



THE REGISTERED FORESTER

Summer 2009

CHAMBERS COUNTY – A FORESTRY MECCA

By William R. Frazer, Retired, R.F. #529

Chambers County, AL is recognized among the state forestry community as one of the leaders in forest management in the State. Although some counties in southwest Alabama have a higher percentage of forested acres, Chambers County is probably the leader in forest resources except of course for the vast acreage owned by the U. S. Forest Service in the northern counties.

One of the reasons for the well managed timbered acres in Chambers County is the superior markets for wood. East Alabama Lumber Company (now operated by the John Robert Dudley family) has sustained lumber markets that allows for competitive saw timber stumpage prices for local landowners. East Alabama Lumber Company has sustained annual production of 50 MM board feet of lumber even in down turn economic conditions such as the present. The county has excellent markets in the surrounding counties as well such as IP, Dudley Lumber & MeadWestvaco, Phenix Lumber and Norbord (located in the county but not in operation).

Another facet to the outstanding timber stands in the county, the private non-industrial forest landowners, particularly those who use consultants for management advice, have consistently carried out forest operations under management plans calling for sustained yield taking into account environmental and conservation considerations. The managed plans result in economic rewards for the landowner as well as creating favorable conditions for wildlife, recreational activity and pleasing aesthetics.

The Chambers Forestry Planning Committee is one of the most active organizations in the state. The Committee sponsors an in-service program for teachers each January in which teachers visit the saw mill, participate in hand and machine planting of trees, demonstrations of tree identification using a jeopardy quiz which the teachers demonstrate what they

have learned. The teachers, as ridiculous as it seems, are divided into groups and carry out a timber cruise under the supervision of a Registered Forester.

Feedback from the teachers is very positive and the Committee is fortunate to have a Board Of Education that supports forestry education activities.

Also, in May all the 10th grade students in the county schools gather at the County Lake to participate in a day of instruction reference economics of wood such as building material, poles, fence posts and heat shields lining the space craft (charcoal), a live demonstration of the actual variety of snakes in the south, a display of fish netted in the lake by the Auburn Fisheries, a demonstration of drug dogs by the county Sheriff, and prescribed fire and wildfire information presented by the Alabama Forestry Commission.

In November the Committee hosts a tour of a tree farm for all of the 3rd grade students in the county schools.

One of the programs sponsored by the Chambers County Forestry Planning Committee is the annual Fall Landowner Conference. On October 8, 2009, Greg Allen (Beasley & Allen Law Firm) will address liabilities incurred by forest land owners and wood harvesters.

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Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters

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Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4500

(334) 240-9301

Alexis.London@asbrf.alabama.gov

www.asbrf.alabama.gov

New Registered Foresters

**Roderick S. Bach Jr. # 2100
(Reinstated)**

Forester

Bach & DeVos Forestry and
Wildlife Services
4157 Carmichael Rd.
Montgomery, AL 36106
Ph. 334/269-2224
rod@bachanddevos.com

James R. Elliot # 2102

Atlantic Region Management
Forester

The Westervelt Company
P.O. Box 48999
Tuscaloosa, AL 35404
Ph. 205/534-4008
relliot@westervelt.com

Jerry C. McCool # 2098

President

Wildlife Solutions Inc.
P.O. Box 1735
Fairhope, AL 36532
Ph. 251/591-2682
jmccool@bellsouth.net

Balsie Butler # 2101

Fire Operations Chief

Alabama Forestry Commission
513 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130
Ph. 334/240-9329
Balsie.Butler@forestry.alabama.gov

Eric G. Strickland # 2099

Madison County Forester

Alabama Forestry Commission
4299 Hwy 72 East
Brownsboro, AL 35741
Ph. 256/776-4411
madison.county@forestry.alabama.gov

Paul F. Clark # 2103

District Manager

American Forest Management, Inc.
1055 Highway 36
Russellville, AL 35653
Ph. 256-332-5552
Paul.Clark@amforem.biz

Foresters Granted Reciprocity in Alabama

Charles F. Ledbetter # MS0908

Owner

Charles Ledbetter Forestry
Consultant, Inc.
P.O. Box 699
Marion, MS 39342
Ph. 601/485-6990
ledbetterforest@aol.com

Mark A. Pickett # GA2252

President

Cripple Creek Properties, Inc.
136 W. Belmont Dr., Ste. 11-211
Calhoun, GA 30701-3064
Ph. 770/548-2725
mp4ster@bellsouth.net

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Beasley and Allen is one the leading law firms in the south. Greg's wife is a native of LaFayette and makes his address even more of interest to native Chamber County and neighboring county landowners.

Finally, but not the least, the cooperation of landowners, industry, Foresters, loggers and agencies are an integral part of the success of well managed forests within the county.

The FSA, Extension Service, AFC, and NRCS are a major part of the success of conservation and environmental programs on woodland located in the county and the surrounding communities.

2010 RENEWAL GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

General Information

1. All licenses expire and become invalid on September 30 each year unless renewed by that date. This includes licenses of registered foresters who have been licensed for less than one year.
2. Renewal notices are mailed by the Board annually on or around July 1 to each licensee at his/her last registered address. It is the responsibility of the licensee to inform the Board of address changes. An online change of address form is available at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/vs2k5/changeofaddress.aspx>.
3. Licensees may renew online, by mail, or by hand-delivery. If you would like to hand-deliver your renewal form and fees to the Board's office, please contact Alexis London at (334) 240-9301 to schedule a convenient time.
4. The online renewal application and printable form will be made available at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/renewalform.htm> beginning July 1. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the Board's office at (334) 240-9301 to request a copy of the renewal form. **(Please do not attempt to process renewals online prior to July 1 as the application will be in test mode.)**
5. The last 4 digits of the licensee's Social Security Number are required for renewal.
6. The current renewal fee is \$100.00 for all licensees and \$30.00 for inactive/unlicensed persons.
7. Licensees who renew their licenses between September 30 and December 31 must pay a late renewal fee in addition to the renewal fee. The current late fee is \$100.00. Therefore, the current amount charged for late renewals is \$200.00 (renewal fee + late fee).
8. Licensees renewing online will be charged a convenience fee of \$3.50 if processed by September 30 and \$7.00 if processed between October 1 and December 31. Inactive persons will be charged \$3.50 for the duration of the renewal period. Online services are payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit and debit cards or E-check. Licensees renewing by mail or hand-delivery must pay by check or money order. Make checks or money orders payable to: Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters, P.O. Box 304500, 513 Madison Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36130-4500.
9. Licensees who renew online should receive a confirmation receipt by email shortly after completing the online renewal process. Please print this receipt for your records.
10. The Board will mail new ID cards as soon as

renewals are processed. Please notify the Board if you do not receive your card.

11. Final renewal notices will be mailed thirty days prior to the expiration date.
12. Licensees failing to renew their licenses by September 30 will be notified by mail by October 31 that their license will be revoked.

Continuing Forestry Education (CFE)

13. Licensees are required to have annually completed 10 hours of acceptable continuing education which can be taken during the two-year period immediately preceding the renewal date as a condition for license renewal. Classes taken more than two years prior to the renewal date may not be used. Credit for a class may only be used once. A minimum of 5 contact hours must be in Category 1 or 2. However, the entire requirement may be met with hours in Category 1, only. A maximum of 5 contact hours may be claimed in categories 3 through 6.
14. Licensees will report their continuing education credits on their license renewal form. Documentation must be retained by each licensee and must include evidence of completion of each course or program, a description of the contents of each course or program, and verification of the number of hours of each course or program; or, for other activities which meet the requirements, such documentation as to ascertain their completion. **Please do not submit continuing education documentation unless you are selected for audit.**
15. Acceptable continuing education credit hours can be carried over **one** year provided the hours have not been used to satisfy the previous year requirements. **The Board is not responsible for maintaining licensees' carryover hours.**
16. On the renewal form, list only the 10 CFE hours required for the current renewal year. If a course earned hours in excess of 10 hours, the additional hours may be entered as carryover on next year's renewal form, up to 10 hours max.
17. The Board will not accept renewal fees without the required **completed** continuing education.
18. All licensees are subject to an annual Board of Registration audit of continuing education documentation. Licensees who renew online are randomly selected by computer for CFE audit and will receive the audit notice as part of the renewal confirmation receipt. **If you renew online, please read your renewal confirmation receipt to find out if you have been audited.** All others are noti-

fied by mail. Audit documentation is due immediately upon receipt of the audit notice. Licensees who fail to submit sufficient documentation could lose their license.

19. Responsibility for documenting the fulfillment of the continuing education requirements rests with the licensee, and the licensee must retain for a period of two years, from the date of license renewal, copies of the evidence to support fulfillment of the requirements.
20. No licensee shall have his or her active license renewed unless the minimum continuing annual education requirements are met. Exceptions: Licensees who: 1) have been licensed for less than one year at the date of license expiration; 2) are 65 years of age or older at the date of license expiration; or 3) are in the armed services of the United States.

CFE Categories

21. There are six categories of continuing forestry education which cover the various activities for which credit may be granted.

Category 1. Organized course work or activities in forestry or forestry-related subject matter such as silviculture, mensuration, forest pest management, habitat management, urban forestry, forest policy, or professional ethics. Included are seminars, short courses, and workshops conducted or sponsored by public or private organizations, forest management related seminars and courses held by forest industry and public employers for their employees, as well as technical sessions of professional forestry society meetings or conferences. A Category 1 activity must satisfy all of the following conditions:

1. It constitutes an organized program of learning (including a meeting, workshop or symposium) which contributes directly to the professional competency of the registered forester.
2. It deals primarily with matter directly related to the practice of forestry or to the professional responsibility or ethical obligations of foresters.
3. It is conducted by foresters or individuals who have special education, training and experience by reason of which they can be considered experts in the subject matter of the program.
4. It is conducted in a setting physically suitable to the educational objectives.
5. The subject matter is applicable to foresters in general. (Activities may be approved where attendance is limited to the members of a particular company, firm or governmental agency but only if the subject matter is broad enough to be of interest to foresters in general).

Category 2. The development, preparation, and presentation of professional level forestry or forestry-related course work, in an instructional capacity such as described in Category 1, which require effort beyond the general scope of the individual's normal duties or job description. Credit accrues at the rate of two contact hours for each hour of presentation.

Category 3. Other organized course work or activities not specifically forestry or forestry-related but which are professionally enriching or directly benefiting the individual in his or her present position. Examples include general sessions of forestry or other professional meetings or course work in areas such as real estate, finance, appraisal, business management or computer science.

Category 4. The preparation, writing and publication of forestry or forestry-related subject matter, which requires effort beyond the general scope of the individual's normal duties or job description. Credit accrues at the rate of 15 hours for each publication requiring technical review or 5 hours for an article or a series of articles of a substantial nature in magazines, newspapers, or similar publications.

Category 5. Self-improvement in forestry or forestry-related subjects. Examples are attendance at meetings of state boards of forestry, forestry licensing committees, or tree improvement associations. This may not include the business or social portions of professional society meetings that do not qualify for Categories 1 or 2. Also included is self-improvement through publications or audio-visual presentations on technical forestry subjects. Independent study programs that are forestry related but do not qualify for Category 1 are included. Credit accrues at the rate of one hour for each hour of activity.

Category 6. Holding elected or appointed office or active committee assignment in forestry or allied professional organizations and on national, state or local boards as a representative of the forestry profession. Credit accrues at the rate of 5 hours per year for holding office, chairing an assignment or one active committee membership.

Non-Renewals

22. The Board will revoke the license of any licensee who fails to renew annually by December 31.
23. A licensee who allows his license to lapse and does not renew within the grace period allowed by statute must apply for a new license as if he or she had never received a license and must satisfy existing requirements for registration. If a new

license is issued, the original license number is retired and a new number assigned.

24. A revoked, expired, or invalid license shall not be displayed in any public office or place of business by any registrant, person or firm in connection with the practice of forestry. Any violation of this rule will be cause for the Board to require the possessor of said license to surrender the same to the Board.
25. Licensees whose licenses have expired for nonrenewal are prohibited from identifying themselves as registered foresters and practicing professional forestry. All licenses expire on September 30.
26. A person who has been a Registered Forester in the past and has allowed their license to lapse may be listed as "inactive/unlicensed" in the State of Alabama Roster of Registered Foresters for a fee of \$30.00. Those with "inactive/unlicensed" status are no longer Registered Foresters and may not practice forestry. A person who has been listed as "inactive/unlicensed" and wants to again become a Registered Forester must apply for a new license as if he or she had never received a license and must satisfy existing requirements for registration. If a new license is issued, the original license number is retired and a new number assigned.

Reciprocity Renewals

27. All of the above also applies to persons practicing forestry in the state through reciprocity.
28. In addition to the above, reciprocity foresters must provide the Board with proof of current forester registration in their resident state. Reciprocity foresters who have allowed their licenses to lapse in their resident state are ineligible for license renewal in Alabama.

Renewal Do's & Don'ts

Do's:

- Review the Board's laws and rules concerning license renewal at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/forestrylaw.htm>.
- Submit course information for CFE evaluation and approval prior to attending the course.
- Complete and submit a Change of Address form to update roster information. Updated information entered on the renewal form will not be used to update roster or database information. An online change of address form is located at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/vs2k5/changeofaddress.aspx>.
- Keep copies of your CFE documentation, renewal form, and renewal confirmation receipt (online renewals).

- If you have questions, please call the Board's office at (334) 240-9301.

Don'ts:

- Do not list CFE courses for which you do not have supporting documentation of completion.
- Do not list any courses which you are scheduled to attend but have not already attended at the time of renewal.
- Do not guess at the names of courses and the number of hours earned for CFE's.
- Do not wait until the renewal period begins to start searching for CFE courses to attend.
- Category 2 CFE's are assigned for **the development, preparation, and presentation of professional level forestry or forestry-related course work, in an instructional capacity such as described in Category 1, which require effort beyond the general scope of the individual's normal duties or job description.** Some CFE certificates may include both Category 1 hours (for participants) and Category 2 hours (for instructors). If you have such a certificate and you were not an instructor, please do not include the Category 2 hours on your renewal form. If you were an instructor, but the instruction is within the scope of your normal duties or job description, please do not include the Category 2 hours on your renewal form.
- Do not list class presentations to elementary or secondary school students, Boy Scouts, 4-H clubs or presentations to civic groups or garden clubs as Category 2 CFE's. Category 2 CFE's are professional level presentations only.

No Change in Board Fees for 2010

Application Fee	\$50.00
Reinstatement Application Fee (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$150.00
Re-examination Fee	\$100.00
Renewal Fees	
All Licensees	\$100.00
Inactive	\$30.00
Late Penalty (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$100.00
License Replacement Fee (Certificate)	\$50.00
Printed Roster	\$10.00
Registered Forester Window Decal (Auto)	\$1.00
Returned Check Fee	\$30.00
Reciprocity Application Fees (Initial Application)	Same as charged for Alabama Applicants in the reciprocal state

UPDATE YOUR ROSTER INFORMATION

Please take a moment to review your current roster information online at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/rosterof-foresters.asp>. To submit changes, fax the form below to 334-353-3641 or submit the online Change of Address form at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/vs2k5/changeofaddress.aspx>.

Change of Address Form

Full Name _____ License Number: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Business Address: _____

Business City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County _____

Business Phone: _____ Business Fax: _____

Business E-mail: _____

Home Address: _____

Home City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Fax: _____

Home E-mail: _____

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