



THE Registered Forester

A News Bulletin

Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters
513 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36130
(205) 240-9368



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GUEST EDITORIAL —



CANE AND MAPLE SYRUP - A SHARED PURPOSE

There are legends in Alabama about the effects of special-recipe hot biscuits dipped in fresh cane syrup. Oooh, so sweet... "It'll make you wanna hurt." Just as there are advocates for cane and hot biscuits to be an Alabama treasure, there are advocates, far to the north of Alabama, for "sugar on snow" ...fresh hot maple syrup poured over the granular "corn snow" of springtime. There are Maine legends about maple syrup on hotcakes, waffles, or hot cereal on a cold wintry morning.

Maine and Alabama seem worlds apart--from the cold of the Maine winter to the heat of dogdays in southern Alabama; from eastern white pine to southern yellow pine. Even language--why some people think "Yankees even talk strange."

But there is much in common. Both states are rural and dependent on agriculture for their principal economies. The science and business of forestry is one of the leading professions in both states. And, both have nationally recognized forestry programs at their state universities.

Alabama has a Foresters' Registration Law passed in 1957. After thirty-four years, more than 1400 foresters have been licensed through procedures which include education, experience, and examination.

Maine enacted its Foresters' Licensing Law in 1975. Since then, 1,062 foresters have been licensed. The Maine law requires a four-year undergraduate or a graduate degree from a board-approved forestry curriculum. But the legislature also allowed an exception--a person may substitute two years of Board-approved experience for each year of the education requirement. Consequently, persons may be licensed if they have eight years of approved experience. Recently, the Maine legislature strengthened the law to require internship and examination. These 1990 changes had the support of the Maine Board of Licensing, Maine Association of Consulting Foresters, Society of American Foresters, Small Woodlot Owners of Maine, Maine Audubon, and the Maine Natural Resources Council.

The initiative in Maine for internship and examination began in 1978, only three years after the Maine law was enacted. While it is true that it took ten years to improve our law, the time allowed Maine foresters to review licensing laws nationwide for guidance about effective laws and their practical implementation.

The Alabama law became a model to Maine for its professional requirements, practicality, administration, and service to the public to assure minimum standards of competency for practicing foresters.

Member of the Maine Board began a dialogue with Charles Pigg of the Alabama Board as early as 1978. It continues today. Your present Board, led by chairman Jack Fillingham, has been extremely helpful with assistance, advice, and technical information. The Maine Board, with approval of the Alabama Board, developed a consulting arrangement with past Board Chairman, Wilbur De Vall, to give final assistance as we implemented our revised law.

The Alabama public and Alabama Licensed foresters should be proud of the leadership role your law and Board members have played to provide the publics, of these two states, with the strongest professionally qualified practitioners of forestry in the United States.

On behalf of the Maine Board and Maine Licensed Foresters, we wish to thank you for your outstanding professional leadership and cooperation with our shared purpose.

Who knows, with War Eagle joining the Black Bear--maybe grits with maple syrup will become the new "breakfast of champions."

Ronald Lovaglio, Chairman
Maine Board of Licensure for Professional Foresters
(Maine License #322 and Alabama License #756)

A FEW THOUGHTS AS GUIDELINES/Questions Welcome



Jack Fillingham
Chairman

A continuing education policy was adopted by the Board at its January 1991 meeting. It is printed in this issues of The REGISTERED FORESTER. The policy is patterned closely after that of our neighboring states and SAF continuing education policies. This newsletter should provide answers to the questions you have concerning implementation of it.

The Legislative Sunset Committee set September 30, 1992 as the date when continuing education must be in place. Any credits earned after September 30, 1990 can be applied to the requirements for 1993 renewal of registration. Credits earned outside Alabama will be acceptable. If you practice under reciprocity in a state having a continuing education requirement, and your license in your home state of residence is current, you will not be required to complete additional credits.

Paragraph 7 of the policy pertains to retirees who are presently licensed. It was included for those who have discontinued offering their services to the public but who wish to continue displaying a valid license. The registration form for 1993 and thereafter, will contain a section for reporting continuing education credits, professional services performed in the previous year, and services planned for the next year.

Any group or organization offering seminars which have not been assigned credits by the SAF continuing education representative, should provide a statement for participant files including the number of contact hours, course content, instructors participating, and date the instruction was offered. SAF certification of such instruction would be desirable but is not required.

The new appraisal laws have received much attention over the past year. In the fall issue of The REGISTERED FORESTER I reported that an Attorney General's opinion had been requested on the appraisal laws applicable to foresters. The questions and respective replies are as follows:

Do registered foresters have to be licensed or certified under Act 90-639 to appraise timber in Alabama?

"A registered forester who performs appraisals of timber, timberland, or forest land involving 'federally related transactions,' has to be licensed as a real estate appraiser. However, if his activities do not involve such 'federally related transactions,' he does not have to be licensed under the real estate appraisal statute."

Does licensing or certification of real estate appraisers under Act 90-639 enable the appraisal of timber without being in conflict with Chapter 12 of the 1975 Code of Alabama, Sections 34-12-1 and 34-12-2?

"An individual who is licensed as a real estate appraiser under Act 90-639 may appraise timber, timberland, or forest land respecting 'federally related transactions' without a license to practice forestry under Title 34-12-2, 1975 Code of Alabama."

The 'key' words in the federal law requiring states to implement a state licensing and certification law are "Federally Related Transaction". According to the latest exposure draft of the Appraiser Qualification Board, "Federally Related Transaction" means any real estate-related financial transaction which:

- 1) a federal financial institution regulatory agency or the Resolution Trust Corporation engages in, contracts for, or regulates; and
- 2) requires the services of an appraiser.

It is my understanding that tax and estate appraisals are not covered by these criteria. Registered Foresters who specialize in appraisals are, however, encouraged to become certified. Attempts are being made at the federal level to get a forest land classification included in the law.

I have also been asked to comment on the Forestry Intern classification. The title designates those who hold an initial four-year degree from an accredited or approved forestry school, who make application, and whose school head certifies to the Board that the applicant did receive such a degree. Two years of experience, acceptable to the Board for registration, must be acquired following graduation. This work can be performed, under Alabama law, under the supervision of a Registered Forester. The Board hopes that all Interns will be reminded to apply for registration and licensing when the 2-year experience period approaches the end of the 24-month period. Employers are encouraged by the Board to have their forestry graduates apply for registration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Fillingham".

Jack Fillingham

BOARD LOOKS AHEAD/Reports on the Past

The board met January 23, 1991 to transact routine business and approve for license those passing examinations. One person's application for 'reinstatement' was approved and three were licensed by examination. The total number of Alabama licenses issued to date now numbers 1,430. In addition, 501 Forestry Interns have been certified. Internship and licensing are not directly related. However, it is interesting to note that the number of Interns certified represents 35% of the number of licenses issued.

Office Manager Pamela Sears reported that 1,011 foresters currently hold valid Alabama licenses. Only 16 failed to renew licenses for 1991. Many of these have moved out of state, have retired, or have died.

Reciprocity with Mississippi was reestablished based on information and conditions contained in a letter from Thomas B. Wood, Chairman of the Mississippi Board addressed to Alabama Board Chairman, Jack Fillingham.

The term of Raynold Sandretto expired January 6, 1991. He attended the January 23rd meeting, as provided by law, because his replacement had not been appointed by Governor Hunt.

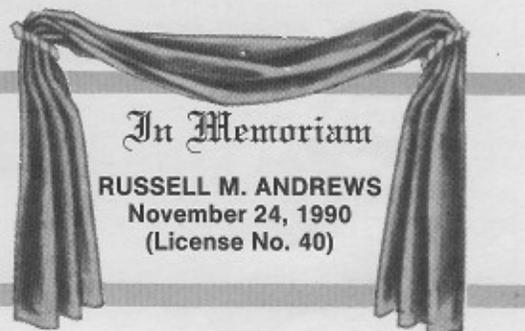
Written and oral examinations will be given April 2 and April 24, respectively, according to an announcement by Examinations chairman Charles Walsh. He observed that two of the applicants scheduled for oral examinations in January requested that they be rescheduled for a written examination in lieu of the scheduled oral.

ROSTER UPDATE INFORMATION

Roster-update 'crack and peel' sheets were included in the Fall issue of The REGISTERED FORESTER. Additional persons have been licensed and their information appears below. These names will be picked up on new Roster-update sheets to be enclosed with the Spring issue of the same newsletter.

Burks, William 1428 County Forester Alabama Forestry Commission Business: P. O. Box 814 Oneonta, AL 35121 Phone: 205/274-2231 Home: Route 3, Box 682 Oneonta, AL 35121	Roberson, Joe D. 1430 G. I. S. Forester Mead Coated Board Business: 2564 Lee Road 151 Opelika, AL 36801 Phone: 205/745-5666 Home: P. O. Box 2424 Opelika, AL 36801 Phone: 205/745-5631	Wittwer, Brian J. 1429 Forester II Industrial Relations, State of Alabama Business: 649 Monroe St., Rm. 279 Montgomery, AL 36130 Phone: 205/242-8265 Home: 1053 County Road 21 North Prattville, AL 36067 Phone: 205/361-7250
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Many happy and successful people are imprisoned in the ivory of defeat and despair. One needs only to work miracles with praise. We pause to reflect on those who have passed on knowing that their appreciation of life accelerated their accomplishment. As men, they went on to bigger things while working miracles and painting visions of things to come. They practiced their art.



(please cut along dotted line)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM
 (Detach and mail to address below)

NAME _____ LICENSE NO. _____

OLD ADDRESS _____
(city) (state) (zip)

NEW ADDRESS: Business _____
 Residence _____

NEW TELEPHONE: Business () _____ Residence () _____

MAIL FORM TO: Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters
 513 Madison Avenue
 Montgomery, Alabama 36130

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Raynold P. Sandretto ('91)
Vice Chairman
3185 Covered Bridge Drive
Montgomery, AL 36116

Charles S. Walsh ('92)
Secretary
601 Gayfer Avenue
Fairhope, AL 36532

Jack P. Fillingham ('93)
Chairman
P.O. Box 129
Tallassee, AL 36078-0129

Thomas Waymon Paul ('94)
P.O. Box 11426
Birmingham, AL 35202

James D. Spears ('95)
600 S. Trammel Street
Atmore, AL 36502

COMMITTEES

Public Information
Jack Fillingham

Rules & Regulations

Examinations
Charles Walsh



ADJUNCT OFFICERS

Assistant Attorney General
Gerrilyn V. Grant

Newsletter Editor
Wilbur De Vall

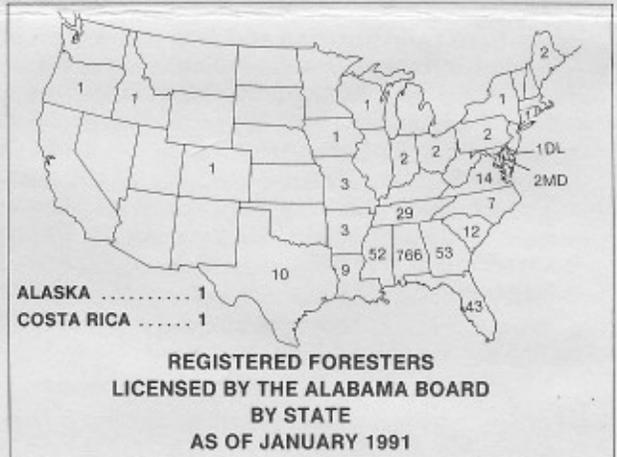
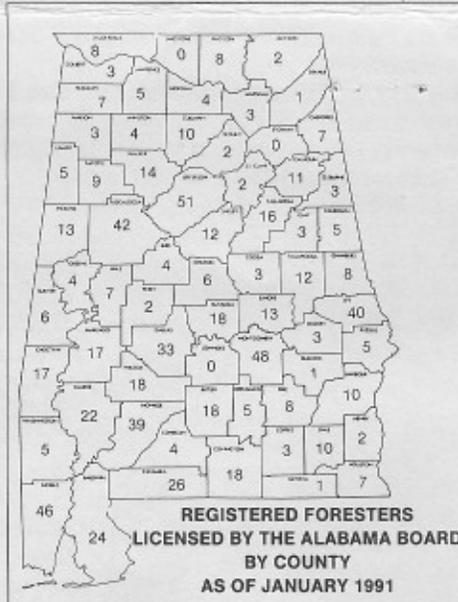
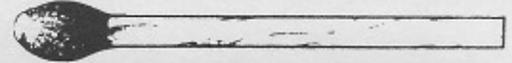
Office Manager
Mrs. Pamela Sears

VIOLATIONS LIMITED/Board Pursues Facts

The Violations Committee reported one (1) new case during the quarter ending January 23, 1991. During the regular quarterly meeting of the board on this date, five (5) pending violations were reviewed. Two (2) cases were closed since all requirements and stipulations imposed by the Board on the violators had been met. Three (3) cases remained pending and will again be reviewed and appropriate action considered in April.

**One tree can make
3,000,000 matches.**

James D. Spears, R. F.
Chairman, Violations Committee



**One match can burn
3,000,000 trees.**

STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS
513 MADISON AVENUE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

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CONTINUING EDUCATION POLICY ALABAMA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

1. To renew licenses which expire on and after September 30, 1992, a registered forester will be required to have completed 10 hours of acceptable continuing education during the two-year period immediately preceding the renewal date as a condition for license renewal.

2. Acceptable continuing education credit hours can be carried over one year provided the hours have not been used to satisfy the previous year requirements.

3. Registered foresters licensed for less than one year at the date of license expiration will not be required to complete any hours of continuing education prior to that first license expiration, but will be required to have the ten required hours of continuing education as of the second license expiration as a condition for license renewal.

4. Registered foresters will report the continuing education credits to be applied to this requirement along with documentation as a part of the license renewal form. Documentation shall 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.

5. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section will result in non-renewal of the registered forester license. Registered foresters whose licenses have expired for non-renewal are prohibited from identifying themselves as registered foresters and practicing professional forestry.

6. Responsibility for documenting the fulfillment of the continuing education requirements provided for in this section 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.

7. The Board may relax or suspend the requirements of continuing education for retirees or health of the licensee based on the licensee's specific case.

8. Credit accrues at a rate of one hour for each hour of actual contact. This shall be known as a contact hour or clock hour. Travel time on tours or field sessions will not be included in calculating contact hours. For providers who measure continuing education activities in "Continuing Education Units" (CEUs), one CEU is defined as 10 contact hours of continuing education. Credit will not be allowed for any program which in its entirety, including question and answer periods, lasts less than sixty minutes. However, credit may be rounded down to the nearest whole or half hour, so long as it is at least one hour. Credit will not be given for time spent in introductory remarks, coffee and luncheon breaks, meals, or business meetings where no organized course work is presented.

9. 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:

A. It constitutes an organized program of learning (including a meeting, workshop or symposium which contributes directly to the professional competency of the registered forester.

B. It deals primarily with matter directly related to the practice of forestry or to the professional responsibility or ethical obligations of foresters.

C. 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.

D. It is conducted in a setting physically suitable to the educational objectives.

E. 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 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.

10. Correspondence courses and independent study programs are permitted under Category 1, if the course provides for interaction between the participant and the course administrator. This usually takes the form of periodic examinations and must be documented. Otherwise, correspondence courses maybe counted under Category 5. Contact hours are assigned on the basis of the credits granted by the sponsoring organization. If the organization uses a semester system, the number of credits is multiplied by 15; for a quarter system, the number of credits is multiplied by 10.

11. University and college-taught activities taken in pursuit of a degree may be counted as Category 1 so long as that degree is not being obtained to meet the minimum qualifications for registration as a registered forester. This will generally include graduate degrees and non-forestry degrees. Credits will be assigned as described for correspondence courses.

12. Minimum continuing education requirements for annual license renewal are a total of 10 contact hours of continuing forestry education.

a. A minimum of 5 contact hours must be in Category 1 or 2.

b. A maximum of 5 contact hours may be claimed in Categories 3 through 6.

13. Continuing forestry education hours may be obtained from the following providers or through independent study, so long as they conform with the requirements set out in preceding paragraphs. Providers described in paragraphs a, b, c, and d which follow, will not require prior Board approval. Licensees documentation for providers in a, b, c, and d should include the course outline and instructors names and qualifications.

a. Professional Associations. Continuing forestry education hours may be obtained by participating in activities sponsored by or approved by the the Society of American Foresters or other professional associations. A properly authorized official of the professional organization shall certify the number of contact hours of educational content of each sponsored or approved activity.

b. Educational Institutions. Continuing forestry education hours may be obtained by completing non-forestry degree or graduate level course work or by participating in continuing educational programs sponsored by or approved by educational institutions accredited by a regional body recognized by the Council of Post Secondary Accreditation. The educational institution shall certify the number of contact hours of educational content in each sponsored or approved program.

c. Government Agencies. Continuing forestry education hours may be obtained by participating in in-service training, courses, or workshops sponsored by federal, state, or local agencies. The provider shall certify the number of contact hours of educational content in each sponsored activity.

d. Forest Industry. Continuing forestry education hours may be obtained by participating in in-house training, courses, or workshops. The provider shall certify the number of contact hours of educational content in each sponsored activity.

e. Board Approved Providers.

1) Continuing forestry education may be obtained by participating in activities sponsored by Board Approved Providers, so long as the provider was approved at the time the program was offered. Board Approved Providers may only offer programs in the topic areas for which they have been approved. The provider shall certify the number of contact hours of educational content in each continuing education activity.

2) In order to qualify for initial Board approval, to renew Board approval, or to qualify for approval in additional topic areas, a provider must apply to the Board. The application must be received in the Board office prior to the date the course is to be given. The application must include the following:

(i) A description of the topic areas in which the provider plans to sponsor continuing education activities.

(ii) The names of all instructors currently offering continuing education activities, a description of the topic areas in which each instructor is qualified to teach, along with a vita or other evidence demonstrating that each instructor is qualified in the identified topic area.

(iii) Program outlines, including instructors, objectives, and schedules for all continuing education activities the provider has plans to present.

3) Board Approved Provider status shall expire four years from the date of approval and may be renewed by application to the Board. The Board retains the right to monitor continuing education programs sponsored by Board Approved Providers and will withdraw approval from providers who do not maintain the standards demonstrated in their application. Board Approved Providers shall notify the Board in writing of a change of address or of a decision to withdraw from Board Approved Provider status.

14. Standards similar to those required for Category 1 providers are expected for Category 2 providers except that the professional societies will be other than forestry related. The Board will not approve any other providers but will accept Category 1 and 2 courses approved by other state licensing boards in the appropriate specialty areas.