

School of Forest Resources

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FOREST SCIENCE • WOOD PRODUCTS • WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCE • WATER RESOURCES

Our College Connects All Penn State Campuses

The College of Agricultural Sciences has recently worked harder than ever to better connect itself with Penn State's Commonwealth campus system. Under the leadership of Mrs. Debbie Little, our College's Coordinator for Campus Enrollment and Retention, advisers and campus representatives are building tighter bonds with each other and their students.

As you are likely already aware, Penn State is a multi-campus institution. Nineteen Commonwealth campuses across the state, in addition to University Park, offer a wide range of options to students, with each location providing a unique setting while maintaining the integrity of the Penn State mission. In addition, nine other units are affiliated with the University, including the Dickinson School of Law, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, and Pennsylvania College of Technology.

In fall 2007, more than 77,000 undergraduate students were enrolled in this network of Penn State campuses and units. About 37,000 of these students were located at University Park where our School of Forest Resources is housed. The majority of our SFR undergraduates enrolled in Forest Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Science, and Wood Products begin their Penn State education at a Commonwealth campus, not at University Park.

This geographical dispersion amplifies the challenges of maintaining enrollments, retaining students, and tailoring student advising. In response, the College of Agricultural Sciences is leading a charge to personalize advising and maintain a close connection to all of its students across the campus system.

In the 2007-08 academic year, a group of College advisers led by Debbie Little began to meet and discuss strategies to better attend to the needs of students across the campus system. This group decided to initiate an effort to meet students at each of the campuses. Mrs. Little also invited Agricultural Sciences faculty representatives from each of the Commonwealth campuses to gather together and brainstorm on advising issues at an annual meeting. The 2nd annual meeting of the campus faculty representatives will be held this summer.

In fall 2007, welcome receptions for College of Agricultural Sciences' students were held at eight campuses (Altoona, Berks, DuBois, Harrisburg, Hazleton, Mont Alto, Worthington-Scranton, and York). Each reception included an ice cream social. A total of 139 students attended.

In spring 2008, the College advising team focused on transition issues. The goal of the spring program was to distribute information concerning the transition to University Park, provide academic advising, and answer student questions on student life issues. Our College was able to reach 138 students with this program. University Park representatives traveled to eight campuses once again (Abington, DuBois, Erie, Beaver, Mont Alto, Berks, Brandywine, York), while two campuses (Worthington-Scranton and Altoona) organized visits to University Park.

The School of Forest Resources played a key role in the visits to Mont Alto and DuBois both semesters. Our School has always made an effort to maintain strong ties with these two campuses. The DuBois campus houses the associate degree program in Wildlife Technology and the Mont Alto campus houses the associate degree program in Forest Technology. There is also an associate degree program in Forest Technology at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport. Many of the students enrolled in these two-year programs go on to complete a baccalaureate degree in Forest Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Science, or Wood Products at University Park.

In addition to campus visits, our College's enrollment and retention efforts include several other means of communication. Little coordinates the circulation of monthly e-mails and an e-newsletter called *Campus Connections*. The College is also encouraging advisers and students to exchange information via Facebook, an online tool for social networking. Finally, the print publication *Science for Your Life* highlights accomplishments and experiences of students in our College, across all campuses. A total of 18,000 copies of this biannual publication are printed and distributed to all College of Agricultural Sciences' students, high school prospects, and more than 7,000 Penn State students who

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A newsletter for our alumni and friends

are still undecided about their major. *Science for Your Life* is also circulated to all county extension offices, high school counselor offices, and other recruitment venues.

All of these efforts have been facilitated by organization among program coordinators, advisers, and staff from an array of academic disciplines. There is also a need for involvement from Penn State alumni, affiliated industries, and agencies. Penn State was originally founded as an agricultural college, so it seems fitting that the College of Agricultural Sciences should continue to be a leader and demonstrate to the rest of the University what it means to be student-centered.

If you are interested in helping in our effort to better connections across the state, please contact Jamie Murphy, Instructor/Coordinator for Undergraduate Programs, jam563@psu.edu, 814-865-4237; or Debbie Little, Coordinator for Campus Enrollment and Retention, dxm16@psu.edu, 814-867-0383. ☘

-Jamie Murphy, instructor/coordinator, School of Forest Resources, and Debbie Little, coordinator for campus enrollment and retention, College of Agricultural Sciences

Dreibelbis Donation to Forest Resources Building

Galen E. and Nancy J. Dreibelbis of State College, Pennsylvania, have given \$100,000 to name the first-floor meeting room in the Forest Resources Building. The gift was made in honor of the Dreibelbis family’s heritage and interests within agriculture and forestry. The room is used for seminars, faculty meetings, graduate courses, and other Penn State functions, and will be named the Dreibelbis Meeting Room.

Dr. Charles H. Strauss, director of the School, commented, “Carol and I met Galen and Nancy as neighbors when we arrived in State College a ‘few years back’ and we are most appreciative of their gift to our new building. Over these many years Galen and Nancy have devoted their personal and professional energies to various philanthropic projects tied to Penn State and our community. Their family is well known for their ownership of Pennsylvania farms, dating back to 1732. Galen recently commented that his mother, Ruth, at 102 years of age, has lived on the same Centre County farm for 80 years and will attend Penn State’s opening football game on August 30.”

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RESOURCES is published for faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the School of Forest Resources.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our Continuing Search for Excellence

Hello Alumni and Friends,

When writing this column last December, I anticipated that we would introduce our next director in this summer issue and have the new director write this column. Well, we haven't quite reached this conclusion but we still have an optimistic view of our administrative future. Currently, we are pursuing the further interview of another promising candidate and hope to have a successful conclusion to our search by mid-semester.

Furthermore, rest assured, our School is moving forward on its annual pattern of assignments. As noted within, we lost the services of Dr. Brian Olsen as our senior lecturer in wildlife science. Brian and his wife were successful in securing new faculty positions at the University of Maine, much to the dismay of our "wildlife" students and faculty and his wife's compatriots in the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. We immediately mounted a search for our next senior lecturer under the capable guidance of Dr. Paola Ferreri, chair of our search committee. We were successful in attracting a talented pool of candidates and interviewed two of these fine people in June.

As noted elsewhere in RESOURCES, we are very pleased to announce the hire of Dr. Jacqueline Grant as our new senior lecturer. Dr. Grant was an assistant professor with the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Sciences at Michigan Technological University. She has considerable teaching experience in wildlife ecology, habitat analysis, parasites and disease, and herpetology. Jackie also has a fine research dossier, including publications and field experience from several international sites and is an accomplished scientific illustrator.

This new academic year will require the formulation of our School's next Strategic Plan. This effort will consider a five-year planning horizon and will need to mesh with the College's recently completed report (http://strategicplanning.cas.psu.edu/2008_2013/). Herein are the College's plans to excel in the further development of biobased products and energy, economic sustainability, food safety, protection of plant, animal, and human health, and sustainable environments. One of our challenges is to consider where our School will contribute to these College endeavors and to further identify our particular professional opportunities. We will approach our Alumni Group and Advisory Board in this strategic planning process and will engage their counsel at the onset of this planning exercise. Accordingly, this planning effort represents a challenge and opportunity for all members of our School—administration, faculty, staff, students, and alumni.



Cheers, Chuck Strauss

Dreibelbis Donation *continued*

Galen Dreibelbis, a commercial and residential real estate developer, is a fourth-generation Centre County resident and his wife Nancy is a native of Mifflin County. Dreibelbis served three terms in the state legislature (1971-77) before retiring to devote full-time to managing Nittany Gas and Oil Co., a firm that he founded in 1956 and sold in 1982. He then expanded his business interests into commercial real estate. His philanthropy to Penn State includes establishing the Galen and Nancy Dreibelbis Endowment for Excellence in Agriculture and Business; support for the construction of the Agricultural Arena, The Bryce Jordan Center, and the Centre County/Penn State Visitor Center; and program support for athletics, WPSU radio, the performing arts, and the Renaissance Scholarship fund. Galen also served on the College of Agricultural Sciences' advisory committee, is a charter member of the college's Armsby Honor Society, and was the honoree of the annual Renaissance dinner in 1993. In 1994, in recognition of his many years of involvement with Penn State, the University named him an honorary alumnus. 🐾

New Scholarship Honors Dr. Charles Strauss

Patricia Kocjancic, of Kane, and her family have committed \$50,000 to endow a new Trustee Scholarship to assist students in the School of Forest Resources and to honor our retiring director, Charles H. Strauss.

"Our family has been connected with the forestry industry for many years, and Chuck Strauss has earned our admiration and respect," Kocjancic said. "We decided to establish this scholarship as a way of honoring him and, at the same time, helping to make sure that students who want to make forestry their career have the means to do so."

Patricia Kocjancic and her late husband, Edward F. Kocjancic, a 1954 Penn State graduate in forestry, were principals in the family's consulting firm, Edward F. Kocjancic Inc., which has been providing forest management assistance to landowners for 40 years. Their eldest son, Edward S. Kocjancic, who graduated from Penn State with degrees in forestry and business management, is now the firm's president.

The Kocjancic family's previous philanthropy to Penn State includes a major gift to support construction of the Forest Resources Building. 🐾

Faculty and Staff Resources

Paul Smith Receives Outstanding Faculty Award 2008



Dr. Paul M. Smith, professor of forest products marketing, is the recipient of the 2008 School of Forest Resources Outstanding Faculty Award. This award recognizes a faculty member who has made extraordinary contributions to the School of Forest Resources community through teaching, advising, and research. Students nominate faculty and a final selection is made by a panel of representatives from the School's student organizations.

Prior to joining the faculty Penn State, Smith was a faculty member at the University of Washington (1988-91). He earned a B.S. in Forestry at the University of Montana (1979), an M.S. in Forest Products at the University of Idaho (1985), and a Ph.D. in Forest Products Industrial Marketing, at Virginia Tech (1988). He is also an adjunct professor at Washington State University's Wood Materials & Engineering Laboratory. Smith's industry experience includes five years as a forester in Colorado and Montana, and two years as operations manager for a wood products trading company in the Pacific Northwest (USA).

At Penn State, Smith teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in forest products marketing, sales and sales management, marketing research, and international forest products marketing.

"Dr. Smith genuinely cares about the education and well-being of his undergraduate and graduate students," says Wood Products senior Brett Diehl who presented the award to Smith at the School's spring picnic. "He encourages class participation and makes learning fun and enjoyable."

Smith's research interests include trade show use and effectiveness; Pennsylvania value-added hardwood industries; woodfiber-thermoplastic composite product-market development; OSB value analysis, and green building programs and standards. He has been principal investigator on more than 40 academic research projects, has published extensively, and has made more than 150 presentations, including five invited keynote addresses. He has conducted market research projects for the FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization), the ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organization), ten industry trade associations, and more than 70 individual companies.

Smith regularly consults for a variety of international wood-based sectors, but maintains an emphasis on global competitiveness and technology-driven product/market development. He has made 37 international trips to present papers, conduct research, and consult.

Smith has served as president of the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST), has chaired both the National Planning Committee for Forest Products Research and the Northeast Sec-

tion of the Forest Products Society (FPS), has served on the *Forest Products Journal* Editorial Committee, was a member of the FPS Long-Range Strategic Planning Committee, and has served as a Wood Award judge for FPS. 🐾

Paul Blankenhorn Retires

Dr. Paul R. Blankenhorn, now professor emeritus of wood technology, retired in June 2008 after 36 years of service at Penn State.

Blankenhorn earned a B.S. in aerospace engineering (1966), an M.S. in nuclear engineering (1968), and a Ph.D. in forest resources (1972), all at Penn State. His doctoral degree was the first-ever awarded by the graduate program in the School of Forest Resources. His dissertation research addressed the dynamic mechanical behavior of black cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and received the Wood Award from the Forest Products Research Society for outstanding research in forest products. Blankenhorn was appointed assistant professor of wood technology in the Wood Products program in 1975. In 1983 he was promoted to the rank of professor.



Blankenhorn taught courses on the anatomical properties of wood, physical and mechanical properties of wood, moisture movement in wood, drying of wood, and wood products environmental pollution control. His expertise in these areas helped him develop the Kiln Operator's Short Course.

Blankenhorn's research efforts resulted in three patents and the publication of more than 100 refereed publications in the areas of kiln drying of wood, wood polymer composites, wood processing, preservative treatment of wood, physical and mechanical properties of wood, polymer impregnation of wood, and wood cement composites. His most recent research focused on improving kiln-drying rates while maintaining lumber quality (that is, reducing defects) and controlling kiln emissions (that is, reducing the amount of volatile organic compounds released). Results from this project will ultimately help sustain the economic viability of the hardwood lumber industry.

In July 2004, Blankenhorn was appointed associate director for academic programs in the School of Forest Resources. He provided leadership on all matters relating to our undergraduate degree programs in Forest Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Science, and Wood Products. Student recruitment and retention became increasingly important during his time in that position and he

initiated efforts that strengthened undergraduate enrollment in the School. One specific effort that he championed was the start of an annual breakfast meeting with advisers and students in the Division of Undergraduate Studies to inform them about the opportunities within the School.

Blankenhorn is a past president of the Society of Wood Science and Technology. He has also been active in the Forest Products Society (FPS) as the Fundamental Discipline Technical Division Coordinator, chair of technical committees, member of the FPS Annual Meeting Committee, and a member of the Board of Trustees for the FPS Northeast Section. ❀

Jacqueline Grant Appointed Senior Lecturer



Dr. Jacqueline B. Grant joined the School on August 15, 2008 as senior lecturer in Wildlife Science. She fills the position vacated by Dr. Brian Olsen who was with us only one year before moving with his wife to the University of Maine.

Grant comes to us from the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science at Michigan Technological University where she was an

assistant professor of wildlife ecology since 2006. Prior to that she was a postdoctoral research fellow in conservation biology at Colorado State University for two years. She earned a Ph.D. in neurobiology and behavior at Cornell University in 2005, an M.S. in animal science at Cornell in 1998, and a B.S. in biochemistry at Texas A&M University in 1990.

At Michigan Tech, Grant taught undergraduate courses wildlife ecology, wildlife diseases and parasites, wildlife habitat, and independent studies; and a graduate course in herpetology. Throughout her academic career, she has been extensively involved with students in many other capacities including teaching assistant, poster/oral presentation judge, research mentor, and academic adviser. She has participated in many teaching workshops.

Grant's research interests lie in conservation biology, ecological genetics, behavior, evolution, and the environmental effects of transportation. At Michigan Tech, she and her graduate and undergraduate students were engaged in projects that explored the interactions between roads, larval amphibians, and dragonflies; the evolution of small molecules in spider venoms; landscape genetics of frogs; and GIS-based models of functional connectivity for wildlife in fragmented habitats.

Grant is a published scientific illustrator and has also been an official artist for the American Society for Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. She has many additional professional affiliations including membership in the Ecological Society of America, Society for Conservation Biology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, The Wildlife Society, and the Council on Undergraduate Research.

Grant's responsibilities at Penn State will include teaching four undergraduate courses—Wildlife and Fisheries Measurements, Mammalogy, Mammalogy Lab—and co-teaching Conservation Biology with Dr. John Carlson. She will also curate the School's vertebrate collection, advise undergraduates, assist with undergraduate curriculum and development, and continue her research efforts.

"Joining the School of Forest Resources at Penn State is a true privilege. I expect the next few weeks to be very hectic, but exciting, as I begin to teach my new courses," says Grant.

Grant is originally from Rochester, New York. Her husband Matt Weeg was recently appointed assistant professor of vertebrate physiology at Penn State Altoona, and their two-year-old son Ben is looking forward to his first Nittany Lion football game. Grant can be reached at 405 Forest Resources Building, 814-863-0135, jbg13@psu.edu. ❀

Tyler Wagner Appointed Assistant Unit Leader, PCFWRU

Dr. Tyler Wagner joined the Pennsylvania Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (PCFWRU) as assistant unit leader in April 2008 at which time he was also appointed adjunct assistant professor of fisheries ecology in the School of Forest Resources.

Wagner completed his Ph.D. degree at Michigan State University (MSU) in 2006 where his

research focused on developing decision tools for inland lake management. In a post-doctoral position at the Quantitative Fisheries Center located at MSU he worked on developing hierarchical models to synthesize pathological and fatty acid data from four lake whitefish stocks, in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, in an effort to provide insight into empirically derived natural mortality rates. His past and current research is based on the concept that understanding the structure of variability in ecological data is fundamental to the rigorous solution of scientific problems.

Wagner is a referee/reviewer for several scientific journals including *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*, *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, and *Ecological Modelling*. His memberships in professional societies include the Ecological Society of America and the American Fisheries Society. He earned both a B.S. degree (1999) and an M.S. degree (2000) at the University of Idaho.

The PCFWRU can be contacted at 419 Forest Resources Building, University Park, PA 16802; 814-865-4511. Dr. Duane Diefenbach is the current unit leader, having been promoted to that position after former unit leader Dr. Robert Carline retired in 2007. ❀



Ibberson Endows Third Faculty Chair



Joseph Ibberson (center) with Robert Steele, dean, College of Agricultural Sciences (left), and Charles Strauss, director, School of Forest Resources.

Joseph E. Ibberson '47 has committed \$2 million to endow a third faculty chair in the School of Forest Resources. Ibberson is retired chief of the division of forest advisory services of Pennsylvania's Department of Forests and Waters (now the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources).

The gift, part of the donor's estate plans, will create the Joseph E. Ibberson Chair in Silviculture Research for Penn-

sylvania. The chair will focus on the challenges of forest management under changing conditions and the evolving needs of society. The chair holder's research program will aim to improve the state's forests to produce the highest quality and quantity of products and services.

"I consider this chair an investment that will help protect and improve our state's forest resources," said Ibberson. "But I also hope to inspire others to be philanthropic in areas that are of the most interest to them."

The University invests endowed gifts and uses a portion of the annual income for purposes designated by the donor. The remaining income is added to the principal to protect it from inflation and ensure its growth. Income from faculty endowments is directed to such purposes as research-related expenses, graduate assistantships, support services, travel expenses, and salary supplements.

This chair joins two others in the School to which Ibberson has committed support: the Joseph E. Ibberson Chair in Forest Resources Management, currently held by Professor of Forestry Harry V. Wiant Jr., and the Joseph E. Ibberson Chair in Urban and Community Forestry.

"We're overwhelmed by Joe's generosity to the School of Forest Resources," said College of Agricultural Sciences Dean Robert D. Steele, "and we applaud his foresight in creating this new chair to address critical forestry issues in Pennsylvania and nationwide."

Ibberson received the Outstanding Alumnus Award from the School of Forest Resources in 2003, and in 2007 he was inducted into the Henry P. Armsby Honor Society, named in recognition of the College of Agricultural Science's first dean, for his commitments to the college. 🐾

South Africa Study Tour

Shortly after the end of the spring 2008 semester, four students and three faculty from the School of Forest Resources embarked on a 12-day study tour to South Africa. The first-ever tour was developed as part of FOR 418 Agroforestry, a course taught every other spring. The objectives were to learn about the forests, natural resources, and cultures in different ecosystems.

The School is fortunate to have a relationship with Stellenbosch University in South Africa, which assisted with arrangements and field visits. The travelers crisscrossed the country starting in the northern region and ending up at the southern tip of the African continent, Cape Town. They visited the Hans Merenksy Timber Company, famous for some of the oldest and fastest-growing Eucalyptus plantations in the country; a timber cooperative; a private landowner who farms cattle and grows timber; and a community-based black empowerment forestry enterprise.

Highlights included viewing wildlife and natural resources in the famed Kruger National Park, a visit to the largest forest-based medicinal market in the country, a tour of a carbon-neutral winery, and the spectacular views from a pine plantation on the slopes of the Table Mountain. 🐾



In South Africa, SFR faculty and students visited an 80-year-old Eucalyptus stand (above) and a plantation on the slopes of Table Mountain (below).



Extension Personnel Visit Austria

A team of five Penn State Extension personnel, including three from the School of Forest Resources, attended a weeklong working tour of various forest bioenergy sites in Austria in June 2008.

Drs. Charles Ray (assistant professor of wood products operations), Mike Jacobson (associate professor of forest resources), and Tim Pierson (extension educator, forest resources, and affiliate assistant professor) joined Tom Wilson (extension educator, agricultural engineering) and Ed Johnstonbaugh (extension educator, agri-energy economic development) and others from several eastern hardwood states to discuss pros and cons of the Austrian forest bioenergy strategy with respect to implementation here in the United States.

The group visited energy facilities and managed forest sites, collected data, and took photos. The Penn State participants will use the information they gathered to design an Extension forest bioenergy program for a variety of audiences: woodland owners and managers; energy engineers, architects, and design professionals; and citizens, scientists, regulators, and representatives of public interest groups.

The Extension team will continue to meet with other Penn State faculty and staff to further develop the program and establish a presentation strategy that will have the greatest impact across the Commonwealth in the shortest time possible. 🐾



“Energy cabins” are manufactured in Austria to site-specific project requirements, shipped to the site fully fabricated, and set up in as little as one hour. They feature hot-water solar panels and a wood-chip burning boiler, controlled by a single system, to heat water for a single building or group of buildings.

2008 Forest Resources Institute for Teachers

Elementary school teachers expanded their knowledge about forest ecology and the water resources by attending the school’s Forest Resources Institute for Teachers, June 30 - July 1, 2008.

“The focus of the program is to provide the tools and information needed to teach a balanced curriculum that relates to Pennsylvania’s forest resources,” says Dr. Sanford Smith, extension specialist and lecturer in forest resources.

Smith co-taught the course with Bryan Swistock, extension specialist in water resources. Swistock is pictured at right, standing in the stream and discussing water-quality indicators with some of the participants. Much of the course was taught in the field and the school’s Laurel Haven Conservation Center, in Julian, Pennsylvania, was a key stop for the forestry sessions. 🐾



Pennsylvania Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences

High School participants in the 2008 Pennsylvania Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences (PGSAS) were active in the School of Forest Resources this summer. These high achievers from across the state learn subject matter and explore careers related to agriculture and natural resources.

The students shown here used a visual survey method called “Forest Story Cards” to understand how forests are important in their lives and the issues and challenges that face Pennsylvania’s forests. Faculty members Paola Ferreri, Jamie Murphy, Lee Stover, Sanford Smith, and SFR students Sarah Pabian, Brianna Hutchison, and Brett Diehl taught various class sessions and directed independent study projects for this year’s PGSAS program. 🐾



Student Resources

Amanda Horning Recognized as Outstanding Senior 2008



Wildlife and Fisheries Science undergraduate Amanda Horning was recognized as the School of Forest Resources Outstanding Senior 2008 at a School picnic on April 22, 2008. A committee of School of Forest Resources faculty and Xi Sigma Pi members selects the recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award each spring from nominations submitted by faculty, staff, and students.

Nominees must be seniors expected to graduate in May, August, or December. Xi Sigma Pi is the School's honor society—a chapter of a national honor society of natural resources disciplines.

Amanda's name may be familiar to you since she was featured in our winter 2008 newsletter as the recipient of the 2007 John L. George Student Conservation Award. Since then, Amanda has also received the 2007-08 the Bryce Jordan Student Leadership Award for 2007-08 from the College of Agricultural Sciences. That award, given annually to an undergraduate student "who has exhibited outstanding leadership in the College, his/her community, or agricultural organization," was endowed by the Agriculture Advisory Council in tribute to Dr. Bryce Jordan, President Emeritus, Penn State.

An excellent example of Horning's leadership is the success of the 2008 Northeast Student Wildlife Society Conclave, hosted by the Penn State Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, of which Horning was president. Horning's organization and communication skills nurtured a team of students who worked together on a well-planned and well-implemented event that drew 115 students from 12 colleges and universities. The conclave, which took place in March in southeastern Pennsylvania at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation, was also a lot of fun.

After the spring 2008 semester ended, Horning continued working for about two months with Penn State's Natural Resources Cooperative Extension Office. In mid-July she left for the University of Melbourne in Australia, where she will take classes for one semester. You can read about her experiences abroad on her blog <http://amandasaustraliatrip.blogspot.com/>. Horning will graduate in December 2008. 🐾

Blake Goll Receives 2008 Rapp Prize for Academic Excellence

Wildlife and Fisheries Science major Blake Goll of West Chester, Pennsylvania, is the recipient of the Orpha Kelly Rapp and Jesse Rossiter Rapp '15 Prize for Academic Excellence in the amount of \$3,000. This award is made each spring to the senior in the School of Forest Resources with the highest grade point average. Elizabeth Rapp Tukey endowed the award in memory of her father Jesse Rossiter Rapp (Class of 1915) and mother Orpha Kelly Rapp.



Goll will graduate in December 2008 with a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, Wildlife option. She has also been taking additional science courses because she is considering applying to veterinary school.

Ever since she was a young girl, Goll has felt a calling to take care of animals in need. She has rescued orphaned ducklings, birds injured after flying into the glass porch doors at her home, stray cats, and more. She has sought out related employment experiences, working as an animal care intern at the Philadelphia Zoo in summer 2006, and as a kennel staff in a veterinary hospital in summer 2007. This summer she has a part-time internship at a wildlife rehabilitation center and also volunteers as a research assistant on various projects including small mammal disease ecology and trout dispersal.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Goll makes time for other interests including running, dance, and yoga. In high school she was on the track team and at Penn State she participates in the Cross Country Club. Her physical education courses have included skiing, hip hop dance, and modern dance.

Goll is also a member of Penn State's New Life Christian Fellowship. In summer 2006 she went on a mission trip to L'Acequia, Honduras, to minister to youth there.

"I have one more semester to complete at Penn State, and then I'm off to the 'real world,'" says Goll. "I hoping this summer will provide the 'me-time' and the new experiences I need to help me determine the career path I want to follow."

The Rapp Prize for Academic Excellence was first awarded in 1992. Goll is the eighth Wildlife and Fisheries Science senior to receive the award. Seven Forest Science seniors and two Wood Products seniors have also been beneficiaries of the Rapp Prize. 🐾

School of Forest Resources Graduate Student Organization

The School of Forest Resources Graduate Student Organization (SFRGSO) serves as an advocacy group for graduate students enrolled in the School, and as a means of academic, professional, and social exchange. Originating in 1993 as the Natural Resources Graduate Student Organization (NRGSO), the group reestablished itself in 2004 under its current name when it became a formally recognized student organization at Penn State University Park.

Newly elected officers for the 2008-09 academic year plan to keep the momentum from the previous years going and growing. SFRGSO president Andrew Scanlan, M.S. candidate in the interdepartmental Ecology program, looks forward to working with current graduate students and those arriving to begin studies in the fall semester.

"This year's SFRGSO officers are excited to serve the School's graduate student community, from addressing student concerns to providing fun, social activities," says Scanlan. "SFRGSO offers a great opportunity to get to know one another outside of the lab environment."

SFRGSO vice president Collin Shephard, also an M.S. candidate in Ecology, and Brooks Fost, a Ph.D. candidate in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, will co-chair the School of Forest Resources Seminar Series. The series, which began in spring 2006, consists of weekly presentations by faculty, staff, graduate students, or outside speakers during the Friday lunch hour. Some slots are left open for general discussion on selected topics; this past year these included academic advising, student engagement through teaching, and the role of graduate students in the School. Shephard reports, "The theme for the 2008-09 seminar series is 'The Future of Natural Resources in Pennsylvania.' Speakers from around the state are scheduled to make presentations on a broad range of topics including conservation genetics of bats, watershed management, wood products, and mineral leases."

At the urging of alumnus Patrick Kocovsky (1999g and 2004g), the SFRGSO recently resurrected its mentoring program. As a doctoral candidate in the early 2000s, Kocovsky was paired as a mentor with Curt Wagner (class of 2001) then in his junior year in the Wildlife and Fisheries Science undergraduate program.

Kocovsky, currently a research fisheries biologist at the USGS Great Lakes Science Center in Sandusky, Ohio, explains, "Seven years later, Curt and I are still in communication and the mentoring relationship has extended well beyond the initial steps of my advising Curt on applying to graduate schools. The relationship has benefited both of us, and demonstrates how a mentoring program can have positive benefits that extend beyond the immediate intended outcome. Curt, now a doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois, has also become a mentor for others."

Kristen Brubaker, Ph.D. candidate in Forest Resources, serves as coordinator of the newly resurrected program. "Our mentor program goals include facilitating communication between graduate and undergraduate students, providing yet another avenue by which graduate students can be active in the School, and ultimately increasing the confidence, success, and satisfaction of undergraduates seeking graduate degrees," says Brubaker.

In spring 2008, 16 graduate students volunteered to participate and provided a profile of personal information from which interested undergraduate students selected a mentor who matched their interests and needs. Five mentor pairs were established, and efforts will continue to make undergraduate and graduate students aware of this opportunity.

The SFRGSO also boasts a new Web site, <http://www.clubs.psu.edu/up/sfrgso/>, which includes a listing of graduate student photos and bios, calendar, seminar series schedule, and other links and resources for graduate students.

SFRGSO officers meet with the director of the School at least once each semester. Items discussed at the most recent meeting this past spring included an update on SFRGSO programs and activities, orientation for new graduate students, the director search, and the budget in terms of graduate student appointments.

Last but certainly not the least of SFRGSO's activities are varied social events that foster camaraderie and connections, and are just plain fun. Last year's events included Halloween and holiday parties, a Darwin Day potluck, and weekly socials. Plans for the upcoming year already include Mad Mex Monday socials, intramural sports teams, the fall picnic, a hike, a Darwin Day celebration, and more Halloween fun. 🐾

3rd Annual Wild Game Dinner

The Penn State Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society held its 3rd Annual Wild Game Dinner on February 9, 2008. A record crowd of 65 people enjoyed a wide variety of game dishes prepared



by members and others, and were entertained by Corey Brossman, host of Innerloc's Out There hunting show, who talked about his experiences. A panel of faculty judges (Drs. Diefenbach, San Julian, Strauss, and Goguen) chose the winners of the game dish contest. WFS senior Rachel Cleaver won both the large mammal and fish categories with

her venison chili cornbread pie and lemon pepper crappie and bass dishes. Undergraduate program coordinator/instructor Jamie Murphy won the avian category with her pheasant bake. FORSC senior Robbie Withington won the small mammal category with his squirrel pot pie. 🐾

Students Visit Schatz Center in California



The group enjoyed a view of the Schatz Research Forest.

In May 2008, three undergraduate students working in the Schatz Center for Tree Molecular Genetics accompanied Dr. John Carlson, center director, and Ph.D. candidate in horticulture Chien-Chi Chen on a trip to northern California. There they had the opportunity to visit Mr. Gordon Schatz, son of the late Dr. Louis W. Schatz, whose philanthropy helped to establish the center in the School of Forest Resources.

Here are excerpts from a trip report written by undergraduates Toby Powell (Science), Josh Verbanos (Microbiology), and Devon Lucabaugh (Forest Science):

» Mr. Schatz took us on a hike through old growth, pointing out specific trees of interest along the way: ‘corkscrew tree’ was a redwood with two intertwining trunks and a distinctively twisting growth pattern indicating a mutant polarity gene. Trees with multiple burs up and down their trunks showed how redwoods cope with stress and prepare primordial roots or shoots as a defense mechanism. Trees that were hollowed out and charred inside showed how a small amount of bark damage from bear claws could cause the tree to suffer far more damage in a fire. . . . The amazing diversity in redwoods is due in part to their hexaploid chromosomes.

» Mr. Schatz demonstrated to us how redwoods are extremely shade tolerant and can recover from most wounds (inflicted by mountain lions, gray squirrels, and bears) Unlike most other trees, a redwood can wait for many years until it receives the light it needs, and achieve a growth spurt in old age.

» We visited the L.W. Schatz Research center on top of a hill, surrounded by planted woods of mostly Douglas-fir and Monterey Pine We saw the effects of ground movement under super-saturated earth conditions when mud slides begin to occur, changing the angles of various trees and thus altering their growth patterns.

» At Green Diamond Resources facility, Mark Diegan gave us an excellent tour and extensive explanations of how they use tissue culture methods, similar to those we use in our research with Douglas-fir, to make clonal copies of select redwoods for tree farming.

» It was wonderful and fascinating to see the different species of trees that grow in the West, which we usually only learn about in textbooks. We also learned a great deal about forest research and tree farming, as well as becoming far more aware of the importance and value of redwoods and reforestation in general. 🐾



Students climbed into the roots of a downed redwood.

Spring 2008 Commencement

UNDERGRADUATES

Forest Science

James Barry, Anthony Bethas, Donald Croyle, David Frey, Russell Gibbs, James Gillespie, Wesley Harner, Richard Hartlieb, Adam Krug, Christopher Layaou, Jennifer Lewis, Daniel Long, Nathan Markline, Michael Mazonkey, Jacob Mazzei, Jake Scheib, John Schwartzter, Ryan Shaw, Blaise Simmons, Michael Travers, John Wakefield, Francis Whalen, Robert Wolfgang

Wildlife and Fisheries Science

Raymond Baratta, Mark Bowermaster, Aaron Covalt, Jessica Dirl, Sara Eisenhauer, Kent Himelright, Syrena Johnson, Jonathan Leddon, Monica Luppino, Kerry Lynott, Megan McManus, Adam Miller, Joshua Mulhollem, Kyle Russell, Daniel Schmeck

GRADUATES

Forest Resources

Elizabeth (Sterwerf) Kerlin, M.S.

Ecology

Glenn Stauffer, M.S.; Joseph Bishop, Ph.D.

School Notes

Sarah Pabian, Ph.D. candidate in Wildlife and Fisheries Science, won a first-place award at the 14th Annual Gamma Sigma Delta Research Expo in March 2008. The Gamma Sigma Delta chapter, along with generous support from the Research and Resident Education offices of the College of Agricultural Sciences, provided more than \$2500 for student awards at the Expo. More than 70 research posters were presented by graduate and undergraduate students from all academic units in the College. Pabian's poster, *Calcium Availability and Ovenbird Habitat Quality*, was submitted in the Environmental and Natural Resources Sciences category.

Wildlife and Fisheries Science junior **Rachel Cleaver** won a second-place prize at the annual Undergraduate Research Exhibition hosted in April 2008 by Penn State's Office of Undergraduate Education and the Schreyer Honors College. Cleaver's poster, *Descriptions and Review of Some Cave-dwelling Cichlids of Lake Malawi, Africa*, was one of 27 entries in the Heath and Life Sciences category. The competition was open to all Penn State undergraduates.

In May 2008, **Gary San Julian**, professor of wildlife resources, received the Safari Club International Foundation Educator of the Year from Safari Club International, an organization that protects the freedom to hunt and promotes wildlife conservation and education in more than 100 countries.

Kim Steiner, professor of forest biology, was elected Society of American Foresters (SAF) Fellow in 2007. Fellows are SAF professional members who have been identified by their peers as having rendered outstanding service to forestry and the Society.

Effective July 2008, **Chuck Ray** was tenured and promoted to associate professor of wood products operations.

Paul Smith, professor of wood products marketing, was recently appointed adjunct professor at Washington State University's Wood Materials and Engineering Laboratory. In May 2008,

he presented the keynote address, "The Tipping Point for New Woodfiber-Plastic Composites," at the 10th National Conference on Progress in Biofibre-Plastic Composites, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. In November 2008 he will present a keynote address, "Market-driven Innovations for New Thermoplastic Natural Fiber Composites," at the 9th Pacific Rim Bio-based Composites Symposium, in Rotorua, New Zealand.

Two School of Forest Resources students qualified for Olympic Trials in their respective sports. Swimmer **Michelle Myers** of Boalsburg, PA, is a junior in Wood Products; she holds two Nit-tany Lion records and swam preliminaries in the 50-meter freestyle and 100- and 200-meter backstroke events. Wildlife and Fisheries Science senior **Allen Pettner** of Mercersburg, PA, is a javelin thrower. He won the individual title in that event at the 2006 Big Ten Championships.

Sanford Smith, Extension specialist in natural resources and youth education, won two "gold" awards (1st place national) in May 2008 from the National Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals for his publication series, *Environment and Ecology*, and a computerized presentation for the Pennsylvania Junior Forest Steward Program. Smith's materials are used by 4-H, scouting, state park, and school groups across the state and nationally.

Beth Boyer, associate professor of water resources who joined the School this past January, has been appointed director of the Pennsylvania Water Resources Research Center and assistant director of the Penn State Institutes of Energy and the Environment (PSIEE). The center is one of 50 water centers funded through the USGS, with responsibilities for promoting water research and education programs throughout Pennsylvania. Boyer will administer the center's seed grant program, direct the Water Quality Laboratory, facilitate interdisciplinary water research initiatives on campus, and serve as liaison from Penn State to external stakeholders.

Alumni Resources

FORMERLY PUBLISHED AS THE SCHOOL OF FOREST RESOURCES ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

No. 93



President's Message



Mark R. Webb '73

From the early years of the School of Forestry, alumni have played a critical role in guiding the School. In Henry Clepper's book, *Forestry Education in Pennsylvania*, he describes efforts of some of those early alums to give advice to Dean Watts upon the retirement of then director, Professor Ferguson. This took place in 1936.

There was also concern over the academic content of the School's curriculum and in 1939 the Allegheny Society of American Foresters put forth a resolution not

only encouraging Penn State to maintain its standards, but to raise them! Society members also called upon themselves to raise the bar in terms of professional standards.

In 1939 our alumni group was formed by 10 alums, bylaws were drafted, and officers were elected. Next year we celebrate the 70th anniversary of our alumni group, and plan to have both a banquet dinner and a tailgate on Blue-White weekend (April 2009), and perhaps a gathering at Mont Alto.

All this sounds familiar doesn't it? Each director of the School has formed an advisory group of alumni and other professionals to help guide the School in terms of academic curriculum and a real-world view of what is expected of students as they complete their degrees.

As we have moved through the process of selecting a new director, Dean Steele has sought out and received input from a large cross-section of our graduates as well as other professionals with ties to our School. By the way, the search process continues and we thank Dr. Strauss for his willingness to stay on until the position is filled.

We as alumni continue to play an important role in each of our degree programs as well as courses offered by Extension. I encourage each of you to feel free to offer yourselves to be involved within our School, our College of Agricultural Sciences, and Penn State University. The University's alumni association membership just surpassed 160,000! This is the largest dues-paying alumni association in the world. I encourage you to get involved.

I also encourage you to support this newsletter financially. Alumni contributions total between \$2,000 and \$3,000 per year, but two newsletters cost nearly \$12,000 to print and mail. The School has been contributing the difference. Our alumni board is considering taking on the establishment of an endowment fund to support newsletter production.

In closing, I want to offer congratulations to this year's Outstanding Alumni who were honored at our annual banquet. Congratulations go to **Henry Gerhold**, **George Kemp** (posthumously), **Nelson Loftus**, **Lowell Underhill**, and **Chuck Strauss**.

I also congratulate those who were elected or re-elected to serve as directors of your alumni group—**Alex Day**, **Ralph Heilig**, **Denise Mitcheltree**, and **Thad Taylor**—and **Tom Yorke** who was elected to the College of Ag Sciences Alumni Society board.

Enjoy the fall season. I hope to see many of you as you return to Penn State for fall activities.

Mark R. Webb '73
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Union City, PA 16438
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Election Results

To reduce printing and postage costs, the ballot in the Winter 2008 newsletter had a new format that required respondents to cut out the ballot and pay for return postage. The number of hard-copy ballots returned declined from 54 in the previous year to 24 in this election; online ballots also declined from 41 in the previous year to 27 in this election. The results are as follows, based on 51 ballots cast: **R. Alexander Day** '67, **Ralph Heilig** '58, and **Thad Taylor** '97 have each been elected to a first three-year term on the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group Board of Directors, and **Denise Mitcheltree** '94, '96g was elected to a second term. For a complete listing of board members, please see the box on page 16.

Mark Webb '73 and **Marc Lewis** '78 will continue to serve as president and vice president, respectively.

Terms of four at-large board members will expire in Spring 2009, so we will have another election in Winter 2009. If you are interested in being a candidate for the board or wish to nominate someone else, please use the Response Form on page 27.

Penn State Forest School Patch . . . Part 3!

Since the publication of "Penn State Forest School Patch . . . Part 2" in our Winter 2008 newsletter, two more alumni have provided additional information about the history of the patch.

Dan Schmidt '67 wrote, "While a member of the Forestry Club in 1963-66, we ran out of patches to sell and wear. I purchased 150 patches (with 'Forestry School' on them) with my own money and once enough patches were sold to pay me back, the rest were given to the club for future sales. During those years we had

an active group and competed each fall with Syracuse and West Virginia. The meets rotated among the schools and were always a lot of fun. My class was the first to have 'summer camp' on main campus instead of at Camp Blue Jay on the Allegheny National Forest. For those who might recognize the last name, yes, my Dad was Orvel Schmidt, professor and operator of the sawmill for many years before it moved to Stone Valley."

Charles Abbey '59 recalled that he purchased his patch "at Mont Alto around October 1955 and probably wore it through graduation in 1959." His patch is also embroidered with "Forestry School" instead of "Forest School." Other than the wording, Abbey's patch is the same as that donated by **Glenn Haney '51**—it was produced by The Standard Pennant Company and is felt-on-felt with embroidered letters, and tree, axe, leaf, and acorn appliques. Abbey has graciously donated his patch to the School's collection.

Before this news from Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Abbey, the only patch we knew of with "Forestry School" on it instead of "Forest School" was **Karl Lutz's** patch from the 1970s. We now know that the switch from "Forest School" to "Forestry School" took place in the early 1950s.

As mentioned in our winter newsletter, our plan is to frame the collection of the patches for display in the Forest Resources Building. When the project is complete, we will include a photo of the display in this newsletter. In the meantime, if you have additional bits of patch history to add, please contact Ellen Manno at exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-5831.

School of Forest Resources Outstanding Alumni

Five School of Forest Resources Outstanding Alumni were honored at the SFR Alumni and Friends Banquet on April 18, 2008, at Toftrees Resort and Conference Center in State College:

Henry D. Gerhold ('52, '54g), **George R. Kemp ('53)**, **Nelson S. Loftus, Jr. ('58 and '62g)**, **Charles H. Strauss ('58)**, and **Lowell T. Underhill ('56)**.

Award guidelines specify that up to four Outstanding Alumni can be selected annually but the SFR Alumni Group board of directors unanimously approved an exception to make a surprise Outstanding Alumni award presentation to Dr. Strauss who in 2007 announced his plans to retire once a new director is hired.

The purpose of the awards is to recognize outstanding School of Forest Resources alumni and to foster closer relationships between the award recipient and students, faculty, staff, and other alumni. The selection criteria for the award include professional achievement, excellence, impact, and recognition; service to the profession, to the School of Forest Resources, and to the community; and demonstration of high personal and professional standards.

A nomination form for Outstanding Alumni and Outstanding Recent Alumni is printed on page 26 and is also available on the School of Forest Resources Web site (<http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu>). Photocopies are acceptable. Nominations for either award are to be submitted **by September 30** to: School of Forest Resources Alumni Group, Awards Committee, Forest Resources Building,

Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802.

We are pleased to introduce our 2008 Outstanding Alumni Award recipients:

Henry D. "Hank" Gerhold completed the B.S. forestry degree in 1952, and spent two summers working in Montana and Idaho with the U.S. Forest Service. He returned to Penn State in the fall as a graduate student, studying herbicide controls of scrub oak. After completing the M.S. in 1954 he worked for the U.S. Forest Service in Pennsylvania and Maine.

Gerhold was soon enticed to start on a Ph.D. degree at Yale's School of Forestry. After two years of doctoral studies, Penn State called him back in fall 1956 to conduct research on the genetics of Christmas trees. His responsibilities were such that he could complete his doctoral research (on genetics of needle discoloration in Scotch pine) part-time and embark on an academic career. He earned the Ph.D. in 1959, was soon appointed assistant professor, and moved up through the ranks to professor of forest genetics in 1969. He retired in December 2007 as the longest-serving faculty member in the School of Forest Resources to date.

Gerhold taught several courses over the years including Seeding and Planting, Forestry Careers, Dendrology, and Forest Genetics. He published widely on the genetic improvement of Christmas trees, landscape trees, and timber species. The improved varieties of Scotch pine and Douglas-fir he developed have been planted by Christmas tree growers in several states.

Gerhold served as the chairman of graduate studies from 1964 to 1985, as assistant director for research and graduate studies from 1985 to 1992, as chairman of the intercollege graduate program in genetics from 1978 to 1982, as interim director of the School in 1988, and as faculty representative on the SFR Alumni Group Board of Directors from 1999 to 2007. He provided major assistance in laying the groundwork for establishing a chair in urban forestry. Mr. Joseph Ibberson has willed two million dollars to fund the chair, which will allow Penn State to continue developing expertise in the field and offer students excellent opportunities.

Gerhold led the Extension program in urban and community forestry that started in 1990. He worked diligently with others in Pennsylvania to develop and implement programs in urban tree restoration and urban forestry. *Street Tree Factsheets* and *Landscape Tree Factsheets*, which he co-edited, and also the Landscape Tree Factsheets CD have been very popular throughout North America as illustrated guides for selecting species and cultivars for towns and cities.

He helped establish the Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance (METRIA), a national organization, in 1973 along with his Penn State colleague Dr. Kim Steiner. To this day, METRIA brings urban foresters, nurserymen, ecologists, arboretum staff, and geneticists together to improve the quality of landscape trees grown in metropolitan regions.

Gerhold was instrumental in starting the unique urban forestry partnership between Penn State and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, and in the creation of the Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council to implement the America The Beautiful Program. This partnership has enabled the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to make great strides in urban forestry research, education, and application.

Gerhold published two books in 2007. *A Century of Forest Resources Education* presents a detailed history of the School of Forest Resources, and *A Forester's Legacy* explores the life of Joseph E. Ibberson.

Gerhold's awards include the 1992 Pennsylvania Forestry Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in Urban and Community Forestry, the National Arbor Day Foundation's 1995 Book Award for *Street Tree Factsheets*, the 1998 Education Award of the Utility Arborists Association, and the 2003 Dr. Joseph Trimble Rothrock Conservationist of the Year Award of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. He was also honored as an Alumni Centennial Fellow of Penn State Mont Alto in 2003.

George R. Kemp earned a B.S. degree in forestry in 1953 and was employed by the U.S. Forest Service before he was inducted into the Army's Signal Corps in 1954. While working for Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel in the 1960s, he pursued a civil engineering degree at Carnegie Institute of Technology, now Carnegie Mellon University.

After completing the civil engineering degree in 1963, Kemp went to work for Allegheny County Department of Parks. There he was on the Friends of County Parks Committee and his achievements included the design of White Oak Park, among others.

In 1967, Kemp founded George R. Kemp and Associates, Inc., a land planning, civil engineering, and landscape design company in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. The company was later renamed The Kemp Group. For four decades Kemp designed, built, and updated parks and secular and Christian camps. He was active in the Christian community and supported many Christian organizations including missionary work in Puerto Rico, Korea, and Japan where he used his design expertise. He served on the boards of the Salvation Army, Mental Health, Junior Achievement, Chamber of Commerce, and Allegheny Trails Alliance.

George and his wife Ann opened The Fishers of Men Religious Store in McKeesport in 1972 and operated it for 28 years. Kemp was one of the founders of Cornerstone TV (WPCB), a station that went on the air in 1979.

Kemp served four years as vice chairman and then chairman of the Allegheny Section of the Society of American Foresters.

In 1997, Kemp was elected to the board of directors of the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group and served as its president, 1999-2001. He served on the SFR Grand Destiny Campaign for the new Forest Resources Building. Kemp was on the advisory board of the Penn State Greater Allegheny Campus for six years and was a strong advocate of the agricultural opportunities in this urban academic setting. He was also a strong supporter of Penn State Mont Alto. He and his wife have a life membership in the Penn State Alumni Association.

Kemp served as an associate director and elected director of the College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society (CAAS) and served as its president, 2005-2007. During his tenure as president, he initiated the Student Enrollment Committee to assist the College of Ag Sciences in student recruitment and retention. He served on a number of CAAS committees including Development and Advocacy, Student Enrollment, Executive, and Nominating. He also chaired the Armsby Honor Society Committee.

In January 2007, Kemp and his wife pledged funds to create

two undergraduate student scholarships. One is a Trustee scholarship that will support students at Penn State Greater Allegheny (formerly McKeesport) who have financial need. The other scholarship will support academically promising undergraduates, with first preference given to students college-wide who were home-schooled.

Kemp's awards include the Regional Business Alliance, Chamber of Commerce All-Star Award (2003), Penn State McKeesport Alumni Society's 2003 Outstanding Alumni Award, and Penn State Mont Alto Centennial Fellow award (2003).

George Kemp died October 15, 2007, at his home.

Nelson S. Loftus, Jr. graduated in June 1958 with a B.S. in forestry and was employed by the Maryland Department of Forests and Parks as an assistant district forester in Frederick, Maryland. After three years working with private forest landowners and on state forestlands, he returned to Penn State as a graduate student. He earned an M.S. in forestry in 1962 and a Ph.D. in agronomy in 1966.

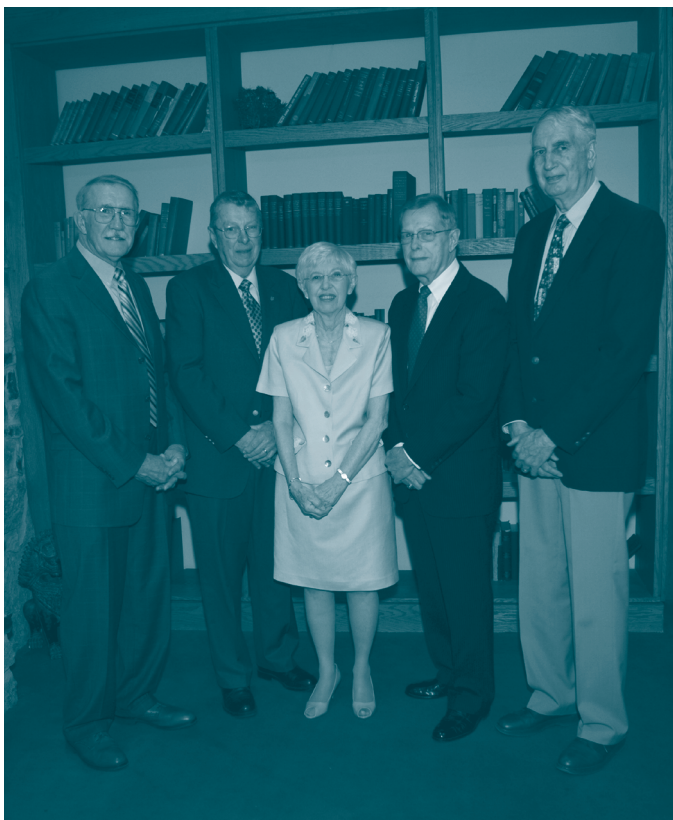
Graduate degrees in hand, Loftus accepted the position of research forester with the U.S. Forest Service at the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station's Loblolly Pine Project in Macon, Georgia. In 1968, he became the research soil scientist and project leader at the Southern Station's Hardwood Silviculture Laboratory in Sewanee, Tennessee. There he conducted his own research and also managed the lab's entire research program, budget, and personnel.

In 1975, Loftus was promoted to assistant director of planning and application at the Southern Forest Experiment Station, New Orleans, Louisiana. He served on the core team that developed the National Plan of Research for Forests and Associated Rangelands, and personally prepared the companion document for the Southern Region.

In 1979, Loftus was promoted to a staff position in the Forest Service Forest Management Research office in Washington, DC. In this role he provided national direction and technical consultation for the conduct of ecology, silviculture, mensuration, and forest soils research programs throughout the Forest Service. His responsibilities included oversight of more than 100 scientists and other professionals, more than 40 research programs, and an annual budget in the range of \$20-\$25 million. Loftus retired in 1997 as the principal research silviculturist and assistant director of the Forest Management Research staff.

Throughout the course of his career, Loftus received many certificates of merit and special awards recognizing his unique contributions to forestry research and the management of national forest lands. He was selected as a Legislative Fellow and served for six months in the Washington office of Senator Cochran of Mississippi. Loftus also completed a management-training program at the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Nelson and his wife Brenda are life members of the Penn State Alumni Association. During the time Loftus worked in Washington, DC, he served on the Penn State Alumni Undergraduate Admissions Committee for the Greater Washington Area Chapter. Since retiring to State College, he has served as an elected member of the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group board of directors for two terms and as the Class of 1958 representative for the



Director of the School of Forest Resources Charles Strauss (far left) with (left to right) Nelson Loftus, Ann Kemp (wife of George Kemp), Lowell Underhill, and Henry Gerhold. Far right: Mark Webb presents Outstanding Alumni Award to Charles Strauss.

School's Centennial Celebration. He is an elected director of the College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society (CAAS), now in his second term and currently serving as president. As a CAAS director, he serves on selection committees for the Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences, Ag Advocates, Outstanding Senior Award, and Alumni Society Internship Awards. He served as overall coordinator for Ag Live '06, the CAAS fundraising tailgate. Loftus represented the College of Agricultural Sciences on the Graduate Student Alumni Society board of directors (2003-06), appointed to that position by the dean of the College. He is an elected member of the Penn State Alumni Council.

In 2004, Nelson and his wife Brenda established the Andrew Ward Loftus Scholarship in Penn State's School of Music in memory of their parents and in honor of their son. They have also established an Internship Award Endowment in the College of Agricultural Sciences and have made a formal commitment to endow a scholarship in the School of Forest Resources. In 2007 they were inducted into the Mount Nittany Society.

Loftus' community service is extensive. In Vienna, Virginia, he helped build an elementary school playground; supported music, drama, mentoring, and PTA activities at a middle school; coached youth soccer; and coordinated and chaperoned high school band trips. In State College, Loftus is membership chairman for the Penn State Women's Volleyball Booster Club and volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and community service activities of the Centre County Chapter of the Alumni Association. He is an ordained deacon in the Presbyterian Church and

has served on the State College church's membership and building committees.

Charles H. "Chuck" Strauss completed the B.S. in forestry at Penn State 1958 and an M.S. degree in wood products marketing at Michigan State University in 1960. After graduation he accepted a position with the California Redwood Association in San Francisco as a products and marketing specialist.

His time on the West Coast was short; he was hired by the School of Forest Resources at Penn State in 1961 as an instructor and extension specialist in forest products, a new position providing education programs on lumber drying, timber marketing, and capital investments. Concurrently at Penn State he earned an M.A. in economics (1968) and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics (1974).

Strauss began his teaching career in 1966 when he joined the resident teaching staff as instructor in forest economics. That year he taught forest mensuration during the last summer camp ever held at Stone Valley. He taught forest economics and finance for 40 years, as well as other required courses such as forest resources inventory and forest management.

Strauss' doctoral research produced a financial model of operating and capital costs for Pennsylvania's system of state parks. This led the Bureau of State Parks to establish a formal research program with Strauss and Penn State that lasted 20 years. He wrote or co-wrote more than 140 publications, many of them about the economics of recreation and tourism, short-rotation biomass

School of Forest Resources Alumni Group Board of Directors

Elected at-large members (terms expire Spring 2009):

David J. Babyak ('71 FORSC)
Franklin S. Judd ('67 FOR T and '73g FOR R)
E.L. "Dick" Shafer ('56 and '57g FOR)
Mark R. Webb ('73 FORSC), *president*

Elected at-large members (terms expire Spring 2010):

Marc D. Lewis ('78 FORSC), *vice president*
Robert D. Rorabaugh ('72 FORSC)
Cecile M. Stelter ('89 FORSC, '90g FOR R)
Thomas H. Yorke ('64 FOR, '67g FOR)

Elected at-large members (terms expire Spring 2011):

R. Alexander Day ('67 FOR)
Ralph E. Heilig ('58 FOR)
Thaddeus M. Taylor ('97 FORSC)
Denise H. Mitcheltree ('94 and '96g W F S)

Immediate Past President:

Thomas H. Yorke ('64 FOR, '67g FOR)

Director, School of Forest Resources:

Charles H. Strauss ('58 FOR)

Assistant Director for Outreach, School of Forest Resources:

Richard H. Yahner

President, College of Ag Sciences Alumni Society,
ex officio:

Nelson S. Loftus ('58 FOR, '62g FOR)

Faculty Member, School of Forest Resources:

Henry D. Gerhold ('52 FOR and '54g M FOR)

Undergraduate Student, School of Forest Resources:

Clark W. McColly

Graduate Student, School of Forest Resources:

Benjamin M. Gamble ('06 FORSC)

Executive Director:

Ellen A. Manno ('86g FOR R)

In this newsletter, the year(s) noted next to alumni names indicate(s) when they received degree(s) from the School of Forest Resources at Penn State. Degrees received from other Penn State programs or other institutions are not noted.

production for energy, availability of timber supplies, and economics of wood products industries. He also surveyed the placement of the School's baccalaureate graduates annually, starting in 1973, and summarized 25 years of employment data in 2000.

Strauss served on the University Senate for 20 years. He was faculty adviser to the Penn State Forestry Society for 10 years (1965-75), the Xi Sigma Pi forestry honorary society for 10 years (1967-77), the *Sylvan* yearbook (1985-94), and the Tau Phi Delta forestry fraternity for 30 years (1968-97).

Strauss' international experience includes an assignment as a visiting professor at the University of Freiburg, Germany (2000), participation with a People-to-People delegation that visited the Republic of China to review forest management and wood marketing practices (1985), and involvement with a U.S. AID research assessment of Philippine universities (1976).

As the School's interim director in 2001 and as director since 2002, Strauss' leadership guided the design and helped raise funding for the \$30 million, state-of-the-art Forest Resources Building that was dedicated in 2006. He oversaw the School of Forest Resources Centennial Celebration in 2007.

Strauss received honorary awards from Phi Eta Sigma (freshman), Phi Epsilon Phi (botany), Gamma Sigma Delta (agriculture), Xi Sigma Pi (forestry), Pi Gamma Mu (social science), and Omicron Delta Epsilon (economics). His achievements have been recognized by awards from the Pennsylvania Parks and Recreation Society (1982), the Pennsylvania Forestry Association (1992), and by students of the School of Forest Resources as the outstanding faculty member in 2001. He received the Pennsylvania Forestry Association's Rothrock Conservationist of the Year Award in 2004 in recognition of his long-term work in forest economics, forest measurements, and forest management. In 2006, alumni of Tau Phi Delta collectively donated more than \$25,000 to name a faculty office for Strauss in the new Forest Resources Building. In 2007, he was named a Distinguished Fellow of the Mont Alto Campus, Penn State, and in 2008 the Kocjancic family endowed a Trustee Scholarship in his honor.

Lowell T. Underhill joined The Glatfelter Pulp Wood Company after graduating from Penn State with a B.S. degree in forestry in 1956. He worked in Fredericksburg, Virginia, before entering the U.S. Army and serving in Korea. After being discharged in 1958, he returned to Glatfelter and worked in Seaford, Delaware, where he was responsible for timber management on the Delmarva Peninsula.

In 1960, Underhill joined E.I. duPont de Nemours and Company. During his 36-year career with DuPont, he held staff, supervisory, and management positions in manufacturing, process control, and human resources with assignments in Seaford and Wilmington, Delaware, and Martinsville, Virginia. When he retired in 1996, he was DuPont's Principal Consultant - Compensation.

After retirement, Underhill obtained certification in professional photography from the New York Institute of Photography. He is active in St. Paul's United Methodist Church where he serves on various committees and a weekly work crew of retirees who perform a variety of maintenance tasks. Underhill is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Delaware Nature Society and

a member of both the Personnel and the Land and Biodiversity Management committees of the society.

Lowell and his wife, Lois, reside in Wilmington, Delaware. His interest in Penn State, the College of Agricultural Sciences, and the School of Forest Resources was rekindled during the 1980s and 1990s when four of their five children graduated from Penn State. Underhill served as an elected director of the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group board of directors, and as president, 2003-2005. As president, he was co-chairman of the Centennial Planning Committee during its formative stage. He is a former associate director and a current elected director of the College of Agricultural Sciences Alumni Society (CAAS). He serves as chairman of the CAAS Recognition Committee, which administers the awards given to students, faculty, and alumni by CAAS. He also supports CAAS activities at Ag Progress Days, the Ag Live tailgate, and brunches for graduating students.

Lowell and Lois are members of the President's Club and life members of the Penn State Alumni Association. They made a significant contribution to the School of Forest Resources building fund and named the Underhill Faculty Office in memory of their parents. Recently, they endowed a Trustee Scholarship to benefit undergraduates enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences who have financial need.

SFR Alumni Employment Statistics

For more than three decades, the School of Forest Resources has been conducting employment surveys one to two years after graduation. The information gathered has been useful in providing current and prospective students, parents, and faculty and staff with information about career opportunities.

In November 2007, we mailed an employment survey to the Class of 2005-06; that is, students who graduated with a B.S. degree from the School of Forest Resources between August 2005 and May 2006. The survey was sent to 29 Forest Science (FORSC) alumni, 51 Wildlife and Fisheries Science (W F S) alumni, and 2 Wood Products (W P) alumni. For the first time, alumni were given the option to complete the survey online; five alumni did so. We attempted to contact all nonrespondents by phone or e-mail. The total survey response rate (mail survey plus follow-up) was 83% for FORSC, 80% for W F S, 100% for W P, and 82% overall.

In total, 91% of the FORSC graduates from the Class of 2005-06 were using their degrees in professional pursuits (that is, professional employment or graduate school) a year or so after graduation (based on an 83% response rate). More than a third (37%) of the FORSC alumni were employed in public forest management; only once in the past 20 years has this statistic been higher. Of the nine 2005-06 FORSC alumni in public-sector forestry, eight were employed by state agencies (six in PA, one in MD, and one in VA). Of the six in PA, four were with PA DCNR and two were with PGC (one of which was a seasonal position). Only one FORSC graduate was employed by a federal agency (USFS) and it was a seasonal position; this respondent reported that he had also been a seasonal employee with PA DCNR and that he had been offered a permanent position with both the USFS and the PA DCNR but he preferred seasonal employment. The average annual salary for public forest management positions

was \$34,000 (based on three reported salaries, one of which was seasonal).

Only 4.5% of the FORSC graduates of the Class of 2005-06 were employed in the private sector. Only one other time in the past 20 years has this percentage been lower. The one private sector position was in PA and no salary information was reported.

FORSC alumni in the Class of 2005-06 who were employed in general resource management was 19%—up from the 11% of the Class of 2004-05, down significantly from the 47% in the Class of 2003-04, and near the 20-30% range of the previous four years. Four of the five 2005-06 FORSC alumni in this category were employed in urban forestry or utility forestry (two in PA, one in MD, and one in MA), and one worked with an oil/gas leasing firm in PA. The average annual salary for FORSC alumni employed in a general resource management position was \$35,800 (based on three reported salaries).

FORSC alumni pursuing additional education was only 4.5% for the Class of 2005-06—the lowest it has been in 20 years, and only three times in the past 20 years has this statistic been less than 6%. Blue-collar employment for 2005-06 FORSC graduates was 4.5%; this statistic has been in the 6 - 9% range for the previous four years.

In total, 100% of the W F S graduates from the Class of 2005-06 were using their degrees in professional pursuits (based on an 80% response rate). This is the second time in the past 20 years that this statistic has been 100% and the fifth time in the past 20 years that it has been greater than 90%.

W F S alumni employed in wildlife/fisheries management was 47%; only one other time in the past 20 years has this statistic been higher. Of the 19 wildlife/fisheries jobs reported, 10 were in PA (two of which were seasonal or part-time) and nine were out-of-state—FL, WI, TX, CA, WY and Washington, DC—and two of these out-of-state jobs were seasonal. Also, of the 19 wildlife/fisheries jobs reported, eight were fisheries or aquatics related. The average annual salary for the full-time positions in wildlife/fisheries management (based on four reported salaries) was \$39,000, and for all wildlife/fisheries management positions, including seasonal, the average annual salary was \$27,500 (based on seven reported salaries).

W F S employment in general resource management was 12% for the Class of 2005-06, the second lowest it has been in the past nine years. W F S employment in management/engineering/sales (nonwood industry) was 8.2%, the lowest it has been in 11 years; this statistic had reached an all-time high of 26% for the Class of 2003-04.

The percentage of W F S alumni pursuing additional education was 19%, comparable to most classes in the past 10 years. Blue-collar employment for 2005-06 W F S graduates was 0%, the second time for this statistic in the past 20 years. Unemployment was also 0%.

Employment of W P graduates for the Class of 2005-06 was again excellent. The 2005-06 W P graduating class was comprised of only two students. One was very gainfully employed in the pharmaceutical industry, and the other was a management analyst with Letterkenny Army Depot and currently on orders with the West Virginia National Guard (Air Force).

New Online Alumni Directory

In June 2008, the Penn State Alumni Association launched **Penn State's Pride**, which replaces the former online directory and boasts a number of new features:

- securely hidden e-mail addresses to prevent address harvesting;
- the choice to hide individual bytes of personal information, such as home address and phone numbers;
- and the ability to post a photo of yourself.

"We are truly excited about **Penn State's Pride** online directory," said Roger L. Williams '73, '75g, '88g, executive director of the Penn State Alumni Association. "Nearly all 463,220 Penn State alumni are as close as your computer, but in a safe and controlled environment that offers more tools and options than the previous alumni directory. This ability to connect online with fellow alumni is another benefit of being an Alumni Association member."

While the online alumni directory features listings on nearly all Penn Staters, it is only searchable and usable by members of the Alumni Association. Non-members can view and make changes to their personal listing only. Members can update their own listing but also look up other Penn Staters through the search engine that will search by name variations such as last name or maiden name; majors or degrees; class year; city, state, or country; job title or other business-related info like company name.

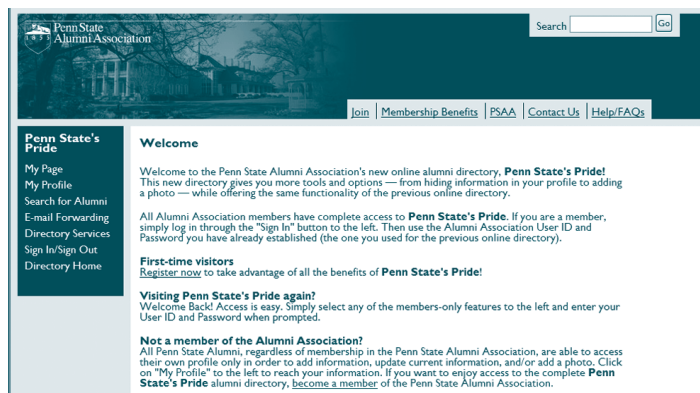
To begin searching, members need their User ID, which is their Alumni Association 10-digit ID number (located on membership cards or on the mailing label of *The Penn Stater* magazine); and a Password—which is the same as their Password on the previous

alumni directory—or one can easily be created during their first visit to the online directory.

For help with User ID numbers or passwords, members can e-mail their full current name, full name at graduation, class year and college or campus to pennstatefeedback@alumniconnections.com and a customer service representative will provide this information. Help is also available by calling 800-548-LION (5466), option 2.

All alumni information on **Penn State's Pride** is pulled from Penn State's official alumni database. To make changes to that information, complete the secure online change form at www.alumni.psu.edu/membership, e-mail alumni-address@psu.edu, or call 800-548-LION (5466).

To log on to **Penn State's Pride**, go to the Alumni Association Web site at www.alumni.psu.edu and click on the **Penn State's Pride** icon at the top of the page.



First annual School of Forest Resources Job Fair

Friday, February 27th, 2009

Network with students. Conduct interviews.

Share information about your organization and employment opportunities.

Employers seeking both summer interns and full-time hires are welcome.

Please contact Jamie Murphy, instructor/coordinator, School of Forest Resources at jam563@psu.edu or 814-865-4237 to request registration details.

Alumni Notes

1940s

LeRoy Schaller, 1947 – 1839 Rt. 259 Bolivar, PA 15923; lschaller@starband.net.

H. Robert Krear, 1949 – 944 Rams Horn Road, Estes Park, CO 80517. “Platoon Sergeant, 10th Mountain Infantry Division (Alpine Troops), WWII combat in Italy’s Apennine Mountains, Po Valley, and southern Alps. After receiving B.S. in Forestry, I earned M.S. in Wildlife Ecology at University of Wyoming (1953) and a Ph.D. in Animal Behavior and Ecology at the University of Colorado (1965). Entering academia, I taught at four universities (Colorado, Mankato State, Colorado Alpine College of U.S. International Univ., and Michigan Tech). When not teaching, I served as a professional seasonal naturalist in eight U.S. national parks, acquiring considerable biological knowledge in these areas. I traveled extensively to visit international wildlife areas and to dive world tropical reefs. I participated in four arctic and subarctic research expeditions: ecological research in subarctic Quebec and Labrador, 1951; northern fur seal research with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Pribilof Islands in Bearing Sea, 1953; major member of the Olaus Murie Arctic Brooks Range Expedition that was the major contributor to the creation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 1956; and six-month summer and winter sea otter project on the island of Amchitka in the western Aleutian Islands, 1957. I authored two books, *The Journal of a U.S. Army Mountain Trooper in WWII* (self-published and available), and *Four Seasons North: Exploration and Research in the Arctic and Subarctic* (Vantage Press, 2006). During my career I served with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Montana Game and Fish Dept., and the Wyoming Fish and Game Dept. I am happily retired at 8200 feet in the beautiful Rocky Mountains at the edge of Rocky Mountain National Park, and would love to hear from any old friends who are still alive!”

Robert H. Rumpf, 1949 – 51 Kenwood Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013-2112; rrumpf@embarqmail.com.

John T. Steimer, 1949 – 240 Lion’s Hill Rd., Apt. E009, State College, PA 16803.

1950s

Walter A. Guerrero, 1950 – 311 West Indies Dr., Summerland Key, FL 33042-5461.

Dean N. Quinney, 1950 – 37329 Charlestown Pike, Purcellville, VA 20132-2903.

Walter R. Rossman, 1950 – 2282 New Germany Rd., Ebensburg, PA 15931. “Mary and I took a tour of Egypt and Jordan (1/24 to 2/08/08) with a Penn State group led by Penn State host Deborah Marron. We were able to explore many of the wonders of Egypt and Jordan including temples and tombs of early (3000BC) kings and pharaohs. We also enjoyed dinner with an Egyptian family in their home and with a Bedouin camp in Jordan.”

Charles C. Wedekind, 1950. **Jim Case** ’50 reported that fellow classmate and Alpha Zeta member Chuck Wedekind died March 24 in Florida: “Chuck attended Mont Alto his freshman year before moving to the main campus. He served as Morrill Chapter’s pledge master recruiting many of the 1951 and 1952 brothers of Alpha Zeta. . . . A Tree Planting Memorial Service will be held during the summer at Fellows Riverside Gardens, Youngstown, Ohio. . . . Those wishing to make a memorial gift in Chuck’s memory may do so to the Milcreek MetroPark, 7574 Columbiana Canfield Rd., Canfield, OH 44406.” Classmate **Ted Jensen** ’50 also wrote, “Chuck was another of the group that opened up Mont Alto after the war, in fall 1946. Chuck was both a good student and a good athlete. He and his wife split their time between homes in Ohio and Florida.”

Robert C. Czapiewski, 1951. Classmate **Harold Birch** sent news of Mr. Czapiewski’s death: “Chappy died in mid-May 2008 in North Hollywood, California. He was

originally from Pittsburgh and started his college education at Mont Alto in fall 1947. He will be remembered as a hard worker who struggled to make financial ends meet. He was drafted into the wartime Army after graduation in forestry and graduated from OCS as a lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. After his Army service during the Korean War his working career was mainly with the U.S. government, Office of Economic Opportunity.”

Glenn P. Haney, 1951 – 1132 Kay Street, Boalsburg, PA; GPHaney@comcast.net.

Boyer Kantz, 1951 – Mr. Kantz died July 22, 2008. From his obituary in the *Star-Gazette*: “He was the owner/operator of Boyer Kantz Associates, Forestry Consulting and Land Surveying for 48 years, retiring in November 2007. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Wellsboro, Lions Club, Masonic Lodge, Coudersport Consistory, Society of American Foresters, Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers, and Charleston Township Municipal Authority. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving during WW II.”

Paul “Sunshine” Shogren, 1951 – 1638 Memorial Drive, Oakland, MD 21550; Shogren2@verizon.net. “In the waning years of life @ 78 years, I can say life has been interesting and along the way I have done some good—30 years as a federal “guvmint” dirt forester, 70 years in Boy Scouting, chair of five Mont Alto Foresters’ Super Reunions, Marine Corps, volunteer for the county forestry board, a thriving thrift shop, Habitat for Humanity, and church. Divine Providence has seen to it that my body parts are intact except for a removed prostate and artificial right knee. I am one grateful US of A citizen! I worked two years in the woods of Sweden and Finland, learned Swedish so I could write the Sjögren family history from Sweden (Värmland) to Pittsburgh. Am a Centennial Fellow at Mont Alto. Have co-edited a Korean War veterans’ oral history book with the local high school. History teacher, 65 vets, will publish in 2008. Excelsior (the Higher Good)!”

John C. Davies, 1952 – 655 Willow Valley Sq., Apt. L-505, Lancaster, PA 17602-4873. “Retired in 1992 after 37 years of self-employment in forest products sales and brokerage that would not have been possible without the years at Penn State and the patience and tolerance of the staff and my professors. I am very thankful! My wife and I live in a very fine retirement community in Lancaster County. We were blessed with three sons (two surviving) and have five beautiful grandchildren.”

Rodney A. Cobi, 1954 – Center for Landscape Interpretation, 1165 Ingleside Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70806; cobicli@gmail.com.

Robert M. Frank, 1954 – 40 Marion Drive, Hampden, ME 04444.

John H. Strahle, 1954 – P.O. Box 365, Atmore, AL 36504; JHStrahle@frontier.net.net.

Bill Chestnutt, 1956 – 859 Fearington Post, Pittsboro, NC 27312; billc32@embarqmail.com.

Elwood “Dick” Shafer, 1956 and 1957g – 2604 Tall Cedar Circle, State College, PA 16803-3332. Dr. Shafer (pictured below in dark jacket) recently received a 50-year



Golden Member certificate from the Society of American Foresters presented by SAF Rothrock Chapter chair **Bob Merrill** '72.

Lowell T. Underhill, 1956 – 1002 Weldin Circle, Weldin Woods, Wilmington, DE 19803-3204; lowell.underhill@verizon.net.

William F. Vanidestine, 1956 – Lot 22, 800 York Road, Dover, PA 17315.

Thomas A. Breslin, 1957 – 300 N. Eaton Street, Berwick, PA 18603-2600; tomb71@msn.com.

Marco A. Marchetti, 1957 – P.O. Box 327, Gilchrist, TX 77617-0327; marchett@camtel.net.

Vincent Balok, Jr., 1958 – 8131 A Street, Lincoln, NE 68510-4416.

Ralph E. Heilig, 1958 – 532 Briar Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202; reheilig@comcast.net. “Had recent contact from **Rex L. Bradley** '55 (1080 Quail Ridge Way, Greensboro, GA 30642). Rex went from varsity baseball at Penn State to ash procurement for baseball bats, to starting and running a mill for Louisville Sluggers, eventually to become VP of the company.” Mr. Heilig recently received a 50-year Golden Member certificate from the Society of American Foresters.

Rodney D. Jacobs, 1958 – Died June 20, 2008. Excerpted from an obituary provided by **Joe Frank** '58: “Rodney grew up in Manchester where he was well-known as a star in baseball and soccer. He was drafted into service during the Korean War, and served an 18-month tour of duty in Korea. In fall 1954, with the help of the GI Bill, Rodney reported to Mont Alto to begin his long career in forestry. While at Mont Alto, he was a vital member of the basketball and baseball teams and was well known for his clutch play. After graduation, he moved to Marquette, Michigan, to work for the Lake States Forest Experiment Station of the U.S. Forest Service. His primary focus was on the management of northern hardwood forests, and he was involved in a wide range of research that included most of the major forest types in the Lake States. Also at this time he earned a master's degree in silviculture from the University of Michigan. In the mid-1970s Rodney moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, to work in the State and Private program. He was the Forest Service liaison to the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, and Michigan. He was a recognized leader in the integrated management of oak for forestry and wildlife values. In 1990 Rodney retired so he could devote more time to his English setters, Rags and Toby. He did his bit in keeping the population of ruffed grouse within reason-

able limits. With the grouse population in Minnesota under control, in 1995 Rodney moved to Onalaska, Wisconsin, to carry on his control efforts. His headquarters was a little brown cabin in Jackson County where he enlisted **Kerry Schell** '58 and **Joe Frank** '58 in this important work. Once the aspen was safe from the feeding frenzy of the grouse, Rodney decided his work was done, and he moved back to Manchester, PA, where he basked in the admiration of his fans from so many years ago. Rodney's ashes will be spread at the site of that little brown cabin that provided so many happy times. Memorial contributions may be made to the Audubon Society of Pennsylvania or the Ruffed Grouse Society.”

Nelson S. Loftus, 1958 – 207 Horizon Drive, State College, PA 16801. Loftus was recently elected to a three-year term on the Alumni Council, the governing body of the Penn State Alumni Association.

Robert M. Schaeffer, 1958 – 140 Schaeffer Lane, Kittanning, PA 16201; roberts170@alltel.net.

Tatterson W. Smith, 1958 – Died December 7, 2007. Excerpted from obituary provided by **Ralph Heilig** '58: “Tat served in the Marine Reserves and the U.S. Army and fulfilled his childhood dream, making a career with the U.S. Forest Service from 1958 to 1998. He was a forester in several districts and settled in Montpelier, Vermont, in 1962 when he became the district ranger for the Caribou National Forest. Tat was very involved in his community, church, and various organizations such as the Snowmobilers of Bear Lake, Caribou, and Franklin counties, the local chapter of the VFW and Veterans, where he was awarded the 1988 Man of Year, and was instrumental in developing the history and heritage of the National Oregon/California Trail and contributed to the construction of the center. Tat was an Eagle Scout and Chief of the Unilacthigo Lodge of the Order of the Arrow. Memorial contributions be made to the Bear Lake County EMTs in Tat's name.”

Richard “Skeeter” Werner, 1958 – 8080 NW Ridgewood Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330-3027; wernerr@peak.org.

Class of 1958 Reunion

There are a number of terms that apply to the Sunday, June 8, 2008, alumni gathering at Mont Alto: Homecoming. Benchmark. Return to the roost. For me, it was an exercise in Solid Gold. More than five decades since most of us crossed over the stone bridge and nested into Mont Alto. Fifty years on the road after the class of 1958 left main campus.

In *CENTENNIAL VOICES - the Spirit of Mont Alto*, **George Siehl** used the term *magic* to describe our 1954-55 experience. On June 8, 2008, the magic was back.

Ralph Heilig compiled a tally book of class biographies. It is a moving record of who and what and where. The narratives offer personal histories of amazing depth and insight. The same sense of living history was evident when banquet attendees stood and offered their comments and recalled bonding events from 1954-55. The bonding was real and still is.

A show-and-tell collection of photos and *Sylva* yearbooks was displayed on tables in Science Hall.

At the banquet we sat down, together again. Band of brothers, family, friends, and faculty. We joined in celebrating the serendipity, synchronicity, and welded diversity that brought us back, over the road to here and now.

Joe Frank, class president 1954-55, gave a moving account of his first semester difficulties. The light was dim in his attic. There were flying rodents in his third-floor heating system.

Bill O'Connell's slide show was a truly unique window to the past. It captured the essence of our not-so-scholarly ventures.

Randy Ackerman spoke of his son electing to attend Mont Alto. The reason cited was that Mont Alto offered exceptional esprit de corps and a rare learning environment. That rationale passes the test of sound logic that I learned from Dr. Henry Finch, my adviser, Liberal Arts, way back when. It also explains why my son, Brian, arrived at Mont Alto in September 1983.

The Gettysburg tour and the Arboretum ramble provided options and alternatives for the three-day calendar of events. Tuesday's brunch gave us a warm opportunity to linger and reminisce.

The attendee roll call included more than two dozen classmates. All four major compass points were represented. The spirit of those not present was invited and invoked. A cherished roster of classmates now deceased included **Jack Welch, George Schmid, Blair Stutzman, Paul Kersavage, Gary Turgeon, John Hutt, Allen Frank, Charles Wagner, Bob LaBar, Ed Wands, Paul Felton, and Tatterson Smith**. (Classmate **Rodney Jacobs**, unable to attend the reunion, died shortly thereafter on June 20).

The gathering was a 2008 reaffirmation of our 1954 arrival at Mont Alto. The two semesters that followed are largely beyond words. Clearly those who returned this June are still re-inventing the experience.

Site index, roughly defined, is a numerical measure of growth and productivity. As applied to Mont Alto, the academic site index is, quite simply, off the scale. And priceless.

Finally, special thanks to those whose work made the reunion happen: Deb Creager, Randy Ackerman, Beth Brantley, Craig Houghton, George and Nancy Siehl, Ralph Heilig. And once again, thanks on thanks to Rex Melton, mentor extraordinaire and a professor for all seasons.

All good. Solid Gold. And yes, you can go home again.

by **Bob Slagle**, Mont Alto 1954-55



Row 1: Roger Odell, Dick Hunter, Kerry Schell, Pat Schmid, Bob Slagle, Maurice (Sarge) Hobaugh, Dick Kost

Row 2: Syd Kurtz, Jim Durdan, Jim (Sam) Spaid, Ken Swartz

Row 3: Ed Browning, Chuck Rine, Joe Frank, Bob (Smokey) Schall, Bill O'Connell

Row 4: Lou Shain, Jack Zimmerman, Chuck Strauss, Ralph Heilig

Row 5: Nelson Loftus, Bill McCafferty, Bob Schaeffer, Don Werminger, Chuck Hollenbaugh

Row 6: Hank Hartman, George Campbell, George Siehl, Rex Melton, Ralph Peace

1960s

Ed Frayer (5009 Harbor Heights, Lady Lake, FL 32159; phone 352-751-7273; edf@mtu.edu) serves as secretary for the **Class of 1961** and compiled the following class notes:

George Kiefer retired as a domestic animal and poultry inspector with the PA Dept Agr. He resides in Antes Fort, PA.

Upon graduation, **Tom Reeder** took a job with Union Camp in Louisville, GA, and was transferred to Baxley, GA, in 9 months. Stayed in Baxley for 3 years and then moved to PA and worked for the Bureau of Forestry for 4 months until Glatfelter hired him; then spent 21 years in Salisbury, MD, and was transferred to Fredericksburg, VA, where he was the district manager for southern Maryland and Virginia in charge of all woodland operations. He retired after 36 years with Glatfelter in 2002. Tom and his wife Sonya have three daughters and 10 grandchildren. They recently moved to The Villages in Florida.

Dave Downing: I went to Navy OCS out of a draft-interrupted stint in grad school at PSU, and enjoyed 3 years on the USS Springfield homeported in Villefranch, France. The Navy made me an operations officer and air controller, and OOD. Married a French native and we have two children and four grandkids. Became a computer programmer and made it a career. Consulting gigs included 3 years in Tehran for the Shah's Navy, several years in the bowels of the Pentagon working at the NMCSSC for the Joint Operations Planning and Execution System, and other contracts too numerous (and sensitive) to mention. Developed an early fourth-generation language and made it a business for over ten years. It put the kids through college and then faded with the other 4GLs. Besides Iran, tours included 3 years in Hawaii and many years in the Washington, DC, area. I'm now partly retired but still producing code for Customs and Border Protection, doing 12- to 14-hour days 3 to 4 days a week as we try to secure the borders. The border-crossing officer will be looking at one of my screens when you come back from your overseas trip. Don't try anything funny! We've moved to Milton, DE, near the beaches to actually make retirement possible \$\$-wise—lowest taxes in the coun-

try. My retirement hobby will be taking the pontoon boat out, fishing, cooking, and completing my book—a philosophical work, "Reality for Beginners." I'll get the draft posted eventually at www.realityforbeginners.com. Don't expect much.

Mac McIntire was glad to get the update on the guys. Learned that his old roommate **Lynn Murray** won't touch the computer and says he's not much better. Is now fully retired after closing the hardware store after 20 years.

Ron "Doc" Dinus is retired after 35+ years. Had 4 careers in the profession, each dramatically and enjoyably different—USFS Research, Forest Products Industry Research, teaching and research in university, and then a stint in consulting, mostly with USDOE. Now involved in 5th career—volunteer teaching/advising in natural resources program at local high school. Kids can be frustrating at times but then there are rewards. Our FFA Forestry Team won the WA State Championship last spring. Also, I have received several local, state, regional, and national awards for my volunteer work over the past 7+ years. Retirement enabled us, finally, to return for good to the PNW. Linda, my gracious wife of almost 45 years, and I enjoy our modest home on 5 forested acres, 15 min. from Puget Sound, 45 min. from crest of the Cascades, and 15 min. from Canada. Life-long dream fulfilled. Get plenty of exercise managing the property. Maintain contact via e-mail with several PSU '61 grads: **Merl Waltz** and **Ed Frayer**, occasionally, and **Ron Shields** and **Ron Glass**, quite frequently. Would be nice to share experiences with others!

Wendell Alcorn: I joined the Navy in October 1961 and remained on active duty until retirement in July 1992 at the rank of Captain (O-6). I was commissioned through the Aviation Officer Candidate program and completed flight school in June 1963. I was assigned to numerous aviation squadrons aboard several aircraft carriers. I was shot down and captured while flying a combat mission in December 1965 and remained a prisoner of war in North Vietnam until February 1973. After repatriation, I continued my Navy career serving in command of Training Squadron 25, and Naval Air Station Fallon, NV. My shore assignments included a Pentagon tour as the Navy's tactical air training officer, as the chief of staff of the Naval Air

Training Command, and as the dean of students at the Naval War College, Newport, RI. Life after Navy included working as the assistant general manager of Squaw Valley Ski Corporation, and I was appointed by Governor Kenny Guinn to serve as the director, Nevada Office of Veterans Services. I am now retired, residing in Mesquite, NV, and Brevard, NC, with my wife Karen.

Tom Lonberger is retired from 33 years with the US Forest Service as forester, hydrologist, and planner. Back in the late 70s he was standing in line to enter "It's a Small World" at Disneyland. Exiting with his family was **Ron Hawk** '61 with his family. Truly a small world.

Chris Rae: After 3 ½ years as an army pilot with a year on the DMZ in Korea, I spent a year in the garden center business. That is the closest thing to using my forestry training I have done from a work perspective. However, I got a lot of other skills and have enjoyed greatly the parts that I didn't use in my employment. Spent 22 years with IBM, starting out for a couple of years selling computers. Have had a couple of careers since, but for the last 12 have been selling commercial investment real estate. I started raising Arabian horses in the early 70s and mostly gave up hunting and fishing for that full-time hobby. Haven't retired since I am having a good time and it is easy money. Have traveled some, including a recent trip to central Asia. Spent 3 weeks with a friend on the old Silk Route traveling from Tashkent Uzbekistan to Ashkabad Turkmenistan. A great adventure. Married my Penn State girl friend and have a son and daughter living nearby. Two grandsons with one a junior at Alabama and the other we are hoping will go to Georgia Tech. He is being recruited for his cross-country running. Ran in Lawrence, KS, this last fall at the U.S. nationals.

Mike Osterhoudt, ending an Army career, was on assignment at the Pentagon after tours in Korea, Germany, and Viet Nam. He's since retired and lives in Reston, VA. Enjoys beekeeping.

Bob Hrobak: Went back to PSU and got an MBA in 1963. Following graduation I went to work with Procter & Gamble and enjoyed 34+ years of enjoyable jobs and assignments in numerous locales including some outside the US. After retiring in 1996 my wife and I settled in Austin, TX,

and have been here ever since. I started a small company here and work 30-35 hours weekly. I play some golf and a little more tennis but I am afraid the level of play has come down with age and several operations. While I have not completely given up, my hope of regaining a reasonable tennis ranking in the state is fading. I believe the only classmate I met was **Walt Peechatka** around 1963-64, when I was going thru basic training. It's been great to see news about familiar names from years ago.

Jim Bull sends us the news from Trout Lake, WA, that he's been retired for 13+ years now, although it could be more accurately described as a change in careers. I'm involved with several arts-related organizations that manage to occupy at least half my time. The other half gets filled with chores around the house, some genealogy research, FS volunteer work, etc. Polly keeps busy with the flowerbeds and small garden in the summer and bowling 2-3 times a week all year. She also makes beaded jewelry on a sporadic basis. We usually take a couple of short trips each year but stay pretty close to home. Since last July we've had our granddaughter living with us. She'll graduate from high school in June and is planning on going up to SE Alaska to join her dad for the summer and work at a fishing lodge. Gary builds houses on Prince of Wales Island. Carol, who you may recall from PSU days, lives 6 miles down the road from us and works at an art gallery. Robin, the middle child, lives in western Washington and works for Dept. of Social and Health Services.

Stan Warner: I retired July 1, 2003 after a great career in forestry. Since then, I put myself out to pasture on my own farm where I stay more than a little busy in the farm's forests. As a matter of fact, that's where I'm headed now—a wild plum thicket where I'm doing some manipulations for white-tailed deer security at my expense. Working in there with all the thorns is more hazardous than taking on a platoon of angry bobcats.

Walt Schenger writes that he wishes he had known many of the gang better. Being a transfer in from U/MD after my freshman year—and therefore having no experience of Mont Alto—never was much an accepted part of the cadre. And taking two years out for the USMC after one year at PSU kind of finished off my estrange-

ment. So while I was part of the Class of '61, my original graduation date would have been '58. After leaving Happy Valley, I spent 9 years with the Boy Scouts in Williamsport, Wilmington, DE, and Reading (where I stuck). I didn't want to leave Berks County, so I left scouting (professionally) and became general manager of a small real estate firm. I helped it grow to the largest in the region in about three years—then jumped ship and spent a few years as a not-very-successful real estate broker. When my wife, Jean (Sullivan, '62) became interested, then involved, then successful in real estate, I switched to banking. After 16 ½ years in 7 firms in that business (at only two different desks), I retired. Then one of my previous bank supervisors opened his own bank and asked me to help. So I spent another 3 ½ years in banking. The "previous supervisor," who was president, CEO, and chairman of the bank was then fired, and hired me to run a family entertainment complex he bought to fill his leisure time. That lasted a year-and-a-half. End of remunerative employment. Now I'm secretary of my Lions Club, Common Cause/PA, and a Reading, PA, mentoring organization, controller of RiverPlace Development Corp., ass't. district commissioner and fundraiser for the Boy Scouts, in my 40th year maintaining a section of the Appalachian Trail, a small business counselor with SCORE, scouting advisor to Mu Eta Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity at Albright College, a nationally certified presenter for the leadership development program of APO (APO LEADS), and an ambassador for Project Vote Smart. There are also a couple of small involvements with the Exeter Township School District. None of these, however, come with a salary attached. Two sons with a wife and two offspring each live within an hour or so. Jean retired last March, so maybe I'm going to have to resign from some stuff so we can travel, or whatever?

Bob Stroh (grad degree '61) is director of the Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, University of Florida, Gainesville.

When **Joe Sucha** heard that **Ed Frayer** endowed a sports travel fund at Mont Alto, he said you hit the nail on the head when you said travel was a major problem. We used the old dump truck to get to basketball games.

Jim Lacey graduated with the class of

1961, although started at Mont Alto with the class of 1960 and spent most of his time with that group. When the Bureau of Forestry transferred him to Bradford County he ran into his old Zoo lab partner **George Kiefer** who was operating a dairy farm with his brother. He sees George occasionally and attended a PSU basketball game with him in January. Lots of pleasant memories of PS foresters with the same mentality—we all loved the woods. He retired from the bureau in 2002 and writes Forest Stewardship plans, teaches basic forest stuff (PLT - Project Learning Tree) to schoolteachers in the summer and participated as a weed inspector for the CREP (Conserv. Reserve Enhancement Program).

Hans Gregersen is living on the old family ranch in California now and thinking of retiring....maybe next year.

Joe Williams is trying to live a quiet retirement on Smith Mountain Lake in VA. Says that living on the lake makes it seem as if we have a young hotel.

John Irvine is living the peaceful but busy life of a retiree in Cuyahoga Falls, OH. He volunteers with the local Metro Parks system; leads nature walks for school groups and scouts, and instructs in winter camping and back packing. Hopes to lure some city kids into the appreciation of the great outdoors.

Pat Murray writes that her husband and our classmate **Lynn Murray** has been retired for 22 years. He is doing great but refuses to use a computer.

John Moser (grad degree '61) writes that after almost 44 years of Purdue employment, he retired on January 31, 2008. He's adjusting to his new life style while going through a very large accumulation from his years of employment with the Forest Service, West Virginia University, and Purdue.

Ed Feddern retired June 2004 from IFA Nurseries. Prior employment was with Publishers Paper Co and the USFS (Mt. Hood National Forest). His roommate of four years, **Pete Adams**, passed away in September 1986.

Ron Glass: I have been in touch with **Dinus** and **Shields**. We have been e-mailing for about two years. Actually, I graduated in sort of 60 and ½ in January of '61. Ivy and I are retired from school teaching. Ivy taught grades K, 2, and 3, but mainly grade 2 for 40+ years. I taught grades 7 and 8 for

29 years—science and math. I enjoyed that age kid. All the science courses that I had in forestry really helped. Ivy is involved in a lot of volunteer work. She takes care of several very elderly ladies at the local senior complex. Her heart and life are always alert to the needs of others. She is a dynamo, but would vehemently deny it. I am quite proud of her. I was involved for 8 years with a local residential school for boys-at-risk with the law. Mostly, in that work, several of us trained with qualified boys, and then bicycled across PA, MD, and NY. The trips lasted a full week. We rode about 60 to 80 miles per day. The mountains of PA were quite difficult, but in NY and MD, we rode canal tow paths—C&O, and the Erie Canal. For 15 years (during teaching and when retired), I worked on a ropes course teaching teamwork skills to local schools and adult groups. I directed it for 10 years, then worked an additional 5 years helping with it and rebuilding it several times to keep up with changes in safety standards. I learned a lot of rope and climbing skills. For about 20 years, I raced off-road motorcycles. It was really fun and exciting. I got hurt several times, but never seriously. After that ended, due to land closures and loss of interest, I got into bicycling big time both off-road and road. I still do that. For the last three years, I have been rowing in an eight-man crew and a four-man quad (sculling)—the type you see in the Olympics. Now, that's been fun!! We have raced in PA, MD, and DE. Our boat-house is located in Wilmington, DE, on the Christina River. Two years ago, I had the good fortune to be able to compete in England at Henley-on-Thames with a crew from St Joe's Prep from Philadelphia. That was an awesome experience! This April, eight of us hope to compete in San Diego at the San Diego Crew Classic. Ivy and I have one daughter, Heather. We wonder where the time has gone.

Bob Davey: I worked for 41 ½ years for the PA Bureau of Forestry. That was interrupted only once for two years as the original sad sack in the U.S. Army 13 months on the DMZ in Korea. The past 20 years I was district forester on the Sproul State Forest. We live in Flemington, PA, about 45 minutes from State College. The date of the reunion last spring we were planting trees on a burned area of the

Sproul. **George Kiefer** lives in Antes Fort, PA, and we see each other quite often. George doesn't have a home computer (smart guy). George ran a dairy farm for many years until the work was too much for one person. He also had a career with the PA Dept of Agriculture. If my old math works right we will have graduated from PSU 50 years in 2011.

Gordon Heisler: Since 1972, I have been a research scientist with what was the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, now the Northern Research Station, of the U.S. Forest Service. Most of this time I have also been adjunct faculty at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, where my office was relocated from the Penn State campus in 1991. My working title is meteorologist, and my research is essentially applied climatology of urban forests and their impacts on the physical environment—air temperature, wind, solar radiation including the ultraviolet and human health, human thermal comfort, energy use for space conditioning buildings, and outdoor sound propagation. For fun I volunteer in a friends group for a state park near our residence and I chair the Advisory Conservation Commission for our town, Dewitt, NY.

Walt Peechatka: I completed a 30-year career in several PA state government agencies 10 years ago. During that time I was a bureau director in several state agencies and served as deputy secretary of Agriculture for the last six years of my career. I also served 5 years as executive vice president of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in Ankeny, IA, a professional society representing 13,000 members worldwide. The last 10 years I served as EVP of PennAg Industries Association representing agricultural businesses. I retired from the full-time position in October 2007 and am currently serving as senior advisory to PennAg on a part-time basis. One of the highlights of the last few years has been serving on the Penn State Board of Trustees for the last 5+ years representing the agricultural community that has six seats on the Penn State governing body. Since I devoted most of my career to soil and water conservation and related activities. I have not been active in many forestry-related activities but I was recently appointed to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory

Council so I expect to renew some acquaintances with foresters and others from the council and within the agency.

Gordon Stuart, 1962 – 97 Seavey Street, Westbrook, ME 04092; gwstuart@maine.rr.com

Wally Haulik, 1963 – 140 Buckthorn Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013-4305; whaulik@embarqmail.com.

Lloyd E. Shaffer, 1963 - 514 Edgewater Drive, Ellenton, FL 34222; landlshaffer@verizon.net. "After three careers, U.S. Navy (23 years), shipyard management (8 years), and carpentry/home repair, we are finally fully retired here in Florida. Still trying to sort out the local and introduced tree species here."

Bill Mitchell, 1963 – 24817 N. 45th Drive, Glendale, AZ 85310. "Mitchells had several class of '63 visitors passing through the valley of the sun last winter. Went camping with Shirley and **Dave Bauer** on his sister's ranch in Patagonia, Arizona. Couldn't spot the mountain lion, but he is there.

Dennis Molli was vacationing in Sedona. We shared some great trout fishing. We enjoyed memories with Joan and **Larry Macinkewicz** from Ft. Collins. He is a retired logger who remains busy renovating houses."

Herman "Skip" Knoble, 1964, 1966g – 3107 Sheffield Drive, State College, PA 16801; hdk@psu.edu.

Lance W. Kress, 1968 and 1970g – 5016 Dairyland Road, Hillsborough, NC 27278. "I retired from USDA Forest Service office in Research Triangle Park, NC, on March 29, 2008. My wife (PSU class of 1971, H&HD) retired on April 1, 2008. We plan to relax, travel, and enjoy five grandchildren."

Brad Ryden, 1969 – 2651 S. 8th Avenue, Apartment O-1081, Yuma, AZ 85364; bnryden@gmail.com. "I am living in Yuma, Arizona, and have developed a very successful writing career."

1970s

Tom Fleegeer, 1972 – 2930 Greenway Drive, Burleson, TX 76028; tfleegeer@hotmail.com. “I retired from my current position as chief of operations for the Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, in June. My 32+ year Corps career took me from my first job at Kinzua Dam in Warren, PA, through Ford City, Pittsburgh, Washington, DC, San Francisco, Omaha, and now here in Fort Worth. Retired here in Texas. My son Tim, a 2002 Penn State Geo Science grad, also works for the Corps in the Omaha District. It was great to see the Lions beat A&M in the Alamo Bowl as I had many Aggies on my staff.”

Bob McColly, 1972 – 145 Hermitage Circle, Ligonier, PA 15658; forestls@comcast.net.

Stephen C. Grado, 1979, 1984g, and 1992g – Box 9681, Dept. of Forestry, Mississippi State, MS 39762; sgrado@cfr.msstate.edu.

1980s

Paul Labovitz, 1981 – 6025 McKinley Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432; paul_labovitz@nps.gov. “Finished first year as superintendent of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, 72 miles of the Mississippi River through the Twin Cities. Enjoying life in the land of the Golden Gophers and having a blast (a cold blast...) as a Minnesotan. Kids scattered in Ohio and Indiana and doing well. New puppy Moose, a chocolate lab/retriever at Christmas, saw more grouse here than in my entire life in Pennsylvania. Sue and I went to see *A Prairie Home Companion* in St. Paul and we now “get it” here. Would enjoy hearing from classmates; disappointed no 1980s updates last time.”

Ed Cesa, 1983 – 930 Big Shannon Run Road, Mount Morris, PA 15349-2366; ejcesa@alltel.net.

Tom Witmer, 1984 – 226 W. Rittenhouse Sq. #1408, Philadelphia, PA 19103. “My wife and I Live in Philadelphia where I have been working for Fairmount Park Commission (director, Natural Resources) since 1999. We enjoyed attending the 100-year anniversary celebration where I ran into some Tau Phi Delta brothers from long ago.”

In Memoriam

Robert C. Beige, 1936
died April 6, 2007

Nedavia Bethlahmy, 1939
died September 21, 2007

Anthony A. Garra, 1939
died August 16, 2007

David H. Jenkins, 1940, 1942g
died August 30, 2007

Richard L. Templin, 1942
died July 2, 2007

Henry A. Dotter, 1943, 1948g
died April 20, 2007

Robert L. Gumble, 1943
died January 3, 2007

Curtis R. Lytle, 1948
died February 27, 2008

John M. Richards, 1950
died April 25, 2007

Charles C. “Chuck” Wedekind, 1950
died March 24, 2008

Robert C. Czapiewski, 1951
died mid-May 2008

Boyer Kantz, 1951
died July 22, 2008

Robert A. Reese, 1951
died February 26, 2007

Robert C. Gilmore, 1952
died July 21, 2007

George R. Winning, 1952
died in October 2006

William L. Hafley, 1953
died March 9, 2007

John W. Greth, 1954
died November 14, 2006

Norman C. Higgins, 1956g
died May 5, 2007

Thomas W. Smeal, 1956
died January 14, 2007

Rodney D. “Jake” Jacobs, 1958
died June 20, 2008

Tatterson W. “Tat” Smith, 1958
died December 7, 2007

Raymond E. White, 1959
died August 29, 2007

Robert J. Petras, 1964
died May 14, 2007

Michael J. Wallace, 1982
died January 18, 2007

Brian Wisner, 1987 – 450 Robinson Lane, Bellefonte, PA 16823; bwisner@state.pa.us. “After 20 years, I’m back in Happy Valley. My family and I moved back to the State College area last year after I accepted the position of director of fish production with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. We really liked living in other areas of the country (Florida, Alaska, South Carolina) and enjoyed the great outdoors wherever we were but it’s nice to be back home.”

Ed Grossman, 1988 – 2217 Radcliffe Rd., Juneau, AK 99801.

1990s

James Snyder, Jr., 1998 – 229 Emmett Ave., Ridgway, PA 15853; forest2@penn.com.

2000s

Matthew D. Gardner, 2002 – 1023 Nelson St., Jacksonville, FL 32205.

Jaime Cooney, 2004 – 234 Wallingford Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237; runnigrosesjrc@hotmail.com.

Darren Wolfgang, 2007 – 466 Laughing Bird Lane, Ellijay, GA 30540; dlw248@gmail.com.

School of Forest Resources
Outstanding Alumni and Outstanding Recent Alumni Award Nomination Form

Please check one: ☐ Outstanding Alumni Nomination
 ☐ Outstanding Recent Alumni Nomination (alumni who have graduated in previous 10 years)

Is the nominee aware of this nomination? ☐ yes ☐ no

Date of nomination: _____

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON MAKING THE NOMINATION

Name
Address
Phone Number
FAX Number
E-mail

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON BEING NOMINATED

Name
Address
Phone Number
FAX Number
E-mail
SFR Graduation Year and Major

Please attach a thorough description of the nominee relative to the selection criteria of

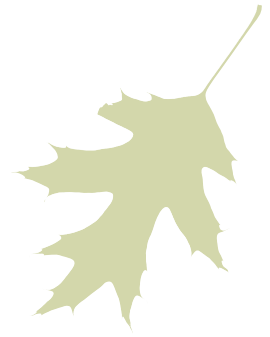
1. Professional achievement, excellence, impact, and recognition (and significant career advancement for Outstanding Recent Alumni nominees)
2. Service to the profession, to the School of Forest Resources, and to the community
3. High personal and professional standards

The nomination may also include a list of persons who may act as references.

Send to: School of Forest Resources Alumni Group Awards Committee
 Forest Resources Building
 The Pennsylvania State University
 University Park, PA 16802

by September 30

School of Forest Resources Alumni Group
Alumni Newsletter No. 93
Summer 2008



RESPONSE FORM

No dues are charged for membership in the School of Forest Resources (SFR) Alumni Group. We rely on contributions to support alumni activities, including the publication of this newsletter. This newsletter is sent twice a year to more than 4,700 alumni at a cost of about \$6,000 per issue for printing and mailing. Contributions for the SFR Alumni Group should be made payable to "Penn State" and designated, in the memo section of the check or in a cover letter, for the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group; send to Penn State, College of Agricultural Sciences, Development Office, 233 Agricultural Administration, University Park, PA 16802 (or enclose it with this Response Form and it will be forwarded to the correct office). You will receive a receipt, and your contribution will be tax deductible.

_____	_____	_____
(Name)	(Class year)	(Major)
_____	_____	
	(Phone)	
_____	_____	
(Mailing address)	(E-mail address)	

- I have sent a contribution for the SFR Alumni Group in the amount of \$ _____ to Penn State, College of Agricultural Sciences, Development Office, 233 Agricultural Administration University Park, PA 16802 (or it is enclosed and will be forwarded to the correct office). The contribution is made payable to "Penn State" and designated for the School of Forest Resources Alumni Group.
- I would like to nominate the following individuals as candidates for the SFR Alumni Group Board of Directors. (Self-nominations are welcome.) _____
- I would like the following news to be included in an upcoming newsletter. The next issue will be published in winter 2009. To submit news online, go to <http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu/Alumni/AlumniNews.htm>.

	date

School of Forest Resources
The Pennsylvania State University
117 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802

Visit the School of Forest Resources at
<http://www.sfr.cas.psu.edu/>

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| October 7 | Ag Career Day, Bryce Jordan Center, University Park, PA. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Contact: Denise Connelly, 814-865-7521; dcc6@psu.edu. |
| November 6 | SFR Alumni and Friends Reception at the SAF National Convention, Reno, NV.
7 - 9 p.m. Contact: Ellen Manno, 814-863-5831 or exr2@psu.edu. |
| November 10 | SFR Alumni and Friends Reception at TWS National Convention, Miami, FL.
6 - 8 p.m. Contact: Richard Yahner, 814-863-3201 or rhy@psu.edu. |
| November 22 | Ag Live '08, Ag Alumni Society Tailgate, Snider Ag Arena, University Park, PA.
Contact: Naomi Knaub, 814-867-1819; nmk107@psu.edu. |
| Feb. 27, 2009 | First Annual School of Forest Resources Job Fair, Forest Resources Building,
University Park, PA. Contact: Jamie Murphy, 814-863-0362; jam563@psu.edu. |
| April 2009 | SFR Alumni Banquet and Tailgate, Blue-White Weekend.
Contact: Ellen Manno, 814-863-5831; exr2@psu.edu. |