THE TRAIL BLAZER

The Appalachian Society of American Foresters

Winter 2022-23

National SAF Web site: www.eforester.org



APSAF Web site: www.APSAF.org

"There will come a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning." ~Louis L'Amour

by Susan Guynn

2022 APSAF Chair



As I realized my tenure serving as APSAF chair was coming to an end, I thought about what we had accomplished this year as an organization. We celebrated APSAF's 100th birthday, completed our incorporation process, started centralizing finances across the states and local chapters, updated our bylaws, delved into ways to better serve APSAF student members, started planning the 2023 meeting, recognized our outstanding leaders and volunteers, published our 100 year history ,and other mundane tasks necessary to keep APSAF opera-

tional. Looking back to January, I thought to myself, "Wow, we got some stuff done." But as the quotes states, "There will come a time when you believe everything is finished. That will be the beginning." We have accomplished a lot this year but there is still so much left to do.

Our APSAF Leadership Academy scheduled for October had to be postponed until April 2023 due to Hurricane Ian. This program is vital to helping cultivate future leaders, not just for APSAF, but for the forestry profession. Thanks to Greg Cooper and Adam Downing for responding to this crisis and rescheduling it so quickly.

APSAF leaders have determined that it is time to have paid, part-time help. Work is currently underway to develop a position description outlining specific job duties and identify an appropriate pay scale. Our hope is that we can find someone within APSAF that is interested in the position so be on the lookout for a Constant Contact email announcing this job opportunity in the next few months.

We are also still fully committed to student engagement and professional development. Tres Hyman and David Coyle have implemented new student engagement strategies at the 2023 APSAF Winter Meeting that should help students take full advantage of being at a professional meeting. To take full advantage of these strategies, Tom Davidson of Leadership Nature, has agreed to conduct two virtual programs to help prepare students (and other APSAF member who wants to attend) for attending the APSAF meeting. The program, titled "Beyond Attendance: Conference networking secrets for students, job seekers, and introverts" will teach students how to 1) say the most

helpful things when you walk up to an exhibit, a stranger, or a job prospect; (2) carry on meaningful and memorable conversations; and (3) close your conversation in a way that is both respectful of others' time and improves the chance at a follow-up conversation if that's what you both want.

So, we are not finished, but just now beginning again. Thanks to APSAF members for putting your trust in me to lead this organization. Thanks to the APSAF Board of Directors and Executive Leadership Team members for their time and expertise to keep APSAF moving forward. And thanks to the APSAF student members who gave their time to me while I was exploring ways that APSAF can better serve them.

It has been an honor, privilege, and personal learning opportunity. Thank you, and I look forward to finding other ways to serve APSAF. ∼ Susan sguvnn@clemson.edu ◆

Even if you have to hitch a ride, make sure you get to the 2023 APSAF Annual Meeting, January 24-27, Columbia, SC



The Trail Blazer

The quarterly newsletter of the Appalachian Society of American Foresters. ©2022

2022 Board of Directors

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Charles F. Finley, Jr., CAE

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Winter 2022-23 ◆ The Trail Blazer

We've got some treasures - we want more!!

The APSAF 2023 Silent Auction is gratified by items being donated for the January event. And, as always, the Auction will feature items *you can't get anywhere else*!! How about Maine (state of) prison towels? Can't get 'em at Target!! How about Straka Family meat treats with a hoodie? Not available on Amazon!! This will be another awesome one-of-a-kind auction event!!

BUT - WE NEED MORE STUFF. New stuff, old stuff (chain of title not required.)

Edibles and wearables. Art and artifacts. We have wooden toys, quilted hand bags, book collections, and tote bags. This is your chance for a personal win-win. Did you receive another weird Christmas gift from Great Aunt Gertie? Regift it to the Silent Auction. Clean out your closet, clear off your shelves AND support our APSAF programs. Or is there a service you can offer? Three day elk hunt at your private



lodge in Montana? Offering a GPS map of someone's tree farm? Or bring a freshly

baked chocolate cake from your kitchen? Who could resist that?

ALL proceeds from the Silent Auction go 50/50 to the SAF Foresters Fund and the APSAF K. P. Funderburke Educational Endowment, two programs that publicly promote the mission of professional forestry and support aspiring young professionals. SO... Blow the dust off your stuff – sharpen your knitting needles and whittling knives – or just crack your wallet open



and buy something donatable. There is no more fun way to contribute to professional forestry than by making a Silent Auction donation.

Questions? - Can't make it to the conference but want to make a donation? We'll facilitate a pick-up and delivery or mailing of items. Not sure if an item is appropriate? Sage counsel is available. Thinking about a career change? We'll probably just tell you that you can't beat professional forestry... Contact Mike Skinner, Silent Auction Chair at confluencefstry@comcast.net phone: 540 320-3737. Open 24/7 (except nights and weekends... and during nap time... or when I'm down at the barn). O



District 8 Board Report, by Anne Jewell



The SAF vision is to be the trusted voice and leader empowering the forestry profession in advancing sustainable forest management to ensure thriving forests and strong communities.

We are all part of a truly dynamic professional organization, and the more involved I have become over the years, the prouder I am to be a member. I've served in the role of the District 8 (APSAF) Representative to the SAF National Board of Directors for the most recent three-year term which comes to an end this December. I've had the opportunities to work with leaders from across the country, and their professionalism, care, dedication, and engagement to create, maintain, and improve operation of SAF is inspiring.

I was able to contribute to and work within groups focused on resolving problems, improving functionality and

governance, and creating services and programs intended to serve the SAF enterprise now and in the future. I was also able to convey and liaise on issues and challenges that surfaced within APSAF and ensure that SAF policies and procedures did not create unintended impacts to our district, or at least deepen understanding of potential impacts through genuine dialogue. In turn, what I've learned about SAF through expanded understanding of the complexities of organization management and all the facets of SAF programs and services enriches my experience as a member, broadens my professional skillsets, and deepened appreciation of the organization.

Following is a summary of key topics and points of potential interest since the last *Trail Blazer* article. Membership numbers currently stand at 9,461 as compared to 9,340 the same time last year. SAF continues a positive membership trend line this year, which is a welcome change of trajectory. SAF remains very mindful of membership trends, potential implications, as well as opportunities, including a membership portfolio review and analysis. The report is available through SAF's <u>Organizational Transparency</u> page. Other membership recruitment and retention initiatives include a 2023 Membership Campaign and a membership joint campaign targeting young professionals who have dropped and nonmembers who attended the SAF 2022 convention. Be sure to reach out to those you work and interact with and share your experience.

The National Convention in September was a well-attended success with approximately 1,300 present in-person and welcoming the reconnection and face-to-face discussion opportunities. There were 61 sponsors and exhibitors, 21 career fair participants, three plenary sessions, three Think Tank sessions, and over 180 technical sessions. New events included a Working Group social, Student Social with over 200 attendees, and a Young Professional meet-up with 60 attendees. There were five preconvention tours, three pre-convention workshops, two post-convention technical tours offered, with most ending up as sold-out events. Additionally, the on-demand registration and access opened in November to have access to all plenary, think tank, and technical session presentations of ForestEd. This access is complimentary for those who attended in-person, so check out sessions you may have missed. The ondemand sessions will be available until March 1, 2023 and offer the potential to earn up to 29.5 CFEs.

Continued page 4

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Boots on the ground... to these upcoming SAF and APSAF Meetings

APSAF Board of Directors Meetings

•January 25, Columbia, SC. 8-noon

2022 State meetings—all gone
•South Carolina, in July 28-29, Winyah

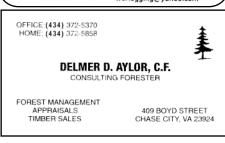
- •North Carolina, June 16-17, Winston-Salem
- •Virginia, CFE Extravaganza, Sept. 8 Charlottesville

2023 APSAF Annual Meeting January 24-27, *LIVE*, Columbia, SC

2023 National SAF Meeting October 25-29, Sacramento, California "Forestry: It's in our DNA"







District 8 Board Report, from page 3

The Forester's Fund was established as a grant program to promote forestry education and enhance public understanding of forest management. To-date, SAF has approved \$47,420 in funds to 18 local unit projects across the nation in support of education, outreach, and professional development projects. Deadlines to submit Foresters' Fund proposals for funding in 2023 are February 15, June 15, and September 15. There is regular grant funding of \$2,000 and a special grant maximum amount of \$5,000. Learn more about the Forester's Fund and other grant opportunities here: https://www.eforester.org/Main/Community/Grants/Foresters_Fund.aspx

Significant progress has been made on the incorporation of all state societies, and Lori Rasor (lrasor@safnet.org) continues progress on all fronts in coordinating among state societies and SAF legal support. Incorporation improves business operations and oversight, legal and tax compliance, and sound business practices for the longevity of the organization. SAF's legal team has completed their legal review and is finalizing documents with Lori generating individualized packets for state societies that still need to complete this process. The SAF-funded Director's and Officer's (D&O) insurance also provides an added layer of personal protection of our volunteer leaders who make management decisions on behalf of their units and step up to serve SAF and its members. Certificates of insurance for general liability insurance coverage can be obtained from the SAF's broker Dan O'Leary (dan@preferins.com). Next steps for state society business operations include finalizing generic bylaws that include updated language and drafting an affiliate agreement to formalize the legal relationships between SAF and the state societies.

On the Advocacy and Outreach front, SAF continues engagement on Mature and Old-growth Forest Management. Following a successful forum on old-growth and mature tree management at the 2021 Convention, SAF drafted a letter highlighting key takeaways from the dialogue with SAF members and other participants. The letter was shared with agency leaders and SAF members via special email. Members, partner organizations, and congressional staff are expressing positive support. To read and share the letter, click here: SAF Letter. Additionally, the Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC) recently sent a letter to USDA Forest Service leadership regarding new funding available to the Urban and Community Forestry program from the Inflation Reduction Act. Led by SAF, the letter was signed by 25 SUFC member organizations. To read and share the letter, click here: SUFC Letter.

Recent SAF initiatives also include development and review of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative's (SFI) Urban and Community Forest Sustainability Standard. The new standard is slated to be released in mid-2023, and SFI has developed an informational handout, which outlines the standard's guiding principles and 16 objectives. Lastly, I mention that an updated SAF position statement on the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program is available on the SAF website. The update maintains strong support for the base program, but also addresses emerging issues, such as increased demand for data and partnerships. Sincere thanks to the entire SAF Committee on Forest Policy, the Forest Science & Technology Board, working group members and the SAF Board for their contributions to this and other positions statements as foundational references, consolidated information and messaging, and readily shareable, vetted, substantiated information. Stay tuned to email or visit the SAF website (eforester.org) for more information on what SAF is up to!

In line with the Christmas season festivities, be sure to check out the US Capitol Christmas Tree, harvested from the national forests in North Carolina this year. SAF is a sponsor of the program and provided web-based FAQs regarding the tree's journey to Washington, DC. A team of North Carolina members, Aimee Tomcho, Dakota Wagner, Tara Dickson, Jacob Comer, and Kevin O'Kane worked with SAF staff to develop the educational materials, including a new section on the FAQs called Humans of Forestry, which will put a face on various careers in natural resources. Thank you to those volunteers!

I'd like to wrap by taking a moment and offer congratulations to Tony Doster in being selected as the new District 8 representative to the Board of Directors! I look forward to working with Tony as he transitions into the role and is oriented into the strategy and operations implemented by the SAF Board. Tony has an extensive history of dedicated APSAF leadership in multiple and various roles and is well-suited to both represent District 8 interests, provide needed communication, and serve to guide the plans and interests of the national SAF organization—SAF is in good hands! The SAF Board, national

committees, and national working groups are all unique opportunities to get involved with your professional organization, I encourage the engagement as a benefit to you, professionally, and to the SAF organization. Please feel free to contact me for more information on this or other ways to get more involved and advocate for your profession and professional organization.

Sincere appreciation for the trust, confidence, and support that I received from APSAF while service on the Board, it was significantly rewarding in many ways.... and I wish you continued wellness, discernment, and optimism as we enjoy the transition into this New Year!

Kindest Regards, Anne ajewell2204@gmail.com / 804-994-3690

APSAF 100 year History Book

If you did not get your copy at the Centennial meeting in Asheville . . .

The documented history of APSAF from its beginning in 1921 to the present is available for viewing on the APSAF website. The 242 page document, titled "APSAF from the Beginning, the First Century" includes details on the origin and development of our Society and chronicles the perseverance and fortitude of the many professionals who made forestry in our area what it is today. There may still be a printed version available. Or, to access, go to www.APSAF.org and click on "About," then "History." Or use this direct link: https://www.apsaf.org/history.

APSAF Leadership Academy returns for 3rd year

After two wildly successful years, the APSAF Leadership Academy will be held in-person again in 2023. This year the program will be held **April 3-6** at the Summit Environmental Education and Conference Center at Haw River State

Park in Browns Summit, NC. This fully immersive professional development opportunity will begin in the afternoon of Monday, April 3rd and depart after lunch on Thursday, April 6th. Participants can expect to engage with peers across the profession and learn about leadership and management competencies, principles, and tools that will impact their work, community, and volunteer efforts with SAF or any other natural resource association.

Several features will help make maximum use of time and talent, including: (1) an orientation

video so everyone knows what to expect and do before, during, and after the Leadership Academy; (2) a live and online introductory session prior to the inperson event to start getting to know one another before arrival, and; (3) multi-use evening programs for dining, socializing, debriefing the day, and homework for the next day (including three personality assessment tools). Modules are interactive and include relevant topics such as having a learning mindset, leadership styles, decision-making tools, communication, motivation and

What participants had to say about the 2021 APSAF Leadership Academy:

"...the APSAF leadership Academy was an overwhelmingly positive experience." The course was immersive, well facilitated, and pushed me to be open and honest with myself about my leadership traits. I learned a ton about myself and met a lot of excellent people that I would not have met otherwise."

"...it was an excellent experience. I will do my best to attend any similar workshops in the future."

"It was a phenomenal experience because of the structure and group activities... the implementation of a project helped immensely with keeping groups together and facilitating teamwork beyond the Academy."

To maximize participant value the program has limited space. If interested, you are invited to apply by February 3, 2023. Program costs are \$250 for SAF members and \$450 for non-members.

-by **Greg Cooper**, greg.cooper@tnc.org (828) 350-1431 x 107 APSAF Leadership Development Chair APSAF Leadership Academy, 2021 Class



Your 2022 Leaders in the State Divisions



North Carolina

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Chair-elect

Nathan Gatlin

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Chair

Barry Graden

barry.graden@forests.org 864-243-1138

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Dr. Puskar Khanal

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APSAF 2023 Annual Meeting

The South Carolina Division SAF is honored and excited to host the **2023 APSAF Winter Meeting**, January 25-27. The meeting will be held at the beautiful, newly renovated Columbia Marriott in the heart of South Carolina's capital city of Columbia, just a few blocks from our historic capitol building.

The theme of the meeting is "The Changing Nature of Forests: Products, Services and Values," which will focus on the many values we get from our forests beyond lumber and paper, such as carbon credits, conservation easements, recreation, cellulose-based textiles, pine straw, and chemical by-products of kraft pulping. You're likely to be surprised by the breadth of products and services that trees and forestlands provide. (Hint: these topics merely scratch the surface—check your local grocery and home goods stores!)

We have a great lineup of speakers, starting with a warm South Carolina welcome from Scott Phillips, SC State Forester and Representative Murrell Smith, Speaker of the SC House. You can see the full agenda with the names of all or our speakers online at the registration link (find this on the APSAF website at: https://www.apsaf.org/new-events).

But wait! We've also lined up several **Pre-Conference Workshops** in keeping with the meeting theme that are sure to pique your interest. Two of these will involve field trips (transportation provided):

• "The Business of Pine Straw," which will be located at Clemson University's Sandhill Research Education Center, a short 30-minute drive from the Columbia Marriott; and • Two mill tours vis-à-vis poles and firewood, at South Carolina Pole & Piling, Inc. which supplies southern yellow pine poles and piling to the wood treating industry along the east coast of the United States (learn more at scpole.com) and Wedges Firewood, supplier of firewood for restaurants, campgrounds, and retail locations across South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia (see www.wedgesfirewood.com).

The third pre-conference workshop is being brought back by popular demand: **Forest Herbicides**, led by Colby Lambert, NC State University. This will be conveniently located right there at the Columbia Marriott.

We anticipate high attendance, so visit the REGISTRATION page today and don't forget to reserve your room at the Columbia Marriott. It is not too early to register, in fact the sooner the better! You'll find the registration link at: www.apsaf.org/new-events.

And if you or your company (or one that you know) is interested in sponsoring or exhibiting, we still have space left, and I encourage you to contact Steve Grindley at sgrindley@agsouthfc.com for more information about sponsoring this meeting and/or hosting an exhibit.

NEW THIS YEAR will be a **Student Social Event** on Wednesday evening at the **The Grand on Main**, once home to a 1900s Vaudeville House & Theatre. Student feedback, as reported earlier this year by APSAF Chair Susan Guynn from her personal visits to APSAF Student Chapters, instigated this new event, which will give students a time to socialize with those from other schools in a relaxed atmosphere, with some fun and friendly competition thrown in.



On a related note, for students needing some funding assistance to attend the 2023 APSAF Winter Meeting, there are scholarships available through the Kenney P. Funderburke Educational Endowment Fund. Learn more here: https://www.apsaf.org/funding.

Of course, the traditional Silent Auction and Raffle will be going on throughout the 2023 APSAF Winter Meeting to raise funds for The Funderburke Fund and Foresters Fund, both important APSAF educational initiatives. We are looking for quaint, unusual, ordinary, old, new, eclectic, and/or weird forestry and non-forestry items and donations, so please consider donating items to help raise these funds by completing the form found on the REGISTRATION page or by contacting Mike Skinner (confluencefstry@comcast.net).

Finally, we are looking for **VOLUNTEERS** to help make the Winter Meeting a full success. If you'd like to get involved as valuable part of the meeting, we have many volunteer positions to help with photography, registration, raffle ticket sales, and silent auction. See our Volunteer Sign-Up link on the Registration landing page (find it at: https://www.apsaf.org/new-events). Please consider helping out!

Last, but certainly not least, the **Christian Foresters Fellowship** will be holding a morning devotional Friday, Jan 27th from 7-8 AM in the Marriott's Palmetto Ballroom II. There will be a brief devotional with a forestry theme, along with time for fellowship and prayer. All are welcome, so I encourage you to grab some breakfast and join us for some devotion and fellowship.

My final thought is that with Christmas soon on the way, our energies are quickly being focused on family, church, gift-giving and travel plans. I don't want to minimize that, but I do want to remind you that *early registration for the 2023 APSAF Winter Meeting ends Friday, December 23rd* (Christmas "Eve-Eve"). By registering now, you can free yourself and turn your attention to the holidays. What a great gift that will be. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! (And I look forward to seeing you in January!) Barry Graden, Chair, 2022 SC Division SAF

Don't even stop for directions. You know where

Columbia
South
Carolina is.
Now get
packing and
bring a
silent auction item
with you.
YES, dear.





The APSAF Election Results ARE in... did your vote break the tie?

By Adam Downing, APSAF Immediate Past Chair

Everyone has heard it and/or said it. *Every vote matters*. Well, turns out, it's true, at least for APSAF. As I tallied the votes for the 3 divisions and APSAF, I started to sweat a bit when SC looked like it was going to be a tie. **The online voting was a tie** with equal votes for each worthy candidate. "Shucks," I thought to myself, "Am I going to now have to conduct a runoff election?"

But no... thanks to one person from SC who sent in a paper ballot, the tie was broken. I don't know who to thank for this, the process is anonymous, but I am thankful that a member took the time to vote and mail me the ballot.

For the APSAF level votes, the count was also very close which is one simple, but compelling, evidence that both candidates are highly regarded.

I'm ALSO THANKFUL for the **slate of great candidates** we had running for chair-elect offices at the Division and APSAF levels. Two of the elections were contested, which is a GREAT TESTIMONY to a healthy organization. I'm especially thankful to those who were willing to run against a respected colleague and graciously accept the outcome. With that, please join me in thanking every candidate and congratulating these (as of January 27, 2023):

APSAF Chair-Elect: **Patrick Hiesl** VA Chair-Elect: **Bill Sweeney** NC Chair-elect: **Blair Allman** SC Chair-Elect: **Ricky McCutchen**

District 8 Board Representative: Tony Doster

Reminder

Forestry CFEs Opportunities:

If you are looking/needing CFE credits, consider watching one or more recordings and take a quiz at the Southern Regional Extension Forestry site http://www.forestrywebina-rs.net/ Lots of topics here to choose from! Upcoming ones you can join live AND past recordings available "on-demand" for CFE credits too! And as always, check the CFE Event Calendar at www.eforester.org

2023 ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

Mark your calendars for January 24-27, 2023 for the 2023 Annual Winter Meeting staged in Columbia, SC. Make up your mind now to attend!

Trail Blazer Publication Calendar					
Issue	Submission deadline	Trail Blazer sent now via email, to you by:			
Spring 2023 Summer 2023 Fall 2023 Winter 2023-24	MARCH 1 JUNE 1 SEPTEMBER DECEMBER 1				

NORTH CAROLINA: WHAT'S NEW IN THE OLD NORTH STATE?

Tara Dickson, NC Division Chair. Favorite quote: "If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else." ~Booker T. Washington



The Ultimate Report

by Tara Dickson, NC Division Chair

As I finish up year-end priorities, I have been reflecting on the unexpected rewards that come from being involved in an organization. Networking and career opportunities are obvious bene-

fits, but often the sense of camaraderie is understated. As I visited with chapters across the state, I was blessed to witness multiple examples of this intrinsic motivation. This year brought many new friends, ideas, and experiences that I will forever remember. Thank you all for a fantastic year.

North Carolina had another busy quarter, full of outreach. The NC Division exhibited at the Environmental Educators of North Carolina conference in Raleigh. This year's conference was held September 9-10. AJ Lang, Alex Thompson, and Tom Gerow took turns greeting people, answering questions, and spreading the news about SAF. The NC Division also set up an exhibit table at the 2022 Forest Landowner Conference in Rocky Mount, N.C. The conference was held on October 25-26 and had over 100 participants and 20+ exhibitors. I was able to attend both days and made many new connections. [See photos below.]

Capitol Christmas Tree Update

Ruby, the 78-foot-tall Red Spruce, has safely made it to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol. The journey began shortly after the November 2nd harvest from Pisgah National Forest. A harvest celebration event in Fletcher, NC kicked off the festivities, and Ruby spread holiday cheer all the way to Manteo, NC before heading north. NC SAF members from across the state participated as exhibitors, greeters, ornament makers, and event supporters. Special thanks to the Pisgah, Haywood, and Croatan chapters!

A team of NC professionals joined me in making a brochure that was handed out at all events along with adding NC specific FAQs to the Choose Outdoors website. We created a Humans in Forestry series to highlight impressive forestry careers across the state. Aimee Tomcho, Dakota Wagner, Jake Comer, and Kevin O'Kane went above and beyond to make NC look great!

Save the Date

The 2023 NC SAF annual summer meeting will be held July 19-21. We are still deciding on the location, but we will send an announcement as soon as the details have been finalized.

Croatan Chapter

The Croatan Chapter and its members have had a fun and busy fall! We had our last Adopt-A-Highway roadside cleanup of the year in October. The Chapter held a meeting on October 5th at Tight Line Brewing Co. in Morehead City. Our guest speaker was Leigh Bragassa, an Urban Forestry Inspector for the City of Raleigh. Leigh presented on invasive species in NC. In November, members from our Chapter were able to at-

tend two U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree stops; one at the NC Veterans Home in Kinston, and one at Union Point Park in New Bern.

Our next Chapter meeting will be our Annual Oyster Roast on De cember 8th at Cool Springs

Environmental Center. We welcome all to attend (if you don't like oysters, we will also have hamburgers and hotdogs). Also at Cool Springs, the Chapter will be hosting a Project Learning Tree Workshop for foresters and educators on February 18. We will be sending out informational fliers soon. Lastly, the Chapter would like to congratulate Weyerhaeuser Company on receiving

Continued next page







the SAF National Employer Leadership Award for 2022. Every year our local chapter is awarded grant money from Weyerhaeuser and this money allows us to purchase materials for our outreach events, support student chapters, and scholarships, just to name a few.

P.S. We are looking for Chair-Elect nominations for 2023!

Piedmont Chapter

Piedmont chapter has done well this year. We had each of our bi-monthly meetings with an average of 9 to 10 foresters each time. The topics ranged from pest and pathology, to underserved landowners, to urban forestry. We picked up a couple new attendees this year and the chapter's membership continues to hold strong. Our next meeting will be January 5, 2023, in Clemmons.

Pisgah Chapter

This fall Pisgah Chapter has had members attend both the Capitol Christmas Tree tour, which was sourced from the Pisgah National Forest, and the Forest Festival at the Cradle of Forestry. At each event members hosted a table with information about SAF and spoke with many folks about SAF and forestry in general.



NC State

A huge thank you to APSAF and the NC Division for helping students from NC State attend the national convention. We had an amazing experience. We appreciate the support for our further engagement in the forestry community.



Duke

The Duke Chapter of SAF has

had a busy semester, hosting many events and trainings. Our highlights included a visit to the Forest History Society: Field Day – Duke SAF co-hosted a school-wide event, bringing together students and faculty for a day of BBQ and fun forestry games! SAF students roasted a pig overnight, camping out in the Duke Forest. We hosted a caber toss, a crosscut saw competition, and tug of war.

<u>Dendrology Competition</u> – Led by Professor Nicki Cagle, Duke SAF hosted a fun dendrology competition in the Duke Forest. Competitors were challenged to identify trees found in the North Carolina Piedmont area with both common and scientific names. The competition was followed by lunch and a team "tree-via" game.



<u>Chainsaw Training</u> — A dozen students received chainsaw training and practiced felling, bucking, and delimbing trees in the Duke Forest!

<u>Downtown Alumni Social</u> – Duke SAF brought together local

Master of Forestry Alumni to mingle with current students and faculty over drinks at a local brewery. This was a great networking event and social occa-



sion for our forestry community with great turnout.

Haywood Community College

The fall semester has been a busy one for the Haywood Community College SAF Chapter. We started off by attending the National Convention in Baltimore, Maryland where students were able to meet forestry professionals and other students from around the country. HCC students met up with students from Hocking College in Ohio and hung out for most of the trip. In addition to the convention, students visited the

Baltimore Aquarium and experienced the Harbor atmosphere in Baltimore. With the Holiday Season in full swing, students attended Capitol Christmas Tree Celebrations across western North Carolina, and will participate in both the Canton and Waynesville Christmas parades.





VIRGINIA— REAL NEWS . . . FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE SALT MARSHES

David Powell, VA Division Chair, favorite quote: "Live your life so you wouldn't be ashamed to sell the family parrot to the town gossip." Will Rogers

The Virginia Report

by David Powell

Virginia Division Chair



Time marches on, it seems like only yesterday the leaves were beginning to color. Now the leaves are falling, but like stubborn red oak leaves, I'm hanging on to the last days of summer—not ready to give up shorts and short sleeves. Likewise, the CFE extravaganza was only a couple of months ago and it was a great day! The meeting featured a couple of novelties. (at least for the Virginia divi-

sion). We hosted a hybrid meeting which allowed members to attend in person or log on remotely. We also had presenters join us from across the country to share their expertise. I admit I was skeptical about pulling off such an endeavor, but with the help of Scott Reigel and a few others, we were able to do it! I'm admittedly old fashioned, but I believe that such hybridization provides a glimpse of the future not only for our organization, but many others. The "online" option allows more of our members to participate even when physically traveling is not an option. Novelty, or will such options dramatically increase member participation? Will remote participation dilute the personal relationships that we cherish as an SAF member or make those relationships grow? I don't know; the only thing I know for sure is that if we must try!

In each of my Trail Blazer missives so far, I have advocated being BOLD. Take your chapter and try something different! After we find success, share it with others! We have a story to tell and benefits to provide our fellow foresters, so engage! I was recently talking to a climate scientist at a church function. We were having a conversation about green fielding solar farms. Of course, my position is that Trees are the answer. The scientist countered that emerging data suggests that in certain settingssuch as lower productivity soils, solar panels were more beneficial than trees in reducing atmospheric CO₂, thus having a positive effect on the climate. I had not heard of this before, so I asked if their position was based on solely CO2 or did it take other ecosystem services into account as well. The scientist formed his position based on CO₂. That's when the conversation really started to get interesting, we started talking about the other benefits of forests and trees to which they acknowledged that CO₂ might not be the only variable; however, they felt it was the most pressing current variable. We ended our discussion without any breakthroughs, but agreeing that this is a complex topic, and many difficult decisions need to be vetted and implemented.

Why did I bring this up? To further define my point that we need to ENGAGE, not only within our profession, but with others outside the profession to find solutions. Solutions are what we do well! Go forth and find solutions.

Lastly, an update on the Division goals for the year. Virginia will be hosting the 2024 APSAF Winter meeting. The Executive team has received several ideas for locations. While we have yet to finalize any proposal, it seems that excitement within the Division centers around throwing the party in the western end of the Commonwealth. More details will be forthcoming, and we will again be depending on volunteers from all over the state to help make the meeting a success. In the meantime, don't forget to attend the 2023 meeting in South Carolina. I look forward to seeing you there!

Chapter reports

Blue Ridge Chapter, by Corey Green, Chair

The Blue Ridge Chapter has had a busy fall! Bob Radspinner took bids on a new sign with updated badging and has submitted the Chapter's order. We hope to be presenting the new sign by the January APSAF convention. This October, Bob coordinated a workday to place new wooden posts along the trail, which will coordinate with the new interpretive stops described in the updated trail brochure. **Bob, Kyle Peer, Mike Skinner**, and **Bill Sweeney** put in a good day's work on the trail, that day!





A motley gang of Hokie Hikers is bundled up and geared up to talk forestry!

The committee has completed updating the stop descriptions in the self-guided brochure and is working



on the final formatting. All this work was completed just in time for the chapter to host a Hokie Hike! It was a cold day, but Bob, Kyle, and Bill led three Hokies along the trail and taught them about forestry in the Southern Appalachians. The

crew warmed up at Brugh Tavern over a good beer! Check out the completed trail, above.

Lastly, our Chapter is still taking nominations for Chair-elect. If you would like to submit a nomination, please contact Corey Green. Below, Bill Sweeney leads a discussion about sourwood's historic Appalachian uses and its value to native pollinators.



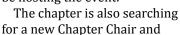
Rappahannock Chapter, by Mark Books, CF, Chair Our next chapter meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7 starting at 1:00 PM with a hardwood tour near Bowling Green, VA. Following the tour, a dinner meeting at a local restaurant in Bowling Green will be held and a hardwood talk will be given by Joe Rossetti, Hardwood Forest Habitat Initiative Coordinator with the VA Dept of Forestry. Please join us for an informative hardwood discussion and management information.

Skyline Chapter, by Michael Downey, Acting Chair

On Saturday November 5, the Skyline Chapter held its Annual Firewood Cut for the needy. The event took place and was hosted by Dave Chessum, landowner, who has helped to continue this tradition. As meteorologists are predicting this win-

ter to be the worst as temperatures will reach record lows, and with people falling on hard times, one small act can make a world of difference.

I want to extend my gratitude to Mark Hollberg and Charlie Huppuch for starting this tradition and I hope that it spreads to other chapters and throughout the SAF VA Division. The chapter will have another firewood cut for the needy on Friday December 2. Paul Haney, ACF/SAF chapter member and landowner will be hosting the event.



Chair-Elect for this upcoming year. If you are interested or know of anyone interested, please do not hesitate to contact me. Photo: **Charlie Huppuch's still got it.!**



Mountain Gateway Community College

The 2022 Fall semester at MGLCC was a great one! Wonderful fall weather was great for outdoor labs! Some 23 new students joined the Forestry and Arboriculture programs. First year students were busy taking Forest and Wildlife Ecology, Dendrology, and general education classes. After a 3-year hiatus due to Covid protocols, we were able to visit VT CNRE and also study trees around campus led by Dr. John Seiler as a Dendrology lab experience. Always a treat!

Second year students spent much of their time studying Timber Harvesting, Forest Protection, Mensuration II and Silviculture. All the while, they gained 7 federal and state wildland firefighting credentials, commercial pesticide applicators licensure, and SHARP Logger designation. They also participated in a structural lumber grading shortcourse. Looking forward to Christmas break and gearing up for spring semester!

Respectfully submitted, Jacob Rak, Chapter Secretary *PS – Dabney S. Lancaster Community College transitioned to Mountain Gateway Community College on July 1, 2022.*

Keep going, for news from Va Tech, next page ©



Don't forget SAF national has a new address

SAF National office: 2121 K Street, NW, Suite 315, Washington, DC 20037, and NEW phone 202-938-3910



Virginia Tech Student Chapter

By Jen Gagnon, Faculty Advisor

The Virginia Tech Student SAF Chapter had a busy fall semester. The Chapter had booths at Gobbler Fest, an annual campus-wide event, and at the College of Natural Resources and Environment's Welcome Back Bash. The Chapter promoted SAF, recruited new members, and answered questions about forestry.

Six Chapter members attended the SAF National Convention in Baltimore in September. Attendees included: graduate students Pedro Sartori and Sarah Kinz, and undergraduate students Connor Austin (chair-elect), Nick Sandy (treasurer), Rebecca Barkman (soon to be graduate student liaison), and Caroline Fitzgerald, recipient of an SAF diversity scholarship. Members connected with potential employers and alums at the Virginia Tech booth in the Convention Exhibit Hall.



Six Virginia Tech Student SAF Chapter members attended the National SAF Convention in Baltimore in September. Pictured (I to r) Sarah Kinz, Nick Sandy, Connor Austin, and Rebecca Barkman.

The Chapter also had monthly membership meetings. The September meeting was to introduce SAF and recruit new members. The October meeting was in conjunction with the VT Forestry Club. Dennis Austin from Georgia Pacific discussed employment opportunities with the groups. Finally, Hunter Hilbert, an assistant director for career and college relations, discussed the services offered at the career center and resume-building at the November meeting.

The semester activities will wrap up with a tree identification field trip and BBQ dinner at John Peterson and Jennifer Gagnon's farm and a December tree cookie decorating party. Students are also making plans to attend the APSAF meeting in Columbia SC in January.

Virginia to Host an Introduction to Forest Carbon Markets Conference on March 3 in Chester

Maybe some folks reading this have aggregated forested properties to participate in carbon markets. Maybe some of you own or make decisions on properties that could

not participate in forest carbon markets in the past. Many of you may be foresters working for clients who are now being approached by carbon programs and they are coming to you with questions on whether they should engage in selling credits with company XYZ. Forest carbon markets are extremely dynamic and changes are occurring rapidly—from the types of credit purchasers, to approved and verified protocols, and expansion of the size and scale of available projects.

In efforts to assist you and your landowners, the Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters, in partnership with Virginia Cooperative Extension and Association of Consulting Foresters, and aided by the Virginia Department of Forestry, are holding a 1-day conference on voluntary forest carbon markets for Virginia landowners on March 3, 2023 at Brightpoint Community College Chester campus (13101 Route 1, Chester, Virginia 23831-5316). A hybrid option will also be available for those not able to attend in person. Details will be available at the events page at APSAF.org in January 2023.

At this conference, attendees will learn about the different forest carbon programs operating in Virginia, their requirements for qualification, contract terms, payments and obligations, benefits and risks, and how to enroll. There will be presentations from academia, verifying organizations, forest carbon programs, and landowner testimonials. A decision-making framework will also be presented. The aim is to provide foresters and landowners with the details they need to guide landowners through this decision-making process and provide landowners with the details they need to determine if participating in a carbon market is right for them. \bigcirc

STOP! DO NOT READ ANY FURTHER,

UNTIL YOU RETURN TO PAGE 2.

Don't miss this chance to find something valuable in your attic, or at your favorite sporting goods store. Do you really need that raccoon hat any more? How about a Carolina Pine owl purse? (No owls were sacrificed in making this purse.)



Virginia and APSAF have lost two excellent professionals and good friends

In Memory of Harold Burkhart

On October 20^{th} , 2022, the forestry community unexpectedly lost one of its preeminent scholars in Dr. Harold



Burkhart. He grew up on a farm in the plains of Oklahoma where he attended Oklahoma State University earning a B.S. in Forestry. Following his undergraduate education, he attended the University of Georgia where he completed his M.S. and Ph.D. under the direction of the late Jerome Clutter. Dr. Burkhart arrived at Virginia Tech (then Virginia Polytechnic Institute, or VPI) in 1969 where he eventual-

ly achieved the rank of University Distinguished Professor in 1999. Dr. Burkhart remained highly active at the University until the day of his passing.

Throughout his over 50 years of service, Dr. Burkhart established himself as one of the leading global scientists in applying quantitative methods to solve forestry problems. His body of work was immense and, in many ways, changed the way we manage forests. Despite his renowned scientific career, his biggest impact was the positive influence he had on people's lives. During his time at Virginia Tech, he served as advisor for almost 80 graduate degrees and postdoctoral fellowships. Many of these individuals went on to highly successful careers in academia, industry, and beyond. In addition to his graduate students, Dr. Burkhart served as a mentor for countless other individuals and served on hundreds of graduate committees. His courses in Forest Biometrics

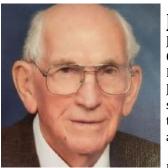
were known as some of the toughest, most rigorous courses in the program, but his students universally appreciated the opportunity to learn under such a renowned, but humble scholar. His devotion to the profession extended beyond Virginia Tech through his work with organizations such as the Society of American Foresters, the Forest Landowners Association, and the Virginia Academy of Science. His commitment to the profession extended to educating the next generation of forestry professionals through his work with the Virginia Forestry Education Foundation. To those who knew him, Dr. Burkhart was a thoughtful, kind person who always made time for those seeking advice or just wanting to talk.

In 1979, Dr. Burkhart established the Loblolly Pine Growth and Yield Research Cooperative. While the name later changed to the Forest Modeling Research Cooperative, his vision and drive established the cooperative as a leading research center for developing and applying high-quality quantitative tools for better managing forests.

Dr. Burkhart is perhaps best known for his Forest Measurements textbook series with the late Eugene Avery and in the latest edition, Bronson Bullock. It's hard to go into a forester's office and not find a copy sitting on the shelf, or maybe open on their desk! In addition to the Forest Measurements book, he authored Modeling Forest Trees and Stands with Margarida Tomé. This book has established itself as a valuable reference to the quantitative forestry community.

Outside of Virginia Tech, Dr. Burkhart was a father and a husband. He was closely involved in the local community here in Blacksburg, as well as his local church. He is survived by his son Qato Burkhart of Los Angeles, California and his brother, Ernest Burkhart of Braman, Oklahoma.

Written by Dr. Corey Green, and Dr. Jay Sullivan



John Paul Harper

John Harper 98, of West Point, Va., died at home on November 10. The son of Samuel Paul and Clara Harper of Andrews, S.C., he was preceded in death by his wife of 67 years, Jacqueline Cook Harper. Mr. Harper is beloved by four children, Virginia Hester (Michael Hicks) of Columbia, S.C., John (Eleanor) of West Point, Paul (Elizabeth) of Raleigh, N.C., Nora Kopacki (Steve) of Poquoson; seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. John Paul was the last surviving sibling of sisters, Sarah Bailey and Mary Harper and brothers, Samuel Robert and Keith Harper.

WWII veteran and POW, Mr. Harper served as a B-24 nose gunner in the U.S. 8th Air Force in North Pickenham, England, in the 492nd bomb group. Mr. Harper was a graduate of North Caroli-

na State College in 1949, when he began his 40-year forestry career in Georgetown, S.C., with International Paper Company and later with Great Northern Paper in Blakely, Ga. He then moved to Chesapeake Corporation in West Point, Va., in 1968 where he retired as a Vice President in 1989. He was a member of the Society of American Foresters for more than 60 years. Mr. Harper was a member of West Point United Methodist Church. The family extends its sincere gratitude to Amedisys Hospice and Bayada Home Health Care for their care and support, and to the many friends and neighbors who supported him. A memorial service at West Point United Methodist Church, 1020 Main St., was held November 19. The service was livestreamed through the West Point UMC Facebook page. Donations may be made to West Point Historical Society or the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, mightyeighth.org. Tributes may be posted at www.vincentfh.com. Published by Richmond Times-Dispatch on Nov. 16, 2022.

SOUTH CAROLINA—ALL THE NEWS (SHO NUFF)

Barry Graden, SC Chair. Favorite quote: "I might look like I'm doing nothing, but in my head I'm quite busy."

Did you miss pages 6 and 7? Here's a recap.



The South Carolina Division SAF is honored and excited to host the 2023 **APSAF Winter Meeting** January 25-27. The theme is "The Changing Nature of Forests: Products, Services and Values," which will focus on many values we get from our forests beyond lumber and paper, such as carbon credits, conservation easements. recreation, cellu-

lose-based textiles, pine straw, and chemical byproducts of Kraft pulping.

We have a great lineup of speakers, starting with a warm South Carolina welcome from Scott Phillips, SC State Forester and Representative Murrell Smith, Speaker of the SC House. You can



see the full agenda with the names of all or our speakers online at the registration link (find this on the APSAF web site at: https://www.apsaf.org/new-events).

But wait! We've also lined up several **Pre-Conference Workshops** in keeping with the meeting theme that are sure to pique your interest. Two of these will involve field trips (transportation provided):

- •"The Business of Pine Straw," which will be located at Clemson University's Sandhill Research Education Center, a short 30-minute drive from the Columbia Marriott; and
- •Two mill tours vis-à-vis poles and firewood, at **South Carolina Pole & Piling, Inc.** which supplies southern yellow pine poles and piling to the wood treating industry along the east coast of the United States (learn more at scpole.com) and **Wedges Firewood**, supplier of firewood for restaurants, campgrounds, and retail locations across South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia (www.wedgesfirewood.com). The third pre-conference workshop is being brought back by popular demand: **Forest Herbicides**, led by Colby Lambert, NC State University. This will be conveniently located right there at the Columbia Marriott.

We anticipate high attendance, so visit the registration link at www.apsaf.org/new-events. Pretty Quick.



Bring Your Spouse! There will be lots to do for spouses who join us. Tour today's historic South Carolina Statehouse, completed in 1903 after complete destruction of the original statehouse during the Civil War. Enjoy easy access to popular landmarks including Riverbanks Zoo and Garden, Williams Brice Stadium and Township Auditorium. From a variety of delicious local eats and drinks, like brunch spots or breweries, to fun events throughout the year and popular attractions, there's no shortage of things to do while you're in the city.

The best part? Columbia, South Carolina grants you front row access to all of this with manageable traffic and walkability. Explore Columbia's recently revitalized downtown and several distinct shopping districts where new perspectives mix amidst old favorites like the Nickelodeon, Mast General Store and King's Jewelers.

We look forward to seeing you there! *

The Treasurer's Report, by Tony Doster, TDoster@resourcemgt.com

Net Worth - As of 12/7/2022

(Includes unrealized gains)

Account	12/31/2019 Balance	12/31/2020 Balance	12/31/2021 Balance	12/7/2022 Balance
ASSETS				
Cash and Bank Accounts				
APSAF First Citizens Business Ch	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,810.18
APSAF First Citizens Savings	0.00	0.00	0.00	25,313.98
APSAF Paypal	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 0286	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 5486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 5586	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 6586	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CDs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Citizens Basic Business Chec	32,414.12	17,638.72	81,156.88	0.00
First Citizens Money Market Savings	20,020.38	10,023.41	9,940.97	0.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	52,434.50	27,662.13	91,097.85	51,124.16
Investments	32,404.00	27,002.10	31,037.00	01,124.10
APSAF First Citizens Brokerage	0.00	0.00	0.00	227,194.95
KP Funderburke Endowment Acco	0.00	0.00	0.00	131,706.01
Old APSAF First Citizens Brokerage	43,373.00	57,383.71	62,001.38	0.00
Old KP Funderburke Endowment	112,438.11	132,566.95	150,840.90	0.01
TOTAL Investments	155,811.11	189,950.66	212,842.28	358,900.98
TOTAL ASSETS	208,245.61	217,612.79	303,940.13	410,025.14
LIABILITIES Credit Cards				
AJ Lang - Triangle Chapter XX4748	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Anne Margaret Braham - Triangle	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Barry Graden - SC Division XX4986	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
David Powell - VA Division SAF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Citizens Visa Business Credit	0.00	0.00	57.61	0.00
George Chastain - Winyah Chapter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Herbert Nicholson - Pee Dee Chap	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jeff Pardue - Piedmont Chapter XX	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jennifer Gagnon - VA Tech Studen	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jim Schroering - VA Division SAF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jim Schroering - VA Division Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Jackson - Edisto Chapter XX	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kenneth Sterner - Rappahannock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kyle Peer - Blue Ridge Chapter XX	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leah Rathbun - NCSU Student - 9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madison West - SE Chapter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mary Beth Hanson - Waccamaw C	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Olakunle Sodiya - NC Division XX3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old First Citizens Keowee Chapter	0.00	0.00	6.35	0.00
Pete Hancock - Tar River Chapter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ricky McCutchen - Pee Dee Chapt	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Robert Sparks Keowee Chapter Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scott Danskin - SC Division SAF X	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steve Grindley - Central Carolina S	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tara Dickson - Croatan Chapter Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tom Brant - Enoree Chapter XX9391	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tony Doster - APSAF Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL Credit Cards	0.00	0.00	63.96	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00	0.00	63.96	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	208,245.61	217,612.79	303,876.17	410,025.14

More news, Try to keep up!

Pat and Tom Straka made a visit to the Cradle of Forestry, near where the 2022 APSAF Annual Meeting was held, and checked on the Centennial White Oak we planted last summer. Here 'tis, looking good; it has now grown to 3 feet, out of its tomato cage that provided protection.



Dues notices. Thank you for your continued involvement and support of the Society of American Foresters. Thanks for your support as a **Golden Member,** SAF is working with its members and partners to shape the very future of the forestry profession. On June 1, SAF began sending renewal invoices digitally. If you are a current print subscriber to the *Journal of Forestry*, your renewal invoice has been sent digitally. Emails are sent to your primary email address when your *Journal of Forestry* subscription is up for renewal. You will be able to renew online, or you can print the invoice.

All members may opt out of digital invoices, and therefor would continue to receive printed invoices in the mail. By going digital, members will have immediate online access to your *Journal of Forestry* invoices on-demand, and SAF will conserve resources to better serve the membership in other areas. *The Journal of Forestry* is a subscription based publication at a fee of \$35. If you decide to discontinue receiving the Journal of Forestry, please do not pay the invoice.

To subscribe to the *Journal of Forestry* or remove your subscription contact us at (202) 938-3910, or member-ship@safnet.org. Thank you for continued support. Darnell J. Pinson, Director, SAF Membership.

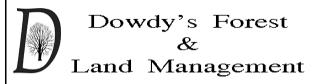
APSAF position opening

Ed Zimmer is preparing an announcement to advertise for a part-time bookkeeper for APSAF. If you wish to recommend someone, get in touch with him by email, ezimmer1130@gmail.com.

Did you know we are having a silent auction at the 2023 APSAF Annual Meeting?? HELLO Look what you can bid on, plus any rarities, family heirlooms you bring with you.







Matthew Dowdy 540-967-1707

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