



THE CROSSCUT

Maryland Forests Association, Inc.

PO Box 42016 Baltimore, MD 21284

phone: (443) 791-7416 e-mail: director@mdforests.org

MFA website <http://mdforests.org>

news alerts and updates at <http://mdforests.blogspot.com/>

MAY /JUNE 2011 (Vol. 34, Issue 2)

Karin E. Miller, Editor

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION FOR MFA MAIN OFFICE effective immediately:

**Maryland Forests Assoc.
c/o Jessika L. Wrabel
P.O. Box 42016
Baltimore, MD
21284-42016**

**New Phone
443-791-7416**

**At this time there is no
fax service.**

**Email
Will remain the same
director@mdforests.org**

Words to ponder

*The key to success is often
the ability to adapt*

From the President's Pen

John Jastrzembki

Karin's last duty as MFA's Executive Director is producing this newsletter and since this is in your hands consider her MFA responsibilities done! She will be moving on to a new career and I must publicly thank her for a job well done.

For 16 years Karin has efficiently managed the "behind the scenes" operations of MFA. She has nurtured 8 MFA presidents and 16 distinct Boards of Governors. She has led many initiatives that have strengthened MFA and make it the very professional organization it is. I will miss working with Karin.

It is with enthusiasm that I look at MFA's future! As the MFA regroups, builds capacity and plans for MFA's sustainability, the Board of Governors has contracted with Jessika Wrabel to serve as our Communications Director. Jessica has 12 years of experience in communications, marketing, and administration. She is an environmental consultant. I believe that the skills Jessica brings to MFA will help us grow!

The great essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm!" I am enthusiastic about MFA and Maryland's Trees and Forests. The accomplishments of MFA this year have been phenomenal:

- a growing new membership category
- an affiliation with the National Woodland Owners Association
- a successful and highly productive legislative session
- an effective corporate membership strategy

My term as President completes in November. I will work on areas that I think are in need and of critical importance to MFA:

- revitalizing the board of Governors and leadership succession
- regional educational activities
- bringing MFA members together to discuss and learn about issues
- working collaboratively with Tree Farm
- developing a plan to hire a forestry education specialist.

Again, "Nothing great can be achieved without enthusiasm"! Have fun in the woods.

John Jastrzembki, LPF



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2011 MFA Officers

Officer		Phone
John Jastrzembki	President	301-784-5309
Dick Stanfield	Treasurer	410-922-5959
Bob Eaton	Past President	301-705-5843

Board of Governors

Central Region

Chris Holmgren	Montgomery	Secondary FPI	2012
Tim Smith	Harford	Forest Industry	2011
Dick Stanfield	Baltimore	Forest Industry	2013
Marikay Wrabel	Carroll	Environ. Consultant	2013

Eastern Region

Jim Culp	Kent	Forest Landowner	2013
Robert Hess	Somerset	Forest Landowner	2012
Kirk Rodgers	Dorchester	Forest Landowner	2011
Tom Wieland	Wicomico	Forest Industry	2012

Southern Region

Joan Hill Bearden	Charles	Business Community	2011
John Colton	St. Mary's	Forest Landowner	2012
Bob Eaton	Charles	Forest Landowner	2011
Craig Highfield	Anne Arundel	Ecologist	2013
Brian Knox	Anne Arundel	Consultant Forester	2013
Gene McCandless	Charles	Business Community	2011
Steve McHenry	Anne Arundel	MARBIDCO	2012

Western Region

John Jastrzembki	Allegany	ACM Forestry	2011
Jonathon Kays	Washington	Extension Forester	2013
Pete Miller	Garrett	Forest Industry	2012
Francis Zumbrun	Allegany	Forester—retired	2013

Staff:

Jessika W. Wrabel, Communications Coordinator

Founded in 1976, MFA is a nonprofit [501(c)(3)] organization of forest landowners, foresters, loggers, wood-using industries and resource-based interests.

The mission of Maryland Forests Association is to conserve and enhance forests in Maryland by:

- increasing awareness of the diverse, public benefits of forests;
- supporting the sustainable use of forest resources;
- promoting economic opportunity for forest landowners; and
- maintaining a viable local forest products industry.

Membership benefits include subscriptions to *The Crosscut*, *Legislative Updates*, *MFA E-news*, and participation in the *Safety Group Insurance*, *Timberland Liability* and *Hunting Lease Liability Insurance* programs. For more information on membership call or write us.

Welcome Jessika !

We are pleased to announce a new addition to MFA. Jessika L. Wrabel (shown here working to install tree shelters) will be serving as part-time **Communications Coordinator** for our Association. She is the daughter of MFA Board member Marikay and Len Wrabel.

Jessika possesses a BS in English with a minor in Communication from West Virginia University and a MLA from Johns Hopkins University. She has over 12 years of marketing, communications, and general administrative experience. She currently works full time as a consultant in the environmental field; actively working with Baltimore County and Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

We have brought her on board to take over some of the work that Karin Miller managed for many years. With Karin's extreme organizational skills we see this temporary transition as being a smooth one.

Jessika will maintain our membership records, process new memberships, help promote awareness of our association and deal with necessary administrative functions. That being said, she is brand new to us and will need your help. Please make a continued effort to send information her way for the newsletters, website, and our grass root marketing platforms.



Attention Charles County MFA members:

Charles County Government is updating its Comprehensive Plan. **THERE ISN'T ANY FOREST MANAGEMENT/FOREST INDUSTRY/FOREST LANDOWNER** representation on the advising group. MFA member David Lines (LaPlata) is representing as a farmer and member of the Farm Bureau. MFA is asking for Charles County Members to serve on the committee. **Please contact John Jastrzembki at 301-784-5309 or David Lines 240-427-7062 to get involved and insure that private landowners have the right to manage their property and forest industry remains viable in Charles County.**

MFA wants to help conserve and enhance Charles County's forest by:

- increasing awareness of the diverse, public benefits of forests;
- supporting the sustainable use of forest resources;
- promoting economic opportunity for forest landowners; and
- maintaining a viable local forest products industry in Southern Maryland and the entire state

Plant a Tree, Leave a Legacy Arbor Day Address by Champ Zumbrun At Allegany College of Maryland April 28, 2011

Happy Arbor Day! This is special day set aside to celebrate trees, the word Arbor is Latin for "tree."

Long before Earth Day there was Arbor Day. The first Arbor Day occurred in Nebraska in 1872. J. Sterling Morton founded Arbor Day. People planted more than a million trees on that first Arbor Day. It was a pioneering environmental event. The first Earth Day occurred in 1970; So, Arbor Day is just short of 100 years older than Earth Day.

Mr. Morton noted that trees were no respecter of persons saying, "They grow just as luxuriantly beside the cabin of a pioneer as they do against the palace of a millionaire."

The same philosophy applies to our public lands where millions upon millions of trees grow today. State Parks, State forests, national parks and national forests are no respecter of persons, both the wealthy and the poor can equally enjoy these lands.

Mr. Morton wrote in poetic ways about the "music and majesty of trees." I think it is safe to say he had a love affair with trees.

Morton also wrote how civilizations of the past collapsed when they didn't take care of their natural resources, including their trees and forests. Scientists know today that trees and forests are essential to human health and the over-all well-being of society.

The graveyards of many failed empires are strewn about the world. Why? Empires have perished from the face of the earth over the past 7,000 years because these societies abused their land and did not care for their natural resources.

For example, most of us has heard of or read about the majestic Cedars of Lebanon that grew around the holy lands of the Middle East. This legendary forest once stretched over 2,000 square miles. Now,

one is lucky today to find a few small groves remaining with a few mature trees of Lebanon cedars growing in the Palestine region.

More than 100 years ago, America was going down that same path. The forests of America were in a devastated condition 100 years ago. Only 30-percent of mature forest cover remained east of the Mississippi River. The problems of forest



2011 Arbor Day in Annapolis ~ MFA Board Members Chris Homgren and Marikay Wrabel along with Tree Farm representative Len Wrabel and their daughters distribute seedlings, tree cookies and wooden nickels to members and staff of the Maryland General Assembly.

devastation were caused by over-logging without thought of forest regeneration; forest fires were allowed to burn uncontrolled, destroying forest regeneration; and livestock were allowed to roam and feed in the forest unrestricted, trampling and eating much of new forest regeneration.

Seeing the forest devastation, the conservation movement began in earnest around 1900. Conservation leaders such as President Theodore Roosevelt, and Gifford Pinchot, head of the US Forest Service determined that the science of forestry would be the tool to heal the land.

Allegany County was a pioneering leader

in applying the new science of forestry in Maryland and is the birthplace of scientific forestry in Maryland. The very first scientific forest inventory in Maryland took place in 1900 in Maryland right here in Allegany County. Forest inventories showed that if we did not do something drastic to take care of our land, timber resources would run out by 1920!

Morton often said that Arbor Day was

the only anniversary we celebrated where we look toward the future instead of the past. It may have been that way in the beginning, but today, on this point I respectfully beg to differ with Mr. Morton because on Arbor Day we also celebrate the legacy of trees that our ancestors left us to enjoy today.

A legacy is something that is handed down from the past, or something that remains from a previous generation or time. In the case of Arbor Day, the legacies we celebrate are the trees left to us as gifts from our ancestors, gifts that benefit us socially, environmentally, and economically.

For example, because of the environmental gift and legacy our ancestors left us, each acre of forest is absorbing six tons of carbon dioxide and putting out four tons of oxygen; precious fresh water is purified; soil erosion is being prevented; and habitat for wild life is provided.

The economic gift and legacy our ancestors left us, the Maryland forest product industry contributes today annually a \$950 million total economic contribution to our region, contributing 35 million dollars in state and local tax revenues, and employing 9,200 people! Now that is a valuable legacy!

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Maryland Forests Association's Family Picnic and Education Day

*If you are interested in Maryland's Trees and Forests
you are invited!*

Saturday, October 1, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Edrich Lumber Fishing Pond and Conference Center
Centrally located and easily accessible in Baltimore County!

BBQ lunch and Soft Drink Provided
Bring the whole family!



For Kids:

Fishing Rodeo
Volleyball
Soccer
Guided Nature Hike
Photos with Smoky Bear

For Adults:

**20 minute professional
presentations and discussions on :**
Fire Management
Stink Bugs
Ticks and Lyme disease
Cost Sharing Services
International Year of the Forests
MFA & Lions Club Partnership

**Save the date and confirm your reservation by sending Jessika
a check by September 26th indicating the number of family members attending:**

MFA members \$10.00 per family

Tree Farmers, Forestry Board, NWOA, Farm Bureau \$15.00 per family

Public Interested in learning about Trees and Forests \$25.00 per family

LOOK TO THE LEFT!!!!!!!

MFA understands that money is tight!

We are trying something new to save you money and provide educational activities to more of our members and allies in a united fight to protect our green space and manage our forest resources!

Our Annual Conference has been changed to a Fall Picnic and Forestry Education Days.

Our hope is that this activity:

- Is easily accessible to our members!
- Provides a learning opportunity for our members and THEIR CHILDREN!
- Is priced to meet your budget (cheap)!
- Provides an opportunity for the general public to learn about MFA and Maryland's Trees and Forests!
- Is just simple plain old fun!

Join us as we celebrate MFA's 35th anniversary October 1st at Edrich Lumber

The Annual Conference schedule for November 11 & 12th at the Holiday Inn in Ocean City has been cancelled. If you had already reserved lodging accommodations with the Holiday Inn please be sure to contact them directly to cancel your room.

Their number is 1 800 315 2621

Why My MFA Should be Your MFA

Forest industry and Products Operators



As Maryland's \$7 billion industry, we want our industrial and forest products operator members to know that we support you and advocate for you!

MFA's Policy/Legislative Committee has done an outstanding job supporting legislative initiatives that make your life a bit easier (we hope). Our Policy Committee, spearheaded by Pete Miller (New Page), Tom Wieland (Glatfelter Pulpwood Corp.), and Jim Culp (Somerset County Landowner) did an amazing job working with our legislation to revise trucking

regulations, environmental regulations and buy Maryland Wood Products. Check out our website to see what we are doing to help you remain a vibrant Maryland business.

National Woodland Owners Association



The Executive Committee has completed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Woodland Owners Association. This MOU gives our members: the ability to interact and voice concerns at the Federal level; receive annual mailing of FAMILY LANDS & CONSERVATION MAGAZINE; Washington Woodland Watch' emailed periodically to your Officers and Board Members; MFA's vote for the NWOA director; MFA's vote in the selection of the Top Ten Private Forestry issues; use of NWOA member

list in Maryland to promote MFA and annual meeting; a nationwide venue to exchange the best ideas from states and share information; post our website and activities posted on www.woodlandweb.org and NWOA sites; improved ability to advocate national policy with the active input of state partners. We believe this alliance is critical to all Maryland Forest Landowners and Forest Products Operators and Forest Industry.

Tree Farmers



MFA is working with the American Forest Foundation and the Maryland Tree Farm Committee to improve infrastructure, communication and education activities for both MFA members and Tree Farmers. The vision of the MFA Executive Committee is that both organizations can work together to strengthen forest conservation practices, forest industry and green space preservation in Maryland. In addition our

combined legislative day was a successful

Lions Club of Maryland



The Board of Governors is partnering with the Lions Clubs of Maryland to help them plant 1 million trees in Maryland in 2011-2012. This partnership supports the UN International Year of the Forests. MFA Governor Champ Zumbrun will provide the technical Expertise and Forestry Network to enable the Lions to purchase seedlings and trees and the Lions Clubs of Maryland will financially support the initiative. Lions Clubs will plant the trees too!

(Continued from page 3)

Because of our ancestor's gift and legacy of state parks and state forests in Allegany County and Garrett County, which didn't exist a little more than 100 years ago, tourists spend 288 million dollars annually in our two counties. Yes, tourism is the largest industry in Allegany and Garrett Counties with Allegany County being one of the great natural resource destination places in Maryland. Our forests and natural resources are indeed the goose that lays the golden eggs. Allegany County's public lands are the envy of all the Maryland counties east of us!

Our ancestors left us a legacy and gifts that benefit society today. The trees they planted and stewarded years ago provide the wood products and wood fiber and many recreational benefits we enjoy today.

In 1912, Fred W. Besley, Maryland's first State Forester, said, "Forests are one of Allegany County's chief assets." One hundred years later, they still are. It is a forest conservation success story. At 76 percent forest cover, Allegany County has the highest percentage of forest cover of any county in Maryland.

We reap the fruit of from a past generation's labor. What a legacy our parents, grandparents and great grandparents left us! On this Arbor Day, we should embrace and celebrate this fact!

We too can leave a legacy: By planting a tree today and being good stewards of the earth, we leave a legacy of environmental, social, and economic benefits for our children, grandchildren and future generations to enjoy!

Fred W. Besley said it best: the best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago, the second best time is today! So plant a tree today, and leave a legacy for your children, grandchildren, and future generations to enjoy.

Editor's note:

Francis "Champ" Zumbrun recently retired from State service as the Forester at Green Ridge State Forest. He currently serves on MFA's Board of Governors.

From Ecclesiastes 3

***There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
..... a time to plant and a time to uproot,....***

Leave a Legacy ~



As I write to you for the last time, I find it fitting that this issue of **THE CROSSCUT** includes *Champ's address* from this year's **Arbor Day** celebrations. When I look back over the 16 years that I have served as your Executive Director, and only staff for MFA, I see many parallels in my experience and that of a tree.

As a graduate forester (SUNY ESF '81), I remember enough from my silvics and silviculture courses to know that there is much more to a healthy tree and forest than just the planting ~ there is also the site selection, site prep, nurturing, pruning, thinning, harvest and succession. The natural world is filled with cycles that begin over and over again. Each of these have their counterparts in the world of association management.

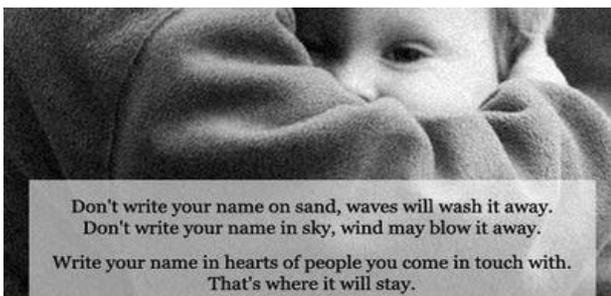
To sum up in just a few words what these years have meant to me is challenging. As a former teacher I can state that in many ways I've learned much more than I've taught. I appreciate the many within MFA and associated groups that mentored me at various stages as my position with MFA evolved from an administrative assistant to that of Executive Director. I thank the leadership and membership for their patience and encouragement as we've learned together along the way.

MFA is a very diverse organization and the additional challenges which that creates can also strengthen it. Through my recent time at the gym I've learned first-hand the adage "no pain ~ no gain". Change generally is difficult and maybe even painful, but growth won't happen without it.

My decision to resign was not an easy one, but one whose time had come. As I reflect on the time that has passed since the unexpected death of our oldest son last spring, I know that there are other paths of service that God wants me to explore. He's been pruning me and training me up for a new purpose. I want to be able to give that, whatever it may be, my full attention and energy.

I also wanted to be sure that there was a successful "succession" as I left. I believe *Jessika* brings with her exactly the skills, talents and enthusiasm that MFA needs as it moves beyond celebrating its 35th year of service to the Maryland forest community. As she and I complete the transition this week, I trust that you will give her your full support as she assists MFA's leadership in the coming months.

May God be with You 'til we meet again.
Karin E. Miller, MFA Executive Director
 January 1995 to May 2011



Don't write your name on sand, waves will wash it away.
 Don't write your name in sky, wind may blow it away.
 Write your name in hearts of people you come in touch with.
 That's where it will stay.



Additional helpers from 2011 Arbor Day in Annapolis included Maryland Tree Farmers Anne (center) and Robert Hess (second from right) and their granddaughter plus Dave Gailey from the MD DNR Forest Service. Also pictured are staff members from the National Tree Farm office and Len Wrabel.



Providing Affordable Insurance For Hunt Clubs, Landowners And The Forest Products Industry.

Years Ago, folks who owned land only worried about drought and fire. A hunter usually just had to ask the landowner. Today, things are more complex. Now, leasing to hunt clubs and recreational organizations is part of many timber management plans. This raises a new set of liability concerns. Not every insurance company understands these challenges, or will cover them at a reasonable cost. complexities—and the pitfalls—of your industry. Our broad array of quality insurance products include:

- Hunt Club Liability
- Wildlife Consultants
- Consulting Foresters
- Timberland Liability
- Property
- Prescribed Burn Liability
- Standing Timber
- Tractor & Farm Implements

Call today for fast quote, or apply online at: www.mfa.outdoorund.com

This is where Outdoor Underwriters comes in. We specialize in exactly this kind of insurance. Led by Ed Wilson, our team of dedicated, experienced specialists understands the

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 Columbia, SC 29210 **803 451-5826**
 ewilson@outdoorund.com

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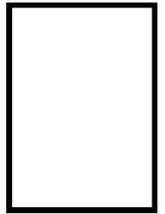


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THE CROSSCUT

Maryland Forests Association
PO Box 42016
Baltimore, MD 21284-42016



DATED MATERIAL
DATED MATERIAL
FIRST CLASS MAIL

Celebrating 35 Years of Service to Maryland's Forest Community

Dues are Due!

Check your mailing label above. If 2010 or 2010* still appears after your name it means that we have NOT received your membership renewal dues for this year and will need to deactivate your membership and benefits.

Dates to Remember

for further information on any of these items, contact the MFA office unless otherwise noted.

September 8 ~ Quarterly meeting of the MFA Board of Governors

September 26 ~ Deadline to register for MFA Family Picnic and Education Day

October 1 ~ MFA Family Picnic and Education Day at Edrich Lumber. See pages 4 and 5 for details!

November 16 ~ Quarterly meeting of the MFA Board of Governors



Stay in Touch and Update to Date
between issues of THE CROSSCUT
via MFA'S
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