



Missouri Society of American Foresters

2013 Fall Newsletter

Vol. 29 No. 2

Newsletter Editor Needed

MOSAF is in need of a newsletter editor. The editor is responsible for getting out a fall (November) and spring (March) newsletter. The newsletter may be a combination of articles containing meeting reports, notes from the Chair, educational information, news from national, issues affecting forestry in Missouri, and more. Articles should be recruited from MOSAF members wherever possible. If you are interested or know someone that may, please contact Joe Alley, Joe.Alley@mo.usda.gov (Chair), John Tuttle, John.Tuttle@mdc.mo.gov (Chair Elect), or Jon Skinner, Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov (Communications Committee Chair).

Ooze Tubes – Another Tool for Watering Trees *by Jon Skinner*

Joplin recently received 1,000 ooze tubes via grants from the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) and the US Forest Service via MDC. The ooze tubes were purchased to reduce the amount of time needed to deliver water to trees in a usable amount.

Paying someone to stand and hold a trickling hose is not practical; buckets are considered unsightly by some and have a tendency to blow around when not full of water. Other watering systems available included installing irrigation to every tree was not financially practical and the Tregator system is comparable to ooze tubes, but sit taller in the landscape.

It was decided to try the ooze tubes to see how they work and provide a reference for others in the state and region. The ooze tubes were purchased directly from the manufacturer. By doing so, MCHF and MDC logos could be printed on the tubes. Tubes are also available from retail and web retail markets, but without the ability for custom printing.

An ooze tube can be installed by one person, but on a windy day two would be helpful. To properly install the tube, a stake is driven into the ground, the tube is wrapped around the tree, slits in the tube ends are slid over the stake, fill the tube with water, puncture the tube with provided nail, then install an emitter. Four emitters are provided, but you do not have to use all of them to control speed of which the tube drains. Learn more about this product at: www.oozetube.com. See an installation at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zlh1UaVxGZQ.



From the Chair *by Joe Alley*

HELLO MOSAF! Believe it or not, this will likely be the last MOSAF newsletter article I write as Chair. I want you all to know that it has been an honor to serve as your Chair for the last two years and it is my hope that MOSAF has met your needs during my term. When I ran for Chair-Elect four years ago, my main goals were to facilitate good, timely technical training programs for our members and to promote better connection with our student chapter. I think the first goal was achieved. Honestly, this was pretty easy to do given the MOSAF tradition of good technical training opportunities and the willingness of our members to work to put together a good field day. On the student chapter front, we have made inroads, but I feel like there is still a lot of work to be done. The student chapter is more fluid than MOSAF and therefore the burden is on us to make this partnership more effective. Part of this will be resolved in the form of an MOU with the student chapter that is forthcoming. The MOU will formalize the relationship between MOSAF and the student chapter of MOSAF while also establishing a framework for how MOSAF contributions to the student chapter will be used (and how much will be given on an annual basis).

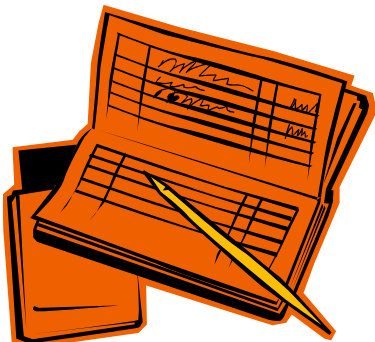
Rather than going on like a politician, I will sum up with the following. Being Chair-Elect and Chair of MOSAF has been a great experience for me personally and has introduced me to the inner working of SAF at the national level. There is a lot of work that needs to be done to keep our Society going locally and nationally. I urge all of you to become more involved (if you are not) by volunteering for a committee or putting your name on the ballot the next time elections role around. As the saying goes, “You can’t win if you don’t play”. MOSAF and SAF needs its members to be involved if we are to remain viable as a Professional Society.

And now a few wrap up comments.

- I hated to miss our MOSAF meeting in October, but the Gov Shutdown prohibited me from doing anything job related. I would like to thank John Tuttle for stepping up and handling the business meeting in my place.
- Thank you to our candidates for Chair-Elect and Secretary. We appreciate your willingness to serve as an officer.
- Hank Stelzer has elected to resign as Newsletter Editor. Thank you Hank for your time as Editor – we appreciate your efforts!
- We held a BBQ in Columbia in June for the forestry summer camp students. It was well attended and seven students signed up as student chapter members. Thanks to the members that came and thanks to Paul Johnson for handling the sign-ups.
- I recently met with the student chapter and they are interested in having BBQ event with MOSAF during the school year. More to come on this.

Thank you all for supporting MOSAF – *Joe Alley, MOSAF Chair*

Bank Balances *by Frances Main*



6 Month CD	\$18,311.22
12 Month CD	\$18,071.46
Checking Account	\$14,271.09
PLT Account	\$17,716.72
Total	\$68,370.49

Missouri Natural Resources Conference



Battles in Conservation: Politics, Science, and Stewardship

February 5th, 6th, & 7th, 2014 at
Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach
Missouri

MOSAF Silent Auction Items Needed *by George Kipp*

Fall is in the air and it's getting the crisp and cool feel that makes it such good working weather. While everyone's attention is turned to football, Halloween, and the upcoming winter holidays, I'd like to remind everyone of the silent auction at MNRC. Last year we had some great donations and raised a good amount of money for our college scholarship. I really appreciate the strong showing from our members and I'd like to do even better this year. I'll be sending out copies of the donation form soon and it will be available on the MOSAF website. I hope we can get some really great items this year. I'll be working with Crader Distributing to get our annual donation of a chainsaw, and hopefully we can get another leaf blower. As we go into the holiday season, please remember to solicit donations from businesses in your area.

Acteva Reimbursement Update *by Mike Fiaoni*

Acteva has been a bit of a problem for the past several years. They only charge the quad societies \$100 to run our online registration, but then they take forever to get our money to us. This past year was no exception. We received two partial payments from them of around

\$5,000 total this past spring. The treasure tried several times to get ahold of them to get the rest of our money so the books could be closed out and pasted on to the next treasure. This is when we discovered there is no way to contact a person at Acteva. You can leave a message and send an e-mail, but they don't respond back. We have since learned that we



are not alone. There are several groups out there that Acteva owes a great deal of money to. We also learned that they are still operating accepting online registrations and people's money.

This past summer the MNRC Steering committee filed a better business complaint and made numerous calls and e-mails to them, but still no response. A conference call was made by the quad society chairs and a decision was made to hire a lawyer to see what could be done. Since then we have worked with the better business bureau, the district attorney and attorney general offices in both Missouri and California.

Our private attorney, Brown & Ruprecht Attorneys at Law, sent a registered letter and it came back. Currently they still owe us around \$40,000. We are not very hopeful that we will see this money, but will keep trying.



Earn FREE Continuing Education Credits *by Jon Skinner*

While some continuing education programs are free, like those provided by MDC, or from Arborists News or the Journal of Forestry, most have some cost other than time. They may be stand alone programs or part of a conference. Not everyone has the time or funds to regularly take advantage of these opportunities.



A web site called “Online Seminars for Municipal Arborists” offers free continuing education units for reading articles (Seminars) and passing quizzes on those articles. Both the International Society of Arboriculture and Society of American Foresters will accept 0.5 credit for each exam passed with 80 percent correct answers. Whether or not you need education credits, these articles are great for learning by everyone. Visit Online Seminars for Municipal Arborists at www.on-line-seminars.com.

House Society Delegates (HSD) Meeting – Oct 22nd and 23rd, 2013, Charleston, South Carolina *by Joe Alley*

Following is a summary of my notes from the HSD meeting I attended in Charleston.

You may be aware that Michael Goergen recently resigned his post as SAF Executive Vice President (EVP) to pursue another challenging opportunity. To find a replacement, SAF has formed a search committee which in turn has hired a search firm to perform an exhaustive search of viable candidates. They hope to have someone hired by the first part of 2014. In the interim, Louise Murgia is serving as Acting EVP.

The SAF website is being updated and we should see the result very soon.

National SAF is also in the process of updating and re-filing the articles of incorporation and by-laws. All state chapters were advised to wait until these changes are complete before they make any changes to their own articles or by laws.

A presentation on social media was given, aimed at giving a lot of us *less-tech-inclined* (we know who we are...) a taste of how Face Book, Twitter, Linked In, etc., can and are being used by SAF at the local and national level. A new webpage called ForestEd will be included in the new national website. This website will serve as a clearing house for information based on topics, broken down into sections under each topic. The site will also include discussion forums (by topic) and CFE quizzes. It has the capability of being used for online courses also.

Finance Committee: We were given a thorough presentation on the SAF financial situation and while the sale of the property surrounding SAF HQ has made a huge impact on the budget, there is still work to be done to put us back in the black. This is a major issue at the national office and the leadership team there continues to look for cost cutting measures (you may have learned recently that the regional technical journals will be combined with/into Forest Science – this was a cost cutting measure). Staffing has been reduced substantially over the last few years and they currently rely on considerable volunteer help at the national office. Here are a few numbers and comments I managed to jot down that you may find interesting.

- SAF has lost 10,000 members over the last 20 years
- 40% of revenue comes from dues

- 20% of revenue comes from the national convention
- The operating budget was cut by \$500,000 from '08 to '09.
- Property sale has been split into 3 payments, of which 2 have been made for a running total so far of \$2.75 mill. A good part of this has gone towards fixing budget shortfalls. Several hundred thousand have been used to set up endowments.
- *Founder Circle* was established in 2012 as a means for members to give to SAF. Most of these funds go to Foresters Fund. A contribution of \$1,900 is required to become a *Founder Circle* member. *Friends of the Circle* may contribute at a lower amount. To date, \$120,000 has been contributed.
- 2014 budget will be bigger than current budget due to conference – will be combined with IUFRO and CIF.

Policy Committee: Jim Barnwell provided a good discussion on what he and Danielle Watson do “on the Hill” in DC. He emphasized that credibility is key to being able to provide information to policy makers. He also pointed out that while congressional staff are interested in hearing what he and Danielle have to say, they are even more interested in hearing from constituents. He encouraged state chapters set up technical tours with congressional staff and offered assistance in doing so.

Success Stories: As always, there were several good success stories, but two stood out to me. Mississippi SAF has made promoting SAF to private landowners a priority. One tool they developed was a simple table top display asking the question *Is Your Forester a Member?* (of SAF). The display had five bullets explaining the benefits of using SAF foresters. The other great success story, and the top winner, was the Visiting Forester Project at Philmont Boy Scout Ranch. A Forestry Station has been established along one of the hiking trails on the Ranch along with interpretive signs and a demonstration forest. Foresters stay at the Station for a week and meet and talk with scouts as they hike past the Station each day. This gives a great informal opportunity for talking forestry to scouts in small groups. But the numbers mount up – I think the total number of scouts contacted in this way was around 7,000. Our own Greg Hoss participated this year and had great things to say about the experience.



We talked at length about CF and CFEs. Managing these programs is another big expense (time) at the national office, with a considerable amount of this time being spent to determine CFE credits for each event or course that is turned in. On average, 1,500 – 2,000 CFE requests are turned in per year. Again, these are requests from CFE coordinators to determine CFE for specific courses or events. In addition, the number of SAF CF names turned in for CFE credit for each event was not discussed, but I have to assume this is at least in the 10’s of thousands. For the most part, there is no direct payment made to SAF for each CFE credit determined or given. In addition, SAF determines CFE credits for events that are not SAF sponsored (we have all been to some of these I suspect) and/or may not go towards maintaining CF status for an SAF Forester (you can be a CF without being an SAF member). This gets a little confusing but the point is that SAF provides a BIG service with little or commensurate compensation. This was another eye opener for me and most others in the room. Seems like something that needs to be reviewed (to say the least) and there is a Task Force that will be doing this.

For the wrap up session, Will (forgot his last name) from Quicksilver Foundry gave us his presentation on *Branding* and *Big Hairy Audacious Goals* (BHAG). Most of what I would have to say about this is my own opinion, and that is irrelevant to this newsletter. Suffice to say that this was the best presentation of this sort that I’ve ever been involved with. I believe that SAF needs to change if it is to move forward and be “viable” and I think that Quicksilver Foundry’s direction has been and will be very helpful in moving SAF in the right direction.

The Poet-Foresters Stump *by Joe Alley*

Forester Haiku

Nelson

Short and spreading wide
Elm wonders why I am here
Rattle, spray, fate known

Predator and Prey

Sitting waiting long
Legs grasp firm, arms reaching out
Life found. Tick caught me



Fall Meeting Notes – Oct. 16, Van Buren, MO *by Jason Jensen*

- Meeting was called to order at 1930 by Chair-elect, John Tuttle.
- Tuttle welcomed all to Van Buren. Van Buren was selected due to requests to view elk management and the USFS CFLRP management during the May MOSAF meeting. Due to the federal government furlough, the USFS portion of the tour will be cancelled.
- Terry Thompson gave an update on the details for the elk management tour.
- Frances Main provided a treasurers report. PLT is being spent down and moved to MSU. MOSAF will get interest from PLT. MOSAF currently has approx. \$14K in the regular acct, \$18K and \$17K in CD's.
- Jon Skinner gave a communications report. There is a need for an editor for the newsletter.
- Mike Hoffmann gave an update from the nominating committee. Hoffmann and Dave Larsen are new SAF Fellows. Elections are currently ongoing for chair elect and secretary positions.
- George Kipp provided an update on special funds. He will be sending out information to start soliciting donations.
- Justine Gartner is the chair for the National SAF membership committee. They are discussing involvement of non-degreed forester involvement in SAF.
- Problems w/ collecting money from Acteva continue however money is trickling in. MNRC is suing Acteva.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ed Keyser updated the group on his concerns with converting forestland as a result of the elk restoration project. He met with Deputy Director, Tom Draper and has prepared a letter from the MOSAF chair should it be needed. Lisa Allen updated the group on her work with Jennifer Batson on meeting the habitat needs of elk in the restoration zone. It was determined that the habitat needs have been met for



Visiting grazing meadow where one elk bugle was heard

the next 3-5 year period of time. She also discussed the multiple approaches that are being implemented to meet the future needs of elk in the restoration zone.

- Shelby Jones updated the group on the USFS, CFLRP project and the actions of MFPA's Forest Health Committee. The committee has been touring and discussing management of the CLFRP area with legislators. Representative, Jason Smith has sent a letter to the USFS in Milwaukee requesting that the project be suspended. A response has not been received to date. Matt Arndt has also responded on behalf of the MCFA to the Missouri Prescribed Fire Council.
- Student bbq- students signed up but need sponsors to pay membership fee. Discussion of the need for an MOU detailing our relationship and funding of student chapter activities.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chair-elect Tuttle discussed some of his goals as incoming chair including: committee workplans that would include at least 2 goals for the committee to accomplish, budget for committees, committee assignments, re-establishment of the long range planning committee and the update of the strategic plan by the committee, changing the status quo, evaluation of the communication plan and potential update as needed, and the need for a newsletter editor.

AGENCY REPORTS

- State Forester, Lisa Allen gave an update for MDC: revenues and budgets are stable, forestry division is focused on 4 stretch goals, and the division currently has 3 detail positions working on a communication campaign, sustainable forest management guidelines and forest products branding.

Shelby Jones gave an update for MCFA: Fall meeting November 7-8 at Smith Flooring will involve a tour of the mill and a tour of the Smith Flooring lands. MCFA is also in the process of selecting an Executive Director to help grow the organization and move it forward.

Next
Meeting
at
MINRC



Visiting logging operation on Peck Ranch