

AFAA NEWS



Auburn Forestry Alumni Association Newsletter
SUMMER 1993

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jim Spears '58

During the Auburn Forestry Advisory Council meeting on March 10th it was my distinct honor to be named the recipient of the "Outstanding Forestry Alumnus Award" for 1992. My thanks to those responsible.

On behalf of your Alumni Association I attended the Annual Forestry Student Awards Banquet on May 18th and recognized Tim Gothard as the recipient of the AFAA Outstanding Senior Award for academics. He received a copy of the Forestry Handbook and a check for \$250.00.

A committee has been appointed to nominate association officers for 1994 and 1995. They will also offer nominations for two directors for the Auburn Forestry Foundation. Terms for these directors are for six years. The committee will make its recommendations at the annual meeting breakfast at Orange Beach on September 13th. Billy Wayne McIntyre will chair this committee and serving with him will be Vaughn Stough and Waymon Paul.

The Selection Committee for the 1993 Outstanding Alumnus will be chaired by Ken Bailey. Serving with him will be Frank Stewart, Jr. and Bob Prese. Please consider being a part of this process and if you have someone you wish to nominate, send the name and a biographical sketch to: Kenneth D. Bailey, 134 Little Mountain Road, Waynesville, N.C., 28786.

There is hope that by the end of this year information will be available on the cost and design for the renovation and expansion of our Forestry Building. Plans for the funding of this project are being discussed by the Auburn Forestry Foundation and the Auburn Forestry Development Committee. Progress of this project will be passed on to you as it develops.

Please mark your calendar for the upcoming events:

Monday
September 13th—7:00 AM
AFAA Annual Meeting Breakfast
AFA Annual Meeting
Pardiola Beach Hilton—Orange Beach, AL.

Tuesday
September 28th—7:00 AM
AFAA Breakfast Meeting
AL Div. SAP and SESAP Meeting
Auburn Conference Center

Saturday
November 6th—2 hours before Kickoff
New Mexico State Football Game
School of Forestry Homecoming Bar-B-Que

I look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting in Orange Beach.

DEAN'S REPORT

Ermitt F. Thompson

This Newsletter is being assembled as the 1992-1993 academic year is drawing to a close, and we are looking forward to 1993-1994. The past year has been marked by a number of significant accomplishments. Our undergraduate enrollment reached a high for modern times (defined as the period summer camp has been at the Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center, i.e. since 1980), our graduate enrollment reached an absolute all time high, and the School's faculty generated the largest amount of extramural research funding ever. In June, 36 individuals received the bachelor of science degree in forestry. This was the largest number of graduates in over a decade. Job opportunities have not been as good as in immediately preceding years. However, we have been able to put everyone in contact with potential employers and I imagine those who were not employed at graduation will be situated within a short time.

Our 1994 summer practicum (we changed the name from summer camp to be more academic) is also setting a record for the Dixon Center era. We have 60 students at camp. This is more than we should have for a couple of reasons. This number absolutely takes up all available space with no "wiggle" room. Also, handling 60 students in a field-oriented educational program does not promote quality education. We must emphasize quality in our summer program, as well as in subsequent professional courses in the junior and senior year, and large numbers work against quality instruction.

We are working with the University administration to formalize a procedure to limit enrollment in future summer programs to approximately 50. To do this, we will have to increase our admission standards and possibly deny admission to some students who would have previously been qualified. The process, when approved, will represent a definite commitment to quality by the School of Forestry and Auburn University. By the next newsletter, the process should be in place and I will be able to provide more details.

In addition to other activities, we are in the process of initiating a fairly major look at our curricula. We have good programs now, but anything can be improved. We are going to spend the next year or so taking a hard look at where we want to be in the 21st century with our undergraduate programs. Dr. Warren Flick is chairing this major curriculum review for the School. He will be contacting other forestry schools, as well as alumni and employers. If you have any specific comments you would like to make about our curricula, or forestry education in general, I know Dr. Flick would be very interested in receiving them.

We are also looking forward to 1993-1994 as the first year, since 1990-1991, when we will be able to provide salary adjustments for our faculty and staff. The adjustments will not be sufficient to make up for two dry years, but will help us address some problems and hopefully put us in a more competitive position with respect to retaining our quality faculty.

Earlier this year, the Advisory Council for the School of Forestry met for two days in Auburn. Chairman Jim Spears hosted a series of presentations and seminars designed to display the work of the Forestry faculty and to provide forestry leaders an opportunity to give direction. A sample of the presentations are as follows:

1. Chris Isaacson - Discussed the menu of programs available in Continuing Education.
2. John Bliss - Explained the results of a survey in which he analyzed the response of forestry landowners to environmental issues.
3. Lowell Probish - Discussed the status of forestry as it relates to the Experiment Stations.
4. Faculty Panel on Environmental Concerns - Previewed the environmental activities at the School and responded to questions about future concerns.
5. Other issues...

Overall the reaction of the Council to the information was positive and resulted in good discussion. Suggestions were provided by guests on increasing the role of forestry in the experiment station, on improving the forestry awareness of the general public...

During the evening banquet, the Forestry Alumni Association proudly presented its outstanding alumnus award to Jim Spears for his dedicated work for his alma mater.

Bob Lee, Chairman of the Forestry Development Committee, added excitement with an announcement. He reported that Champion International had agreed to make a land gift to the Auburn Forestry Foundation in honor of retiring employee and dedicated Auburn man, Ken Bailey. The proceeds of the gift will be used as the nucleus dollars for funding an Endowment for Excellence in Forest Policy. The announcement of the Development Committee's decision to pursue this endowment as their first major project is in line with the University's overall goal of supplementing faculty positions, research programs and graduate studies. It also is a response to the growing need for sound scientific research in the area of policy.

The Development Committee also reached a milestone by achieving their goal of \$30,000 for the Auburn Foundation - Forestry Society. Congratulations for the outstanding work!

ALL ANNUAL GIVING DONORS TO AUBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FORESTRY (AS OF EARLY SPRING 1993)

Thomas Adams	Cherokee County Advertiser	John Gooder	Archie Lettis	Resource Management	James White
Alabama Forestry	Clab	David Grabeninger	Clifford Logan	Service	Ronald True
Foundation	William Chester	Gary Graham	Dwain Lutz	James Reynolds	Joseph Twardy
Robert Allen	Conale Jo Clelland	Doug Gray	Ronald Lutz	James Richardson	David Tyngst
Richard Anderson	Say F. Clifton	Naba Gray	Eric Martin	Joseph Rigby	Jason Ulin
William Anderson	Charles Goss	William Hines	James Manth	Don Rouse	Debra Urquhart
Walker Anderson	Jeanne Conway	R. Kent Harby	Robert Mayfield	Joe Robinson	Alfred Van Cleave
Arthur Arnold	Denton Cook	Charles Hayes	Ray McCarter	William Riggs	Edward Vigne
Franz Ataway	John Cook	Camryn Heath	David McConnell	Bob Rouse	Bobbie Wilson
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Gregory Bailey	Jack Clough	T. Chadwick Hudson	Miles, Inc.	Charles Sellers	Roberta Watson
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Thomas Ball	Kenneth Davern	Michael Hutchison	James Milne	Robert Sharp	Charles Webb
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Charles Baggett	Vernard Dean	Jeffrey Ingram	Sharon Minsky	Paul Simons	David Weiss
Jeffrey Baggett	Robert Devine	International Paper	Mark Monk	Herbert Simms	Robert Wells
Donald Bently	Janet Douglas	Company	Harry Murphy	Richard Simons	Norma Wiley
Robert Berry	Larry Doyle	James Kiser Corporation	Michael Murphy	Jason Sims	Timmy Wickertan
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Chaslene Bofinger	David Duff	Corporation	Thomas Newman	Leighton Skinner	R. Jack Williams
Mark Bond	Kenneth Duray	Brent Jarrig	Kenneth Nichols	Donald Slay	
Henry Booper	Donald Dutton	James Jarr	W. Daniel Nolan	Earl Smith	
J. Robert Boykin	Carl Edm	Charles Johnson	James Norris	James Smith	
Surr Boykin	Mary Edwards	William E. Jones	James O'Hara	Samuel Smith	
Brian Bradley	Rodney Eike	William G. Jones	Marvin Odum	Jerry Sneed	
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James Brown	Nancy Ford	Norman Kent	W. Lloyd Tate	Dennis Suckey	
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Corp.	Glen Ower	John Lettin	H. Walter Rolling	Trees, Inc.	

We express our gratitude for a major gift in memory of the late John M. Bradley, III ('87) of Burnsligham.

SCHOOL OF FORESTRY RETIREMENTS

Dr. Harold O. Beals and Professor and Extension Forester Larkin H. Wade will retire as of July this year. A reception, scheduled at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center on July 15, 1993, honored their service to Auburn's School of Forestry.

Dr. Beals arrived in Auburn in 1960 and taught a variety of courses, mostly in the forest products curriculum, though all students in the old forest management curriculum had one or more of his courses. Back in his early days at Auburn, Beals handled the "Alabama Forest Industries" course which was part of the summer camp when it was operated from the Little River State Forest facility near Uriah. For a much longer period of time, he taught the wood identification course which all forestry and products students took. Since the phase-out of the Forest Products curriculum, he has taught a service course entitled "Introduction to Forest Products and Wood Science". This has been a very popular course on the Auburn campus and it has received high praise from the students taking it. Over the last three years, there have been in excess of 600 students enrolled annually.

Beals has displayed a broad spectrum of interests over his years with first the Department of Forestry and now the School of Forestry. He has taught such courses as "Wood as an Art Medium" and "Microtechniques of Hard Materials" to the more traditional products courses including those dealing with glues and finishes as well as preservation treatments. His interests and vocations have run from geology to musical instruments to archeology and history.

He, with ties to Indiana and Kansas, and his wife (Mildred) will apparently remain in the Auburn area but have not made retirement plans known. However, it is certain that he will fill his time with interesting and stimulating activities. He is one of those "inquiring" people making life interesting.

Larkin Wade came to Auburn as an undergraduate student and never fully escaped. After a stint in the military, Mr. Wade came back to Auburn to earn a master's degree and then signed on as Extension Forester with the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service in 1965. In 1986, when the Extension specialists were integrated into the faculty of the various schools, he became Professor and was later named Mosley Environmental Professor. He is well known through out the state and region for his extension activities, and he knows virtually everyone involved in forestry in the state and region.

Noted for his voluminous notes and files, it would be appropriate for him to write books on the history of forestry in Alabama over the last third of a century, but that is certainly his decision to make. He has not disclosed his plans for retirement activities, but he will no doubt fill his days pursuing some forestry or other goal that he has not had time to explore in the past. Prof. Wade and his wife (Pat) will continue to reside in Auburn and will remain a vital part of the forestry community and the community-at-large in east central Alabama.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT

Jim Spears ('58)

VICE PRESIDENT

Eric J. Martin ('78)

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Charles F. Raper

Ben Rooke ('65), Bowater Lumber Company, is completing a very active term as President, Alabama Forestry Association.

Mike Harper ('82) has become associated with Thornton Timber Company, Wetumpka, AL.

Ginger Besthears Kogelschatz ('81) has become a principal at Forest Investment Associates, Atlanta, GA. Other SOF Alumni at FIA are Charley Tarver ('68), President, and Michael Kelly ('79), Management Forester.

Rick Oates (MS '93) has been appointed Forest Resource Coordinator by Alabama Forestry Association.

Dr. Bob Mitchell is on a one-year leave of absence from Auburn, as Associate Scientist, Silviculture at the Jones Ecological Research Center, Ichauway Plantation, Georgia. The Center is sponsored by the Robert Woodruff Foundation.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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Tuesday

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CHRISTEN-POSEY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

A number of Forestry alumni, at the time of Chris' and Prof Posey's deaths, contributed to an endowment for what has become the Christen-Posey Scholarship. As older alums know, Harold E. Christen and Henry G. Posey taught almost all graduates in forestry until the mid to late '70's. They certainly "touched" a lot of foresters with their teaching efforts.

With earnings on investments being what they are and the increases we have experienced in tuition, the endowment is not generating income to allow the scholarship to be equivalent to in-state tuition, the goal of the establishing group. If you would like to make a contribution to that endowment to help deserving students of the future and to keep Chris' and Prof Posey's names alive, contributions can be sent to the School of Forestry, Auburn University, Alabama 36849-5418. Please note on the check "Christen-Posey Scholarship" so it can be directed to the proper account. Future recipients and the Scholarship Committee will be grateful of your consideration of this cause.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER

I know it is only July, but HUNTING season is just around the corner, the month before Christmas. If your house is like mine your son, husband, brother, father, in-laws and etc. are already making their list of what they need for this year's hunting season. Why not be the first to get your hunting cap from the FORESTRY CLUB. Yes my friends, they will have in stock, about the first of November, Burlington 10 mile Blaze Orange caps (with the Auburn Forestry logo on it) for sale. The cost is \$12.00 (including postage) each if mailed. Please help support the Forestry Club and help your loved one's be safe this hunting season. Send order and check to:

FORESTRY CLUB HUNTING CAP
108 M. White Smith Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849

Yes sir, the first two have already been sold to me for my husband and son. You can pre-pay now to be sure your loved ones will be safe this year.

Lane Messer

School of Forestry
Auburn University Alumni Association
Auburn University, AL 36849-5418

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