



January 2015

## **Candidates for Election to the Forest Resources Alumni Group Board of Directors**

*The Forest Resources Alumni Group Board of Directors includes 12 at-large members who are elected to serve a three-year term, and who may serve a second consecutive term if re-elected. The terms of four at-large members expire in spring 2015.*

*Below are brief biosketches, in alphabetical order, of four candidates running for election to the board. Write-in candidates are permitted. Incumbents are noted with an asterisk (\*).*

*Vote online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/97WJ9TT>, or print the ballot and mail it to Ellen Manno, 114 Forest Resources Bldg., University Park, PA 16802.*

*Vote for no more than four candidates. **Ballots must be received by February 27, 2015.***

### **David J. Gustafson (2000 FORSC) \***

I spent the first year of my undergraduate program at Penn State Mont Alto and graduated with a B.S. in Forest Science in 2000. My professional career began as a forester with Weaber, Inc. in Lebanon, PA, where I worked until September 2001. In August 2002 I was hired as a forester with the Pennsylvania DCNR Forest Inventory and Analysis Section, and then in August 2003 became a forester with the Pennsylvania Game Commission in the Northwest Region. In August 2005 I was promoted to forest program specialist and helped start the commission's Forest Inventory and Analysis Section. Since August 2007 I have been the Chief Forester for the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

I enlisted in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1997. I was deployed for Hurricane Katrina, August - November 2005. I served during Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq from September 2008 until October 2009. I retired in 2013 at the rank of Captain.

I am a member of many organizations including the National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation, and Tau Phi Delta where I currently serve as the Grand National Chapter Vice President. I am an avid outdoorsman and enjoy turkey hunting, bear hunting, archery hunting for whitetails, and fly fishing. In 2010, I was honored as a Penn State School of Forest Resources Outstanding Recent Alum.

My wife Christine (1999 RPTM) and I currently live near Loysville in Perry County, Pennsylvania, with our daughters Rebekah (3) and Caroline (1).

### **Nicholas P. Lylo (1989 FORSC) \***

After graduating from Wellsboro Area High School in 1983, I served in the U.S. Army 1983-1985 with the 25th Infantry Division. Following my military service, I attended Penn State, graduating in 1989 with a B.S. degree in Forest Science. Following college I worked for a season with the USFS on the Allegheny National Forest and briefly in the forest industry as a consulting and procurement forester.

In 1991 I was hired by the Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry and have since worked as a forester on the Bald Eagle and Wyoming Forest Districts, in the central office as a silviculture specialist, as assistant district forester for the Lackawanna District, and as district forester for the Lackawanna and Delaware Forest Districts. Currently I am the district forester for the Lackawanna Forest District.

I live in Dallas, PA, with my wife Mary Jane and enjoy my free time with family, friends, and outdoor activities. I am a member of the SAF, Pinchot Chapter and with the local anthracite mining historical society.

### **Samantha J. Pedder (2011 W F S)**

I graduated from Penn State in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, Wildlife Option. I'll complete a Master of Natural Resources from Utah State University in May 2015. I work for the Pennsylvania Game Commission as the Hunting Outreach Coordinator in Harrisburg, PA, where I manage programs and partnerships to promote hunting and shooting sports across the state. When not working or studying, I spend my time outdoors hunting, fishing, shooting and more.

### **Chad M. Stewart (2000 W F S)**

I completed my B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science in 2000 after starting at Penn State Mont Alto. Upon graduation, I moved to Illinois to conduct research on white-tailed deer at the University of Illinois, where I received my M.S. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. Since I've completed my schooling, I've worked for the Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute, working mostly with white-tailed deer, but also working internationally in China and Malaysia on wildlife and forestry related topics. I have spent the past 7 years working in Indiana as the deer biologist with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. I recently accepted a position in Michigan with the Department of Natural Resources as the deer, elk, and moose management specialist, and am looking forward to the challenges and experiences involved with that position.

I am a Certified Wildlife Biologist with The Wildlife Society, and have served as adjunct professor at Ball State University, President of the Indiana Chapter of The Wildlife Society, and on the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Fish and Wildlife Health Committee. I have authored or co-authored 10 peer-reviewed publications, and have received recognition from the Midwest Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife, and the Indiana Chapter of the Shikar Safari Club as their Biologist of the Year.

I am married with two children and enjoy hunting, softball, basketball, and of course watching Penn State football.