in the table below.

2007 FEES		2008 FEES	
Application Fee	\$50	Application Fee	\$50
Renewal Fees		Renewal Fees	
Active	\$75	Active	\$100
Inactive	\$30	Inactive	\$30
Late Penalty (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$100	Late Penalty (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$100
Reinstatement Fee (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$150	Reinstatement Penalty (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$150
Reexamination Fee	\$100	Reexamination Fee	\$100
Lost License	\$50	Lost License	\$50
Reciprocal Fee	Same as charged for Alabama applicants in the reciprocal State	Reciprocal Fee	Same as charged for Alabama applicants in the reciprocal State

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

Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters
513 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-4500