

## FORESTRY CLUB

The Auburn University Forestry Club is a student organization with the primary aim of improving the relationship among the students enrolled in the Forestry Department at Auburn. The club sponsors the welcoming of freshmen beginning their college careers in Forestry and Wood Technology, an annual winter awards banquet, and the Auburn delegation to the Association of Southern Forestry Clubs' Conclave. Membership in the club is open to all students in Forest Management and Wood Technology and to members of the faculty. One faculty member serves as an advisor to the club, and this year Professor L. Earl DeBrunner is serving in this capacity.

Each year the club welcomes new freshmen with a reception to acquaint them with the faculty and a number of currently enrolled students. This year thirty to thirty-five new freshmen attended. Refreshments were served followed by a get-acquainted session.

The Winter Awards Banquet was held this year on February tenth in the banquet room at Swann's Restaurant. Professor Henry G. Posey served as emcee. After dinner entertainment was provided by Bobby Wallace and Bill Snider, local student folk singers. Jamie Ashe received the E. A. Hauss award for scholastic improvement. Henry Miller received the L. M. Ware Outstanding Senior award annually presented to the outstanding senior in Forestry. The Marathon Southern Award for Cartographic Excellence was not presented this year. Arthur Coleman was formally presented with a St. Regis scholarship which he received for his junior year.

Again this year the club sent a delegation to the ASFC Conclave, which was held near Covington, Georgia, with the University of Georgia serving as host. Money for this event was raised by selling football programs at all home games and by putting out litter boxes for the Auburn Telecable Company.

The Forestry Club has been successful in improving the relationship between the students here at Auburn.

## XI SIGMA PI

Activities of Sigma Chapter, Xi Sigma Pi, are back to normal with the movement of the national headquarters from Auburn to the University of Missouri last July. A commendable job was done by Professor H. G. Posey, Dr. H. E. Christen and Mr. W. B. DeVall as National Forester, Associate National Forester and National Secretary-Fiscal Agent respectively. The Sigma Chapter as well as the entire fraternity are indeed proud of their efforts.

An initiation was held on November 17, 1966, at the Heart of Auburn Restaurant. Initiated into the Sigma Chapter at that time were Jamie Ashe, Arthur Coleman, James Holley and Mike Ward—undergraduates; and Tom Waldrip, a graduate student.

The current officers of Sigma Chapter are: Henry Miller, Forester; Jamie Ashe, Associate Forester; Robert Shaffer, Secretary-Fiscal Agent; and Mike Ward, Ranger. Current Chapter Roll contains 16 faculty members, 7 graduate students and 6 undergraduates.

The Chapter is currently considering sponsoring a tutoring program for undergraduates in Forestry—as of yet no definite decisions have been made.

## CONCLAVE

The annual Conclave of the Association of Southern Forestry Clubs was held on April 8. The site of the conclave was the Georgia FFA Camp near Covington, Georgia. Representatives from ten Southern Forestry Schools attended, including a delegation of 14 from Auburn University.

The Auburn group placed fifth overall in the competition behind Arkansas, first, Oklahoma, second, Georgia, third, and Clemson, fourth. Jamie Ashe led Auburn in scoring by taking first place in ax throwing and third place in chain throwing. Richard Cumbie got a first in log hilling. Paul Abbott and Robin Saxderson took third place in compass and pace and dendrology respectively.

## SUMMER CAMP '66

Summer camp was held on the pleasant and beautiful shores of Little River in Little River State Forest probably for the last time in 1966. The summer camp boys of future years will just have to get along without Blueberry Hill, Blackshier Lake, and Professor Christen's rusty brown felt hat.

Ten of us attended summer camp full time in 1966, with two coming for only one course. This was one of the smallest crews anyone could remember. We learned all there was to know about land lines, road surveys, cruising with toilet paper, and recreation surveys. Professor Hodgkins finally showed us the difference between soil and dirt.

The two main points of interest at summer camp were a contest between the two crews to see who could bring in the most poisonous snake heads and an effort to place a nickname on everyone. Because both crews brought in only 3 snakey apiece, neither won the much cherished prize.

As for nicknames, several were rather original and deserving of mention. Four-barrel, White Mouse, Wooly, and Gummageochy can never be forgotten.



Summer Campers of '66.

# STAFF NEWS

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor .....W. E. Wilkins  
Associate Editors .....Walter Hazen  
Harry Dunn  
Business Manager .....A. A. Coleman  
Faculty Coordinator ...L. E. DeBrunner  
Department Head ...Prof. Wilbur DeVall

## STAFF CHANGES

The "Boilermakers" have intensified their infiltration of the South. John D. Fitzgerald, Jr., and Karl Moeck join Dr. Harold Beads as Purdue alumni on the Department of Forestry staff.

Mr. Fitzgerald, working in the area of mechanical behavior of wood, comes from Fort Wayne, Indiana. He received his bachelor's degree from Purdue in June, 1966. While working for the department, he is continuing his education and working toward a master's degree in wood technology. He is a member of the Forest Products Research Society. His experience includes summer work with Purdue University and the Buckstaff Furniture Company of Wisconsin. He and his wife, Judy, have made the transition from Hoosier to Alabamians, but they say they are still waiting for winter to arrive.

Karl Moeck, wife Phyllis and son Gregory are "at home" at the Fayette Experiment Forest near Fayette, Alabama. Mr. Moeck, a native of Evansville, Indiana, received his bachelor's degree from Purdue in January of 1967. Work experience includes summer positions with the U.S. Forest Service in Preston, Idaho, and with Purdue University. He served as president of the Purdue Forestry Club and was on the School of Agriculture Council. He is a member of the Society of American Foresters. His new duties involve research in forest management, from establishment through harvesting.

## SUMMER CAMP '67

The camp at Little River, well remembered by so many alumni, will be strangely quiet this summer. The "saw" will not rudely awaken slumbering souls; it will not invite hungry bodies to meals; nor will it summon inquiring minds to class. The flatwoods will hear neither the laughter nor swearing of the Auburn crew. Redbug and "skeeter" will have to find other hosts and copperhead, rattler, and moccasin can rest easy without fear of sudden dispatch by a dreaded "Jake" staff. There will be no Auburn foresters in residence for the first time since 1948.

Summer camp '67 will use the Auburn campus for its base of operations. Arrangements for areas for field work are being made with various companies owning land in the Auburn area and with the U.S. Forest Service.

It appears that "Blueberry Hill" to future Auburn foresters will have no meaning other than the title of a song of a bygone era.

## CURRICULUM CHANGES

Relatively few subject-matter changes have been made in the curricula in the Department of Forestry, but when the new catalog comes out this year the forest management curriculum will look very strange to those who went through the mill between 1948 and 1967. The range and game course has been broken into two parts, with Forestry retaining a 2-hour portion concerning range while the "Wildlifers" in Zoology will be responsible for the 3-hour portion on game management. The big change is that Summer Camp is being moved to the end of the Junior Year. This was forced on us by a variety of factors, not the least of which involves transfer students from the Junior Colleges. The moving of Camp resulted in a wholesale reshuffling of the courses in the curriculum and undoubtedly will have an effect on the way the courses are taught.

The wood technology curriculum was modified to the extent that a second quarter of calculus is to be required. This puts it on the same mathematics base as forest management.

From now on the Honors students will have to write a thesis, making the Honors Program more comparable with programs at the so-called "name" institutions than has been true up to this time.

There is no way of knowing how stable the modified curricula will be, for winds of change are sweeping the campus. The President's Office has initiated a series of committee actions that are intended to lead to recommendations as to what shall be done at the University in the future. One such committee (Dr. E. W. Johnson of the Department of Forestry is a member) is charged with the responsibility of making recommendations leading to the "liberalizing" of the curricula in the University. Nothing is definite yet, but the work of this committee could result in profound changes in all curricula on campus. It is expected that this committee will report to the President in May and that the various Departments on campus will

have to revise their curricula during the next school year. The expected date when these changes will take place is June, 1969, but some of the changes may come about sooner.

## JOE D. DRAKE

Mr. Joe D. Drake, equipment and stores attendant for the Department of Forestry for the past 2 years, died suddenly January 4 of a heart attack. Mr. Drake was admired by students and staff alike. His friendly smile, witty remarks, and helpful attitude added greatly to the "smooth running" of the department.

## THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Graduate program of the Department of Forestry made good progress during the year. Six students were enrolled for the Master of Science degree: 3 in wood technology, and one each in forest ecology, forest genetics, and tree physiology. Five students were working toward the Ph.D. degree in other departments; but under the direction of a member of our faculty.

The policy of having Ph.D. students enroll in other departments may soon change. The Graduate Council approved the department's request for a Ph.D. program. However, approval was contingent on final commitment on the new wing for the Forestry Building. Hence it may be Fall, 1968 before the department may begin to offer the Ph.D. degree.

Another development in the graduate program was the receipt of a Hardwood Research Fellowship from the Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association. The department is now soliciting applications for this award.

## THE ENROLLMENT PICTURE

Enrollment in Forestry has begun its cyclic increase. Fall registration in 1966 was 111 as compared to 102 in 1965. The history of enrollment shows highs in 1948 and 1960 with lows occurring in 1951 and 1965, but the high in 1960 did not reach the level of 1948, nor did 1965 enrollment drop to the level of 1951. It appears that there may eventually be a stabilizing of enrollment numbers or a slight upward trend. This might be attributed to increasing retirement among the pioneers in southern forestry and to industry expansion which will create more employment opportunities for graduates.

# ALUMNI NEWS

## AUBURN FORESTRY FOUNDATION

The Foundation is now six (6) years young. It was formed to help supplement operational maintenance expenditures for the Department of Forestry. Money transferred to the Forestry Department has amounted to \$972.47, since 1961.

There are now seventy members in the Foundation. Fifty-seven of these are Auburn Forestry Alumni; six corporations or groups are members and there are seven non-alumni individuals.

The last Foundation meeting was held at Auburn on February 25, 1967. This was a board of directors meeting to review the work accomplished in 1966 and plan specific activities for 1967.

The Foundation is anxious to include each forestry alumnus plus each faculty member on the membership list. Contributions are handled by the University Treasurer who is also Treasurer for the Foundation. Please include your name as a member of the Foundation by sending your contribution today to the Auburn Forestry Foundation, Department of Forestry, Auburn, Alabama. The amount which you contribute is not so important to the Foundation as your participation.

Respectfully submitted,  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## DUES REMINDER

This is to remind you that 1967 dues are payable. If you have received a membership card for 1967, then your dues have been paid for this year or if you are a 1966 graduate, your membership is free for this year.

Please make your \$3.25 check payable to Auburn Forestry Alumni Association and send to Harry V. Dunn, Jr., P. O. Box 3108, Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35401, along with your news.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

In 1960-61 under the leadership of Denton Cook, the concept of Class Secretaries was initiated. Graduates then numbered about 290 and it was felt that Class Secretaries offered the best means of maintaining some sort of personal contact with this growing group, some of whom had been away from Auburn for 12 years.

Now, in 1967, with some 453 graduates spread over 19 years, the concept is even more important. An indication of its value was clearly apparent last year when Class Secretaries were asked to contact their classmates concerning payment of dues and other important matters. Where Class Secretaries were active, 27 per cent responded. Where Class Secretaries were not active and each alumnus received only the general mailing from the Secretary-Treasurer, only 7 per cent responded.

Dues paying members numbered 75 in 1966, about 16% per cent. Less than a dozen alumni were heard from who did not pay dues. Only 34 members attended the last annual meeting even though considerably more than half live within 300 miles of the meeting place, and an SAF chapter meeting was held as well.

In a recent general mailing to all alumni, we were unable to mail to sixteen for lack of an address and nine first-class letters were returned. Therefore, we probably reached something like 428 alumni in spite of the fact that 38 per cent have had address changes in the past two years.

Considering these facts and figures, there would seem to be one rather simple way each alumnus can help spur this organization on . . . simply participate.



Bob Farrar '67 Keeps Posted on Campus Activities

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is now 20 years since the Auburn Department of Forestry was established. The growth of this department during this period into a forestry school of highest calibre is a monument in which the staff and faculty of Auburn University and particularly the Auburn Department of Forestry can take great pride. For the more than 450 graduates of this department, I salute them for this outstanding achievement.

At its meeting in February the Executive Committee of the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association voted to petition that Wilbur DeVall be nominated for election to the Council of the Society of American Foresters at its next election of officers. Those of us who know Mr. DeVall's abilities, his devotion to duty and to forestry and his past good works feel that he could not be surpassed as a member of the Council. Because of the wide recognition of his abilities and works, we also feel that he should have a good chance for election to this position. We hope that we will have the opportunity to vote for him for this office in the next SAF election.

The Executive Committee also voted to appoint a Historian to be responsible for the records of the Association. The thinking of the Committee was that the office of Historian should be semi-permanent one and that the records should be kept in a safe and in a semi-permanent location. For this reason the Committee voted to appoint a Historian rather than have him elected by the Association. Mr. Laurin Wade accordingly was appointed Historian and the Auburn Forestry Building was designated the location in which the Association records would be kept.

A large number of capable, happy-to-serve alumni are available to be called upon for any specific assignment given them, and they can be depended upon to perform admirably. However in matters of voting, responding to requests for personal information, and with some in payment of dues, our Auburn Forestry alumni are very lax. The greatest need of our Association is for fuller participation by the alumni.

Our annual meeting this year will again be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Alabama Chapter, SAF, meeting. I hope to see you there.

-George Wood, '50.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND AFPA SEEK FUNDS

Early last summer it became apparent to University Officials that sufficient funds were not available to complete renovation and expansion of the Forestry Building at Auburn. After exploring every possible source of State and public funds they turned to the Alabama Forest Products Association for help.

The Board of Directors of AFPA authorized the co-sponsorship with the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association, of a project to raise \$152,000 from private sources to help pay for a two-story wing to the present building. The renovation and addition is expected to cost approximately \$500,000 and is to be financed partially through State funds and grants from federal sources.

The proposed addition to the forestry building would nearly double the total floor space. The new space would provide a large classroom, laboratory for photogrammetry, mensuration instruction, complexes for physiology, genetics, wood technology, and wood anatomy research. Also planned are two graduate student office-laboratory rooms, several staff offices, a seminar room, and a new student reading room.

The fund drive was actively started last Fall. Wood using industries, forestry alumni of Auburn, individuals and corporations have been asked to contribute to the fund which provides for pledges over the next three years. A number of alumni have been helping with the campaign by contacting prospective donors.

As of March 15, forty percent of the goal had been obtained. Pledges are to be received until June 1, of this year. Time has become an important factor in the drive. If the total amount is not reached within the next two months the entire expansion program may be lost.

### PROFESSOR DeVALL PRESENTED GIFT

The highlight of the 1966 annual meeting of the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association was presentation of a gift and a certificate of appreciation to Professor DeVall by the Auburn Forestry alumni. The idea for this recognition was endorsed by the Executive Committee and presented to the alumni who gave it the most whole-hearted support that they have ever given any alumni effort. Some alumni who never pay alumni dues sent contributions for this gift for Professor DeVall.

The gift was a clock combined with a hygrometer, barometer and thermometer. The certificate of appreciation read:



*Professor DeVall's 20-year Service Recognized.*

*"The Auburn Forestry  
Alumni Association  
presents this  
Certificate of Appreciation  
to*

*Wilbur B. DeVall*

*In recognition of his dedicated  
leadership and outstanding contributions  
to the Auburn Department  
of Forestry throughout the last  
twenty years.*

*Presented this 15th day of Sep-  
tember, 1966.*

*George W. Wood, Jr.*

*President*

*Harry V. Dunn, Jr.*

*Secretary-Treasurer"*

The intent of this gift was to give tangible expression to the appreciation heard so often among Auburn Forestry alumni for the fine work Mr. DeVall is doing for the school and for the alumni. The presentation was a well kept secret from Mr. DeVall and came as a complete surprise to him. The presentation was made by Bill Ogletree, a member of the first class graduating from the Auburn Department of Forestry, and currently class secretary of his class of '48 and a member of the Executive Committee of the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association.

### 1966 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The 1966 annual meeting of the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Alabama Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. This was a dinner meeting held at the 20th Street Building's at 6:30 p.m. September 15, 1966.

There were thirty-four members present, five Auburn faculty members and twelve guests.

William T. Ogletree, on behalf of the Association, presented Professor Wilbur B. DeVall a certificate of appreciation and a gift for his outstanding devotion and service over the years to Auburn Forestry and to the Auburn Forestry Alumni Association.

President George Wood called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

A treasurer's report was given by Harry Dunn, Treasurer.

At the request of the President, Professor DeVall gave a summary of activities in the Auburn Department of Forestry. Mr. DeVall stressed that the most pressing matter currently was raising \$500,000 to add a new wing to the Forestry Building. He discussed enrollment and stated that needs of employers for foresters cannot be met.

The President called on Ernie Moore for a report on the Auburn Forestry Foundation. Moore explained plans for approaching non-alumni for support.

The President stated that Jim Haynes is heading a committee to contact alumni again for support of the Foundation.

The President announced that Kenneth L. Davenport was the recipient of the annual award to the outstanding senior for the 1965-66 academic year. A Forestry Handbook was mailed to him.

The President discussed the need for a historian and appointed the following people to serve on a committee to look into this matter: Larry Clements, Harold Coan and Thomas Paul.

The Secretary-Treasurer stressed the need for alumni keeping their address current and encouraged more participation through the class secretaries.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.