



# RANDOM PLOTS



## NEWSLETTER of the N. C. STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

No.45

June 2004

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### Annual Renewal Fee Notice

**Your current registration expires on June 30, 2004.** To renew your registration, please complete the attached renewal form and CFE Activity Report and remit the annual renewal fee of **\$30.00** (thirty dollars). The Board must receive your registration renewal **NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2004.**

this obligation. However, the RF has the option to become "re-registered" by submitting a new application for registration, and passing the registration exam(s).

Failure to submit your renewal form will result in a suspension of your registration.

### CFE Activity Report

### Continuing Education Requirements

Board rules require that every non-retired Registered Forester obtain **at least 10 hours of CEs per year** (6 SAF category 1, & 4 SAF cat. 1, 2, 3, or 4) during the fiscal year July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004. All retired foresters wishing to remain registered must obtain at least 3 credit hours per year. **RFs are required to submit their CE credits when they renew their application annually.** Any CEs earned prior to July 1, 2003 cannot be used toward the June 30, 2004 requirements.

A copy of the CFE Activity Report is included with this newsletter. Please list the programs attended, the sponsoring organization, date(s) attended, number of contact hours, and the SAF category (1-4) where designated on the form. You must attach a copy of the CFE Certificates for all Category 1 Hours for each Continuing Education course you attended. CFE Certificates are **NOT** required for CFEs credits earned in Categories 2, 3, or 4. Individuals must retain copies of all documentation for a period of two years in the event of an AUDIT by the Board.

Failure to obtain the necessary credit hours will result in loss of your registration until the required hours are satisfied. A late fee of \$2.50/month (maximum of \$30.00) will also be assessed for renewal. There is no time limit on

Those Registered Foresters still needing CE credit hours may wish to check the Board website ([HTTP://MEMBERS.AOL.COM/NCBRF/](http://MEMBERS.AOL.COM/NCBRF/)) for more information on programs being offered. Additional links with information on available programs throughout the South are also listed on the site.

### **Linda Moore Retires From Board**

After serving as Administrative Secretary to the Board of Registration for 20 years, Linda Moore has retired effective May 31, 2004. Linda was honored at the April Board meeting and presented with a plaque commemorating her years of service. Linda provided valuable continuity to a Board with ever-changing members. We all are indebted to her for her service. We appreciate all she has done and wish her well in her retirement.

### **Koch Joins Board as Administrative Assistant**

Sara Koch has been hired to provide administrative support to the Board. Sara was born and raised in Whiteville, NC. She graduated from UNC-Wilmington with a degree in education. After teaching school for a short time, she worked for the Division of Forest Resources in the Personnel Division from 1991 to 1996. Sara then moved to the Office of State Personnel as a Human Resources Consultant from 1996 to 2001. In 2001, she decided to stay home with her two children. Sara lives in Raleigh with her husband and children.

### **Examination Results**

The most recent registration examination was held on February 27, 2004 in Kinston. The results of the examinations are:

	Pass	Fail
Level I	0	2
Level II:	8	4

To become registered, all graduates with a bachelor's or higher degree in a forestry curriculum from a school or college of forestry approved by the Board must pass the comprehensive Level II examination.

Individuals lacking a bachelor's or higher degree from an approved school of forestry must pass both the Level I and Level II examinations. The Level I examination is a closed book exam designed to show knowledge approximating that obtained through graduation from a four-year curriculum in forestry from a university or college approved by the Board.

### **The Association of Southeastern Boards of Registration for Foresters (ASBORF)**

The annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Boards of Registration for Foresters (ASBORF) was held in Tifton, GA May 10-11, 2004. Michael Thompson (who currently serves as Secretary-Treasurer for ASBORF) and Richard Braham represented North Carolina at the meeting.

ASBORF meetings provide an opportunity for discussions among the members of forestry registration boards of southern states. Board members from Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina attended. In addition representatives from Virginia and Pennsylvania, states currently lacking registration, attended to become better informed about forester registration.

At the meeting, Michael Goergen and Greg Hay from the Society of American Foresters national office discussed the CF program and its relationship to the RF programs in ASBORF member states. All participants agreed that the CF program was supplementary to those in states with legislated RF programs, and that programs should work together to improve forest management. The major agenda item at the meeting was reports from member states on the activities and issues addressed by the boards during the previous year. NCBRF discussed the formal complaints brought to the Board, the numbers of new and continuing registrants, the registration examinations, the fee structure and recent financial audit, the requirements for CFEs, and the self-examination study. NCBRF learned that the

number of registrants in other ASBORF states is roughly comparable, the fees in most other states are higher, the registration legislation in other states is no weaker and often stronger, and the pass rate of registration examinations in other states is similar, except for South Carolina which is much lower. Michael Thompson will continue his service as Secretary-Treasurer to ASBORF, and Richard Braham was elected Vice-Chairman of ASBORF.

### **Board Completes Self-Evaluation**

It has been five years since the Forester Registration Act was transformed from a voluntary registration law to a mandatory act. Earlier this year, the Board evaluated its functions and the efficiency and effectiveness of its administration. Two past Board chairpersons joined the current Board in its review. The results of this self-examination were published in March 2004 and distributed to all registered foresters. The Board hopes the review will assist the forestry profession and the general public in formulating and adopting registration regulations that are appropriate to protect the state's natural resources and the public.

### **New Registrants**

Since February 2004, 8 individuals have earned their forester registration. They are:

Roy E. Blackwood	#1518
Edwin A. Christopher, Jr.	#1519
Mark D. Hager	#1520
Curtis L. Jessen	#1521
Frederick M. Myers, Jr.	#1522
James E. Reese	#1523
Peter C. Steponkus	#1524
Marcus A. Wood	#1525

Of the 8 new registrants, 6 satisfied the examination requirement and 2 were registered by reciprocity with other states.

### **Enforcement Action**

The Board has taken the following action concerning complaints filed since January:

**Benny R. Gooden:** (Gooden Forestry Products, Elizabethtown, NC)

Mr. Gooden represented himself as a forester in business solicitations/advertisements. The Board notified him that he was in violation of the Forester Registration Act. Mr. Gooden acknowledged the error, has corrected his advertisements, and is no longer in violation.

**Thomas L. Odom:** (Lumber River Timber Company, Lumberton, NC)

Mr. Odom is associated with Lumber River Timber Company and distributed business cards identifying himself as a forester. Mr. Odom and his employer, Lumber River Timber Company, were contacted and notified of the violation. They acknowledged the violation and said they would correct the matter.

### **Board Seeks To Trim Expenses**

In an effort to reduce expenses, the Board would like to explore the possibility of distributing the mid-year newsletter and the roster electronically to those who are interested. The 2003-2004 roster cost \$3.03 to print and more than \$2.00 each to mail (at bulk rate). The newsletter costs approximately \$1.00 to print and mail. If only one-third of the RFs participated, it would save the Board almost \$1,500/annually (4% of the annual budget).

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter and roster by e-mail, please indicate so on the registration renewal form.

The Registration Act requires that the renewal information be sent by 1<sup>st</sup> class mail, as it will be forwarded in the event your address has changed.

## **NCSU Conducts Survey of Forestry Regulations**

North Carolina State University Extension Forestry and the North Carolina State University Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics are working to develop a website that will serve the forest industry, loggers, non-industrial private forestland owners, forestry consultants, and others.

This website will contain regulations and laws that affect forest management activities within the county or municipal jurisdictions that have regulatory authority over such practices. This website is currently under construction and they need your assistance in gathering information on ordinances, laws, and regulations that may impact the ability to conduct forest management activities. Please complete the short survey on line at:

**[www.ces.ncsu.edu/nreos/forest/ordinance/eport.html](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/nreos/forest/ordinance/eport.html)**

Participants are encouraged to respond to this survey even if they are not aware of any regulations at this time so that those jurisdictions may be tracked as well. Your time and participation is greatly appreciated.

The NC Division of Forest Resources Urban and Community Grant Program has provided the funding for this project. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Robert Bardon by email at [robert\\_bardon@ncsu.edu](mailto:robert_bardon@ncsu.edu) or by phone at 919-515-5575.

## **Schedule of Events**

The next meeting of the N. C. State Board of Registration for Foresters will be held on July 8, 2004 in Lewisville, NC.

The next registration examinations (Levels I and II) will be offered on August 27, 2004 in Morganton, NC.

**PLEASE NOTE THE BOARD'S TELEPHONE NUMBER HAS CHANGED TO 919-847-5441.**