

FORESTRY CLUB NEWS ARTICLE

The Auburn Forestry Club is now the Auburn Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. The officers for this year are Oppie Bryant (Chairman), Boyd Pass (Vice Chairman), James Sontell (Treasurer) and Ed Nelson (Secretary).

This fall the chapter along with Xi Sigma Pi sponsored a meeting to introduce the new forestry students to the Forestry Department. All students and faculty were invited and a short description of the Auburn Student Chapter of the S.A.F. and the Xi Sigma Pi Chapter was given.

The Annual Conclave will be held at Arkansas A & M University this April. The Chapter has been earning money to finance the Conclave trip by cutting fire wood and selling it to local residents of Auburn.

This spring the Annual Awards Banquet will be held at the Auburn-Opelika Elks Club. At the banquet cash awards are given to students with outstanding scholastic and leadership achievements.

The Chapter tries to have one social event each quarter. This year we had a party at the lake fall quarter and plan to have another party this spring.

We extend an invitation to any student in the Department of Forestry to attend our meetings, which are held twice each month.

XI SIGMA PI

This past year has been a fruitful one for Xi Sigma Pi. As in the past years, the Sigma chapter served as host for the annual alumni day. The alumni day was held as usual on the Saturday of the Homecoming weekend. Even though the rain fell on the Plains, Auburn Forestry alumni came from far and near to see our new building and to meet with old and new friends. We would like to extend an invitation to all the forestry alumni to stop by next year.

During the year the Sigma chapter undertook a project to encourage the men of forestry to improve themselves through scholastic competition. This consisted of a quarterly honor roll. The



Student Chapter, Alabama Chapter, Society of American Foresters (kneeling l-r)—Mark Holladay, Larry Wiggins, Everett Albrecht, Oppie Bryant, Bill Haines, Bob Wise, James Sontell; (standing l-r) — Joe Twardy, Rick Zellner, Norman Burton, Ed Nelson, Walter Mills, James Perdue, Ronnie True.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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qualification for the honor roll is a 2.00 grade point for the quarter. The first quarter of the honor roll was very disappointing in that only 11 students qualified. Fall quarter, however, showed an outstanding improvement with 30 students qualifying. The winter quarter results are not available but we are expecting a still larger increase.

New members of Xi Sigma Pi are Pat Boldrick, Terry Darby, Jim Hyland, Cheng-Ty Lee, Alden Maho, Thomas McIntyre, Walter Mills, Boyd Pass, John Batley, James Traylor, Mark Van Fleet, John Killham and Keith Lynch.

SUMMER CAMP

The 1970 version of summer camp was composed of three main divisions. After everyone breezed through photogrammetry, the class found that all roads do not lead to Rome, especially in the Tuskegee National Forest. Finally, after six weeks of camp, the students were able to sit back, relax, and complain about the tour of the Eastern United States.

Just from sitting on those stools the first day in photogrammetry, everyone knew it was going to be a pain. Many early morning hours were spent trying to finish mapping the city of Auburn. The fascinating part about this course was sleeping at night, if you got to, and dreaming in stereo vision.

From the classroom we went into the woods to practice forestry. Tuskegee National Forest was the scene for forest engineering, boundary line survey, and field mensuration.

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OUTSTANDING SENIOR IN FORESTRY AWARD

The 1971 recipient of the Alumni Award is John K. Johnson.

John K. Johnson was born in Rockford, Alabama. After graduation from high school he entered Alexander City Junior College and transferred to Auburn University to begin his study of forestry in September 1968. As a major in Forest Management, he received his B.S. degree in March 1971.

John excelled in scholarship and leadership. He was awarded E. A. Hauss scholarships for his sophomore, junior and senior years. He was elected to membership in Xi Sigma Pi, National Forestry Honorary and served as Assistant Forester. He has been a student member of the Auburn Chapter, Society of American Foresters. During the summer of 1967 he worked with the Coosa River Division of Kimberly-Clark Corporation in Alabama.

Following graduation John plans to enter the National Guard. As soon as his military service is completed, he plans to enter a graduate school to work toward a master's degree. He hopes that his wife can accompany him as these moves are made.

FACULTY NOTES

Professor W. B. DeVall, Head of the Department of Forestry, visited Spain, Portugal, Germany, France and Holland last summer on a tour sponsored by the Alabama Forest Products Association. In addition to these countries some time was spent in the Black Forest.

Dr. E. J. Biblis, Associate Professor of Wood Technology, spent six months last year in Athens, Greece, working with the FAO in developing new forest products and education facilities in that country.

Mr. John Killham '70 was appointed as Instructor in the Department after graduation in December.

Mr. Robert Dill was appointed to the rank of Research Associate in Tree Physiology.

New Graduate Students are Henry Miller '67, Sam Smith '70, M. Y. Chen, Robert Strickland and Rodney Eike '70.

Dr. S. I. Somborg, Associate Professor in Economics, left to join the faculty of Stephen F. Austin School of Forestry at Nacogdoches, Texas, where he is currently Director of Research.

The new wing has been completed and occupied for about a year. Renovation on the original building was completed late last fall with new ceilings, lights, paint and air conditioning. It now has a new name after being dedi-

FACULTY NEWS



Weather station to be used as a laboratory teaching aid for the study of environmental factors.

cated as M. White Smith Hall on November 19, 1970. The late Mr. M. W. Smith was active in the forest industries and operated mills at Jackson, Whatley and Camden, Alabama.

New changes in the curriculum have been made with the deletion of Surveying for the first time since the program was started, because of changes in the Civil Engineering program which could not be accommodated. This has resulted in surveying being combined into several other courses in both summer camp and during the year.

Dr. Harry S. Larsen was promoted to Associate Professor on July 1, 1970.

Dr. E. S. Lyle, Assistant Professor in Forest Soils, received the Ph.D. degree in Agronomy from Auburn University in June 1970.

James A. Buford '61, formerly Forest Products Specialist with the Extension Service, has been promoted to Personnel Director with the Extension Service.

A new Fisheries Building is now under construction directly across from the Forestry building. As construction is just beginning it will be some time before it is completed.

NEW TEACHING FACILITY

Installation of a well-equipped weather station, made possible by a federal grant with matching funds from the University, has recently been completed. The grant was obtained through the Instructional Scientific Equipment program of the National Science Foundation. The facility is operated not as a conventional weather station, but rather as a laboratory teaching aid for observing and measuring microclimatic variations in time and space. Its purpose is to help students to more clearly understand the controlling factors involved in local environmental variations, and thereby to better understand the effects of management practices in forest stands. Courses which the weather station currently serves includes Silvics, Forest Fire Control and Use, and Forest Watershed Management. Graduate students may find it useful in the future.

The various instruments are housed or mounted within a fifty-foot square

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Alumni:

This past year has been a progressive one for the Auburn Forestry Department. The new addition to the building can only be fully appreciated after a tour of the facility. Those alumni missing the dedication missed a treat. I believe Reuben Williams, USFS, Oregon, will hold the greatest distance record of any alumnus attending the dedication.

The 1970 Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the SAF meeting in Montgomery had 21 alumni present. A biography of Rodney Eike, the outstanding senior in 1970, was read.

George Wood reported on the Forestry Foundation. Nathan Byrd is the Chairman of a Committee to help promote the Foundation. Nathan's committee will need everyone's help in trying to get the Foundation off the ground.

The Annual Meeting held in the afternoon in conjunction with a social hour was quite successful. My plans are to schedule a similar meeting this year. Make your plans to attend.

T. WAYMON PAUL (Class '59)
President

ALUMNI LICENSED IN ALABAMA

The Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters has licensed 11 Forestry alumni of Auburn University since July 30, 1970. They are: Edgar E. King, Jr. ('66), James D. Shirley ('61), Robert B. Freese ('48), Don J. Downs ('64), Robert L. Morris ('58), Ernest Hollingsworth ('68), Bruce Johnson ('65), Monty D. McKinley ('67), Rhett Mazingo, Jr. ('57), Joe C. Mayfield ('68) and James D. Holley ('66).

AUBURN FORESTRY FOUNDATION

The Auburn Forestry Foundation is an organization devoted to the support of the Auburn University Department of Forestry. It is the "official" organization for this purpose, recognized and endorsed by Auburn University.

The Foundation was formed in 1960 by alumni of the Department of Forestry for the purpose of providing financial as well as moral support to the Department, its staff and student body. The membership now numbers more than 20 and is composed of individuals and organizations interested in the continued development and the teaching of Forestry in Alabama. Most of the financial assistance given to date has been to supplement the budget of the Department in areas in which support was not readily available from University sources.

Membership in the Foundation is open to all persons who are interested in Auburn's Department of Forestry and are willing to contribute, however large or small, toward its development. The Department will furnish details about the Foundation to anyone interested in becoming a member. All alumni and Department staff are particularly urged to participate through active membership as their full support is needed to enable the Foundation's contribution to the Department to become more worthwhile and significant in the near future.

Functions of the Foundation are administered by an elected Board of Directors under the Constitution and By-Laws. Since the Foundation as such is prohibited from soliciting funds, plans were made last year to establish a Standing Committee within the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association to promote interest in and help achieve the objectives of the Foundation both from alumni and outside sources.

VIRGIL WILLETT ('50)
President

ALUMNI INTERESTED IN NEW ORGANIZATION

In 1970 the Alabama Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers was organized with much success. 120 members had completed a membership form and paid their dues.

The following Auburn Forestry Alumni joined the organization: Tom Newman ('51), Joe Rigsby ('60), Waymon Paul ('59), Max Bell ('63), Balford Thompson ('60), and Edward Branch ('59).

The purpose of the society is to develop, improve, promote and advance, without profit to itself, the professions of farm management and rural appraisal.

The titles of Accredited Farm Managers (AFM) and Accredited Rural Appraisers (ARA) are awarded to those members who have had years of experience, are technically trained, have passed rigid examinations and subscribe to a high code of ethics. These titles are awarded from the American Society.

Further information regarding the American and State Societies can be obtained from Dr. J. H. Yeager, Agricultural Economics Department, Auburn University.

SAF REPORTS FINDINGS OF COMMITTEE

Frank Stewart of Vredenburgh was recently appointed chairman of a special committee to investigate charges of mismanagement of timberland in the Bankhead National Forest in North Alabama. The committee was also charged with the responsibility of inspecting the Bee Branch Scenic area, a part of the forest, in view of its being designated as a "Wilderness Area." Other Auburn Foresters on the special committee were Dr. Harold Christen, Professor, Auburn University, and Waymon Paul, First National Bank, Birmingham, Alabama.

The Alabama Conservancy, an organization composed of conservationists, preservationists, ecologists, and others interested in the environment, has requested that eleven thousand acres of the Bankhead National Forest in Northwest Alabama be preserved as wilderness. About twelve hundred acres of the area, designated as the Bee Branch Scenic Area, is truly unique in that it

IN MEMORIAM

HARRY COBBON FUNCE, JR.
(Class '69)

HARRY WALKER STICKNEY
(Class '64)

CURRICULUM MAY BE CURTAILED DUE TO LACK OF INSURANCE

The Forestry staff at Auburn is driving 8 state vehicles while the state has ruled that these vehicles cannot be insured with state money. The teachers can buy only limited amounts of liability insurance as riders on their personal insurance. Any driver, whether a professor or not, is liable for the safety of his passengers.

A school bus carrying 28 students places a burden on the professors since they do all the driving.

As President of the Forestry Alumni Association, I have been seeking financial assistance from private sources to purchase the desired insurance. The problem was presented at the annual Alumni Meeting last year, but the Association is unable to provide the \$830.00 per year needed. I am asking that each alumnus contribute now to your Alumni Treasurer, Donald E. Smith, P. O. Box 527, Haleyville, Ala. 35865. Contributions should be designated "Insurance Fund".

T. WAYMON PAUL (Class '59)
President, AFAA

SAF REPORTS

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harbors some of the rarest fauna and flora to be found in the country. Even at the time the area was acquired by the U. S. Forest Service in 1922, it was recognized as being unique and was left in its natural state. In 1950, it was officially designated as a Scenic Area. Surrounding this is a rugged gorge of some three thousand acres that could well serve as a buffer zone to the Scenic Area.

The Investigating Committee, composed of professional foresters representing education, industry, game management specialists, forestry consultants, and public and private forest landowners conducted the hearing at Northwest Alabama Junior College on October 29, 1970, and inspected the area in question the following day. A representative of the Alabama Wildlife Federation accompanied the Committee on the field inspection. Based on the finding of the Special Investigating Committee, Billy C. Bond, Chairman of the Alabama Chapter of the Society of American Foresters issued the following statement:

AFAA FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance Jan. 1, 1970 ...	\$140.39
INCOME:	
Membership Dues:	
98 @ \$3.25	\$318.50
1 @ 3.00	3.00
Total Income	\$321.50
EXPENSES:	
Forestry Handbook \$ 15.00	
Senior Award	50.00
Printing Service	11.45
Envelopes	4.24
1970 Newsletter	88.14
Postage	36.00
Total expenses	\$204.83
Balance, Jan. 1, 1971....	\$257.06

DONALD E. SMITH (Class '55)
Sec.-Treas. 1970-71

"The Executive Committee of the Alabama Chapter of the Society of American Foresters, based on the findings and recommendations of a Special Committee created to study the Bee Branch Scenic Area and the surrounding national forest land and the general management practices on the Bankhead National Forest, recommends the following:

"That the Bee Branch Scenic Area be preserved as a wilderness area, and that a sufficient buffer zone be set aside to protect the integrity of the wilderness area, the exact size of the buffer zone and management practices therein to be determined by the U. S. Forest Service."

It is also our professional opinion that the U. S. Forest Service is performing its Forest Management Operations, maintaining the forest game habitat, and other multiple use programs on these public lands in a completely ethical and commendable manner."

PIED WAYMON ('59)
Central Zone Chairman
Society of American Foresters
Auburn 1959

FACILITY

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fenced enclosure on open land near the Forestry Plots. Environmental factors which can be measured include solar radiation, wind movement and direction, air and soil temperature, rainfall, evaporation and soil moisture content. A majority of the instruments are of the

recording type, which keep continuous records of their respective measurements for a one-week period without attention. The resultant saving in time makes it possible to obtain more comparative measurements from other sites in the limited laboratory time available.

SUMMER CAMP

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Two students learned the hard way that you do not blaze pine trees with Prof. Chels in the woods, and that you should always watch your language before offsetting a line.

"Ole Possum!" was the cry after we left the woods and began our wonderful but shortened tour of the Eastern United States. After everyone got their thrill on Blueberry Hill, the bus went south to begin a long series of getting out of the bus and looking at regenerated pine stands along with recreational facilities for the city folk.

While touring a plant in Mobile, several groups of students were enlightened by seeing a huge possum going in search of a simmon tree. Each time after this episode the students would search the woods for giant possum tracks and quite frequently they were found.

After touring the "South" we went into Kentucky and north Alabama which turned out to be our last tour.

Our final tour was to be the Great Smoky Mountains but by an ill stroke of luck the bus broke down and each student was informed that we were heading back to Auburn. The tears broke forth after this announcement and definitely put a damper on what was surely to be another exciting and wonderful jaunt.



W. H. Padgett ('51), staff specialist, Forest Pest Control, Division of State and Private Forestry, Northeastern Area, U. S. Forest Service.