

Annual Leadership Meeting – Florida Division, Executive Committee

Monday 4 February 2008 – Conference Center, Austin Cary Memorial Forest (UF-SFRC), Gainesville FL

Attending:

- Doug Carter, FL Division Chair
- Mark Milligan, FL Division Past-Chair
- Edward Cole, St. Johns Chapter Chair / FL Division Policy Committee Chair
- Scott Sager, FL Division Sec/Treas / St Johns Chapter Sec/Treas
- Wayne Smith, SESAF Past-Chair
- Joe Roberson, SAF District X Council Rep
- Alan Long, Education Committee Chair / Co-Chair Spring Symposium
- Ed Barnard, Forester Fund Committee Chair
- Elizabeth “Liz” Ramirez, UF-Gainesville Chapter Chair
- Jarek Nowak, FL Division Chair-Elect
- Don Rockwood, Awards Committee Chair
- Harrison Peterson, Big Bend Chapter Chair

Called to order by Doug Carter at 10am. Introductions made.

Secretary’s Report – Scott Sager. Minutes from last meeting (07.09.23 – SESAF Annual Meeting) reviewed, with discussion of the policy statements mentioned therein and approval of the new by-laws. One revision: FL Division would support moving SESAF annual meeting to late January/early February. Minutes approved with revision.

Treasurer’s Report – Scott Sager. Discussion of “missing” certificate of deposit – Scott Sager to check with past sec/treas and in records to resolve status. Minutes approved.

2007 Summary – Mark Milligan. Reviewed activities of 2007, including support for FFA Teacher’s Tour and PLT, and the development of policy statements on fire and forest fragmentation. Discussion of student funding mechanisms.

Official confirmation made of Scott Crosby to fill vacant position of Chair, Suwannee Chapter.

Spring Symposium – Alan Long, standing in for Shibu Jose. Currently scheduled for 16-17 April in Gainesville, with Bob Simpson (President, American Tree Farm System) speaking. Division of Forestry has indicated that, due to budget constraints, their attendance will be minimal. Since DOF typically sent around 30 attendees, discussion included making the Symposium a one-day event, and/or moving the event to the Austin Cary Memorial Forest, Conference Center. This was discussed, with concerns expressed regarding attendee crowding at ACMF, exhibitor issues, and the potential to move the event to Tallahassee to encourage DOF attendance.

SAF Council Update – Joe Roberson. The headquarters facility in Washington DC is for sale, with the contract negotiations currently underway. Changes are proposed to unify the continuing education credit allocation system – primarily, eliminating the opportunity for CFE coordinators in other states to make allocations, in favor of the national Certification Review Board serving as “back-up”. A member satisfaction survey was conducted, indicating a significant discrepancy between young and old members in their level of satisfaction overall, with the Journal of Forestry, and with the website. Dues have been restructured to eliminate the confusion regarding

escalation. Membership is declining, but the decline has significantly slowed compared to the last several years.

SESAF Update – Wayne Smith. SESAF members were recognized heavily at the national level. This year's annual meeting will be in Callaway Gardens October 21-23. Last year's meeting was an overall success, but financially resulted in a loss due to greater proportion of student attendance relative to full-member attendance. SESAF is revising their bylaws to deal with elections issues (eliminate the requirement that multiple candidates exist for each position, allow electronic balloting), to place the past-chair in charge of membership (was chair-elect), to place the chair-elect in charge of the awards committee, and to add a student representative.

The Organizational Effectiveness Workshop was reviewed by Wayne Smith. This event will be February 11 in Tifton GA.

The FL Division will provide \$100 in reimbursement to any FL SAF member who attends this event, up to a maximum commitment of \$1,500.

Florida Bylaws Update – Doug Carter. Currently our bylaws have been approved by the FL executive committee and at the national level, but not formally adopted by membership vote. This is intended to occur at the 2008 Spring Symposium.

FL SAF Website Update – Doug Carter, standing in for Charlie Houder. Charlie is requesting any feedback, as well as content. Visitor stats were distributed for review.

Forestry Pavilion at the State Fair Update – Doug Carter. FL SAF, along with FFA, UF-SFRC, and FL DOF, have an exhibit between February 7-18th. Volunteers are needed to staff the display, contact Dan Schultz for details.

Awards Committee Report – Donald Rockwood. Nominations for the FL awards are due by 29 February. The timing of award recognition, specifically when during Symposium, was discussed. Several options were presented for discussion, including making the awards immediately following the John Gray Lecture.

SAF Hall of Fame Committee Report – Doug Carter, standing in for George Blakeslee. George has requested a successor be found. The last induction was made in 2004. It may be necessary to revise the committee structure to be a subcommittee within the Awards Committee to allow for consistency and full staffing.

SAF Fellows Update – Joe Roberson. Ed Barnard and Charles Maynard were elected to Fellow, and will be recognized at the 2008 National Meeting. Nominations are encouraged.

Forester's Fund Update – Ed Barnard. The Caribbean Chapter received support for their "Walk-in-the-Woods". The Putnam Lodge marker (previous Forester's Fund support) has been damaged – fund-raising for a replacement will be necessary. Fall 2008 will be the grand unveiling/installation of the Naval Live Oaks marker in Gulfbreeze, which was secured with Forester's Fund support. A marker is proposed for the Arcadia Industrial Site in Santa Rosa County, and would also be seeking Forester's Fund support. The FL Forest History Database project has received support, and is scheduled for unveiling at the 2008 National Meeting.

Archives Committee Report – none provided.

Auditing Committee Report – none provided.

Policy Committee Report – Edward Cole. Policy statements on fire and forest fragmentation were developed in 2007. Several potential new topics were discussed, including invasive plants, public land purchase, and biomass energy – the committee to pick 1-2 to draft statements on. Additional discussion of what to do with statements once developed, with suggestions on presenting to legislators/legislative aids suggested.

Education Committee Report – Alan Long. Approximately 50 applications for CFE’s reviewed in 2007. Changes to procedures being implemented (see SAF Council Update).

Program Committee Report – none provided.

Communication Committee Report – none provided.

Nominations Committee Report – none provided. Discussion that Dave Lewis, current chair, is interested in stepping down.

Tellers Committee Report – none provided.

Membership Committee Report – none provided.

Chapter Reports

Panhandle – Kim Bohn (via email). Chapter will be rotating meetings between Milton and Marianna, with meetings planned for every two months. They will also be exhibiting at the Milton Field Day, and the Pensacola Earth Day events.

Big Bend – Harrison Peterson. Chapter had three meetings last year, including having Charles Bronson, FL DACS Commissioner, speak.

Suwannee – no report.

St Johns – Edward Cole. Met on 08.02.01 at the SJRWMD’s Bayard Property. Continuing “Adopt-A-Road” efforts. Are sponsoring Air Potatoe Roundup in Jacksonville. Continuing efforts to assist with management/restoration activities at Camp Shands (BSA).

Caribbean – no report.

UF Students, Gainesville – Liz Ramirez. Budget for 2008 activities to be submitted shortly (received 08.02.13). 13 students attended 2007 SAF National meeting. Planning a joint meeting with Suwannee Chapter in February. Plan to continue participation in quiz bowl at National Convention.

UF Students, Plant City – no report.

New Business

FL SAF to provide \$450 to sponsor a teacher for the FFA Teacher’s Tour.

If requested by PLT, \$500 funding available.