

# SWST Newsletter

July-August 2003

SOCIETY OF WOOD  
SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY

**SWST**

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## Editor's Note

Dear Readers:

I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable summer. This is my last installment as Newsletter Editor. Rado Gazo has agreed to become the new Newsletter Editor beginning with the next issue. It

should hopefully be a smooth transition to working with Rado. It has been an enjoyable experience for me doing the Newsletter. I liked being able to keep up with the all the gossip in the Profession. I do promise to send in humor quips on occasion:)

I am soon leaving on vacation for several weeks and then on to Colorado for the Cellulosic Cell Wall Workshop followed by a trip to Istanbul for the ISO Technical Advisory Group Meeting (ISO TC 165) on Structural Wood Adhesives.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Gardner



## News

### SWST Annual Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2003  
 Doubletree Hotel-Bellevue  
 Bellevue, WA

Approximately 95 people attended.

#### Technical Session: "Wood Science and Technology in the BioBased Economy"

8:00-8:05 - Welcome and Program Overview - Douglas D. Stokke, SWST President-Elect and Session Moderator

8:05-8:50 - *Keynote* --- "The BioEconomy: Past, Present, and Future" - Dr. David Morris, Vice President, Institute for Local Self-Reliance, Minneapolis & Washington, D.C.

8:50-9:15 - "BioRefineries: A Research and Applications Perspective." - Stephen S. Kelley, Principal Scientist, National Bioenergy Center, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Golden, CO.

9:15-9:40 - "Organizing for BioProducts Research: The Northwest BioProducts Research Institute" – Dr. Michael Wolcott, Associate Professor and Louisiana-Pacific Chair, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Washington State University, Pullman, WA.

9:40-10:05 - "Graduate Education in BioRenewable Materials: An Interdisciplinary Approach" - Dr. Joe P. Colletti, Associate Professor, Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management, Iowa State University.

10:05-10:30 - "USDA -Funding Opportunities for Biobased Products" - Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, National Program Leader, USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program

10:30-11:00 - Panel discussion - each speaker will deliver a brief statement on "The Role of Wood or Lignocellulosics in the BioBased Economy" followed by approximately 20 minutes of Q&A with the audience.

#### Awards Program 11:00-11:45

1<sup>st</sup> place George Marra Award: Lech Muszynski, Fenghu Wang, and Steven M. Shaler, "Short-term creep tests on phenol-resorcinol-formaldehyde (PRF) resin undergoing moisture content changes" in Volume 34(4).

2<sup>nd</sup> place George Marra Award: Elemer M. Lang, Laszlo Bejo, Jozsef Szalai, Zsolt Kovacs and R. Bruce Ander-

son, "Orthotropic strength and elasticity of hardwoods in relation to composite manufacture. Part II. Orthotropy of compression strength and elasticity" in Volume 34(2).

Honorable Mention George Marra Award: Elemer M. Lang and Tamas Fodor, "Finite element analysis of cross-halved joints for structural composites", in Volume 34(2).

Student Poster Awards: Participation certificates were presented to all student competitors.

1<sup>st</sup> place award went to B. B. Maruthi Sridhar for "Monitoring structural changes of fern (*Pteris vittata*) during phytoremediation of Cr and As contaminated soils"

2<sup>nd</sup> place award went to Iris Vasquez-Cooz for "Fuzzy grain development and cutting forces in tension wood"

Distinguished Service Award: Jim Bowyer  
 Elvin Choong (posthumous)

#### Annual Business Meeting

President Bob Rice called the meeting to order at 11:45.

#### **Minutes of 2002 Annual Meeting**

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting as printed in the July-August 2002 Newsletter.

#### **President's Report**

Bob Rice announced that we will no longer be selling reprints to authors. Any new papers that are submitted can purchase the PDF file for \$100, which allows them to post it on their website and make limited copies.

The position paper on "National Needs" will be in the July-August Newsletter for review and comment. A ballot will be sent out later.

The Board accepted the new Accreditation Standards on Saturday. These final standards will be put on the web and incorporated into the standards booklet.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

##### Current Members as of June 1, 2003

##### Members as of June 1, 2002

Full members	278	296
Student members	58	70
Retired members	56	58
Affiliate Member	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>427</b>

(Continued from page 2)

USA members	303
Canada members	35
Mexico members	3
Overseas members	54

**Subscribers as of June 1, 2003**

Subscribers 222

USA	106
Canada	15
Overseas	101

**Subscribers as of June 1, 2002**

Subscribers 242

**Delinquent Members**

Delinquent members as of 6/1/03 for 2003 dues – 43 full; 30 student; 3 retired

Delinquent subscribers for 2003 as of 6/1/03 - 42 (24 US, 18 foreign)

Compared to delinquent members as of June 1, 2002 – 25 full; 26 student; 3 retired

Compared to delinquent subscribers as of June 1, 2002 - 41 (11 US, 30 foreign)

**Fidelity Spartan Money Market Fund and Vanguard Accounts**

The Vanguard accounts were opened with a beginning balance of \$61,100.00 on February 3, 1998. \$10,000 was transferred back into checking on 8/27/99 due to a low balance, so the actual principle in the fund was \$51,100.00. An additional \$6,000 was transferred back into checking on September 26, 2001. The balance was \$35,718.23 on March 31, 2003 (the date of the last statement). The Student poster money was invested in November 1998 with an initial balance of \$4,750.00. An additional \$4,800 has been invested. The current balance (as of 3/31/03) in that account is \$6,913.15. We have received \$750 which was invested on 6/4/03 but is not reflected in the above total.

**Checking Account**

The balance in the checking account as of June 1, 2003 is \$71,750.56.

**Student Poster Competition Fund History and Status**

Contributors are: APA-The Engineered Wood Association, California Cedar Products, Forintek Canada Corporation, Iowa State University, Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Virginia Tech, University of British Columbia, University of Idaho, Washington State University, and Willamette Industries, Inc.

There are 15 participants in the 2003 Competition.

**Miscellaneous**

The 2002 Annual Meeting Proceedings was printed and mailed to participants. There are copies available for \$10.

All web pages have been updated as of May 2003.

A 2003 Membership Directory has been mailed to all members. Please inform the Executive Office of any corrections.

The Bush letter was sent out on September 5, 2002. 81 SWST scientists signed it. It was sent to the following Senate Committees: Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; Appropriations; Commerce, Science and Transportation; and Energy and Natural Resources. It was also sent to the following House Committees: Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Appropriations, and Committee on Science. I prepared a set of mailing labels for all of the above, so I have it for future use (with updating needed after elections).

The Committee Handbook for 2002-2003 has been amended with new charges and other additions/corrections. This was emailed to all committee chairs and the board. It is also available on the web. The 2003-2004 Committee Handbook is currently being compiled.

Teaching Unit 1 and Unit 2 are available as powerpoint presentations. They can be viewed and used

on the web or purchased on CD. There is also a set of 6 wood blocks and hand lens available for purchase. The cost is \$5 for CD only, and \$25 for the CD with wood blocks and hand lens. Audrey Zink-Sharp prepared both of the presentations and did a remarkable job! Our thanks to her.

The Wood and Fiber Science searchable index has been put on the web on the main page. It is a searchable PDF file.

I have submitted an ad for Wood and Fiber Science with Ebsco Subscription Company, to be placed in their Librarian Handbook. The ad cost \$109 and goes to thousands of librarians. I have also participated in their Sample Issue Program for \$188 where our journal will be displayed at 2 librarian conferences.

The SUNY accreditation visit was held November 10-13, 2002. Tom McLain and Bob Bush were the SWST visiting team members. The Penn State accreditation visit was March 3-6, 2003. Visiting team members were Myron Kelly and Rubin Schmulsky. The University of Maine had their accreditation visit on April 6-9, 2003. The visiting team was Audrey Zink-Sharp and Jim Armstrong. The Accreditation Committee will be acting on these accreditations during the annual meeting and bring a recommendation to the board.

Todd Shupe handed out a SWST summary brochure I prepared and membership applications at the IU-FRO Conference in Rotorua and the IAWPS meeting in Korea. We did not have a booth in Rotorua because there was no one to staff it.

The Membership Handbook has been updated and sent to members.

A new Career Brochure has been completed and is being printed.

**Auditor's Report** - Cheryl Hatfield

At your request, I reviewed the SWST bank statements for the period June 1, 2002 through May 31, 2003. Checks, deposits, VISA and Master Card charges, interest charges and bank charges were verified against the corresponding statements. No discrepancies were found between the statements and the

books in any area.

The May 31, 2003 checkbook balance of \$71,650.56 corresponds with the checking balance on the May 31, 2003 balance sheet.

The \$42,631.38 total investment in the Vanguard accounts on the balance sheet also matches the total on the most recent Vanguard statement (3/31/03).

**2004 Budget**

Category	Income	Expenses	Net
W&FS	\$119,980	\$ 81,370	\$38,610
Dues	\$ 23,425	\$23,425	
Interest	\$ 100	\$ 100	
Member Services	\$ 10,830	\$ 21,700	\$(10,870)
Admin Services	\$ 20,850	\$(20,850)	
Salary & Taxes	\$ 26,153	\$(26,153)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$154,335</b>	<b>\$150,073</b>	<b>\$ 4,262</b>

**SOCIETY OF WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
FISCAL STATUS DECEMBER 31, 2002  
BALANCE SHEET**

Total Assets	\$68,928.22
Total Liabilities	\$30,921.86
Total Equity	\$38,006.36
Total Equity & Liabilities	\$68,928.22

**INCOME STATEMENT**

	<b>2002 Budget</b>	<b>Actual 2002</b>
Total Income	\$142,400.00	\$139,513.62
Total Expenses	<u>\$127,504.46</u>	<u>\$134,238.92</u>
	\$ 14,895.54	\$ 5,274.70

**Wood and Fiber Science**

Wood and Fiber Science receives a healthy number of good manuscripts for publication. At the present time, volume 35 of the journal has enough technical articles accepted to fill both the July and the October issues, and perhaps a few will slip over to the January issue of volume 36. The topics have a very good variety of subjects from a diversity of authors with regard to their respective countries of residence.

Details of the three issues of volume 35:

*(Continued on page 5)*

Printed pages:	Total	Technical Articles
No. 1. January, 2003	152	146
No. 2. April, 2003	168	167
No. 3. July, 2003	166	157
Total Number of Pages:	486	470*
*Estimated income from page charges @\$110/pg. \$51,700		
Manuscripts in the process:		
In press (July issue)		16
Accepted for publication		17
Out for review		33
Back to authors for revision		22
Rejected		4
In the process in editor's office		8
Total number of articles:		100

The Society is fortunate to have Virginia Tech subsidize the expenses of the editor, providing him with an office, mailing, telephone and fax expenses, a computer with internet access, office supplies and limited secretarial help. In these days of general budget reductions, the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products of Virginia Tech was forced to lay off one person and has had a freeze on filling vacant faculty positions. Yet, the subsidy for Wood and Fiber Science has remained intact. Virginia Tech's assistance is very much appreciated.

The two-year history of W&FS since I became the editor is as follows:

Number of Manuscripts received	179
Inherited from Bob Youngs	45
Total processed in two years	224
Published	128
Rejected/Withdrawn	16
In the process	80*
	224

\*This number does not include the articles included in the July, 2003 issue (16) and the rejected papers (4) since July, 2002. See above table (100 - 16 - 4 = 80).

Geza announced that final copies of papers will now be required in electronic format, probably in Word. A new style sheet for the back inside cover will be completed soon. Geza introduced Carol Ovens, W&FS editorial assistant, who had joined us for the meeting.

#### Accreditation Committee

Report printed in the May-June Newsletter.

During the past year the committee:

1. Conducted site visits to SUNY-ESF (Nov 2002), Penn State (March 2003) and University of Maine (April 2003). All were conducted jointly with SAF and resulted in a final report on file with the Executive Director. The Committee will meet in Bellvue Washington in June 2003 to consider these applications and prepare recommendations for action by the Executive Board.
2. An ad hoc committee drafted proposed new standards for SWST accreditation and is not soliciting public comment on those. Please see <http://www.swst.org/standards.html> to review. Comments will be received until June 13. Please contact me directly at [thomas.mclain@orst.edu](mailto:thomas.mclain@orst.edu). This revision effort parallels a similar activity ongoing with SAF that will culminate in full implementation of new standards and procedures in 2005-06.
3. A new Accreditation Handbook is currently in preparation.
4. In Nov 2002, the Committee recommended that accreditation of the BS in Forest Products at Mississippi State University continue to be accredited until 2007. The Executive Board concurred.
5. An annual accreditation status report was published in the last SWST newsletter and was submitted to the Executive Director for publication on the Society web page.

Thomas McLain, Chair

Tom McLain announced that the committee was meeting today and would vote on the three visits that had take place this year - SUNY, Penn State, and University of Maine.

The new accreditation standards had been accepted by the Board, with minor changes. These will be implemented with the 2004-2005 visits.

#### Education Committee

This committee needs a member from each institution. The updated Directory of Schools is posted on the website. Any updates should be sent to Fran Wagner.

#### International Relations Committee

The committee has received no reports from the affiliates. They should follow up.

#### Membership Committee

This report was published in the May-June Newsletter.

(Continued on page 6)

1. Devise and implement procedures designed to increase the membership of qualified professional individuals in the Society.

The Board put together an ad-hoc committee (Doug Stokke, Cindy West, Richard Vlosky) to pick out 4-5 action points from the survey that can be accomplished quickly and with greatest impact on membership. Vlosky's initial role was to put together a 1-page summary of the survey and action points for publication in WFSJ as a professional page. This has been done. In addition, an article with the most salient results was written by Vlosky and will be included in the same issue. Vlosky was instructed to wait for Doug or Cindy to contact him for further instructions.

2. Review and approve applications for membership.

We have reviewed and made membership decisions on all applications received as of October 2002. We will continue to review applications as they come to the committee.

3. Follow up, via letter or other communication, to delinquent members by January 15 of each year.

Committee Chair has contacted delinquent members as they have been identified and communicated to him. Delinquent members will continue to be contacted as names are provided to the committee.

4. Send a letter to all graduating student members of SWST by March 1 of each year about the process and benefits of converting to full membership status upon graduation.

This was done in March 2003.

5. Develop and circulate a short membership survey every three years.

A survey was conducted in 2002 and will be replicated again in 2005 and every three years thereafter.

6. Prepare an annual report of committee activities for publication in the Newsletter (due 4/15)

Done.

#### Special Charges for 2002-2003:

1. Contact leaders at North American universities, asking that they identify students who could benefit from SWST membership. Ensure that program leaders have SWST poster and membership applications. Follow up with prospective new students by sending membership information.

Xiaoqi Zuo, Ph.D student at North Carolina State University and member of the SWST membership committee is working with the Committee Chair to contact academic leaders at appropriate North American and International universities to help recruit new student members. Committee Chair has requested 25 posters and 200 SWST applications from SWST national office to send to these institutions.

2. Work with Paul Blankenhorn to complete requirements for a "Fellows" membership category.

The Membership Committee recommends adoption of the guidelines developed by Dr. Blankenhorn.

3. Report results of member survey through Board Liaison for fall '02 board meeting. Work with Newsletter Editor to publish summary of member survey results.

Survey results have been submitted to the board and will be published in the newsletter as well as W&FS. The Committee also recommends that the full results from the survey be posted on the SWST website.

#### **Newsletter**

Doug Gardner announced that he was stepping down and asked for interested individuals to contact him.

#### **Past Presidents' Council**

A call for nominations for next year's DSA was announced.

#### **Policy and Critical Issues Committee**

A policy and position statement has been prepared by Jim Bowyer entitled "National Need in Capacity for Forest Products Research and Development". This will be made available for the membership comment and then processed following established procedures. A 1-page version of this will be sent to Congress.

#### **Public Liaison Committee**

No report. This committee will be disbanded.

#### **Publication Policy Committee**

This report was published in the May-June Newsletter.

#### Responsibilities:

1. Advise the Executive Board in policy matters related to all SWST publications  
Done as requested
2. Advise the Editor of *Wood and Fiber Science* on matters as requested  
Done as requested
3. Review policy matters for those in the Society in-

(Continued on page 7)

involved in publications

Done as requested

4. Solicit at least 2 SOA's per year and coordinate state-of-the-art papers for *Wood and Fiber Science*  
The change in policy to eliminate SOA's as such and move to review papers under the regular publication system has precluded this activity.
5. Prepare an annual report for publication in the Newsletter 4/15  
Not done

#### Special Charges for 2002-2003:

Develop recommendations on the following issues:

1. Should authors be asked to submit final version of papers accepted for publication in electronic format? If so, what format(s) will be specified?  
Papers should be submitted in WORD format, but there should be an option to submit in PDF.
2. Advise the Board on the desirability of moving toward electronic publishing of W&FS.

W&FS should move toward electronic publishing, but also continue hard copy printing for the immediate future.

3. Provide recommendations on how to increase the professional page content of W&FS.

Make known the need for notes on awards, editorials, and archival material through editorial notes in W&FS and the Newsletter.

#### Other subjects:

1. Redesign of W&FS:

While there is some sentiment for retaining the current size and format, a move to standard 8 1/2 x 11 inch size for cost saving purposes would not be objectionable.

2. Sending reprints to authors in PDF format: We don't see the point of this, especially if we wish to put the publication on-line. Papers published on-line could have a web link where they could be downloaded in PDF. Authors should get free reprints; the number could be reduced if cost is critical.

#### **Old Business**

None

#### **Teller's Report**

Vice President: Paul M. Smith

Directors: J. Daniel Dolan

Jeffery Morrell

Total Ballots received – 136

Counted by Vicki Herian and Cherilyn Hatfield

#### **New Business**

Cellulosic Cell Wall Conference will be held August 25-27, 2003, in Grand Lake Lodge, Colorado. Attendance is limited to 50 people. SWST will handle registration fees and perhaps obtain some profit from the proceedings.

Doug Stokke, as new President, presented Bob Rice with a President Plaque for 2002-2003.

Doug announced the new meeting on Monday morning entitled "Wood Characterization: Principles and Applications." It was added after requests from members on the survey to have more basic science talks during annual meeting time. The Monday morning timeslot seemed like the only time to have it.

Doug also acknowledged that the Sunday technical session was made possible by monetary donations by U.S. Forest Service PNW Station, Louisiana State University, and Iowa State University.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30.

#### Afternoon Program

12:30-4:00 Joint SWST/Forest Products Society (FPS) Plenary Sessions

*Session 1:* Theoretical and Practical Aspects of Drying Softwood Lumber (Idylwood Room)

*Session 2:* Within Tree Growth vs. Desired Microstructural Properties of Wood and Fiber Supplies (Glendale/Overlake Rooms)

*Session 3:* Wood and Product Quality as Affected by Forest Management (Sahalee Room)

3:30-4:30 International Academy of Wood Science (IAWS) Lecture, "Outlook for Ethanol from Lignocellulosics" **Dr. John N. (Jack) Sadtler**, Dean, Faculty of Forestry, NSERC Industrial Senior Chair, Department Of Wood Science, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. (Glendale/Overlake Rooms)

4:00-5:30 Joint SWST/FPS Technical Forum and Student Posters (Marymoor Ballroom and Foyer)

4:30-5:30 SWST Committee Chairs' Meeting (Factoria Room)

6:30-8:00 Joint SWST/FPS Host Reception (Fairweather/Bellefield Ballroom)

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Respectfully submitted,

VICTORIA L. HERIAN  
Executive Director

### **Bullets From 2003 Saturday and Monday Board Meetings:**

- Student Poster Competition: 15 people will be participating this year.
- We will no longer make reprints available to authors, but instead offer them the possibility of paying \$100 for the PDF of their paper.
- Publication Policy Committee will explore a change in design of Wood and Fiber Science, per requests from membership survey.
- The Board is exploring another company to perform typesetting of Wood and Fiber Science.

- Board passed draft Accreditation Standards.
- New career brochure has been printed and is available for distribution and purchase.
- Teaching Units 1 and 2 are available on the web, for purchase on CDs, along with wood samples and hand lens.
- Position paper on "National Need in Capacity for Forest Products Research and Development" was accepted by the Board and will be available for comment by the members in an upcoming Newsletter. A 1-page version will be sent to Congress.
- W&FS editor will be working on electronic format for submission of manuscripts and on editorial/rebuttal procedures.
- RNRF conference on "Personnel Trends and Education Policy in Federal and State Natural Resource Agencies" to be held in October 2003.
- Cellulosic Cell Wall Conference scheduled for August 2003. SWST will handle registrations.
- Proposal being put together to cosponsor a conference in Slovakia
- Ad hoc committee formed to assess and formalize the relationship between SWST and FPS
- Accreditation visits were discussed and finalized. Letters will be going out.

## Conferences

### ***Structural Design with Wood: An Introductory Course***

September 16-18, 2003, Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg. This course is designed for individuals who never had the opportunity to learn wood design basics in a university-level course, but are involved in the design, construction, and inspection of wood buildings. The course notebook will contain the designs presented at the course and wood framing details discussed relieving the participants of extensive note taking. The course will also include a tour and structural testing demonstration at the Brooks Forest Products Research Center. Visit [www.conted.vt.edu/sdww/](http://www.conted.vt.edu/sdww/) for information and registration.



Carolinas-Chesapeake Section  
McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC

Thursday, September 11, 2003

## Wood Fiber - Supply, Demand, Quality, and Potential

Global trends in timber & fiber supply  
Wood and fiber quality  
The future of wood chemicals, composites, and lumber  
Impact of genetics on supply and quality

Featured speakers include:

Jim McNutt, former CEO of Jaako Pöyry North America and current Executive Director of the Sloan Foundation Industry Center for Paper, Mac Lupold, Lupold Consulting, Inc., Wade Bennett, Craven Wood Energy, and David Ashcraft, Executive-in-Residence NCSU, formerly of Temple Inland, Inc.

For more information:

E-mail: [urs\\_buehlmann@ncsu.edu](mailto:urs_buehlmann@ncsu.edu) or [jwiedenbeck@fs.fed.us](mailto:jwiedenbeck@fs.fed.us)  
or call 304-431-2720

CFE credits:

Foresters will obtain 6.5 contact hours in Category 1 toward a Society of American Foresters Continuing Education Certificate.



## Employment Opportunities

### TENURE-TRACK POSITION, VIRGINIA TECH

The Department of Wood Science and Forest Products at Virginia Tech is seeking applications for the position of assistant/associate professor in biopolymer materials. The successful candidate is expected to develop an internationally recognized research program in biomaterials from renewable resources, with major focus on wood and related timber resources. The position provides excellent opportunities to develop a strong interdisciplinary program with campus researchers in the fields of wood science, polymer science, and macromolecular science and engineering. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in wood science, polymer science, biomaterials, materials science engineering or closely allied fields, with demonstrated experience in polymer science. Application review begins September 1, 2003, continuing until a suitable candidate is identified. Potential applicants must access the following website to view the complete position description:

<http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/biopolymer>. Inquiries: Dr. Charles E. Frazier, Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, College of Natural Resources, Virginia Tech, 230 Cheatham Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0323, [cfrazier@vt.edu](mailto:cfrazier@vt.edu). Virginia Tech is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.



## Amusements

### The Creation of Maine...

Once upon a time in the Kingdom of Heaven, God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael the Archangel found Him, resting on the seventh day.

He inquired of God, "Where have you been?" God sighed a deep sigh of satisfaction and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look Michael, look what I've made!"

Archangel Michael looked puzzled and said, "What is it?" "It's a planet," replied God, and I've put life on it. I'm going to call it Earth, and it's going to be a great place of balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, still confused. God explained, pointing to different parts of Earth, "For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor; the Middle East over here will be a hot spot. And over there I've placed a continent of white people, while over here is a continent of black people." God continued, pointing to different countries. "This one will be extremely hot and arid while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a large land mass and said, "What's that one?"

"Ah," said God. "That's Maine, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful lakes, rivers, sunsets and rolling hills. The people from Maine are going to be modest, intelligent and humorous and they are going to be found traveling the world. They will be extremely sociable, hard working and high achieving, and they will be known throughout the world as diplomats and carriers of peace."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration but then proclaimed, "What about balance, God? You said there would be balance!" God replied wisely, "Wait until you see the people I'm putting around them in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey.

The **SWST Newsletter** is published six times a year by the Society of Wood Science and Technology, One Gifford Pinchot Drive, Madison, WI 53705, USA.

Phone: (608) 231-9347

Web site: <http://www.swst.org>

Fax: (608) 231-9592

E-mail: [radogazo@fnr.purdue.edu](mailto:radogazo@fnr.purdue.edu) or [vicki@swst.org](mailto:vicki@swst.org)

**SWST** is a technical and professional organization for scientists and engineers working in academia, government, consulting and the forest-products industries and is dedicated to providing education and expertise regarding better ways to use and produce wood products

Items for the Newsletter may be sent to Rado Gazo, at the above address.

### Society of Wood Science and Technology

President:	Douglas Stokke
Past President	Robert W. Rice
President Elect:	Audrey Zink-Sharp
Vice President:	Paul Smith
Executive Director:	Vicki L. Herian
Directors:	
	Bob Smith (2004)
	Todd Shupe (2004)
	Dan Dolan (2005)
	Jeff Morrell (2005)

Editor, <i>Wood and Fiber Science</i> :	Geza Ifju
Associate Editor	D. Earl Kline
Editorial Assistant	Carol B. Ovens
<i>Newsletter</i> Editor	Rado Gazo


 The logo for the Society of Wood Science and Technology (SWST) features the letters "SWST" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a solid black rectangular background.