

AFAA NEWS

AUBURN FORESTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1991



A Message From Your President

Wayne M. King (64)

It has been over a quarter of a century since I received and departed with my degree from Auburn's Department of Forestry. Even though my body departed Auburn, much of my spirit, soul and fond memories never left. I believe any other forestry alumni should feel the same way. How do we motivate those that don't? Commentate - those of you who feel as I do should talk with your classmates, friends, and/or bosses about your AFAA. Encourage them to become active members in our association.

Your AFAA is moving to improve communications and participation in many areas and since our former newsletter many significant events have happened and more are going to happen:

- Gordon Stone has joined our Alumni Association replacing Mike Horne. Gordon, as our "constituent fund raiser" and coordinator with the Auburn University Alumni Association is moving forward with our program of communication and fund raising.
- Our attractive logo stickers have finally become a reality and are being mailed to all active participating alumni. Extra stickers are available through Charlie Roper at the School of Forestry.
- Proposed by-law changes are being worked on and will be presented at our next annual meeting.
- We hope to have AFAA logo lapel pins in hand by our next annual meeting.
- Committees for 1991 have been named and they are listed in this newsletter.
- Charlie's "Mission Impossible" is working. We are finding some of our lost alumni.
- I was honored to make our AFAA Outstanding Senior Award (Academix) to Robert Milstead. We presented him with a forestry handbook and a \$100 check.

• IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 16, 7:00 A.M.
AFAA Annual Meeting Breakfast
- AFAA Annual Meeting - Orange Beach Hilton
October 21, 7:00 A.M.
- AFAA Business Meeting Breakfast
- SAF - SE Section Meeting - Orange Beach Hilton
October 25, Miss State Football Game
School of Forestry Bar-B-Que & Homecoming
Game

1991 has been fruitful to this point, and the rest of this year has the possibility of greatness. Please participate when and where you can and if you have any questions or suggestions, please let us hear from you.

Thank you for your Auburn Spirit Support!

Auburn Forestry Foundation by Art Arnold '63

The objectives of the Auburn Forestry Foundation are:

"To aid and promote the Auburn University School of Forestry through establishment of an endowment trust fund and to provide a source of supplemental income, which may be applied toward the operational maintenance expenditures of the School of Forestry."

After several years of inactivity the Foundation was reactivated in 1989 through the leadership of Gene Sample. At that time there was approximately \$18,500 in the endowment. At Dr. Thompson's suggestion it was determined to attempt to significantly increase that amount and to avoid expenditures until that goal was accomplished.

Under the bylaws, the Auburn Forestry Foundation is formed under authority of the Auburn University Foundation and is a part of Auburn University. The Foundation has the authority to receive donations and bequests and to otherwise acquire, hold, sell, donate and otherwise dispose of all kinds of property, real, personal and mixed in accordance with the policies of Auburn University.

The management of the Foundation is vested in a Board of Directors. The Board consists of six members serving staggered terms plus the current President of the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association. Board members are elected by popular ballot at the general election of officers of the Forestry Alumni Association. Current Board members are:

- Art Arnold '63 - President
- Bill Jones '78 - Executive President
- Mary Lou Gamble - Vice President
- Vaughn Stough '73 - Secretary
- Jim Spears '38
- Leighton Skinner '66
- Wayne King '64 President, Forestry Alumni Association

The Board is authorized to disburse only those funds which are derived from interest. Principal may not be spent. For this reason and because any spending is authorized by alumni, it is anticipated that some donors might feel more comfortable in designating gifts to go to the Auburn Forestry Foundation rather than other alternatives.

It has been suggested that perhaps alumni could be effective in soliciting the donations of timberland for the benefit of the School of Forestry. If this could be accomplished, one possibility of how to handle would be for the Forestry Foundation to manage and operate such land as a long-term asset with the School of Forestry receiving any operating income.

This has not been done before at Auburn and would entail the changing of the Forestry Foundation's bylaws and, in addition, would necessitate a contact with the Auburn University Foundation relative to the management aspect. What is needed is a very patient and understanding land donor to be the "pioneer" in establishing the precedent. If any of you readers know of such an individual or firm, please contact Dr. Thompson or one of the board members.

**AUBURN FORESTRY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
- COMMITTEES -**

Executive Committee: Wayne King - President
Jim Spears - Vice President
Waymon Paul - Past President
Art Arnold - President Foundation
Bill Jones
Layton Skinner
Charlie Raper

Nominating Committee: Mary Lou Gamble - Chairman
(Report at Annual Meeting) Gene Sample
Vaughn Stough

Outstanding Alumnus Committee:
Frank Jones - Chairman
John Cook
Robert (Bob) Freese

Proposed By-Law Change:

A change in our By-Laws will be recommended at the Annual Meeting on September 16, 1991. The change will remove the annual dues requirement in the by laws, effective January 1, 1992. This should streamline the various alumni support programs that are now under way, and will be discussed in more detail at the Annual Meeting.

Gordon Stone, a 1985 Auburn graduate in Agricultural Economics, has joined the School and University Advancement Office as Development Officer for the School of Forestry. In this capacity, Gordon will work out of the University Advancement Office, which combines both alumni affairs and University development, in support of both the School of Forestry and the Pulp and Paper Program in the College of Engineering. Gordon has already met a number of alumni and supporters, and looks forward to becoming more involved in our various developmental activities.

Dr. George W. Bengtson joined the School of Forestry as Associate Dean, with primary responsibilities for education/extension programs, effective July 1, 1991. Dr. Bengtson's most recent position was Director of the U.S. Forest Service's Center for Forested Wetlands Research in Charleston, SC. Prior to that position, he was Associate Dean for Extension in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University. We feel extremely fortunate to have someone with George's experience and expertise join the School's administration.

Outstanding Alumnus Award

Frank Jones, '50, is chairing the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association's Outstanding Alumnus Award Committee for 1991. Please send your nominations for this award to Frank no later than October 1, 1991. Frank's address is: Cedar Creek Land & Timber, P.O. Box 1769, Brewton, AL 36427. Phone number is 867-6165.

Additional Auburn Forestry LOGO's can be purchased for \$1.00 each from the:
School of Forestry
100 M. White Smith Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849

Dixon Center Dedication

On April 2, 1991, the University dedicated the newly constructed Martha Dixon Administration Building at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center. This building was made possible by a gift from the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation. The University's Board of Trustees approved naming the building for Martha Dixon in recognition of her many contributions to the School of Forestry and to Auburn University. The old Dixon home had been serving as both a forestry museum and office. It was not particularly well-suited for an office, but the administrative activities of the Center were taking up most of the building. With the construction of the new administration building, which is located directly across the parking lot from the old home, plans can now proceed to make the old Dixon home into a forestry museum for south Alabama. All alumni are encouraged to visit the Dixon Center and tour the new building, as well as all the facilities, anytime they are in the Andalusia/Brewton area.

Auburn Forestry Alumni Association Outstanding Senior Award (Academics)

On May 2, 1991 at the annual Forestry Awards Banquet this award was presented to Robert J. Milstead by Mr. Wayne King.



School of Forestry Development Activities

Working with the School of Forestry in development provides numerous opportunities. The economic impact the forest industry has on the State of Alabama emphasizes the importance of our School. We have a significant role in providing the research and training the employees for the industry. Individuals and companies depend on new technology being developed, ideas being generated, and problems being investigated. At the School of Forestry, we work to improve Alabama's number one industry by addressing each of these issues.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding faculty conducting important research in forest regeneration, landowner studies, timber harvesting, forest taxation, forest management, forest products, environmental impacts, and other areas. We also have terrific students who are committed to the future of this industry.

We are emphasizing this commitment to the future in the development office. Auburn Forestry has a bright future with exciting programs on the horizon. As we move ahead, it is important to remember that you are a vital part.

Your part simply means getting involved. We are seeking volunteers who will work with our student recruitment activities and with our Alumni programs. Also, we need your financial support. We will be contacting you through mailings, phone calls, and occasional personal visits to discuss future activities.

Our fund raising programs are the most exciting part of our plan because they provide us with the resources necessary to maintain our position as a quality forestry school. Annual giving to the School of Forestry allows Dean Thompson to use his discretion to purchase supplies, equipment and cover everyday expenses. Gifts which are designated for a specific area may be given to provide scholarships, to endow professorships, and to make improvements. With proration cutting into our budget, we realize the importance of not being totally dependant on state funding. Presently, we are attaining about 25% of our support from private gifts. As you ponder your role in continuing the excellence at Auburn's School of Forestry, we hope you will consider getting involved.

I look forward to meeting with each of you. God Bless.

by Gordon Stone

See other side for list of contributions and dues paid for 1991.

**HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE
4TH OF JULY**





Companies That Contributed to the
School of Forestry
October 1990 - May 1991

Alabama Forestry Foundation
Boise Cascade Corporation
Champion International Foundation
Container Corp. of America
CIBA-GEIGY Corporation
Dearborn Timber Company
Resource Management Service
Tensas Land & Timber Co., Inc.
Union Camp
Walmart Stores, Inc.
Westvaco

Individuals Who Paid Lifetime Dues in 1991

Ken Bailey
Tom Fell
Robert Press
Robert A. Mayfield
Raymond D. McConnell
Jimmie L. Travis

FORESTRY ALUMNI DUES PAID IN 1991

Breese Albrecht	David Onbeuneder	William Parrish
W. A. Anderson	John Haggard	William B. Pass
Gordon Amstutz	Harry L. Hasty Jr.	Nilsa E. Payne
Art Arnold	Dan Hagrove	David P. Pease
Leb Bass	Jack Hays	Rodney Pencil
Charlotte Boefinger	Don Heath	Terry E. Pichard
Harold Bojkin	James A. Helms	Kate Plot
Roger Boone	Roderick A. Hill	Matthew Poole
Mark Boyd	Ron Hoyer	John D. Power
David R. Bowers Jr.	Paul E. Higgins	Row U. Price
John R. Bowers	Terry L. Ingalls	Gene W. Quick
Larry Brooks	Chris Janssen	John G. Ramage
John A. Butler	James P. Jeter	Charlie Raper
William Caldwell	Robert A. Johnson	H. Walter Rebling
Bill Caswell	Frank E. Jones	James Richardson
Tom C. Cuffe	Joseph S. Jones	Robert P. Sharp
Philip Cushey	Il. Aaron Jordan	James H. Sherr
Samuel A. Clark	Ary C. Kestrick	Mason Stone Jr.
Craig Clarke	Mark Key	Leighon Skinner
Harold Coon	Yem Lampier	Donald T. Slay
Tammy Cozwell	Frank Lavender	Fern F. Smith
Deana R. Cook	Barry A. Lilly	James E. Smith
Joseph Culpepper	Richard Lovelace	James H. Smith
Muel Darmon	James R. Lowe	Michael Stanford
Earl DeBruizer	Harold G. Love	Frank M. Stewart III
Larry Doyle	James W. Martin	Nancy J. Stewart
Orville Duff	Ray W. McCarter Jr.	Ronald Tate
Arthur C. Dyer	Joseph B. McChadden	James Vandaman
Carl O. Etem	Billy W. Midwayer	Nancy Wilegik
Rodney P. Eise Jr.	J. Phil McKeown	Stephan R. White
Larry Ellis	Linda K. McKnight	Rebecca Wilson
John B. Eries Jr.	James H. Meade	Loose Webb
Leon P. Estes	William Montgomery	Yakob Withers
Robert L. Ford	Rhettbur Moore	Mayford Williams
George M. Franklin	Patrick W. Newby	David W. Wright
James R. Fowler	Michael Oiler	Richard Zelner
Ray J. Gastble	W. D. Ooley	Eric D. Ziebach
Mark Gilliland	Donald C. Parker	

Individuals Who Contributed to the
School of Forestry
October 1990 - May 1991

Bill Anderson	Ed King
Walter Andress	Wayne King
Gordon Amstutz	Ginger Kogelschatz
John Armstrong	Linda Koler
Art Arnold	William Koler
Todd Ayers	Jamin Lane
Daniel Baggett	Tom Lang
Ken Bailey	Robert Langston
Leb Bass	Curt LeVan
Chester Bilba	Pat Bailey Lieberman
Charlotte Sage Bofinger	Terry Love
Steve Boykin	Jim Martin
Brian Bradley	Robert Mayfield
Larry Brooks	Guy McCown
Al Brown	Monty McKinley
Alan Bruce	Tom McMillan
Chris Brumlik	Rick Miles
Joe Burns	Richard Mills
David Burt	Mike Minchew
John Carothers	Charles Murphy
Marion Casteel	Tom Newman
Gene Castleberry	Jimmie Nipper
Charles Coals	Ken Northrop
John Collins	Marvin Odom
Denton Cook	Charles Parker
Tim Craig	Waymon Paul
David Creamer	David Pearce
Jack Crouch	Terry Pickard
Thomas Culpepper	Dennis Pope
Ken Day	Mike Presley
Jim Douglass	Al Pyle
Don Downs	Charles Raper
Carl Edem	James Richardson
Tripp Edwards	Dan Roach
Daniel Ellishorp	Bill Rogers
Tom Fell	Ben Rook
Gordon Forster	Gene Sample
Robert Foster	Jerry Schwarzauer
Steve Franks	Terry Sellers
Roy Gamble	Hendon Simms
Eddie Gibson	Ken Simmons
Mark Gilliland	Bill Sizemore
Glenn Glover	Donald Slay
John Goodner	Earl Smith
Doug Gray	Tony Southerland
John Guy	Jim Spears
Joe Hair	Mike Stanford
Harry Honey	Steve Stewart
Mike Harris	Chris Stublinger
Don Heath	Jack Swanson
Larry Heaton	Jimmy Swanson
Ron Hoyer	Charles Tarver
Sandy Hindman	Bill Taylor
Mike Hinson	Bill Terry
Ted Hixon	Warren Thompson
Steve Holland	William Tilt
Chad Hudson	Ron Truss
Gary Huff	Beorie Vinson
Mike Hutcherson	George Walker
Kyle Ingalls	Charles Walsh
Herman Jagers	Frank Washburn
Brent Jarrett	Clyde Webb
Charles Johnson	Both Weibaum
Jerry Johnson	Tim West
Rick Jones	Marvin Whitley
Bill Jones	Tina Wilkerson
Tom Kelly	Jack Williams
Thomas Kennedy	Elmo Ziebach



It is an annual tradition for the Forestry Club to select from among the ranks of professors the one who we feel has extended the best effort in educating the students. The award for Teacher of the Year is based primarily on teaching ability but is also a reflection how well he is liked by the students. Dr. Harry S. Larsen is certainly no stranger to this award and we congratulate him once again for his efforts. We would like to extend further appreciation for his many years of dedicated service at Auburn University.

Dr. Larsen began his own academic pursuits at Rutgers University where he majored in pre-forestry and natural sciences. Upon completion of a B.S. degree, he went to Michigan State University where he received his M.S. in Forestry in 1953. From December of 1953 to August of 1956, Dr. Larsen worked for Southern Timber Management Service, Inc. in Birmingham, Alabama. In September of 1956 he returned to the classroom to pursue a Ph.D. at Duke University. He completed the thesis and received his degree 1963.

By this time Dr. Larsen had already begun his career at Auburn. The first assignment was at the Little River State Forest summer camp of 1959. From Little River to the Dixon Center, Dr. Larsen will always be a favorite of the students who had his instruction at summer camp. His teaching responsibility was expanded to include Dendrology I & II, Tree Physiology, Forest Ecology, and Forest Geography. Most of us from the last few years will remember "Leafy" Larsen for those impossible Dendrology quizzes. Was it Common Persimmon or Black Tupelo? We'll never know.

Dr. Larsen has also developed an impressive track record for his research contributions at Auburn University. His research predominantly involved improving the quality of southern pine seedlings at southern forest nurseries. He has authored or co-authored several journal publications pertaining to this research.

Some of "Uncle Harry's" other accomplishments and honors include undergraduate student advisor, and graduate student committee member. He has also served in the Society of American Foresters, Alabama Forestry Association and Xi Sigma Pi forestry honor society.

Dr. Larsen has retired after 32 years of very dedicated service to the Auburn University School of Forestry on some remote beach in South Alabama. We congratulate you once again on being named our Teacher of the Year and appreciate your effort through all of the years. May your retirement years be as relaxing as your career has been productive. And by the way, what is the scientific name for sea oats?

Dr. Harry S. Larsen, who has taught dendrology and other courses to forestry students since 1959 turned in his keys and walked out the front door of the Forestry Building on June 28, 1991. "Leafy," as he was known to many of the students, came to Auburn on July 1, 1959. Most of the students remember Dr. Larsen for his strolls through the woodlands around Auburn and at the Dixon Center. He really is somewhat of a legend in his own time. The students of the future will not know his dedication to making all of his students learn those scientific names and the finer points of the species separation in the oaks and hickories.

During his 32 years at Auburn, he taught such courses as regional silviculture, forest geography, forest ecology, forest tree physiology and silvics in addition to the dendrology courses. He also, in recent years, has worked in research with the Nursery Co-op.

The faculty and staff will certainly miss Dr. Larsen as he and his wife move to Perdido Bay where they are in the process of building a home. Baldwin County is gaining from Auburn's loss. A party to send Dr. Larsen off into the world of retirement was held on June 28th at the Forestry Building. A fund for a supply of maple lumber was provided to him for his hobby time on the Bay! Enjoy it Dr. Larsen, you've earned it.



Observations on An Experience in the Middle East

by
Richard W. Briuker
Assistant Professor
Major, GS, USAR

Operation Desert Storm started for me on August 3, 1990, the day Saddam Hussein's military forces invaded Kuwait. I knew this could quickly escalate to U.S. military involvement. I also knew my unit would be one of the early deploying units, as we were the Headquarters for Army Central Command, and the Middle East is our area of responsibility. I am an Army Reserve member of Headquarters Third U.S. Army based at Ft. McPherson in Atlanta. Being a citizen soldier has been a part of my life for the past 21 years, and now was going to be the time when all of the training was going to be put to the test. In my mind, it was not if, but when, the President would activate the Reserve Forces.

As a faculty member at the School of Forestry, I had a number of obligations planned through the rest of the year. I had to complete as much as I could, but knew I could get other faculty members to fulfill those obligations that could not be postponed. It was a hectic time for me and my family, trying to prepare for my departure and waiting for the call.

The Regular Army troops of my unit and those reservists who volunteered to go before the official Presidential activation, deployed to Saudi Arabia by the latter part of August. I was activated along with 130 other reservists in my unit on September 27, 1990. We were in Saudi Arabia on October 10th for an experience that would not be forgotten. My attitude was one of confidence, but there was a certain degree of uncertainty in what the near future held for us.

My job was Ammunition Plans Officer, the job in which I had been training for the past 8 years. We were a small section of 3 officers within the G4, or logistics section. Our job was to determine the type and quantity of ammunition that would be required to fight the war. The only problem was that the campaign plan was still being developed, so we were neither sure of the type and number of weapons systems to support, nor what type of battle scenario we would fight. We spent many hours running battle scenarios on our PC. We used output from these simulations and tempered with our experience, we estimated the quantity and type of ammunition we felt would support the type of war we would probably fight.

Much of our time was then spent communicating with the ammunition staff sections at the Department of the Army in Washington DC and National Inventory Control Points all over the world. Our job was now to monitor the quantity of ammunition in the theater, keep track of what was enroute by sea and air, and project when it would arrive. Our commander, LTG Yeosock, was responsible for the ground war effort, and that portion of the war could not start until there were adequate ammunition supplies on the ground to support the force. The hours were long, normally 16 hours a day, 7 days a week. But the support we received from military and civilian personnel, politicians and the American public, made our job possible. We were being allowed to fight this war based on a military strategy to win the battle and minimize casualties. This would be no war of gradual

escalation. We all wanted to get the mission accomplished and get back home.

The entire campaign went according to plan, and in many instances even better. The pace of the land battle, from the initial breach of the forward Iraqi defensive lines to their rapid surrender, gave new meaning to the term blitzkrieg. U.S. casualties were lower than even the most optimistic could imagine, although the loss of every life was difficult for us. Our investment in new armament technology, and highly trained and top quality volunteer soldiers during the past 2 decades paid handsome dividends. The victory was not long savored, as we immediately began planning and preparation for redeployment of troops and equipment back home. It was a true total force effort, with more than 228,000 Reservists being called to active duty, with over 106,000 of those serving in the Middle East. And it was great to know that there was an extraordinarily high level of support from the American citizenry. We had the winning edge on all counts.

There were some interesting "sidetrip" experiences for me. Stationed in the capital of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia was an experience in itself. It is a modern city that has been brought into today's world on an income based on it's major natural resource, oil. Trips to other locations in the country allowed me to see a culture that is totally foreign to our western ideas. Middle Eastern religion, values, personal freedom, and attitudes towards women are experiences that can only be fully appreciated firsthand. The countryside is as inhospitable a place as you can imagine. Temperatures exceed 125° F, water costs more than gasoline, and I'm not sure how many millions of acres of desert I drove through, but there was a tree only once in a while.

My contribution to Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm was part of a huge team effort. But, I hope it made a difference. It was an overwhelming military victory for the United States and its allies of the coalition forces. Hopefully the euphoria and pride in our nation will translate into good things for years to come. As our now famous Commander of the Allied Forces, Gen H. Norman Schwarzkopf has expressed, "It's a great day to be a soldier, and it's a great day to be an American." I'm proud to have been there and able to do my part.

Cutting YELLOW Ribbon at School of Forestry

