

Washington State Society of American Foresters
Accomplishments for Third Quarter, 2007
July-August-September 2007
Arial font items from quarter 4

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Green River CC has been named national student chapter of the year and Washington state chapter of the year. (Dick Hopkins)
- WS SAF co-hosted a very successful 2007 SAF National Convention in Portland.
- Developed a WS SAF Foundation Brochure, *Nurturing Forestry in Washington State*, promoting forestry education.
- **Draft** of WS SAF Strategic Plan completed.
- Draft MOU with Washington Association of Conservation Districts developed.
- WS SAF saw ten members reach “GOLDEN” status in 2007:
 1. Nils A. Arneson
 2. Gero E. Mitschelen
 3. John T. Standerwick
 4. Raymond G. Weinmann
 5. Bill C. Balka
 6. Alan C. Randall
 7. Wesley M. Rickard
 8. Roy E. Friis
 9. Guy R. Lusignan
 10. David L. Bowden

Strategic Outcome #1: Be the Leading Professional Forestry Organization in the World

- A. Green River Community College was named national student chapter of the year and Washington state chapter of the year for 2007. Congratulations to chapter chair Jen Wren and advisors Dick Hopkins and Rob Sjogren.
- B. **Updating of the WS SAF website. We accomplished some updating (more to be done) by some reorganization, publishing of our meetings, our quarterly reports, and a bi-monthly WS SAF newsletter covering various SAF activities.**
- C. OR/WA Leadership Conference. WSSAF coordinated with Oregon SAF in presenting the 2007 Oregon/Washington Leadership conference on 1/19-20/07 in Hood River, OR. Sessions from Congressman Brian Baird, Developing SAF Reaction to Sensitive Policy Issues, Strategic Planning, and increasing vitality in your chapter (including membership). **GRCC took 16 students and 2 instructors to WA/OR Leadership Conference. Student Chapter chair Jenny Wren helped with the Vitality activity.**
- D. WS SAF strategic plan. We initiated development of a strategic plan for WSSAF. The executive Committee voted on March 16, 2007 to pursue development of a plan. We plan to have a draft plan for the December 5, 2007 WS SAF ex com meeting. This will be a 2+ page plan, coinciding with the strategic outcome categories of the National Strategic Plan.
- E. Approved budget for 2007 at the March 16, 2007 executive committee meeting.
- F. SAF Focus group. Participated in SAF focus group with 8-10 others from around the country. My understanding is the results from this group will help in determining future directions for the organization.

Strategic Outcome #2: Provide Enhanced Service to Landowners and Employers

- A. SAF co-sponsored two Family Forest Owners Field Days. One in Cle Elum and the other at the Hama Hama Tree Farm on Hood Canal. Andy Perleberg (SAF Mid-Columbia) and crew held these really great events. See <http://www.ncw.wsu.edu/foreststewardship/>.

Strategic Outcome #3: Provide Enhanced Service to Society at Large

- A. Puyallup Fair (Western Washington State Fair). Bill Horn again headed up the SAF booth in the Northwest Outdoors building. John Bergvall is in overall charge of the building. Numerous SAF volunteers participated and the Fair had something like 1.4 million visitors, many of whom stopped at the SAF booth. This is important as this is probably our biggest outreach effort of the year. [Washington State Society of American Foresters](#)
- B. MOU with WACD. We initiated development of a memorandum of understanding between WSSAF and the Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD). It was sent out to WS SAF ex comm for review in October, with no comments being forthcoming. As of mid-November, it is being reviewed by the WACD Board. WSSAF executive committee approved the concept on 3/16/07 and on 3/19/07, the Officers and Directors of the WACD passed a resolution to develop an MOU with WSSAF. This MOU would benefit both organizations through education, increased networking, leveraged support on many areas of common interest, expanded learning opportunities, and many other benefits.
- C. WS SAF representation in a Snohomish County workgroup for local land use planning regarding the use of forest lands. This effort will review Snohomish county's policies for protecting forest lands. WS SAF's involvement is lead by Doug St. John.
- D. Appointed Dick Pierson and Don Theoe to the District 1 Fellows Committee. They replaced Patrick Cummings (whose term expired) and Ann Forest Burns (who moved to Wisconsin.) We gave nice certificates of appreciation to Ann and Pat.
- E. Took part in HSD meeting at the National Convention in Portland and in several conference calls through out the year. Washington's chair acted as a one of five national conveners.

Strategic Outcome #4: Accomplish Effective Engagement in Forest Policy

- A. WS SAF Positions on website.
 - 1. WS SAF is reviewing and updating position statements posted on our website.
 - 2. We will be adding a policy statement on fires and the woodland/urban interface.
- B. Policy article accepted by Journal of Forestry. "On Science" article submitted to the Journal of Forestry. Policy committee chair Bob Dick prepared an article on the use of science (including what is 'credible' science). The ex comm endorsed, with some minor modifications, and Bob submitted the document to the JoF. The article has been accepted for publication at a future, unspecified date. This important issue was the subject of a panel at the 2007 Oregon/Washington Leadership Conference.
- C. Forester Licensing. We had a short meeting in conjunction with the Portland Convention. Bill Horn and Doug Rushton met with Phil Anderson (Inland Empire) coordinating our approach. A draft work plan has been agreed. Rushton obtained copy of Paul Adam's licensing and credentialing presentation given at the 2007 SAF

Convention. Bill Horn is leading our effort. Our goal is to have our stance in place prior to the next legislative session.

- D. OR/WA Leadership Conference. At the OR/WA Leadership Conference, we asked Congressman Brian Baird to address how SAF can affect forestry-related issues in congress. Although he had to bow out at the last minute, he did provide an almost 8 minute video which we presented to the 80 assembled.
- E. Also at the OR/WA Leadership Conference, we had a panel on SAF being able to react to sensitive issues – using the Oregon Salvage Logging issue (AKA – Donato issue) as a case study.
- F. The Southwest Washington Chapter sponsored a Legislative dinner on February 20th. Seven representatives and Senators attended, which is a great turnout during session. About 60 SAF members and guests heard presentations on forestry issues of the day, focusing on Forest Fragmentation and Conversion, Eastside Forest Health, and the Trust Mandate for State Lands.
- G. Comments on Legislation
 - Several SAF members commented as individuals on proposed Senate Bill 5834, regarding licensing of foresters. We have worked out an agreement with Inland Empire to work on the issue together and come up with ideas and issues that we think need to be addressed prior to next legislative session.
 - Provided legislative input to Senator Mary Margaret Haugen who had proposed the “Office of Farmland Preservation”. Proposed adding forest lands since the issue for agricultural and forest lands are essentially the same (fragmentation, conversion, etc.) In the latest version of the bill, the language regarding forest lands has been omitted.

Strategic Outcome #5: Enhance Professional Education, Performance, and Leadership

- A. Continuing Forestry Education (CFE). WS SAF continuing education coordinator Ellie Lathrop, at our July meeting, walked the group through continuing education and recertification requirements. Check the website for specifics. If you have a chapter event, request credit from the coordinator at least two weeks in advance. Volunteer hours may qualify as CFE for some categories.
- B. At the OR/WA Leadership Conference, we had a session on increasing chapter vitality and membership. We came up with three pages of ideas which were sent to attendees, WS SAF and posted on the WS SAF website - [Welcome to the Oregon Society and Washington State Society of American Foresters http://www.forestry.org/saf_members/index.php](http://www.forestry.org/saf_members/index.php)
- C. Many members from WS SAF worked on the 2007 National Convention, which we co-sponsored with Oregon. Special thanks to more people than I could possibly name – there were so many –but especially to Gretchen Nicholas who was program co-chair and Vicki Christiansen, Arrangements co-chair. Over 2,000 attended the Portland convention.
- D. Appointed Dick Pierson and Don Theoe to the District 1 Fellows Committee. They replaced Patrick Cummings (whose term expired) and Ann Forest Burns (who moved to Wisconsin.) We gave nice certificates of appreciation to Ann and Pat.
- E. Took part in HSD meeting at the National Convention in Portland and in several conference calls through out the year. Washington’s chair acted as a one of five national conveners.

- F. 2007 WS SAF annual business meeting. We conducted our required annual business meeting in conjunction with the 2007 Portland Convention. We had 63 in attendance.
- Treasurer Chuck Loren reported on our finances, which are in relatively good shape: \$17,738.07 net worth and \$5,167.07 in current operating funds.
 - Presented 2007 Forester of the Year award to Gretchen Nicholas.
 - Presented 2007 Chapter of the Year award to Green River Community College. Pete Heide built a beautiful dove-tail jointed box for storing the award, a bird's eye maple bowl, which was accepted by the Chapter.
 - WS SAF Foundation brochure distributed. We distributed our new foundation brochure, *Nurturing Forestry in Washington State*, at the meeting.
 - WS SAF had ten members reach the 50 year membership mark during 2007. Those WS SAF members who reached "GOLDEN" status in 2007 are:
 1. Nils A. Arneson
 2. Gero E. Mitschelen
 3. John T. Standerwick
 4. Raymond G. Weinmann
 5. Bill C. Balka
 6. Alan C. Randall
 7. Wesley M. Rickard
 8. Roy E. Friis
 9. Guy R. Lusignan
 10. David L. Bowden

Strategic Outcome #6: Ensure Development and Sound Stewardship of SAF's Resources

- A. A. Foresters' Fund Grant. The Family Forest Owners Field Day in Cle Elum held on June 23rd received \$3,500 grant. The applications asked for support of the SW WA Legislative Dinner and the Mid-Columbia Forest Landowner's Field Day.
- B. FF donation for the Portland Convention. WS SAF, at its October 5, 2007 meeting, authorized a donation for the auction at the National Convention of \$100± for a Filson Cruisers jacket (a good Pacific Northwest product and a forestry icon).
- C. Presentation at 2007 HSD meeting. The "Chapter Vitality" presentation from the 2007 OR/WA Leadership conference was presented as a success story at the HSD meeting at the Portland Convention. Attendees seemed interested in how we identified methods, tools, approaches and ideas that chapters could take home with them for increasing involvement, membership and verve.
- D. WSSAF provided input to HSD and Council on the membership proposal, after discussion at the chapter and state level.
- E. NWO Finances. A meeting for the OR/WA SAF's Northwest Office is scheduled for November 14 and the primary topics will be developing and agreeing the budget for 2008.

~~~~~

**Upcoming Meetings**

1. WS SAF executive committee will meet on December 5, 2007 at Green River Community College. The meeting will start at 9:30 and go until about 3 pm. Exact building and room to be determined.
2. 2008 National Convention, November 5-9, 2008, at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV. Registration opens in May, 2008.
3. The Washington Farm Forestry Association annual meeting will be April 25-26, 2008.