



March-April 1998

1. [PENCIL AND PAPER](#)
 2. [SOCIETY NEWS](#)
 3. [CONNECTIONS](#)
 4. [COMING EVENTS](#)
 5. [INFORMATION PLEASE](#)
 6. [POSITIONS AVAILABLE](#)
-



Pencil and Paper

As a mother, I find I am constantly giving reminders. Thus, the reason for my next comments:

- **Annual Meeting:** The 1998 SWST Annual Meeting is scheduled for **June 21, at the Fiesta American Hotel in Merida, Mexico** . The program announcement has been mailed to you. See "Coming Events" section. Return your registrations by **June 5** , if possible.
- **Student Poster Competition** : Applications for the SWST Student Poster Competition to be held at the Annual Meeting are due in the Madison Office by **May 1, 1998**. Application forms and guidelines were sent to students and printed as part of the January-February 1998 Newsletter. You can also find the announcement on our Web page.
- **International Professional Visitation Awards** : Proposals for the 1998 SWST International Professional Visitation Program are due **April 1** in the Madison office. The Society will award up to two awards of \$2000 each.
- **Topics for the 1999 SWST/FPS Joint Technical Session** should be forwarded to the Executive Office by **May 1, 1998**. A form was in your last Newsletter.
- **May 1** - Committee Chairs should forward their **Committee reports** to Vicki for inclusion in the May-June Newsletter and discussion at the Annual Meeting.
- Attention Full Members: Please send back your **1998-1999 Ballot for SWST Officers by May 21**.
- If you haven't updated and mailed back your **member record form** , please do so immediately so that it may be included in the May 1998 Membership Directory.

- Don't forget to return your **Membership Survey** . Postage has been applied to your survey form, so you simply have to complete it and drop in the mail. This will help the Executive Board focus on the future direction of our Society.
- Return the **Committee Sign-Up Form** included in this Newsletter.

Once I'm on a roll, it's hard to stop. But enough for now. --Vicki Herian



Dr. Duane Lyon, Professor at the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), Forest and Wildlife Research Center, Mississippi State University, has retired after 25 years of service. Dr. Lyon served as a professor and as the Coordinator of the Furniture Research Unit (FRU) at the FPL. Since the creation of the FRU within the FPL by the Legislature in 1987, the FRU has assisted the furniture industry in building a strong technological base that will ensure that the industry continues to grow and remain profitable. Under Dr. Lyon's guidance, the FRU has saved Mississippi furniture manufacturers more than \$3 million annually since the Unit was established. The FRU is the largest furniture research program in North America. The furniture industry contributes significantly to the economy of Mississippi. Presently, there are more than 250 firms in the state, employing 49,566 people, with a total impact on the state's economy of over \$3.2 billion per year. Mississippi's furniture industry is best known for producing 70 percent of the upholstered furniture made in the U.S.

"Dr. Lyon has established an excellent reputation with furniture industry personnel through his work as the Coordinator of the FRU. Words cannot describe the invaluable service Duane has provided over the years to the Laboratory, MSU and the furniture industry. His contributions will be recognized long after he is gone and we will try to continue in the pattern of excellence that he has set for us," said Dr. Philip Steele, Interim Department Head of the FPL.

The retirement reception for Dr. Lyon was held in the FPL Log Cabin on Friday, January 30th. Dr. Malcolm Portera, President of the University, as well as MSU faculty and staff, and many industry representatives joined in wishing Dr. Lyon the best of luck in his retirement. Dr. Lyon matched the contributory gifts that were collected to honor him on his retirement and donated \$1000.00 to the Forest Products Laboratory Scholarship Fund. Dr. Lyon will continue to reside in Starkville, MS, and remain active at MSU.

Constitutional Change

A change needs to be made in the Constitution regarding the procedure for succession should the office of president-elect be vacated. The current method of succession would create a void in the presidency the year following the vacancy since the president-elect would have advanced to this office. The following constitutional change will be brought up for a vote before the membership at the Annual Meeting, followed with a letter ballot in July (per the regulations for amendment to the Constitution).

Current Version:

Article VI -- Elections - Section 10.

If the office of president-elect is vacated, the duties of the president-elect shall be performed by the vice-president, who will advance to the *president-elect in the normal manner at the end of the term as vice-president*. If the office of vice-president is vacated, it shall remain vacant until the next election, at which time both a

president-elect and a vice-president will be elected.

New Version:

Article VI -- Elections - Section 10.

If the office of president-elect is vacated, the duties of the president-elect shall be performed by the vice-president, who will advance to the **presidency without election at the end of the term as vice president. A president-elect and a vice-president will be elected at the next election** . If the office of vice-president is vacated, it shall remain vacant until the next election, at which time both a president-elect and a vice-president will be elected.



Connections

Thin Kerf Technologies, Inc. (TKT) of Surrey, British Columbia, Canada , has a new web site for presenting its products and services relating to sawing technology and machine alignment. The site's address is www.thinkerf.com The site hosts a discussion group, called the Filer's Forum, for anyone interested in sawing technology for the primary and secondary wood industries. This is an open forum to discuss issues and problems, and to seek advice. The TKT web pages also have links to the web pages of other companies and organizations involved in sawing technology.

CAB International announced TREE CABWeb late last year. This can be found at <http://tree.cabweb.org/> SWST is listed as a professional society link. Please check it out.



Coming Events

SWST Annual Technical Session - "Wood Products Industry in the 21st Century: Knowledge, Technology and Work Force Training Needs",
JUNE 21, 1998, Fiesta Americana Hotel, Merida, Mexico

8:00 - 12:45 Technical Program
 (Yucatan III)

8:00 - 8:25 Harry Cullinan, Professor

Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

Pulp & Paper Education and Research Alliance

8:25 - 8:50 Heinz Koester , Professor

F. H. Rosenheim, Germany

European Industry Perspective

8:50 - 9:15 Ricardo Ayub, President

Duraplay Co., Chihuahua, Mexico

Mexican Industry Perspective

9:15 - 9:40 Guillermo Guelle, President

Forestal Copihue, Chile

Chilean Industry Perspective

9:40 - 10:05 Wood Links Demonstration

10:10 - 10:45 Discussion (all speakers)

Moderator: J. David Barrett , Professor

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia

10:45 - 11:45 Award Presentations

11:45 - 12:45 Annual Business Meeting and Lunch

1:00 - 4:00 Joint SWST/FPS Plenary Sessions

Session 1: *Forest Fiber Biology, Its Control with Silviculture and the Effects on Wood-Based Products* (Merida I)

Session 2: *Predictive Techniques for Characterizing the Structural Performance of Fiber-Based Composites* (Merida II and III)

Session 3: *Using Knowledge of Wood Physics to Improve Wood Drying* (Valladolid room)

4:00 - 5:30 Joint SWST/FPS Technical Forum and Student Posters
(Student poster competition held June 20, 1998) (Yucatan IV Room)

2nd Annual Workshop on Electronic Information Systems for the Wood Products Industries: The Internet - Surfing the Net! Cyberspace! The World Wide Web! Home Pages! We hear about how useful the Internet is and about all the information that is available. How do you find it? How do you navigate the maze? How do you use it to sell your products and promote your company? The Department of Wood Science and Forest Products at Virginia Tech will be conducting a one-day workshop for wood industry personnel to gain the necessary skills with both the hardware and software to utilize the Internet regarding the processing and marketing of wood and wood products. This program will be held on May 12, 1998, at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center in Roanoke, Virginia. Each participant will have access to his or her own computer workstation throughout the entire workshop. This will be a hands-on, logged-on program. Enrollment will be limited. For additional information or registration materials, contact Fred M. Lamb, Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, Brooks Center, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, ph: 540-231-7256, fax: 540-231-8868.

Four Teachers Tours Planned for 1998 - Under the umbrella of the *Teachers Tour Coalition*, the Teachers Tour effort continues this year on an expanded basis. Four tours are scheduled, twice the number of recent years. With the Temperate Forest Foundation as the central point of operation, 12 associations are involved in the effort, with NAWLA and the National Lumber & Building Material Dealers' Association at the forefront of the sponsor-teacher recruiting process. One of the benefits of the Teachers Tour program is that it acts as a catalyst to unite regional industry groups in the coordination of each event. This helps to create a localized infrastructure and, thus, pave the way for subsequent similar activities to be carried out by these groups at the grassroots level. The four Teachers Tours planned for 1998 are: Southeastern Region, June 17-20, 1998, Alexandria, LA; Redwood Region, July 8-11, 1998, Fortuna, CA; Northwestern Region, July 29-August 1, 1998, Kelso, WA (Mt. St. Helen); and Northeastern Region, August 19-22, 1998, Bucksport, ME. In the near future, NAWLA will send members information on what entails sponsoring a teacher. Until then, please give this very important and gratifying opportunity a thought. Talk to your kids, or your employees who have children in grade school about this program to help select a teacher in your area. For more information, contact NAWLA at 3601 Algonquin Road, Suite 400, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008, ph: 800-527-8258, fax: 847-870-0201, email: nawla@aol.com web site: <http://www.lumber.org>

11th International Symposium on Non-Destructive Testing of Wood - September 9-11, 1998, at the Inn on the Park Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin. Topics to be presented include: Advanced NDT methodologies for timber and wood composite materials; applications of NDT for manufacturing, quality control and evaluation of material properties of wood and wood products; and applications of NDT for in situ condition assessment of wood-based components, connections, assemblies, and full-scale timber structures. For more information or to request a brochure, call 800-942-4978 or 509-335-3530, Conferences & Institutes, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-5222

American Wood Preservers' Association has a new address: P. O. Box 5690, Granbury, Texas 76049. Their phone number 817-326-6300 and fax number 817-326-6306 remain unchanged. Their email address is: awpa@itexas.net

Research, Tech-Transfer Team May Revolutionize Navy Ports - Experts from several universities, government agencies and industries are teaming up for an all-out attack on the marine elements destroying the



**Information
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nation's piers and ports. The Office of Naval Research awarded the first \$2.5 million of a three-year \$7.5 million contract to the multidisciplinary team of Washington State University's Wood Materials Engineering Laboratory, Michigan Technological University, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, Amoco Polymers, Inc. of Georgia and the Naval Facilities Engineering Service Center (NFESC) in California. The team will use the funds to develop a new hybrid wood-based material impervious to marine borers, water logging and many other destructive elements of the marine environment. The engineered pie components made of thermoplastic wood may supplant the need for creosote- or pesticide-treated timber. They will be used for pilings, wales, chocks and camels for a new generation of concrete pier fendering systems to replace decaying wood in the majority of the U.S. Navy's waterfront facilities. As many as 8,000 tons of timber could be removed each year as the Navy transitions these timbers. As much as \$1 billion in structural deficiencies affect current Navy shore facilities, most of which were established in the 1940's. This unique joint university-industry-government research project demonstrates how innovative "engineered lumber" can bring higher-performing building products to the marketplace in a cost-effective, ecologically sound way.

Timber, Tourists, and Temples - Conservation and Development in the Maya Forest of Belize, Guatemala, and Mexico, edited by Richard B. Primack, David Bray, Hugo A. Galletti, and Ismael Ponciano. This book brings together the leading biologists, social scientists, and conservationists working the Maya Forest and around the world to present a single volume of information on the intricate social and political issues and the complex scientific and management problems to be resolved there. The topics cover data collected on the Maya Forest using GIS and remote sensing technologies; forestry and conservation policies of the three nations on which the Maya Forest exists; efforts by communities to manage their forest resources; the relationship between conservation and local consumers; projects that seek to integrate biological research with assessment of impacts of resource extraction and human activities upon forest species; and the need to involve local people in the conservation of resources. You may order from Island Press, Box 7, Dept. 2PR, Covelo, CA 95428, ph: 800-828-1302. Cost is \$55.00 for cloth ISBN 1-55963-541-X or \$35.00 for paper ISBN 1-55963-542-8

HPVA Publishes the 1998 *Where to Buy Hardwood Plywood, Veneer and Engineered Hardwood Flooring Buyers' Guide and Membership Directory*. This 172-page directory is the best single source of information available in the industry about hardwood plywood and veneer manufacturers, finishers, suppliers, and wholesale distributors, and the products they offer. Copies of the Guide are available for \$5.00 to cover postage and handling. Mail request and check to HPVA, P.O. Box 2789, Reston, VA 20195-0789.

The Center for Forest Products Marketing and Management at Virginia Tech held a workshop on February 2, 1998, for students to help improve their interviewing skills and understand what to expect during their first year on the job. This workshop was presented by representatives from the forest products industry. Dr. Dennis Yamasaki and Mr. Edward McLaughlin (Champion International Corporation) addressed interviewing skills. Recent graduate, Ms. Emille Dillard (McEwen Lumber Company) discussed what to expect the first year on the job. Ms. Claire Childress (Virginia Tech Career Services) discussed the services provided by her office. The workshop was well received by all and will be continued in the future. Dr. Robert J. Bush, director of the Center for Forest Products Marketing and Management, was pleased by the reception this workshop received and explained, "We couldn't have done this workshop without the help of the industry representatives. I appreciate them taking time out to help prepare our students for a successful career in the forest products industry."

Graduate Fellowships in Forest Products Marketing are available at the Center for Forest Products Marketing and Management at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. These fellowships are available for students wishing to pursue a Ph.D. with emphasis on the Marketing of Forest Products. Fellowships provide students with a stipend (\$17,000 per year plus tuition waivers) and the opportunity to work with one of the top programs in the field. Candidates with an interest in forest products marketing, regardless of educational background are encouraged to apply. Fellowship awards will be based on academic achievement and potential to excel in graduate studies. U.S. citizenship is required. To request more information contact: Ms. Joanne Buckner, Secretary, Center for Forest Products Marketing and Management, Department of Wood Science and Forest



Positions Available

Products, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1650 Ramble Road - Mail Code 0503, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061 (phone: 540-231-5876, fax: 540-231-8868, email: ctrfpmjo@vt.edu)

The university is an equal opportunity employer.

Two Faculty Positions Available - Forest Ecologist and Natural Resource Economist (both at the Resident Faculty or Program Director level), located at the Center for Coastal Studies, Bamfield, British Columbia, Canada. Anticipated start date of June 1 or August 25, 1998. The Forest Ecologist position candidate must have a Ph.D. or Masters with relevant experience, four years teaching experience at University level, and field experience. Candidates should also possess a background in Forestry, Forest Management, Forest

Ecosystems, Coastal Zone Ecosystems, Social Forestry, Canadian and British Columbia provincial land use management. The Natural Resource Economist position candidate must have a Ph.D. or Masters with relevant experience, four years teaching experience at University level, and field experience. Candidates should also possess a background in Forest resource management; alternative forest management models in the context of sustainable development, forest and wildlife management, landscape scale ecosystem management principles; and familiarity with social forestry, forest ecology and resource sociology and management of resources and policies in Canadian and British Columbia provincial land use management. To apply for either position, send CV and cover letter to: Daniel S. Adam, Human Resources Recruiter, 16 Broadway, Beverly, MA 01915, ph: 978-922-7200, x304 or fax: 978-927-5127.

Two Faculty Positions Available - Natural Resource Economist and Forest Ecologist (at the Resident Faculty level), at the Center for Rainforest Studies, Queensland, Australia . The Forest Ecologist position requires a Ph.D. or Masters with relevant experience, four years teaching experience at University level, and field experience. Should also possess a background in Forestry, Forest Management, Forest Ecosystems or Social Forestry in tropical forests. Experience in Australia preferred. The Natural Resource Economist position requires a Ph.D. or Masters with relevant experience, four years teaching experience at University level, and field experience. Candidates should also possess a background in forestry economies, restoration and forest ecology and wildlife, landscape management ecology, working with alternate forest management models in the context of sustainable development integrating social and resource components in tropical forests. Experience in Australia preferred. To apply, send CV and cover letter to Daniel S. Adam, Human Resources Recruiter, 16 Broadway, Beverly, MA 01915, ph: 978-922-7200, x304 or fax: 978-927-5127.

Assistant or Associate Professor/State Extension Wood Products Specialist, Department of Forestry, Oklahoma State University - Faculty appointment: A nine-month, full-time, tenure-track position, 70% teaching and 30% extension. Two years summer funding has been secured for additional extension programming, renewable based on performance. Responsibilities: Teaching to include wood properties, wood and fiber manufacturing/marketing, wood and fiber utilization and harvesting. Extension to focus on the development of existing and new primary and secondary wood and fiber processing industries in Oklahoma and the mid-south region. Requirements: A doctoral degree in forest products or closely allied field, B.S. and M.S. degrees in disciplinary areas supportive of the teaching and extension mission. Submit letter, resume, transcripts and 3 references by June 19, 1998 to Dr. Ed Miller, Oklahoma State University, Department of Forestry, 008C Agriculture Hall, Stillwater, OK 74078-6013, ph: 405-744-5438, fax: 405-744-9693, email forelm@okway.okstate.edu

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, FAX 608-231-9592 email vicki@swst.org web site ws13.fpl.fs.fed.us/swst/ 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 Vicki Herian, at the above Society address.

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[\[Beginning of Newsletter\]](#) [\[Return to Main Newsletter Page\]](#) [\[Return to the SWST Home Page\]](#)

Last updated: 6/9/99

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