



THE REGISTERED FORESTER

Summer 2008

Meet New Board Member Gerald Schwarzauer

It seems like it was only yesterday when I was a student at Auburn University in 1978. As I define my 30 year career, I realize four men shaped my path. First, my father, Bill Schwarzauer, told me that I needed to become a forester. He loved the outdoors and instilled that in me. In his early years, my father worked for Mobile River Sawmill in Mount Vernon, Alabama. The second man is Byron Welch (East Alabama Lumber Company) who hired me straight out of college when I was as green as any apple you ever saw. My foundation in forestry at that point was sound; I just needed the experience. Because Mr. Welch's love for growing trees rubbed off on me, I still love managing a forest from start to finish. He always said that any man who grew timber needed the good Lord to let him live to be 100 years old, so that he could grow two crops of trees (Mr. Welch turns 90 in September, so he is getting close). The third was Robert Thrower, an Auburn graduate back in 1950, who answered all the silly questions that a 21 year old could ask. Mr. Robert always amazed me by telling me what the volume of timber was when we finished cruising a tract of timber. He never got in a hurry and always loved working in the woods. I worked for Mr. Robert and Byron Welch for 22 years as procurement and land manager. Last but not least is John M. Dudley, (Phenix Lumber Company) who has taught me the art of making money apart from growing timber. He has shown me how to buy and sell property, and he is still trying to teach me how to run a sawmill during these trying times. My 8 years with Phenix Lumber Company has increased my overall knowledge of forestry. These 30 years have really flown by. I am totally honored in being selected to the Board of Registered Foresters for the State of Alabama.



In This Issue...

State Board of Registration	2
Online Renewals	2
As I See It	3
Tennessee Moves Toward Registration Law	3
Changes for 2009 License Renewal	4
Roster Order Form	4
SAF Continuing Forestry Education Credits Due Diligence	5
High Cost of Energy	5
New Registered Foresters	6
Foresters Granted Reciprocity	6

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

Rules & Regulations Committee

Gerald Schwarzauer, R.F.

Member

Finance & Administration Committee

Staff

Alexis London, Executive Assistant

Olivia Martin, Assistant Attorney General

Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters

513 Madison Avenue

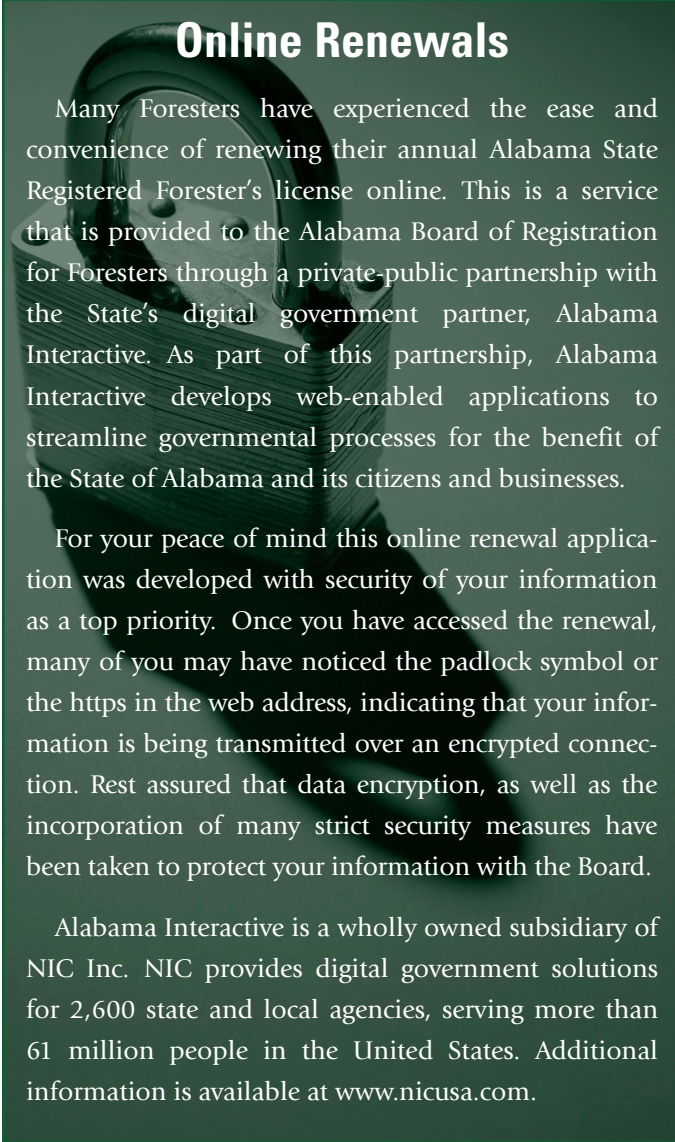
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4500

(334) 240-9301

Alexis.London@asbrf.alabama.gov

www.asbrf.alabama.gov

Online Renewals



Many Foresters have experienced the ease and convenience of renewing their annual Alabama State Registered Forester's license online. This is a service that is provided to the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters through a private-public partnership with the State's digital government partner, Alabama Interactive. As part of this partnership, Alabama Interactive develops web-enabled applications to streamline governmental processes for the benefit of the State of Alabama and its citizens and businesses.

For your peace of mind this online renewal application was developed with security of your information as a top priority. Once you have accessed the renewal, many of you may have noticed the padlock symbol or the https in the web address, indicating that your information is being transmitted over an encrypted connection. Rest assured that data encryption, as well as the incorporation of many strict security measures have been taken to protect your information with the Board.

Alabama Interactive is a wholly owned subsidiary of NIC Inc. NIC provides digital government solutions for 2,600 state and local agencies, serving more than 61 million people in the United States. Additional information is available at www.nicusa.com.

Notes from the Board

Next Board Meeting—

July 23, 2008

Board Office, Montgomery, AL

License Renewals—

The 2009 renewal period begins July 1 and ends September 30, 2008. Licensees will be notified by mail. If you have not received your notice by July 11, please contact the Board. Those who have not renewed by September 30 will have until December 31, 2008 to renew by paying the \$100.00 renewal fee plus a \$100.00 late fee. Note: Those renewing late may not practice forestry until their license has been renewed.

AS I SEE IT

American Loggers Council
President Ezell Castleberry, Castleberry, Alabama

Speaking the Language

Can anyone out there tell me how many kilowatts can be produced from a ton of green wood, or for that matter, tell me just how many Btu's are in a 25 ton load of wood residue headed toward a cogeneration facility?

These are some of the questions that we need to be able to answer. As we see potential markets developing for woody biomass, we are no longer concentrating on tons of fiber being transported, but should be concentrating on the energy value that the material we are hauling contains.

These are new products that we are transporting and new markets that we are transporting them to. Our language will be changing over the next several years as we become more accustomed to speaking in terms of green weight versus dry weight and percent moisture content will be one of the key factors when negotiating a contract price for woody biomass.

It used to be Scribner versus Doyle log rule that determined optimal value for our wood. Now it is normally done on a weight scale where we have attempted to harvest

and haul our wood as efficiently as possible to avoid any losses that might occur due to drying of the wood. In the future, the dry wood might be better if we can reduce the moisture content and increase the Btu value of the wood being hauled.

One thing is for certain, all wood has value. There is no longer a residue that can not be utilized and therefore, essentially no waste. What we will need to do is to prepare ourselves for the future and to speak the same language as those we are selling to; for the universal language that everyone must speak is the ability to know the value of your product and to make a profit.

Ezell Castleberry is the President of the American Loggers Council, which represents over 50,000 logging professionals in 28 states. Ezell's operations are headquartered in Castleberry, Alabama. For more information please contact the American Loggers Council office at 409-625-0206 or e-mail at americanlogger@aol.com.

Tennessee Moves Toward Registration Law

By Darrell Gates

Have you ever questioned the Forestry Registration Laws from time to time or wondered about their effectiveness? It is interesting to see that Tennessee is in the process of circulating a proposal for public input that would set up a Board of Registration for Foresters in that state.

My understanding is the SAF in Tennessee is heading up the proposal and encouraging the input of other groups and individuals. The proposal will be submitted to the legislature after it has been worded in its final format. The entire process could take several years before and if it is finally enacted.

In its current form the final sentence in the preamble is "In order to protect the public from unqualified practitioners, the State of Tennessee credentials Foresters who meet the qualifications as described in the provisions below." It then sets out various provisions of the proposed law.

The phrase "to protect the public" mimics S34-12-2, Article 1, Chapter 12- Foresters, Code of Alabama 1975. Ours begins by stating "In order to benefit and protect the public."

There are those, including foresters, who do not believe that the public needs protecting. I have heard it said

that they (the public) can take care of themselves. My feeling is that our registration law serves its purpose and meets a need.

I cannot think of any "professions" that do not have some form of registration with various requirements. It is important for us to maintain certain ethical, educational and experience standards for our profession. I believe that the Board of Registration for Foresters is the best venue for us to deal with these issues. Evidently SAF Foresters in Tennessee feel that now is the time for them to "Protect the Public", too.

Changes for 2009 License Renewal

1. Only the last 4 digits of the licensee's Social Security Number will be required for renewal.
2. Ten hours of continuing education will be required for ALL licensees, including those licensed by reciprocity. (Exception: Licensees who are 65 or older and licensees who have been licensed for less than one year at the date of license expiration (September 30, 2008) are exempt from the continuing education requirement. However, these exempt licensees are required to complete a renewal form and pay the renewal fee.)
3. The renewal fee for 2009 will be \$100 for ALL licensees, including those licensed by reciprocity.
4. ALL licensees will be subject to a continuing education audit, including those licensed by reciprocity.
5. SAF CFE categories have changed and are no longer the same as the Board's CFE categories. It will be the responsibility of the licensee to correctly categorize CFE's using the Board's guidelines as outlined in Chapter 380-X-6-.04 of the Administrative Code.

Renewal Do's & Don'ts

Renewal Do's

- ✓ Visit the Board's website and review the Continuing Education Policy (Chapter 380-X-6-.04) at http://asbrf.alabama.gov/Admin_Code.htm.
- ✓ Submit course information for CFE evaluation and approval prior to attending the course.
- ✓ On the renewal form, list the total number of hours earned for each course. Hours in excess of the 10 required hours will be carried over for one year, up to 10 hours max.
- ✓ Complete and submit a Change of Address form to update contact information. Updated contact informa-

tion entered on the online renewal form will not be used to update roster or database information. The change of address form is located at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/vs2k5/changeofaddress.aspx>.

Renewal Don'ts

- ⊗ Do not list CFE courses for which you do not have supporting documentation.
- ⊗ 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 looking for CFE courses to attend.
- ⊗ 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.

Continuing Education Audits

Licensees who renew online are selected for CFE audit by computer and are notified on their renewal confirmation receipt. **IF YOU RENEW ONLINE, PLEASE READ YOUR RENEWAL CONFIRMATION RECEIPT TO FIND OUT IF YOU HAVE BEEN AUDITED.** All others are notified by mail. Audit documentation is due immediately upon receipt of the audit notice. Licensees who fail to submit sufficient documentation could lose their license. (See Chapter 380-X-6-.04(4) of the Administrative Code for more information regarding CFE documentation requirements.)

Roster Order Form

Thirty-Second Roster of Registered Foresters 2008-2010

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of Rosters: _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please make your check or money order payable to the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters and mail to:

Alexis London

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

SAF Continuing Forestry Education Credits Due Diligence

By Al Lyons

The Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters Administrative Code specifically details six categories of continuing forestry education and the qualifications for each category. The code specifically states that category 1 includes "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". Category 3 includes "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". Category 3 CFEs would include topics such as real estate, business management, communications and technical writing. It is important to note that the SAF program content for Category 1-CF/FCA mixes Alabama Board Category 1 and 3 and thus an SAF Category 1-CF/FCA credit **May Not** qualify as an Alabama Board Category 1 when renewing your license.

SAF Category 1-CF/FCA credits not specifically forestry

related such as communications, conflict resolution, mediation, contract law, interviewing, leadership skills and technical writing are Alabama Board Category 3 hours. Before submitting your CFEs at license renewal you must complete your due diligence to make sure you are submitting CFEs that qualify to renew your license. Your CFE submissions are subject to being audited and you may run the risk of not qualifying and then not having enough time to replace these CFEs. Approximately ten percent of the renewals are audited each year and during the 2007 renewal period one license was not renewed due to the inability to pass the audit. If you are unsure if your SAF hours will qualify please request an opinion from the board and we can issue a CFE certificate in the proper category.

A simple fix may appear to be acceptance of all SAF category 1-CF/FCA hours; however the responsibility of the Board is to implement the Alabama law and in this case the SAF CFE program does not meet those standards.

High Cost of Energy

Submitted by David Wright

The "buzz" word these days is "energy" with cost going through the ceiling. If anyone read the May issue of The Forestry Source published by the SAF, there was a front page article on Bio-Fuels from Wood: Cellulosic Ethanol Plant Online. This was a very good article about a new plant being built in Soperton, Georgia by Range Fuels, Inc., a Colorado based company. Their plans are to buy juvenile wood, pulpwood-roundwood that can be harvested and loaded onto trucks and delivered to the plant.

Over the next four years, the Department of Energy will invest up to \$385 million in six bio-refineries and between the DOE and industry cost share, more than \$1.2 billion will be invested in bio-refineries. The southeast can't compete with the midwest on corn production, but certainly we can compete using our main source - "Wood". The beauty of cellulose-based ethanol is that it can be derived from a wide variety of cellulose sources, ranging from pulpwood chips to pine tops and trim-

mings that are left on a forest floor after harvesting.

Even though there is more being done by our government and the private sector concerning alternative fuels a lot more needs doing and fast. Besides "cost" alone is enough to drive this research and the quicker we get the foreign oil producers attention the sooner we will see the cost of crude coming down. We have to let them know we are serious about our endeavor and even at that point if and when they lower crud prices, we don't need to let up on research and development. Our future depends on us becoming independent of foreign oil producers.

I was amazed when I went online to see what was "out there" on bio-fuels and other forms of energy such as hydrogen. As always, there are pros and cons to everything. As a forester, I certainly consider myself as an "environmentalist" and definitely want to protect the environment within reason! The "Extreme Environmentalist" warns that the use of any plant matter including forest deadwood and

agriculture residues entails considerable ecological cost. To quote one statement "The removal of dead and dying trees from managed forest already leads to large scale biodiversity and possibly to lower carbon sequestration in forest...removing even more trees "wood" residues for agro-fuels would almost certainly accelerate biodiversity loss and reduce carbon storage in forest". Another problem on the horizon is that most plants that are preferred for agro-fuels could cause environmental harm as invasive species.

I don't think anyone at this point knows where we will be ten years from now on resolving our energy crisis, much less 20 or 30 years from now. One thing is for sure, energy cost is serious and it is high time to get on the right road to resolving it. In the meantime we have to live with the cards dealt to us, meaning that we have to change our way of thinking and doing business in order to survive.

New Registered Foresters

Tait, Charles R. III 2072

Forestry Technician
Scotch Plywood Company
P.O. Box 97
Beatrice, AL 36425
251/789-2112
spb-landmgmt@scotchplywood.com

Sypert, Robert H. 2073

Silvicultural Research Forester
Resource Management Service
31 Inverness Center Parkway, Ste. 360
Birmingham, AL 35242
205/980-7310
bsypert@resourcemgt.com

Foresters Granted Reciprocity in Alabama

Foxworth, Jerome M. III MS2064

Owner
Foxworth Forestry Consultants
2415 Highway 43 South
Picayune, MS 39466
601/798-8022
jmfoxworth1@aol.com

Sirmon, Gregory B. MS2128

President
Sirmon & Associates
P. O. Box 1033
Pelahatchie, MS 39145
601/854-6631
gsirmon@aol.com

PRESORTED STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 109
MONTGOMERY, AL

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