

# *The Allegheny News*



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters  
Winter 2018**

Volume 27, No. 1

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*The mission of the SAF is to advance the science, technology, education and practice of professional forestry in America, and to use the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit society.*

**The Allegheny News**  
**PO Box 667 Honey Brook, PA 19344**  
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*Cover Photo*

*Photo by Barbara McGuinness – SILVAH field trip*

**Advertising in the Allegheny News**

<b>Rates:</b>	<b><u>One Issue</u></b>	<b><u>All Four Issues</u></b>
Full internal page 6 ¾" x 9 ½"	\$130	\$ 450
Half page (3 ¼" x 9 ½" or 6 ¾" x 4 5/8")	75	250
One third page (3 ¼" x 7 ¼" or 6 ¾" x 2")	50	150
One quarter page (3 ¼" x 4 5/8")	40	130
One eighth page or Business Card (3 ¼" x 2")	25	70

## Chair's Corner

*Steven W. Koehn*



As I sit down to take pen in hand, my thoughts and prayers are with the folks in southern California dealing with Santa Ana driven wildfires that are consuming both landscapes and residential homes as we enter the Holiday season. As much as this is a fire problem, as it surely is, it is also a forest management problem that has been neglected for too long. Battling large wildfires across our country takes a toll in Allegheny region, even if those large catastrophic fires don't often hit close to home.

At a price tag of more than \$2.4 billion so far this year, the federal government has spent more money fighting fires this year than any other wildfire season on record. In 2017, fires have already burned through more than 8 million acres of American land – an area bigger than the size of Maryland.

Catastrophic fires are happening more and more often, as increasingly extreme weather patterns lead to bigger fires. More people now live near fire-prone forests, too, so firefighting costs are going up year after year. Each new season is proving to be anything but average. In the mid-1990s, fire suppression constituted about 16 percent of the USDA Forest Service budget; today, it accounts for more than 50 percent.

The current method to pay for fighting these fires means federal agencies are forced to pay for increased wildfire suppression costs by drawing resources away from their conservation, land management and local partnership responsibilities. While earthquakes, floods and other disaster relief operations use emergency funds for damages and recovery, wildfire disasters are paid for directly from the budgets of federal agencies. The size and scale of these fires continue to drain needed resources from the U.S. Forest Service budget, impacting public and private lands across the nation, including state and private forests right here in our region.

While the need to fight fires to save lives and property is understandable, it means agencies borrow money from programs like forest landowner assistance, urban and community forestry and forest health protection to make up budget shortfalls. But it's that conservation and land management work – such as restoring forests and removing hazardous fuels to improve stand conditions – that helps reduce the risk of fire in the first place.

We need to encourage our local elected leaders to send letters to Congress seeking a permanent solution to this wildfire funding transfer. SAF agrees that Congress should provide adequate funding for fire suppression, and permanently change the way the United States pays to fight wildfires. Congress needs to treat wildfires like the disasters they are and make disaster funding accessible for federal firefighting efforts. It doesn't make sense to have firefighting come at the expense of projects that would conserve our forests and make our lands healthier and less fire prone in the first place.

We need to break out of this cycle, and Congress holds the keys to a solution. We need to urge our state and local elected officials to join a bipartisan group of lawmakers who support passage of the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act, which seeks to find a permanent solution to this growing problem, as well as supporting similar legislation that was introduced this fall in the Senate. These approaches are a great idea, and they can't be enacted soon enough.

We know that firefighting costs are going to continue to rise. And under the government's current funding structure, the U.S. can't keep up. I encourage you to raise your voices and add them to others urging Congress to take action on this important issue. We need to not only fight wildfires, but also fund needed conservation programs across the country. And we need to keep our forests healthy to prevent fires – and protect our land, property and people across the nation.

**Allegheny Society of American Foresters  
Annual Summer Training  
September 20 – 22, 2017 - Park Inn, Clarion, PA**

**ALLEGHENY SECTION CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SILVAH  
RESEARCH-MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP**



More than 140 people gathered in Clarion, PA for the 2017 SAF Allegheny Section Summer Training September 20-22, 2017, hosted by the Plateau Chapter, #SILVAH50. The meeting was called a training, as each speaker was asked to end their talk with a statement of the “State of the Science” as it applied to managing the mixed hardwood forests of the mid-Atlantic region. Energy and engagement was palpable in the halls, meeting rooms, and field trip sites throughout the meeting.

[SILVAH](#) is a 50-year-old partnership between scientists and managers that began when, at an SAF Chapter meeting in about

1967, public and private foresters of the High Allegheny Plateau ecoregion asked US Forest Service Research and Development for help addressing a regeneration crisis. David A. Marquis was brought to Warren, PA to head up the research program. From the beginning, Marquis recognized the potential power of a research-management partnership, and built the partnership, training sessions, and computer software that became SILVAH. As one of the speakers at the meeting, Marquis detailed this early history to a rapt audience. Steve Horsley, another leader of the original SILVAH team, shared the history of early vegetation management research, as the SILVAH community led the way in labeling key products for forestry use based on the rigorous research conducted here. In other talks, Jim Grace, retired Pennsylvania State forester, lauded the research-management partnership from a manager's point of view, as did Sue Swanson, executive director of the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, who gave the welcoming talk.

Other highlights included recognition of Steve Koehn as an SAF Fellow and great food and fellowship at the Thursday evening barbecue, as well as chapter and state society meetings, described elsewhere in this issue of Allegheny News. On Friday morning, Reverend Stephanie Gottschalk wove memories of SAF

meetings that she attended as a child with her father, Kurt Gottschalk, into her inspiring remarks at the prayer breakfast.

Gorgeous weather highlighted the entire three-day affair, including a full-day field trip to the Kane Experimental Forest (KEF) on September 20 and a half-day field trip to the Clear Creek State Forest on September 22. The field trips focused on some highlights of research completed under the SILVAH umbrella over the last 50 years, including:

- At the NADP weather station on the Kane Experimental Forest, participants heard about impacts of acid deposition on forest health on the Allegheny Plateau. At one time, this region received some of the highest quantities of nitrate and sulfate deposition in the nation. At the height of the acid deposition, the PA Bureau of Forestry and SILVAH researchers started a study of sugar maple decline that tested the effects of liming as an antidote to acid deposition. Bob Long reported that this [35-year study of forest responses to a single application of 10 tons per acre of dolomitic limestone](#) showed that sugar maple health and growth benefited from the treatment, American beech showed no response, and black cherry health and growth decreased on treated plots. As this line of science evolved, scientists benefited from manager observations of which landscape positions and glacial history were correlated with good and bad sugar maple health. They also gained access to archived soil samples collected by the Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resource Conservation Service) in 1967. [Resampling in 1997 showed dramatic losses of calcium and magnesium in soils to a depth of 150 cm.](#)
- Participants also learned that scientists and managers are now wondering whether the reductions in nitrate and sulfate deposition since the 1991 Clean Air Act Amendments may be part of the explanation for changes in the ecology of black cherry. To begin to test this hypothesis, the Allegheny National Forest and SILVAH scientists have begun a study of regeneration responses to nitrogen fertilization. Todd Ristau shared early results from this study testing forest responses to fertilization after shelterwood seed cuts and recent removal cuts. Red maple is benefiting in shelterwood seed cuts, black cherry in stands fertilized after overstory removal.
- Participants also visited one site of the Allegheny hardwood dominance probability site, a recent harvest on the Allegheny National Forest. Scott Stoleson linked his extensive research on the importance of early successional habitat to migratory birds in the post-fledging period to several characteristics on the site, and Pat Brose described the Allegheny Hardwood dominance probability study, which is following the development of 9 stands that were first measured in 2011-2012 as shelterwood stands, experienced removal cuts in 2013, and have been remeasured regularly since. Results so far: Birch saplings are the tallest stems on almost every plot where they were found in the original measurement, yellow-poplar and cucumber tree are sometimes successful, while red maple and black cherry are only successful when they were very tall and not competing with birch.
- At the site of a May 1, 2017 windstorm on the KEF, participants heard about the importance of windfall as a natural disturbance and the effects of salvage logging on forest plant diversity. Alex Royo showed results from partnerships with Yale, the Allegheny National Forest, and several other landowners affected by a 2003 windstorm. He shared [results from a controlled study of salvage logging after that storm](#). Those



findings demonstrate that salvaging creates novel microsites and mitigates competing vegetation, thereby enhancing establishment of important hardwoods and promoting tree species coexistence. His results, coupled with an assessment of 27 published post-windthrow salvage studies, suggest short-term studies may overestimate the impact of salvaging on regeneration.

- About 30 participants extended their week by participating in a Friday afternoon field tour focusing on oak regeneration, led by Patrick Brose. It included visits to several sites on Clear Creek State Forest, home of the Pennsylvania [SILVAH:Oak](#) training sessions. The tour included visits to various oak shelterwoods that demonstrate the seedling development principles of SILVAH:Oak, stands regenerated by the shelterwood-burn technique, and a stand recently treated with a post-harvest fire.

The indoor agenda was jam-packed as well. Twenty-four technical talks were offered that covered everything from using SILVAH and NED to assess wildlife habitat (Helene Cleveland and Scott Thomasma reporting) to Todd Ristau's reports on recent studies of fertilization in Allegheny hardwood stands. Will McWilliams talked about the role that SILVAH played in the development of new regeneration protocols and indicators for the Forest Inventory and Analysis program for the entire northeast, and brought participants up to date on research efforts to develop regeneration standards for other parts of the region. Laura Leites and Scott Miller reported on the on-going study of the effects of implementing SILVAH guidelines on PA Bureau of Forestry oak sites. Joanne Rebbeck and Matt Peters described the SILVAH program in Ohio, where training across multiple agencies is a key part of the Ohio Joint Chiefs' Project to restore oak forests, and where SILVAH scientists are weaving SILVAH plot-level data with ecological land type associations to facilitate landscape-level planning. Coeli Hoover shared new results based on the SILVAH thinning plots on the Kane Experimental Forest showing how forest management affects carbon sequestration in Allegheny hardwood forests.

Several of the presentations synthesized decades of research, such as those on deer-forest interactions, oak regeneration, vegetation management, and sugar maple decline. In both the opening talk and the final talk of the session, Susan Stout emphasized how important science-management collaboration had been in virtually every line of SILVAH science. Managers have brought real-world problems to the research team, and the community of practice that has developed over the last 50 years is able to pool observations and generate hypotheses together. She cited a week-long field tour focused on sugar maple decline in 1995. Scientists asked managers to identify some of their best and worst sugar maple sites, and from those field visits, testable hypotheses about soil nutrients, glacial history, and defoliation emerged for rigorous experimental tests. Another example was the team of scientists and managers convened by the PA Bureau of Forestry to develop SILVAH guidelines for oak regeneration starting in 2000. The same team identified research gaps, and the Bureau has been able to provide funding for much of the research to fill those gaps. Still another example is the on-going work examining how the pattern of forage-producing habitats around a silvicultural treatment affects deer impact: seven different public and private land management organizations provided 25 different sites for the study, some conducting unplanned shelterwood harvests to accommodate the study. Through the five decades of collaborative work, Stout said, we have advanced science, improved management, and when we needed to, changed policy in our shared pursuit of sustainable management of forest resources.

Plateau Chapter leaders did an incredible job that made everything run smoothly, from facility through transportation for field trips. Dave Trimpey led the planning team, Joe Glover found and negotiated with the conference center, Howard Wurzbacher managed transportation, Mike McEntire managed registration and sponsorships, Brock Sanner, Andrea Hille, Cecile Stelter and many others pitched in to make the meeting a seamless affair for speakers and participants.

**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Allegheny SAF Summer Training**  
**20 September 2017**

**Attendees:**

Steve Koehn, Rachel Reyna, Mike Kusko, Kenneth Jolly, Dave Trimpey,  
Kimberly Bohn, Susan Lacy, Karen Sykes, Joe Glover, Dennis Galway, Su Ann Shupp,  
Tim Slavin

***Meeting called to order at 1515***

- Meeting Overview (Steve Koehn)
  - Past 2017 Winter Meeting minutes recapped

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Made by</b>	<b>Accepted/Rejected</b>
Accept Winter 2017 Minutes (Steve K.)	Dave Trimpey	Mike Kusko

- Allegheny Hall of Fame Nomination information
- Draft Allegheny SAF Strategic Plan
- National House of Society Delegates Issues and Actions

**Meeting Highlight** (Susan Lacy)

- Leadership Academy mention (more details below)

**Treasurer's Report** (Susan Lacy *for* Steve Resh)

- \$17K in checking account
- Current with all accounts
- Education Endowment Account
  - Start of 2017 - \$56,822
  - Increased to end of August balance of \$59,806

**SAF Board of Directors Representative Report** (Rachel Reyna)

Things to note:

- Transparency:
  - Website working group conducted meeting
    - minutes available
    - budget information
    - member recruitment incentives
    - *Comment:* website still poor in user friendliness; i.e. finding the Gottshalk fund/donation events; directory/search issues, like board members who should not be hidden
- National Convention upcoming November 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>
- Headquarters home office move for headquarters requires costs for restoration to meet the historic register standards and safety inspection compliance
  - Decision for location basis: Human element and needs, cost, several other circumstances
  - Decision to move to this location should occur by the end of 2017
- Kurt Gottshalk Fund Monies are still available for this round

- *Comment:* The Fund is receiving positive recognition and activity from outside sources to SAF
- Continued development of the Revenue Development Committee
  - Susan Lacy is a member
- SAF used to commit to total self-publishing; now Oxford University Press will be publishing SAF materials
- SAF Ballots opened October 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Information is out in the Current Forestry Source
  - “I’m running as many commercials as I can for Rachel in other parts of the country as I can, as we are all aware of Rachel’s passion.” Steve Koehn

#### **Executive Director’s Report (Susan Lacy)**

- Taxes: 2017
  - If you get a check and reflect it, it needs to go back; failure to do so creates uneven records and books
  - End of year balances must have the same as beginning of years’;
    - Please notify Treasurer of current financial situation
    - 2018 goal: work to stop this reoccurring issue
- T-Shirts: Snag your chance to wear a lovely branded design!
  - Variety of colors, reasonable cost
  - Contact Susan for purchase

#### **Program Committee Report (Kenneth Jolly)**

- Allegheny SAF 2018 Winter Meeting: Keystone Chapter
  - Theme: People and Trees
  - Date: Feb 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>
  - National and Regional Speakers such as Matt Menashes and Dave Lewis
  - Communicating Forestry; Fire and People; SFI and AFF; Think Local; Social Event Icebreaker at Gettysburg National Military Park Visitors Center; access to cyclorama and much more!
- Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting: Norther Hardwood Chapter
  - Potential Issue: Growing concerns on membership strength in Chapters committing to hosting meetings, entirely on their own
  - Proposed Solution: The idea of a partnership meeting (Chapters within SAF collaborating, or other natural resources groups like Trout Unlimited, The Wildlife Society, or Association of Consulting Foresters)
- Leadership Academy
  - Refer to handout created by Steve Kalleser
  - Fits into the strategic goals and mission of SAF
  - Dates: November 14-16<sup>th</sup> of 2018
  - Location: Grey Towers, Milford, PA
  - 25 Trainees, 5 Volunteers, and additional invited speakers (paid trainers, SAF staff, and others)



- Proposes a \$1000 line item in budget of the state and chapter levels for attendees each year
- Looking for approval at 2018 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting
- Questions:
  - Is there flexibility to timing? Week vs. weekend (due to working attendees) A: Possibly
  - Will Grey Towers Staff be doing any of the training themselves?
    - A: Not that we are aware of, but may be possible if requested
  - Can the silent auction associated with the chapter meetings be used to defray the costs of the Leadership Academy?
    - A: Excellent Idea that could be discussed at a future meeting.  
*Comment:* Suggest this academy rely on a stable fund source; typically, the host unit decides where the silent auction money goes.
  - When is the Portland SAF Convention date?
    - A: October 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- Potential Issues:
  - Geared toward leadership more so than SAF
    - In some senses, that may be great!
  - However, worries of funds and membership of the committees becoming stale

Ways Forward:

- Endorse through amendment of sections; perhaps not ready as is
- Timeline is realistic as proposed
- Are these monies as proposed realistic?
- Next Steps (located on Steve Kallessen's informational handout) 1 and 2 are workable, 3 and 4 need to be worked further.

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Made by</b>	<b>Accepted/Rejected</b>
Endorse Next Steps #1 & 2 and encourage all ANSAF Divisions to do the same.	Dave Trimpey	Joe Glover

*Amendment proposed:* ANSAF communicates that we encourage and support this, made by Dennis G. and accepted by group.

**Membership Committee Report** (Dennis Galway)

- Trend in membership gains has broken
  - 2017 membership: 677 members, with a drop in many transitional member
- Chapter membership numbers from 2016 and 2017
- New Jersey: 94 → 86
- Maryland/Delaware: 112 → 105
- Keystone Chapter: 60 → 55
- Northern Hardwoods: 60 → 61

- Pinchot: 44 42
- Plateau: 52 54
- Rothrock: 61 56
- Western Gateway:
- Valley Forge: 52 48
- West Virginia: 160 148
- Reasons for downward trend:
  - Under representation of Local Dues: Membership options do not include local dues information, *recommendation for addition*
  - Difficult to comprehend; even when science supports the benefits of SAF membership
  - **Suggested action:** Find out who left within your chapter and contact them; reach out
- Attendance of non-chapter SAF members “crashing events” for CFE’s
  - Broader issues exist:
    - Is this a hidden cost?
    - Or is this a value matters transparency issue of promotion?
      - Do we want to encourage the transparency of events to outside collaborators?
      - Potential opportunity

**Action Item: Dennis G. will send out a list of past members to Chapter Chairs for contacting past member**

**Upcoming ANSAF Elections** (Mike Kusko)

- Chair-Elect: *Michael Huneke* (MD/DE Div)
- Secretary: *Su Ann Shupp* (Keystone Chapter)
- Treasurer: *Steven Resh* (MD/DE Div)
- Executive Committee
  - *Melissa A. Thomas-Van Grundy* (W.V. Div)
  - *Michael Schofield* (MD/DE Div)
  - *Bradley W. Elison* (Pinchot Chapter)
  - *Richard Lewis* (Keystone Chapter)

**Forester’s Hall of Fame Proposal** (Jonathan Kays)

- Ron Sheay is chair of History Committee (to be approached to chair this committee)
- 

Motion	Made by	Accepted/Rejected
Motion to Accept Hall of Fame Nomination Proposal	Dennis Galway	Kimberly Bohn

**Allegheny SAF 2017-2020 Strategic Plan** (Steve Koehn)

- Revised May 2017
- Reviewed National SAF Strategic Plan

<b>Motion</b>	<b>Made by</b>	<b>Accepted/Rejected</b>
Motion to share Allegheny SAF 2017-2020 Strategic Plan with general membership for review and comment	Dennis Galway	Brad Elison

- Question: Can core values be changed?
  - A: yes, however these are the core values of National SAF.
- How can we disseminate this to membership?
  - A: NJ has “The Cruiser”. Send an email to your local committee member)
- *Suggestion:* Take comments in a drop box option online to be anonymous or to do it easily.
- *Comment:* Success indicators may be difficult to assess; reviewers may become too tactical or caught in the processes.
- Must be able to articulate a compelling outcome story.
- In annual work plans, it is important to identify if those specific needs were met; however strategic plans are larger and more overarching.

***Forest Technology, House of Society Delegates (HSD) Issues and Actions*** (Steve Resh)

- Can ANSAF support this at HSD? A: Yes
- HSD makes recommendations to the Board of Directors
- *Questions:* Under item number 6, do we know why approval was withdrawn for this item? A: we will find out what this signifies. ACF already accepts technicians.

**National/Regional Issues**

- ANSAF wants to continue to be a welcoming organization that is representative of diversity and inclusion
- NAFRAP
  - 1890 Universities
  - 1894
  - 1850
- Important Discussions: Re-upping membership, gender and race equity
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy
  - Attract diverse folks, retain new recruits in a way that does not single them out, while maintaining positive morale with existing membership demographics
- Valley Forge paid in full \$2k loan from PA Division from ANSAF 2017 Winter Meeting
- Steve Koehn shared appreciation for time served and recognition of incoming Chair
- Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Charlie Newlon forum in New Jersey

***Action Item:*** Dennis Galway will send out a list of past members to Chapter Chairs for contacting past member

***Meeting adjourned at 1757***

**Allegheny Society of American Foresters  
Winter Training, Gettysburg, PA, February 21-23, 2018**

*Trees and People*

Continuing Education credits will be offered  
**Times and speakers are subject to change**

**Sponsors:**

**Arborchem Products  
PA Division of SAF  
Pennsylvania Forestry Association  
Schatz Tree Genetics Colloquium**

**Announcements:**

*Please enter the Reginald D. Forbes Art Show! (Contact Mike Kusko: mikedusko@gmail.com)*

*Please donate to the Silent Auction!*

*Please sponsor a student for this meeting!*

**PROGRAM**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Tree Farm Inspector Certification, Dave Jackson, Penn State Extension  
1:00 - 4:00 PM Pesticide Certification Training with Brian Rose and Todd Hagenbuch, Arborchem Products and Dave Jackson, Penn State Extension  
12:00 - 2:00 PM Optional Commercial Gettysburg National Military Park Bus Tour (advance registration required)  
2:00 - 6:00 PM Registration Desk Open  
2:30 - 5:30 PM Allegheny SAF Executive Committee Meeting  
**6:00 - 9:00 PM Icebreaker Social:** Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center  
**NOTE:** This is open only to Allegheny SAF Winter Training attendees with exclusive access to the cyclorama and museum. All this is included with the registration fee!

**Thursday, February 22, 2018**

8:00 AM Registration Desk Open  
Reginald D. Forbes Art Show (Photography, Flat Art, 3D Art), Exhibitors, and Silent Auction areas open  
*Breakfast on your own.*  
9:00 AM Welcome and Opening Remarks, *Craig Houghton, Keystone SAF Chapter Chair*  
9:10 AM Plenary Talk, *Dave Lewis, Society of American Foresters National President*  
9:50 AM Student Introductions  
**9:55 AM Morning Break**  
10:15 AM Plenary Talk, *Paul Trianosky, Chief Conservation Officer, Sustainable Forestry Initiative*  
11:00 AM Plenary Talk, *Tom Martin, President and CEO, American Forest Foundation*  
**11:45 AM Lunch - Interact With Your Table!**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS (12:30 TO 2:00PM)**

**1: Local Initiatives**

12:30 PM Exploring South Mountain, *Katie Hess, South Mountain Partnership*  
1:00 PM Reaching Beyond the Local Landscape, *Mike Eschenmann, Conservation Landscape Initiatives*  
1:30 PM TBA, *National Park Service*  
2:00 PM Project Learning Tree, *Jean Devlin, PA DCNR*

## **2: Communicating Forestry**

- 12:30 PM TBA  
1:00 PM Woods in Your Backyard, *Jonathan Kays, University of Maryland Extension*  
1:30 PM Cool New Ways to Engage the Public, *Erica Smith Fichman, TreePhilly*  
2:00 PM A Walk in Penn's Woods, *Allyson Muth and Nancy Baker, Penn State and private landowner*

## **3: Student Session**

- 12:30 PM Long-Term Modeling of an Appalachian Hardwood Forest Impacted by Annual Additions of Nitrogen, Sulfur and Lime, *Alex Storm, Graduate student, WVU*  
1:00 PM Career and Graduate School Opportunities: *Derek Furry, Bartlett Tree Experts; Su Ann Shupp, PA DCNR; Mike Wright, PA DCNR; Paul Iampietro, Glatfelter; Karen Johnson, Frostburg State University; Alex Storm, WVU*
- 2:30 PM Afternoon Break**  
3:00 PM Plenary Talk, *TBA*  
4:00 PM Summary Remarks, *Craig Houghton, Keystone SAF Chapter Chair*  
4:15 PM College Quiz Bowl  
**7:00 PM Banquet Dinner**  
8:00 PM Banquet Dinner Presentation, What Is Industry Doing To Reach People?  
*Wayne Bender, Executive Director, Hardwoods Development Council*  
8:30 PM Awards and Announcements

## **Friday, February 23, 2018**

- 7:00 AM Chair's Breakfast and Presentation** (included in your registration fee!)  
The Current Western Wildfire Situation, *Bill Imbergamo, Executive Director, Federal Forest Resource Coalition*  
Art Contest, Exhibitors and Silent Auction Areas Open  
8:15 AM State Society Business Meetings  
8:30 AM Allegheny SAF Business Meeting

## **CONCURRENT SESSIONS (9:30 TO 11:00AM)**

### **1: Trees Where People Live**

- 9:30 AM Trees and People, *Sunshine Brosi, Frostburg State University*  
10:00 AM Reaching the Prison Populations, *Shea Zwerver, PA DCNR*  
10:30 AM Destroying Invasives through Goat Power, *Sandra Miller, Painted Hand Farms*

### **2: Forest Disturbances**

- 9:30 AM Fire on the Landscape, *TBA*  
10:00 AM Spotted Lanternfly Update, *TBA*  
10:30 AM Restoring the American Chestnut: What's New and What's Next, *Sara Fitzsimmons, The American Chestnut Foundation*
- 11:00 AM Morning Break**  
11:30 AM Plenary Talk, Challenges at the National Level, *Steve Koehn, Director, Cooperative Forestry at USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry*  
12:00 NOON Closing Remarks, *Craig Houghton, Keystone SAF Chapter Chair*



**Allegheny Society of American Foresters**  
**Winter Training**  
 February 21- 23, 2018  
 Gettysburg Wyndham – Gettysburg, PA



\*\*\*\*\*

You may register and pay online at <http://sites.psu.edu/ansafwinter2018>

**Name:**

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**Address:**

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**City, State, Zip:**

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**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

		<b>Number</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>SAF Member</b>	<b>\$140.00</b>		
<b>Non-SAF Member</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>		
<b>Student Registration</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>		
<b>Gettysburg National Military Park Tour</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>		
<b>Banquet Buffet</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>		
<b>Certified Tree Farm Inspection</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>		
<b>Pesticide Training SAF Member</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>		
<b>Pesticide Training Non-SAF Member</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>		
<b>Sponsorship for a Student</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>		
<b>One Day Registration Thursday</b>	<b>\$90.00</b>		
<b>One Day Registration Friday</b>	<b>\$90.00</b>		
<b>Late fee if received after 1/29/2018</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>		
<b>Total</b>			

**If registering a group add additional names here:**

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**Make check to Keystone Chapter ANSAF and mail to: Peter Linehan, Penn State Mont Alto, 1 Campus Drive, Mont Alto, PA 17237**

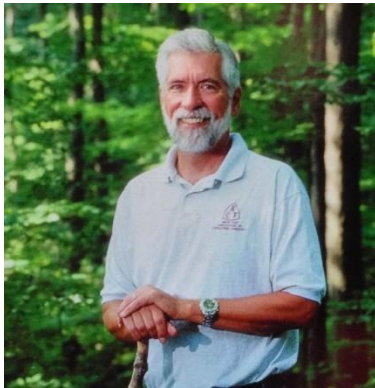
## **Steven Koehn Named SAF Fellow**

Congratulations to our Allegheny SAF Chair on being selected SAF Fellow in 2017. For over three decades, Steve has been working on issues and programs to support the profession of forestry as well as natural resource management for state and private landowners. Currently, as Director of Cooperative Forestry for the USDA Forest Service, Steve directs the work of a Washington Office staff group ensuring the success of the Forest Stewardship, Forest Legacy and Urban and Community Forestry Programs. As the previous Director and State Forester for the Maryland Forest Service, Steve provided proactive leadership and was accountable for plans, programs and policies that enhanced and promoted forestry on state and private lands and urban and rural communities throughout Maryland.

Steve served as the President of the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) and President of the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF), coordinating input on national forest policy issues such as the 2008 Farm Bill, National Forest Sustainability Policy and USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry Redesign. Steve was elected member of the independent Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Board of Directors. He also served as the Chair of the American Forest Foundation's (AFF) Woodland Operating Committee, and a member of the AFF's Board of Trustees. Steve has also held leadership positions in the Chesapeake Bay Program Forestry Workgroup, the Maryland-Delaware Division of the Allegheny Society of American Foresters, the Maryland Association of Forest Conservancy Boards, and the Maryland Forests Association.

Steve holds a bachelor's degree in forest science from Pennsylvania State University. He taught forestry courses for eight years at the Johns Hopkins School of Professional Studies in Business Education. He joined the Society of American Foresters in 1983.

## **Mark Webb Selected as District VII Presidential Field Forester**



Mark Webb received the Presidential Field Forester Award at the recent National SAF Convention in Albuquerque, NM. Mark has a long career of service to his clients and the forestry community. Mark is a graduate of Penn State University and has remained active in university and School of Forest Resources. He has served as the Allegheny Chair and the Vice-Chair for SAF House of Society Delegates. Mark is also very active in the Association of Consulting Foresters and was a founding member of the Pennsylvania Council of Professional Foresters.

In 1981, Mark started the consulting business he has been operating for over 30 years. He has represented a variety of clients from small woodlot owners to large landholders. Most often Mark is representing landowners with 200 acres or less. For those clients who decide to harvest timber, Mark works effectively with loggers to protect the residual stand to maximize future growth potential. However, one notable client was the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, as they purchased the 12,000 acre President Oil Company tract. Mark testified before the Pennsylvania Legislature regarding the role of forest management in the conservation of this tract. Mark supervised the harvesting operations and ensured that endangered species were adequately protected. This tract is now in private ownership with a conservation easement.

As a Certified Forester, Mark is focused on the science of managing forests sustainably. But he has also demonstrated the ability to manage forests that are financially sustainable. In the June 17, 1996 edition of Forbes Magazine, the article “This Asset Grows to the Sky” featured one of Mark’s clients whose return on his forestland investment exceeded the Dow Jones Industrial Average because of the forest management techniques which Mark employed. In 1998, the MacArthur Foundation funded a study on forest sustainability. The Sustainable Forestry Working Group published a series of case studies, one of which cited the same client as the Forbes article. The case study highlighted the fact that although this landowner was managing for maximum timber production, he was also able to achieve sustainability of other values such as water quality, wildlife habitat and aesthetics.

Mark has served as an expert witness in several court cases on behalf of his clients. He has provided testimony to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on behalf of The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy in relation to their acquisition of the President Oil Company. His testimony spoke to their Forest Management Plan. He has also testified in Federal Bankruptcy Court, as well as County Courts in both Pennsylvania and New York. One case of note was in Mercer County Court in the case of Piston v. Hughes, 62 A. 3d 440 (PA sup. 2013). The case was regarding Adverse Possession. He successfully testified on behalf of his client (Piston) and his testimony has become the basis for case law regarding what constitutes woodland.

Mark values his interactions with landowners; taking time to walk the property and discuss the landowner’s values and vision for their forest. Mark views these opportunities as “teachable moments” where he can share his knowledge and experience with the landowner and help them make the best decisions for long term management of their forest. In many cases, the landowner decides against an immediate timber sale or agrees to a dramatically different approach to conducting the timber harvest.

### *And now a few words from Mark....*

I would like to give a big thank you to our voting district for being selected as one of this year’s Presidential Field Foresters. It is indeed a great professional honor.

Thanks to help from the Allegheny Society and the PA Division, my wife and I were able to attend the National Convention to receive the award. Without their help I would not have been able to make the trip to Albuquerque, NM.

I have always enjoyed practicing silviculture from my days as a student at Penn State to the present. I attended one of the early SILVAH trainings taught by Dave Marquis. One of the statements he made has always stuck with me. He said as a researcher he felt he had to stay long enough to see that the decisions he made were the right ones.

I have been consulting since 1981 and during that time have had the opportunity to meet with many landowners and it is gratifying to be able to do multiple sales for those some of those landowners. I have had the opportunity to see whether or not I made the right decisions in their wood lots. I have found a career in consulting to be very gratifying. I have stayed around long enough to see the results of my work. I have been privileged to work with and learn from many experts in the practice of silviculture. I have been privileged to guide many landowners in doing the right thing on their land.

Again, a big thank you for this honor. It is one I will always cherish.  
Mark Webb CF#311, ACF



## **i-Tree: Tools for Foresters**

**i-Tree** is a suite of a software that has been developed through a consortium of partners including: USDA Forest Service, Davey Tree Expert Company, National Arbor Day Foundation, Society of Municipal Arborists, International Society of Arboriculture, Casey Trees and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. All programs are available freely at [www.itree.org](http://www.itree.org), including technical support, user's manuals and resources, and a moderated peer-to-peer online forum. The following applications are included:

**i-Tree Eco** uses a sample or inventory data **to assess forest structure, ecosystem services and values for any tree population** (including number of trees, diameter distribution, species diversity, potential pest risk, invasive species, air pollution removal and health effects, carbon storage and sequestration, runoff reduction, VOC emissions, building energy effects). It runs on local field data and hourly meteorological and pollution data. The program includes plot selection programs, data entry programs or mobile application data entry, table and graphic reporting and exporting, and automatic report generation. **i-Tree Streets** is similar to Eco, but **focuses on street tree populations**. **i-Tree Forecast** is part of i-Tree Eco and **simulates future tree population totals, canopy cover, tree diversity, dbh distribution and ecosystem services and values by species** based on user-defined planting rates and default or user-defined mortality rates (e.g., user can simulate effect of emerald ash borer by specifically killing off ash trees).

**i-Tree Selector** is a free-standing utility designed to help users **select the most appropriate tree species** based on desired environmental function and geographic area.

**i-Tree Storm** helps assess widespread street tree damage in a simple and efficient manner immediately after a severe storm. It is adaptable to various community types and sizes and **provides information on the time and funds needed to mitigate storm damage**.

**I-Tree Hydro** is designed to **simulate the effects of changes in tree and impervious cover within a watershed on hourly stream flow and water quality**. It contains auto-calibration routines to help match model estimates with measured hourly stream flow and produces tables and graphs of changes in flow and water quality due to changes in tree and impervious cover within the watershed.

**The Pest Protection Protocol** provides a systematic protocol for long-term pest detection and monitoring. It allows users to input health signs and symptoms of their trees to produce **indications of potential pests, diseases and threats to their forest**. The protocol is incorporated within i-Tree Streets and i-Tree Eco.

**i-Tree Canopy** is a new tool that allows users to **easily photo-interpret Google aerial images** of their area to produce statistical estimates of tree and other cover types along with calculations of the uncertainty of their estimates. This tool provides a simple, quick and inexpensive means for cities and forest managers to accurately measure their tree and other cover types. i-Tree Canopy can be used anywhere in the world where high-resolution, cloud-free Google images exist (most areas). Use of historical imagery can also be used to aid in change analyses.

**i-Tree Design** links Google maps and **allows users to sketch their home and see how the trees around their home affect energy use and savings, and other environmental services.** Users can use this tool to assess which locations and tree species will provide the highest level of benefits. This is a simple tool geared towards homeowners, schoolchildren, or anyone interested in tree benefits. This program allows users to add multiple trees, illustrate future and past benefits, and display the priority planting zones. i-Tree Design is a tool that provides the platform for more sophisticated parcel-based analyses in future versions.

**i-Tree Landscape** is a new web-based tool that allows users to **explore tree canopy, land cover and basic demographic information** anywhere in the US and Puerto Rico. With the information provided by i-Tree Landscape, users can learn about their land cover and human population characteristics, the **benefits of trees** (carbon storage, air pollution removal, reduced runoff) in their area and locate areas in which to prioritize their tree planting efforts.

For more information, contact Dr. David Nowak ([dnowak@fs.fed.us](mailto:dnowak@fs.fed.us)) or 315-448-3212.  
i-Tree website: [www.itreetools.org](http://www.itreetools.org); email: [info@itreetools.org](mailto:info@itreetools.org); Telephone: 877-574-8733

## **In Memoriam**

### **Sydney J. Walker 1931 – 2017**



Syd Walker died on July 30, 2017 after a short illness. He graduated from Syracuse University in 1953 with a BS degree in forestry. After serving 2 years in the US Army he was honorably discharged with the rank of sergeant and was then hired by the NJ Bureau of Parks in 1955 as the Assistant Superintendent of what eventually became the Wharton State Forest. Later he was named the Regional Superintendent of all state parks and forests in the southern region of New Jersey. He became very experienced in prescribed burning on state forest lands and skilled and dedicated in fighting forest fires. Syd was a 60 year member of the Society of American Foresters and served on numerous committees in the NJD-SAF including serving on the executive committee in 1960, Vice chair in

1961 and chair of the organization in 1962.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lee; daughter, Stacey, son, Matthew; grandchildren, Callie, Daniel and Karlyn. He will be sorely missed by those who knew him.

# Allegheny Society of American Foresters

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## Coming Events

### Summer, 2018

Allegheny SAF Summer Training  
Northern Hardwood Chapter

### November, 2018

**14-16** Allegheny/NY/NE SAF Leadership  
Academy  
Towers National Historic Site  
Milford, PA

### February, 2019

Allegheny SAF Winter Training  
West Virginia Division

### Summer, 2019

Allegheny SAF Summer Training  
Western Gateway Chapter

### Future SAF National Conventions

**2018:** Portland, OR Oct. 3 – 7

**2019:** Louisville, KY Oct. 30 – Nov. 3

**2020:** Providence, RI Oct. 28 – Nov. 1

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