



FOREST ECOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT NEWS

A Newsletter for Department of Forest Ecology and Management Alumni, Staff, and Students

Vol. 7, No. 2

September 2004

News from the Chair

The halcyon days that we expect to fill summer in Madison have been few and far between this year. A tornado passed through Madison in June, causing moderate tree damage and adding significant rainfall to an already soggy spring. I cannot recall an April-July period with so much rain – the mosquitoes and lawn service companies seem the only beneficiaries. But September will be on us soon, bringing eager young students, the controlled mayhem called "first week of classes," and – eventually – a first frost. The last event will probably be the most anticipated this year.

In this issue, we are very pleased to recognize the generosity of the Connor family in creating the endowed Connor Center of Excellence in Forestry. The Connors are among the "first families" of Wisconsin forestry having made numerous contributions to forest practices and industrial organizations during the past century. The endowment will be especially important in providing support of basic research for several programs. Please read the details of this important gift inside.

We are just beginning a search for a new faculty member in the area of spatial analysis of natural resources. Ideally, an excellent candidate will emerge to teach the practical skills of air photo interpretation and related remote sensing technologies while also building a research program complementary to those of our forest management and ecology faculty. This will be our first new hire in some 4 years, following a few retirements, so we are anxious to get

under way. Prof. David Mladenoff will chair the search committee.

Finally, let me note that with each passing newsletter, we are hearing from more and more of our alumni, some near, some far, some of recent vintage and some from earlier decades. We welcome every contact with you. We remain convinced that our graduates are – or will be – leaders in forestry and resource management. We want and need to hear from you about what we do that is good and where we need to make improvements. Stay in contact. – *Ray Guries*

Alumni Update

Swift Corwin (BS 1981), a consulting forester living in New Hampshire, sent a response to the comments Ray Guries made in the *News from the Chair* column of the May 2004 FE&M News. Swift feels that while the number of students majoring in forestry may be in decline, opportunities are growing. He holds up examples of states on the East Coast that require forest management plans on land enrolled in special tax categories. With the average lot size shrinking, the number of owners increases, along with the demand for the services of professional foresters to assist with preparing management plans. Swift also concurs with Ray's comments about the need for today's foresters to be well rounded, articulate, and literate individuals. "Today's landowners are becoming more sophisticated and want to deal with people who see more than just \$\$ in their woods," says Swift. He adds, "Forestry is truly a practical avenue to

do the work on the ground and have an impact on landscapes." Swift's e-mail address is: swift@corwin.mv.com.

Steve Seybold (BS 1983, PhD UC-Davis 1992) reports that in 2002 he moved to Davis, California, to take a Research Entomologist position with the USDA Forest Service's Southwest Research Station. His research focuses on developing behavioral chemicals to use as management tools for bark beetles. He was previously an assistant professor at the University of Minnesota. Steve says Davis is a nice place to live, near both ocean and mountains, although the summers are too hot for his tastes. Steve and his wife, Julie, are proud parents of a two and one-half year old daughter named Emil. Steve's e-mail address is: sseybold@fs.fed.us.

Bruce R. Johnson (MS 1969, PhD 1980) sends word that he is retired and now living in the rolling hills (Ocooch Mountains) of Richland County in southwestern Wisconsin. Bruce seems to have found a perfect balance of work and relaxation and says he is thoroughly enjoying management of his 52 acres of ag/forest land.

Alumni Update continues on page 2

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Alumni Update continued from page 1
Vic Rudis (MS 1978) says he is enjoying his 24th year with the USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis Unit (FIA), as a research forester and landscape ecologist. His family includes his wife Mary and two sons: 16-year-old Jonathan and 22-year-old Jeffrey. After many years in Mississippi, he, his wife, and younger son moved to Knoxville, TN, this summer. For details about Vic's professional life, visit his web site: <http://www2.msstate.edu/~vrudis/index.html>

Student News

Congratulations to our Spring 2004 graduates

Undergraduate Degrees:

- Patrick Culbert** - BS Forest Science
- Nicholas Dulemba** - BS Rec. Resources Management
- Grant Engler** - BS Rec. Resources Management and IES Certificate
- Amy Jahnke** - BS Forest Science
- Craig Klinke** - BS Forest Science
- Jacob Krueger** - BS Rec. Resources Management and Soil Science
- Emma Radomski** - BS Rec. Resources Management and IES Certificate

Graduate Degrees:

- Terrence Bush** - MS – Thesis: *Biodiversity and Sectorial Responsibility in Swedish Forestry Policy, 1988-1993: Mellan Samhället Och Den Enskilde*
- John Erickson** - PhD – Thesis: *Physiological and Structural Determinants of Light Use Efficiency in Terrestrial Vegetation*
- John Goodburn** - PhD – Thesis: *Effects of Opening Size and Competition Levels on the Growth and Canopy Recruitment of Saplings in Northern Hardwood Forests*

continues on Page 3

UW-Madison team places first in Upper Midwest Capstone Competition

The UW-Madison Capstone team, consisting of Amy Jahnke, Katie McMahon, Samuel Nitz, and Matthew Burczyk, placed first and was awarded \$1,000 in the Upper Midwest Capstone Competition. The students, all seniors, completed the report as a requirement of the Integrated Resource Management course (Forestry 590) taught by Prof. Jeff Stier. Students work as a team throughout the semester to develop an integrated management plan for a large parcel of public or private land. The competition encourages students to integrate and synthesize knowledge gained from courses throughout the curriculum. At the end of the semester they submit a report summarizing their work to a committee of judges consisting of industry

representatives, university faculty, and public agency representatives. The FE&M team's winning report created a management plan for 250 acres owned by Plastic Ingenuity, Inc. near Cross Plains, Wis. Their plan suggests the land be used primarily for forest production, secondarily as a native community management area and thirdly as a recreation area. The complete report can be viewed at: <http://forest.mtu.edu/competition/>

Financial support for the program was provided by Mead Westvaco, Michigan Association of Timbermen, Rush's Forest Products, Suchovsky Logging, Timber Products Co., and Michigan Tech School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science.

2004-2005 Scholarship Recipients		
Congratulations to the following Forest Ecology and Management students who received scholarships for the upcoming academic year.		
Monica DeWild	Soph	Peter Young Student Assistance Grant
Cody Didier	Jr	Vicky Lee Hirsh Academic Merit Award
John Gritt	Sr	Vicky Lee Hirsh Endowment for Conservation Scholarship
Jacob Hanson	Grad	Rbt. B. Hendricks Memorial/Hardwood Mfgs. Association Scholarship
Matthew Kimmler	Sr	David N. Connor Scholarship
Rachel Kronenberg	Sr	Vicky Lee Hirsh Endowment for Conservation Scholarship
Michael LaBissoniere	Grad	Helen Miller Forestry Scholarship and Rbt. B. Hendricks Memorial/Hardwood Mfgs. Association Scholarship
Joseph Lennart	Sr	David N. Connor Scholarship
Steven Neary	Jr	Earle D. Lyon Memorial Scholarship
Kaitlin Schott	Soph	CALS Centennial Academic Merit Award
Joseph Schwantes	Sr	Vicky Lee Hirsch Academic Merit Award
Kevin White	Jr	Irving W. Gerhardt Scholarship
Aaron Wunnicke	Sr	Anna L. Rowe Scholarship
Mo Zhou	Grad	John N. McGovern Family Scholarship



Grads, continued from page 2

Rob Scheller - PhD – Thesis: *Forest Landscape Simulation Models: Tools and Strategies for Projecting and Understanding Spatially Extensive Forest Ecosystems*

James Turner - PhD – Thesis: *Trade Liberalization and Forest Resources: A Global Modeling Approach*

Two students honored with Danzer Fellowships

Congratulations to FE&M students Lisa Thomas and Amy Jahnke, both of whom were offered Danzer Fellowships. This is quite an honor considering the fact that only four people from the entire world



Lisa Thomas



Amy Jahnke

received offers this year. The fellowships are awarded annually by the Danzer Group, which produces and markets wood veneers and hardwood timber worldwide. The prestigious 10-month fellowship based in Germany is designed to help groom top-notch students for careers in the international timber and forest products industry. The fel-

lowships are run cooperatively with Reutlingen University and offer many opportunities for hands-on training and excursions to different regions of Europe and North America. It includes a monthly allowance, travel expenses, health insurance, and accommodations. Lisa and Amy both flew to Reutlingen, Germany, to participate in the fellowship's grueling two-day interview process. Lisa is completing a BS/MS degree in Forest Science while working as a graduate project assistant in Prof.



'It's an ill wind that blows no good' (old saying)

Stephenson Tree Care, Inc., owned by FE&M alumnus John Stephenson (BS 1999), made the Madison newspapers following a tornado that swept through Madison in late June. A front page photo appeared in the *Wis. State Journal* showing Stephenson's crew taking down a damaged tree on Madison's west side. The tornado added work to an already busy season for Stephenson and his crew. In fact, he had to limit storm damage jobs to current customers. Stephenson and his crew took time out of their busy schedule for a group photo above. Pictured kneeling (l to r) are Mark Sundlin and Jamie Remme. Standing in the back (l to r) are Kevin Colwin, John Stephenson and Joe House. Colwin (BS 2002) and House (BS 1995) are also FE&M alumni. Current students may want to take note, Stephenson says he is always looking for good interns. Stephenson Tree Care, Inc. is located in Madison (e-mail: jcut@charter.net).

Gower's lab. She also holds undergraduate degrees from the UW-Madison in Japanese and East Asian Studies and has studied and worked in Japan. Lisa decided to turn down the fellowship for personal reasons, but is being considered for full-time employment with the Danzer Group. Amy received her BS

degree in Forest Science in May 2004. She says she is thrilled to have the opportunity to study in Germany again. (She spent a year studying in Freiburg as an undergrad.) She is excited about the fellowship and appreciative of the faculty for providing her with a quality education that helped her get there.



Faculty News

Joseph Buongiorno appointed Class of 1933 Bascom Professor

Congratulations to **Prof. Joseph Buongiorno** who was appointed by the



University of Wisconsin Board of Regents as "Class of 1933 Bascom Professor" effective July 1, 2004. The Class of 1933 Bascom Professorship is an "at-large"

professorship made possible through a gift of the University of Wisconsin Class of 1933 to enhance the scholarly activities of outstanding faculty members. The primary criteria are the quality, significance, and productivity of the nominee's research and the quality and programmatic value of the nominee's teaching and service. Prof. Buongiorno has been a Department of Forest Ecology and Management faculty member since 1975 specializing in forest economics. His recent research has focused on international forest product markets and the management of mixed-species uneven-aged forests.

Prof. Buongiorno was also honored by being elected by the French Academy of Agriculture as a Foreign Correspondent in their "Woods and Forests" section. The Académie d'Agriculture de France is heir to the Société Royale d'Agriculture, founded in 1761 by King Louis XIV. There are seven Foreign Correspondents in section two "Bois et Forêts." Recipients are appointed by the French Minister of Agriculture upon election by the Academy.

In June, **Prof. Buongiorno** was invited to be the "opponent" in the public defense of the thesis: "Modeling demand, supply, and trade in the Norwegian Forestry Sector," for the "Doctor Scientiarum" degree of Torjus

Folsland Bolkejo, Department of Ecology and Natural Resources Management at the Agricultural University of Norway in Ås. Prof. Buongiorno also traveled to Sweden to present an invited keynote paper on "Management of forests for multiple use under biological and economic risk" at the 11th Ulvön conference on Environmental Economics.

Prof. Eric Kruger promoted

Congratulations to **Prof. Eric Kruger**, who has been promoted to full professor



in the Department of Forest Ecology and Management effective July 1, 2004. Prof. Kruger joined the department in 1992 following his education

at the University of Minnesota (BS and MS degrees) and a PhD in Forestry at UW-Madison. He specializes in tree physiology and his current research is focused on the FACE (free-air carbon dioxide enrichment) project near Rhinelander, Wis., designed to measure the impact of air pollution on northern forests.

Department News

New field guide available

The latest addition to the Habitat Type Classification Field Guide series has been produced by John Kotar and Tim Burger. The recent publication of *A Guide to Forest Communities and Habitat Types of Michigan* extends the utility of the highly regarded forest site classification system to the entire Upper Peninsula and the Northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Plans to continue work toward development of habitat types in Southern Michigan are under-

way. The research was funded by Michigan Department of Natural Resources; Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division.

Other publications in the series include two guides for Wisconsin: *A Guide to Forest Communities and Habitat Types of Northern Wisconsin*, second edition published in 2002, and *A Guide to Forest Communities and Habitat Types of Central and Southern Wisconsin* published in 1996. The new Michigan guide replaces and greatly expands the area covered by the original habitat type classification guide for the Western U.P. that John co-authored while at Michigan Tech prior to coming to UW-Madison.

The habitat type classification system provides forest managers a tool to improve the process of assessing site potential of current stands, evaluate management alternatives, choose appropriate management objectives, and more accurately predict the effectiveness of possible silvicultural treatments. *Copies of the field guides can be purchased through the FE&M department office.*

Extension outreach specialist joins department

Welcome to Stefan Bergmann, a half-time associate outreach specialist who recently joined the department. Stefan will focus his efforts on expanding the



reach of the department's forestry and wood products extension programs. His responsibilities include moving current research findings into extension initia-

tives, responding to requests for information, and assisting in the development, delivery, and evaluation of our extension program. Stefan received his MS in Forest Resources at Oregon State University (working with UW-Madison alumnus Prof. John Bliss).



Gift Establishes Connor Center of Excellence in Forestry

Thanks to the generosity and foresight of Mrs. Mary Roddis Connor, we are very pleased to announce the completion of the endowment for the Connor Center of Excellence in Forestry. When Mrs. Connor approached us more than a decade ago about her desire to establish this center, we understood the possibilities that this gift



Gordon R. P. Connor

would create. Now that the Center has come to fruition, we are even more grateful to the Connor Family for their long history of support for scholarships, lectures and research here at the university. This gift extends that legacy and will enhance our research programs in northern Wisconsin in the areas of forest management, silviculture, economics, and forest products.

The Connor Family has been a supporter of innovation in forest management and the lumber industry for over a century. The family was well known in northeastern Wisconsin at the end of the 19th century when W. D. Connor opened a sawmill in Forest County at present day Laona. Over the years, the company grew and diversified, expanding both their land base and their industrial capacity. One of the most prominent members of the

family was Mr. Gordon R. P. Connor, Mary's husband of 56 years. Mr. Connor was a past president of the National Hardwood Lumber Association and the Northern Hardwood and Pine Association; a director of the National Forest Products Association and the American Forest Institute; and president of Connor Forest Industries from 1965-1978. He also established the nationally known Camp 5 Logging Museum complex at Laona. Mr. Connor passed away in 1986, the same year that he was inducted into the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Mary Roddis Connor was a member of another of Wisconsin's leading lumber families and the daughter of Mr. Hamilton Roddis of the Roddis



Mrs. Mary Roddis Connor

Lumber Company of Marshfield, Wisconsin. Mrs. Connor was active in a number of civic organizations and associations and was the corporate secretary of Connor Forest Industries for 24 years. An articulate spokeswoman, she represented the forest industry before the legislature and numerous other groups for several decades. Mrs. Connor passed away in 2000.



Best wishes to FE&M's July retirees . . .

Prof. Young retires after 29 years in FE&M

Professor Raymond A. Young's schedule got a little more flexible as of July 5. That was his official retirement date after 29 years in the Department of Forest Ecology and Management. Prof. Young specialized in wood and polymer chemistry. He car-

'I appreciate the the great students and staff I've worked with on my research projects. . .'

ried out extensive research on new, environmentally friendly, solvent-based pulping systems for pulp and paper production; alternate non-conventional, auto-adhesive bonding systems for wood; improved bonding of wood-plas-

tic composite materials of the type now on the market; and plasma chemical modification of cellulose for creation of new interactive paper products. In 1989 Prof. Young spent one year as a Senior Fulbright Scholar at the Aristotelian University in Greece working on wood-based composite materials.

A particularly enjoyable aspect of his work here involved his 10-year cooperative program with the University of Guadalajara in Mexico.

Every summer during the program a contingent of two to four students from South and Central American would join *Young continues on page 7*

Prof. Young's boat should see plenty of time in the water following his retirement on July 5.



Dr. John Kotar retires, may now have more time for Birkebeiner

Best wishes to Dr. John Kotar, long-time research scientist in Forest Ecology and Management, who retired on July 6th. He joined the department in 1986 specializing in the classification of forest vegetation into habitat types based on relationships between soils and groupings of understory plant species. This classification system allows professional foresters to predict the pathway of forest succession and make management decisions without resorting to complex, long-term studies. Dr. Kotar prepared several popular and widely distributed guide-books to aid foresters in "habitat typing" virtually any forest community in Wisconsin. His original book, *Field Guide to Forest Habitat Types of Northern Wisconsin*, was published in



1986 and was followed by a companion guide for southern Wisconsin in 1996. An expanded version of the northern Wisconsin guide was published as a second edition in 2002, followed by a guide for similar forest communities in Michigan in 2003. Dr. Kotar and his co-workers shared their expertise via numerous training workshops to assist foresters in the practical application of the guides.

Dr. Kotar received several awards during his tenure here, including the Wisconsin Idea Award in Natural Resources from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison in 1995, Technology Transfer and Extension National Award from the

Kotar continues on page 7

Young, continued from page 6
 his Madison group to work on new uses for natural fiber products. At retirement Prof. Young and his students had completed over 170 publications including nine patents, eight books, 20 book and encyclopedia chapters and many original research papers. Says Prof. Young, "I appreciate the great students and staff I've worked with on my research projects, which include over 50 graduate students from all parts of the world, five post-doctoral fellows, several visiting faculty, and numerous undergraduate students."

Prof. Young taught a variety of courses related to wood chemistry and pulp and paper science during his career. In recent years he developed several new, very popular ethnobotany-type courses. One course, Biomaterials and Medicinals from the Forest was

taught on campus, while a second course was an international winter break course taught on-site in the South Pacific country of Samoa. This course was titled Polynesian Cultural Use of Plants for Materials, Food and Medicinals.

Now an emeritus professor, Dr. Young continues some research activities on essential oils from plants and plasma modification of agricultural seeds. He and his colleagues also plan to further their patented work on seed modification through the Small Business Innovation Research Program. Prof. Young will split his time between Madison and Minneapolis in the summer months but will escape to his second home in Sarasota, Florida, for the winter where he can be found boating on the inter-coastal waterway or loafing on the beach at Siesta Key.

Kotar, continued from page 6
 Society of American Foresters (SAF) in 1993, and the John Macon Award for meritorious service from the Wisconsin Chapter of SAF in 2000.

Dr. Kotar and his wife, Nina, and daughter, Katie, will remain in Wisconsin. He and his long-time associate, Tim Burger, will continue work on a similar classification guide for Minnesota and perhaps other states. His family also hopes to spend a lot more time at their cabin near Cable in northern Wisconsin and, of course, continue with their long tradition of participating in the American Birkebeiner cross country ski race each February.

Forest Ecology and Management Capital Fund

We invite you to join us in our efforts to establish a capital fund. Proceeds will be used to support a range of research and instruction activities, help cover the costs of the summer field camp and the southern trip, and to upgrade research space in Russell Labs.

I/we would like to donate: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other _____
(please specify amount)

I/we would like to pledge \$_____ each year for _____ years.

I/we would like to donate \$_____ to the Grad Student Travel Fund.

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If paying by check, please make your gift payable to UW Foundation Forestry Fund, University of Wisconsin Foundation, 1848 University Avenue, P.O. Box 8860, Madison, WI 53708-8860

Alumni Update

We'd like to hear what's new with you, your family, career, etc. Please complete and return the form below or e-mail the information to <rpjuries@wisc.edu>.

Name: _____

Degree and Date Received: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Tel No. _____ Fax No. _____

Current employer and position: _____

News to share: _____

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Two retire in July page 6
Excellence a reality page 5
Conner Center of
Bascom Professorship page 4
Buongiorno receives
Fellowships page 3
Two awarded Danzer
Capstone Competition page 2
Students take 1st place in



Inside this issue . . .

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