

# **The Montana Society of American Foresters**

**Annual Business Meeting**

**Friday, April 23, 2010**

**7:30 to 8:30 AM**

**Doubletree Hotel, Missoula, Montana**



# Agenda

Call to Order

**Current Membership**

**Treasurer's Report to 12/31/09**

MTSAF Accomplishments in 2009 and **Plans for 2010**

Chapter Activities in 2009 and Plans for 2010

**Current Forest Policy Issues**

**Communications**

The Foresters Fund

Education

Old and New Business



# Membership as of March, 2010

Steve Hayes

<u>Description</u>	<u>Previous Count</u>	<u>Current Count</u>
Montana SAF	10	10
Missoula Ch.	134	133
Libby Ch.	28	29
Flathead Ch.	51	51
Eastern Mt. Ch.	59	59
<u>Student Chapter</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>
Montana SAF	309	309



# Treasurer's Report - Bob Logar

## Montana Society of American Foresters

### Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2009

<u>Division/Chapter</u>	<u>Total Net Assets</u>
<u>MTSAF</u>	\$11,770.94
Flathead Chapter	\$16,350.43
Eastside Chapter	\$5,244.95
Missoula Chapter	\$3,616.52
<u>Libby Chapter</u>	<u>\$5,173.25</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,156.09</b>



## MTSAF 2009 Accomplishments

- *“The Changing Face of Forestry”* Leadership Conference
- SAF 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Tour and the Family Forestry Expo
- Member Involvement in the Natural Resources Youth Camp at Lubrecht in July.
- Mt. Helena Continuous Vegetation Inventory with 8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- MTSAF Policy Committee met with Governor Schweitzer.
- Joint Sponsored MPB Forum for Legislators
- Input and Development of SAF Policy Positions and Statements – *Forest Biomass* and *Forest Jobs and Recreation Act*.
- Testimony to Congress Subcommittee on Power and Water about Montana’s bark beetle epidemic.
- Scholarships provided to SAF Students to attend the Leadership Training at Lubrecht and the Annual Meeting in Bozeman.



## **MTSAF Plans for 2010**

- IESAF and MTSAF Joint Leadership Academy – “*Revitalizing Membership Through Active Leadership*”
- Improve Communications with Members, the Public, and the Media
- Revitalizing the Mentor Program
- Continue Developing Positions on Forestry Issues as they arise.
- Continue Participation in Historical Annual Events



# Chapter Reports

- **Eastern Montana**
- **Flathead**
- **Libby**
- **Missoula**



# Eastern Montana Chapter Report

Dennis Davaz, Acting Chair Bob Logar, Acting Secretary/Treasurer

## Meetings in 2009:

*The Role of Forestry in Energy Independence and Climate Change - Atkins*  
*Forest Management: Enhancing recreation, water and range – Annual Mtg.*  
*Forest Pest Management Strategies Field Trip with Meagher Co. Cons. Dist.*  
*Mount Helena Continuous Vegetation Inventory with 8<sup>th</sup> Graders*  
*Forestry and Fuels Management in Indian Country – Randy Pretty On Top*

## Meetings in 2010: Most are Luncheons Hosted by key SAF Members

Butte – May 13, “DNRC Forest Management of the Dillon Unit”–Tim Egan

Livingston, June 10, Tentative Field Trip, *Forest Management Practices on the Swindlehurst Property* – Dennis Davaz to host

Helena – September date pending, Mount Helena – Sam Gilbert to host

Bozeman – October 14, Topic TBA, Dennis Davaz & Bob Logar

Helena – October 11, Topic TBA, Gary Ellingson to host

Billings – December 16, Topic TBA, Caleb Cain to host

Establish consistency of the second Tuesday of the month,

when possible.





# Eastern Montana Chapter Contributions

- **Scholarships for Student Chapter Members to Attend Joint Leadership Academy**
- **Scholarships for Student Chapter Chair and Chair-elect to Attend this Annual Meeting**
- **Conference Sponsorship in Helena – *Coping with Montana’s Forest Health Crisis on Privately Owned Forests***
- ***The Chapter has consistently supported the Montana Natural Resources Youth Camp***



*Forest Pest Management Strategies Field Trip  
with the Meagher County Conservation District*



# The Flathead Chapter



# Flathead Chapter Report

Marc Spratt, Chair

Chair-elect- Brian Hobday      Secretary/Treasurer- Rick Trembath

Membership : Discussions are ongoing related to how to stimulate membership by practicing professionals.

Recognizing the need to inform a broad audience on forest management issues, the Chapter has embarked on a program of Public Information Meetings:

January, “Re-Powering the Flathead”: *Forest Biomass to Energy*

April, “Fire on the Land”: *A Tribal Perspective*

## Member Meetings

February, “Examining Current Curriculums for Forestry Education”:

*FVCC, CSKT, and the U of M CFC*

March, “Issues of Interest to Members”: Chapter Planning for 2010

May, Potential joint meeting with the Libby Chapter, TBA

The Family Forestry Expo will be held from May 3-8, 2010. This is our annual outreach that the Chapter provides to the schools and the public regarding forest management issues.



# The Libby Chapter



# Libby Chapter Report

Jim Benedict, Chair

Chair-elect – Ben Valentine    Secretary/Treasurer- Bob Castenada

Citizen-of-the-Year Nomination – Bob Castenada

Fellow Nomination – Russ Gautreaux

Membership – Recruiting new members continues to be challenging. The Chapter has sponsored two first year memberships.

## Meetings held in 2009:

*“Grizzly Status”* – Wayne Kasworm, Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service

*“A Meeting with our Legislators”* – Post Legislative Session

*“Field Trip to Meadowlark Log Homes”* – Operations and Construction

*“Working with the MPB”*: Conditions and Expectations – Ken Gibson, Regional Ent.

*“White Pine and White Pine Blister Rust”* – Chris Schnepf,

Idaho Ext. Forester

*“Historic Conditions of the Yaak Prior to 1910”* – Mark White,

Libby District Archeologist and Historian



# Libby Chapter Events, 2010

January – “*Entrepreneur Invention of a Gasification Module*” – Ron Carter and Lee Disney

February – “*Biomass Energy at Stoltze Land and Lumber*” – Chuck Rhoady, General Manager

March – “*Wildlife, Big Game, and Fur-bearing Animals of the Kootenai NF*”: Thirty Years of Observation – Jerry Brown, Retired DNRC Biologist

April - “*Libby and Lincoln County Planning*” – Speaker TBA

May – Topic TBA, Becky Timmons, Kootenai NF Archeologist

June – To be confirmed, “*When Mountains Roared*”: A Current Exhibit at the Museum at Fort Missoula – Jason Bain

## Recurring Special Events:

Chapter Work Days at J. Neils Park – Thinnings, Tree Removal and Piling

Annual 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Tours with the Libby Chapter – The tours are traditional. We have over 30 years in with Libby and almost 20 years in with Troy!

Chapter Donations: Totaling 300 dollars in ‘09 and ‘10 to “Provider Pals”



# The Missoula Chapter





# Missoula Chapter Report

Chris Keyes, Chair

Chair-elect – Amy Helena

Secretary/Treasurer – Tim Spoelma

The Joint Leadership Academy in Coeur d' Alene was attended by Amy and Tim. Its Focus was:

- SAF Operations and Structure
- Bridging Generational Gaps Among Foresters
- Effective Communications Strategies

Chapter meeting attendance has been strong. In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010:

- Averaging 45 Regular and Student Chapter Members
- Meeting topics last year included controversial topics of local interest and non-controversial travelogues.
- Monthly meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at Westside Lanes.

Student Participation has been substantial and consistent. Recently, Student Chapter members have mixed well with Regular members. Informal mixing may facilitate Mentoring pairings in the future.



# Missoula Chapter Awards and Meetings

SAF Fellow – John Manz      SAF Golden 50 Year Member – Bob Phister

Forester of the Year – Beth Dodson      Field Forester – Ted Hoffmann

Outstanding Citizen – Craig Rawlings

Meetings held in 2009:

*Climate Change and the Clark Fork River Watershed* – Chris Brick

*Future of Forestry and Foresters* – John Manz

*Gone Missing: Whitebark Pine in the Great Burn Country* - Steve Arno

*Lumber in the Land of Extremes: Sawmilling in the NE* – Nate Anderson

*Forests and Forestry in Israel: Afforestation and Reclamation* – Kalil Adar

Christmas Social – Music by the Zootown Four quartet

Meetings in 2010 so far:

*Senator Tester's Forest Jobs and Recreation Act* – Tom France

*The Nature Conservancy in Western Montana: The Legacy Project*

Steve Kloetzel & Sue MacMeekin

*Fire use, Forest restoration, and Nature reserves in Sweden* –

Carl Fiedler

MTSAF Annual Meeting: *Frontiers in Forestry and Forest Science*

*New Horizons of Challenge and Opportunity*



# The Student Chapter



# Student Chapter Report

Stephen Mohr, Chair, 2009/10 Megan VanCleave, Chair, 2010/11

Chair-elect- Kate Sullivan 10/11

Secretary/Treasurer- John Steelman 10/11

## Recap of 2009 Events:

- Forestry Days
- SAF National Meeting in Orlando – John Steelman and Emily Dillon attended with Sponsorship from Stimpson Lumber.
- Smoker at Lubrecht Experimental Forest
- The Foresters Ball
- MTSAF Leadership Academy at Lubrecht

## 2010/2011 Events:

- IESAF/MTSAF Joint Leadership Academy
- Forestry Days Tomorrow
- SAF National Convention in New Mexico and the Quizbowl Team
- Student Chapter Trips
- Chapter Fundraisers
- The Mentor Program





## Current Forest Policy Issues

State and Regional Level

National Level



# State and Regional Policy Update

Gordy Sanders, Chair, MTSAF Committee on Forest Policy

-Joint sponsored MPB conference for State Legislators

-State Forest Policy Committee Role

-Senator John Tester's FJRA (S.1470)

-*Forestry Source*: “State-specific Bills: *Balkanization of National Forest Management*”

-Suggested article: “*The Benefits of Sincere Collaboration to find Common Ground*”

Joint Position Statement or Definition:  
“Forest Restoration”



# National Policy Update

Todd Morgan, Member, SAF National Committee on Forest Policy

## -SAF Policy/Position Statements up for review/renewal:

State Programs to Credential Foresters

Use of Silv. to Achieve and Maintain Forest Health on Public Lands

Biomass

Public Regulation of Private Land (High Grading)

Forest Inventory and Analysis

## Federal Legislation SAF is Currently Working On:

Tester “Forest Jobs and Recreation” (S.1470)

Wyden’s “Oregon Eastside Forests Restoration, Old Growth, & Jobs (S.2895)

Healthy Forest Restoration Act II (H.R.4233)

Udall/Risch “National Forest Insect & Disease  
Emergency Act of 2009” (S.2798)

Equal Access to Justice Act Legislation (H.R.4717)







# Communications

**Communications Positions**

**Website and Electronic  
Communications**

**“Writers in the Woods”  
Guest Editorials**



# Communications Positions

**Vital at the State and Chapter Levels and are Vacant**

**The State Communications Chair Coordinates Releasing Information to Members and Works with the Media**

**Chapter Communication Chairs Coordinate the Same Things Locally**

**\*All Communications Folks work Directly With Webmaster Sherri McWilliams to Update Our Website with Current Info (and Technology?)**

**Volunteers contact Dennis and/or Bob Harrington and your chapter chairs**





Website Update

**Sherri McWilliams, Webmaster**





## Montana Society of American Foresters



### MONTANA SAF MENU

- Home
- Position Statements
- Calendar
- Chapters & Officers
- Meeting Minutes
- Continuing Education
- Contact Us

### Join Today!

[Membership Application](#)  
(pdf format)

### Welcome to the Montana SAF

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Some text about SAF

### Announcements & News

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Any important news here

### Hosted by:



Phone: | Fax:  
Email:



# Montana SAF Website Redesign

## What will make the website successful?

- **Active communication chairs at the chapter level**
  - Direct channel of communication with the webmaster
  - Monitor/collect content and send updates to the webmaster
- **Post content that is realistic to keep up to date**
- **Give users a reason to visit the site**
  - Updated content – No one will visit a site with “old” content
  - Photo Galleries / Video Clips
  - Announcements / News / Newsletters
  - Continuing education information
  - Meeting/Conference information
    - Agendas | Meeting times | Registration forms
    - PowerPoint presentations | Minutes | Photos of event



# What's Possible in the Future

- Move to the National SAF Website
  - Same look and feel as the National Site
  - Communication Chairs and webmaster could edit content via a web browser (easy)
  - Cost: one time fee of \$1000 – Includes hosting and setting up the site
  - More possibilities for content



Example of the New York State Site – Using the National CMS



## Draft Campaign Title

***“Writers in the Woods”***



## Guest Editorials

SAF By-laws state.....SAF at all levels has the responsibility to provide scientific knowledge and professional opinion within its expertise to public and private sector policymakers and to the general public.

The MTSAF does a great job providing information to Policy makers on current Forestry Issues and informing the public through chapter events throughout the year, but **OTHERS ARE SHAPING PUBLIC OPINION WITH MIS-INFORMATION!**

Another direction – Guest Editorials in Newspapers and on our Website to provide clarity about Forestry issues to the general public.





# **Draft “Rules of Engagement” for SAF Members When Writing Guest Editorials**

**Members and the Executive Committee to develop a broad range of relevant topics.**

**EC to invite members/volunteers to write editorials and/or individual members write editorials.**

**Editorials shall be written independently of employer and employer groups.**

**Editorials shall be reviewed by the MTSAF Committee on Forest Policy to insure consistency with local and national SAF position statements.**

**Final Op-editorials shall be released to the Executive Committee and other relevant stakeholders prior to posting on our website and release to the general public.**



## Draft Topic Suggestions for Op-editorials

- Changing Forests in Montana and Shifts in Forest Policy
- The Scope of Montana's Forest Insect Problem
- Fuel Accumulation and Expected Fire Behavior after MPB Epidemics
- Using Active, Sustainable Forest Management in Montana
- Removal of Traditional Forest Products and Biomass from Montana Forests
- The Feasibility of Using Biomass from Montana Forests as an Energy Source
- Using Montana's Forest Products Infrastructure to Achieve Forest Management Goals
- How Much Does Montana's Forest Products Infrastructure Affect Montana Communities?



## The Foresters Fund

The Foresters Fund was established to financially assist Chapters and State Societies fulfill our mission of informing the public through community-based projects. Contributions from our National office have enabled the MTSAF to successfully implement many projects over time.

This year, Montana was successful in receiving a 950 dollar Forester's Fund Grant for the "Forestry Days" event at Fort Missoula. Up to 5,000 dollars are available on the project level. The amount received is commensurate with the scale of the project.

Scott Kuehn is the "Project Manager". See his Forester's Fund Grant Application as a good template to secure funding.



# Education

Cindy Bertek, Chair

Cindy has been instrumental in revitalizing educational opportunities in the MTSAF. She recently received the “Educator of the Year” Award from the Montana Tree Farm Program of the American Forest Foundation. She and Holly Mckenzie have been the catalysts for re-activating the “Project Learning Tree” program after years of absence from schools in our communities. For more information on PLT and other great educational opportunities that Cindy directs, view the information below.



## Old Business

**MTSAF Letter of support for the National Museum of Forest Service History was approved by the Executive Committee and submitted to its Executive Director, Dave Stack. The letter will be posted on our Website shortly.**



# New Business

Next Executive Committee Meeting



# BECOME ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN SAF!

