

## A Note from the President

Spring 1999

Greetings. It is both a pleasure and an honor for me to serve as President of the Clemson University Forestry Alumni Association for 1999-2000. My predecessor, Ken Hill, demonstrated great leadership in his tenure as 1997-98 President. I am sure that I speak for our entire membership in thanking Ken for a job well done. I hope to maintain that same level of leadership over the course of the next two years.

March has arrived and, as expected, has brought winds of change. Change in the Forestry business is occurring at an unprecedented rate. The paper and forest products industry is dealing with financial and business challenges the likes of which have never been seen. Merger and consolidation seem more and more commonplace as our industry wrestles with unstable global economies and marketplaces. Mill and logger downtime has become “the norm” rather than the exception as markets for many forest products are very tight and prices low. Regulation is as relentless as ever.

The challenges we face as forestry professionals and forest related industry leaders will be tough. Forestry is more competitive than ever and demands graduates that can not only communicate, but hit the ground running. Although forestry jobs are tough to find there will always be a demand for well-versed and focused graduates. Clemson’s role is to produce high quality foresters that have a forestry education based on the specific needs of local and regional forestry businesses and industry. Our primary role as the Clemson University Forestry Alumni Association should be one of continuing to connect the Clemson Forest Resource Department and Clemson Forestry graduates to local and regional business and industry.

I look forward to visiting with the faculty and students at Clemson as well as many of you over the next year. There will be many issues to address as Clemson Forestry moves into the next millennium. We as an alumni association will need to be committed to help Clemson Forestry meet any of the challenges it faces. Let me assure you that any of your valuable time and energy dedicated to this goal is greatly appreciated and never goes unnoticed.

Tom Rowland  
President, CUFAA

## News From and About CUFAA:

Our Annual **Homecoming Meeting/Picnic** on October 10 was successful with around 50 participants including alumni and their families along with faculty and staff from the Department. Highlights of this meeting along with other news of interest follows:

- Outgoing **President Ken Hill** was presented a plaque in recognition of his two years of service to the Association. Outgoing Advisory Committee members Dwight Stewart, Sandra Bynoe, and Willy Williams were recognized for their work over the past two years. New Officers were elected and recognized as follows:

Tom Rowland (Georgia Pacific)-- President 1998-2000

Jimmy Walters (SCFC)--Vice President (President-elect) 1998-2000

Bill Holmes (Georgia Pacific)--Treasurer 1998-1999

Advisory Committee:

Rhett Bickley (SCFC) 1998-1999

Tom Waldrop (USFS-Clemson) 1998-1999

Bill Coleman 1998-2000

Bill Bartle 1998-2000

David Cassel 1998-2000

Executive Secretary--Vic Shelburne

- Mr. **Angus LaFaye** of Columbia, SC, Vice-President and Treasurer of Milliken Forestry Company was recognized as **the Association's Outstanding Alumnus for 1998**. A 1965 graduate of Clemson Forestry, he a past chairman of the Society of Consulting Foresters and has also served on the South Carolina Stewardship Committee and the Board of the South Carolina Association of Consulting Foresters. President Ken Hill presented Angus a plaque to commemorate the occasion. Likewise, his name will be inscribed in the list of Outstanding Alumni in the lobby of Lehotsky Hall.
- Dr. David Van Lear was recognized for his efforts (along with the help of other faculty) in advising the **SAF Student Chapter to its First Place Award** among all Student Chapters for 1997-98. The plaque, which was presented to the Chapter at the National Meeting in Michigan, was officially presented to Dr. Van Lear.
- Vic Shelburne (Executive Secretary and "Keeper of the Flame") announced tentative plans for CUFAA Homecoming 1999 to be held at the University Arboretum (now part of the SC Botanical Gardens). This would allow our association to officially dedicate the Arboretum as the **Roland E. Schoenike Arboretum**, which has already been so designated by the University Board of Trustees. Dr. Schoenike taught Dendrology at Clemson from 1963 until 1987 and made the development of the Arboretum part of his life's work until his death in 1988. **NOTE that these plans are no longer tentative--we do plan this event to occur on Homecoming 1999, which is October 2.** The main event besides our regular meeting will be the dedication of a plaque in Dr. Schoenike's honor. This will probably occur at the new

entrance to the Arboretum (below the Southern Living House at the site of the former Nursery) but actual location, time of day and other details are still pending and will be announced in the CUFAA newsletter in late August. *If you would like to make a donation for this plaque, note the last page of this newsletter where you pay your dues.* Also, if you would like to be involved with planning this event, contact Dr. Vic Shelburne at the Department of Forest Resources (vshlbrn@clemson.edu).

- Dr. B. Allen Dunn (Director of the School of Natural Resources and Acting Chair of the Department of Forest Resources) gave a report on **Departmental News** (see below for an update of that report).
- The **William A. Shain Endowed Scholarship** fund established through the Clemson University Foundation has reached the \$10,000 gift mark. This was the stated amount in the agreement before distributions from the income could be made to students applying for the Scholarship. The Foundation has notified the Department that the Scholarship will be available for the 1999 fall semester. Amount of the Scholarship depends on investment returns through July 1, which has not yet been determined. Criteria are yet to be established.
- The **Elaine Potts Memorial Fund Award** in Forest Resources which was established to provide awards for outstanding summer camp students has not yet reached the \$5,000 amount needed before the Foundation can begin payment for an award. However, the department still has some money in a SC Credit Union Account (established by Bill Shain incidentally) for making awards for the interim period. This year's award will be \$150 and a plaque. Let's hope the Potts Memorial fund award has reached the \$5,000 goal so that a Summer Camp Award can be made by the year 2000.

## **NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES**

- **Dr. Larry Gering** (MS'82) has been hired as an Assistant Professor to teach courses and carry out research in Forest Mensuration. Larry was most recently a tenured Associate Professor at the Department of Forestry at Oklahoma State. Before that seven-year stint, he was at Louisiana Tech. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Georgia before beginning his academic career with a year in Maine (his BS alma mater). Larry will also be developing GIS courses for the College.
- The new University **Geographic Information Systems Lab** is fully operational and in use by classes in forestry and other fields. Although we gave up the old drafting lab to the University for this lab, its location is a great improvement in our facilities and should enhance both graduate and undergraduate courses in the future.

- The search for an **Extension Research Analyst** in Forestry (position to replace Steve Nodine who became president of the FORS Institute) is nearly over and we should have someone on board soon to work with all the public and private sectors to develop and maintain this valuable database.
- **Enrollment** in the Department still hovers at **around 260 undergraduates and 50 graduate** students. These relatively high historical numbers have apparently stabilized. A larger entering in 1999 class will probably offset a relatively small freshman class in 1998.
- A new **Natural Resources Management curriculum** has been proposed by the faculty in Forest Resources and approved by the College Curriculum Committee. This new degree would not be a Society of American Foresters accredited degree program. It would however, appeal to a broader range of interests in natural resource management. The College and University administration would prefer that a new degree in this area be called Environmental and Natural Resources with even a broader coverage of areas. Over the next few months, there will be discussions among faculty in this College (Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences) and the College of Engineering and Sciences to determine if this broader approach should be taken. Whether the proposed natural resources management curriculum stands alone or becomes one of many tracks remains to be determined.
- The search for a new **Department Chair in Forest Resources** has begun. The person will have a 9-month 50% administrative appointment with the other 50% involved in a combination of teaching, research or extension (depending on the person's field and strengths). This search is open to the outside and review of applications will begin on May 1. Successful candidates must have a terminal degree in Forestry and a distinguished record in teaching, research, extension or administration. Contact Dr. David Van Lear, Chair of the Search Committee in care of the Department or e-mail: [dvnlr@clemson.edu](mailto:dvnlr@clemson.edu)
- We are proud to announce that one of our undergraduate students, Miss Sunburst Crockett, will be interning with "The National Association of State Foresters" in Washington, DC this summer. She was up against students from Ivy League schools such as Harvard and Yale. Her job will be to attend and report on congressional hearings in forestry and natural resources issues and interact with a wide variety of forest policy makers. She will also work with a Legislative Assistant to assist in legislative tracking. And finally she will attend other meetings with agency and interest group representatives as necessary. We are very proud of Sunburst and know she will well represent Clemson forestry.

News from Clemson Forestry Alumni  
(Please keep those cards and letters coming -- see last page of newsletter)

Colonel George Herbert Rankin ('36?) of Anderson, SC died October 14, 1998.

Jeff deGraan ('88) is a Reforestation Program Specialist with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

Patrick Collins ('76) of Ridgeland, MS died November 22, 1998 from complications of diabetes. A native of North Augusta, he did graduate work and research at the University of Munich, West Germany. He earned a BA in Accounting from the University of Mississippi and worked as an accountant with the Mississippi Department of Transportation in Jackson.

Dean Carson ('63) Economic Development Forester with the South Carolina Forestry Commission, has been awarded the USDA Forest Service 1998 Rural Community Assistance Leadership. Carson was cited for his efforts in promoting economic and rural development for South Carolina and the southern region.

Patrick Flaherty ('92) is a graduate student in Geography at the University of Wyoming. He is studying the forest response to the Poutt-Divide Blowdown in Northern Colorado using Remote Sensing and GIS. And yes, Patrick, Dr. Shain, despite retirement and a few calamities, is still running the scoreboard at Clemson Basketball games.

Jim McLeod ('81), Phil Richardson ('61) and Kirk Bell ('74) formed Richardson, Bell and McLeod Inc., Consulting Foresters, Aiken, SC in November 1997.

Bob Boeren ('83) with the Virginia Department of Forestry in Roanoke, VA, wants to know if anyone has a secret for making a one-year old boy (his son Kevin) sleep. His wife Gretchen ('83 MRPA) is now working as the environmental educator for Clean Valley Council, an area recycling agency.

Eric Clark ('91) with Shaw, McLeod, Belser and Hurlbutt is the Cape Fear Area Manager and has been living in Fayetteville, NC for the past year.

Chip Ernst (BS '80, MS '83) the Information Services Manager in the Forest Resources Group with Union Camp in Savannah, GA reports that he'll be "Mr. Mom" for the next 4 years while his wife, Lynda, pursues her Master of Divinity Degree at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC.

Johnnie Looney ('62) Sales Rep for Diamond Hill in Darlington, SC reports that he and his wife Nancy have 7 children, 7 in-laws and 6 grandchildren. Considering they have only been married 1.5 months (when this was sent to us) it is a major accomplishment! You figure it out.

Tommy Ruckelhaus (BS '88, MS '90) reports that Brad Sanders (MS '87) may have a busy fire season--things in the Biltrock-Seaway are beefing up (Fall '98). His reported promise to make Homecoming '98 may be in jeopardy. Well, they must have since he did make it -- maybe next year Brad!

Bill Coleman ('68) Vice President of Wilson, Wright, Moore and Coleman Consulting Foresters in Florence, SC reports that his daughter Leigh ('96) is employed with Jaderloon Greenhouse Engineering in Columbia, SC and son Bryan (19) is stationed on the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Galatin.

Clay Weeks ('88) spent two weeks in Albania on a mission trip.

Dwight Stewart, Jr. ('70) and his wife Sherry, celebrated their 25th anniversary in July '98. They are still enjoying the big screen TV which they won at the SCFA annual meeting -- thanks to the SC Tree Farm Committee.

Tim Astriab (BS '77, MS '81) is the owner of Glendale Farms in Milford, CT. He has 150,000 square feet of greenhouse space where he grows bedding plants, Chrysanthemums and Poinsettias.

Clemson Forestry Alumni:

We need your membership and support of projects! Please consider joining and supporting a CUFAA project such as the Elaine Potts Memorial Fund, Schoenike Arboretum Dedication, CUFAA Operations, and the publication of the Clemson Forester.

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ Please help us update our files:

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(E-mail to vshlbrn@clemson.edu or write  
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Notes, comments and items of interest:  
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Membership in the Association is open to all alumni and friends of Forestry at Clemson. Dues are \$10.00 and additional contributions will be appreciated. Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to CUFAA for 1999. Note that this is the first solicitation for 1999 dues.

I would like my contribution to be distributed as indicated below:

- a. \$\_\_\_\_\_ for dues
- b. \$\_\_\_\_\_ for publication of  
Clemson Forester
- c. \$\_\_\_\_\_ for Schoenike Arboretum Dedication plaque
- d. \$\_\_\_\_\_ Elaine Potts Memorial Fund
- e. \$\_\_\_\_\_ for CUFAA operations

Rush your money and any news items you may have to Bill Holmes, P.O. Box 727, Whiteville, NC 28472. FAX: 1-910-642-3193.