

Southern California Society of American Foresters  
Executive Committee Meeting/Conference Call  
December 11, 2006

**Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Bryant, Gubrud, Hanna, Koepp (Chair), Lopez, Lydick (Council Representative), Meyer, Morrow, Reimer, Todd (10)

Meeting called to order by Chair Fritz Koepp at 0904 hours.

All Executive Committee Members took a minute to introduce themselves to our guest, Shawna Meyer.

Fritz reviewed the agenda. Topics added to the agenda included a report from the 2008 Convention Planning Team and possible use of a facility in the town of Sierra Madre to host the SoCal SAF Spring Meeting.

Special guest Shawna Meyer provided a brief introduction to herself. She contacted Fritz recently and volunteered her services to assist with SoCal SAF. Shawna is currently working for the San Bernardino National Forest Association. Shawna has been in California for about a year and has been involved in SAF for a number of years prior to moving to the Golden State. She has an extended educational resume and a background in forestry. Shawna is interested in becoming the editor of *The Sundial*. She will work with Communications Chair, J. Lopez in this capacity. Welcome Shawna!

The EC Minutes from 8-21-06 were reviewed and approved. Most of the items discussed in the minutes have already passed (SoCal SAF Fall Meeting, 2006 National Convention). John asked all EC members to review the minutes and to e-mail him any corrections that are needed.

**Chair-Elect Report:**

Ron Morrow reviewed the Executive Committee positions for 2007. They are as follows:

Chair – Ron Morrow  
Chair-Elect – Martin Gubrud (pending election)  
Past Chair – Fritz Koepp  
Secretary – John Todd  
Treasurer – Tamara Hanna  
Audit – Tamara Hanna  
Awards – Tamara Hanna  
Communications – J. Lopez  
CFE Contact – John Todd  
Education – John Todd  
Historian – Doug Nickles  
Membership – Tamara Hanna  
Newsletter Editor – Shawna Meyer  
Nominations – Fritz Koepp  
Policy – Fritz Koepp

Program – Martin Gubrud (pending election)  
Science and Technology – Doug Piirto  
Tellers – Tamara Hanna  
Website – Jeff Reimer  
Cal Poly Student Chapter – Nikki Gross  
Los Padres Chapter – Chris Dicus (Interim)  
San Gabriel Chapter – Doug Nickles

Tamara offered to assist Doug Nickles as Chapter Treasurer as he works on re-vitalizing the San Gabriel Chapter. She said that keeping track of the chapter finances would not be too difficult and that she can handle the San Gabriel Chapter finances along with her duties as SoCal State Society Treasurer.

John will send the list of officers for 2007 to Louise Murgia at the National Office so our officers can be accurately listed on the SAF website.

**Treasurer's Report:**

**Society of American Foresters  
Southern California State Society  
Year-End Financial Statement  
December 31, 2006**

**Account Balance** as of 1-1-06 **\$5,210.00**

Cash In-Flows

Dues	\$1,148.50
Bank Interest	\$ 7.22
Meeting registration/raffle	\$1,774.00
<b>Total In-flows</b>	<b>\$2,929.72</b>

Cash Out-Flows

Chapter Dues	\$ 416.50
Meeting Expenses	\$1,108.16
Travel (chair/chair-elect/student)	\$1,380.00
HSD Assessment	\$ 68.15
Web Site Registration	\$ 0.00
General Supplies	\$ 11.36
Awards	\$ 176.67
Other (new member promo)	\$ 12.00
One time line item	\$ 266.20
(J Lopez to Reno for 2008 conv. plan. mtg.)	
<b>Total Out-flows</b>	<b>\$3,439.04</b>

**Account Balance** as of 12-31-06 **\$4,700.68**

**NET GAIN/LOSS** **\$ 509.32 (-)**

Society of American Foresters  
Southern California State Society  
Treasurers Report  
Fall Meeting 2006

“Development in Fire-Prone Zones of Los Angeles County”  
Descanso Gardens, La Canada Flintridge  
September 29 – 30, 2006

INCOME

Registration Fees	\$812.00
Donation(s)	\$ 30.00
Dave Waite \$5.00 cash	
Doug Nickles \$25.00 sponsor a student for registration	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$842.00</b>

EXPENSES

Van Rental (Friday)	\$301.00
Morning Refreshments (Friday)	\$ 54.00
Box Lunches (Friday)	\$189.15
Patina Catering (Saturday)	\$194.85
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$739.00</b>

**NET PROFIT** **\$103.00 (+)**

Registration fees:

Members - \$50 whole program or \$25/day  
Student/Golden Member/Spouse - \$25 whole program or \$12/day

Total registrants:

21 registrants for Friday program (18 members, 1 student, 1 golden member & 1 spouse)  
14 registrants for Saturday program (12 members, 1 golden member & 1 spouse)

Income from registration fees = \$812.00

Income breakdown per day per registration type:

Friday... 18 @ \$25, 2 @ \$12.50, 1 @ \$12 = total \$487.00

Saturday... 12 @ \$25, 2 @ \$12.50 = total \$325.00

Total expenses = \$739.00

Expenses breakdown per day: Friday... \$544.15      Saturday... \$194.85

Cost of program per day per person: (using \$25 per person per day for registration)

Friday... \$544/18 = \$30 per person. We are *over-budget* by \$5 per person (loss)!

Saturday... \$195/12 = \$16 per person. We are under-budget by \$9 person (profit).

What does it all mean?

It's obvious that if we want to realize better profits, then we need to make some changes! (i.e. charge more for registration, reduce expenses, generate additional revenue, increase the number of registrants or some combination thereof.)

For previous meetings, we have held raffles where the raffle gifts were donations by the executive committee and/or members. This is one way of generating additional revenue which would augment the overall profits.

Also for previous meetings, we have had to pay facility use fees and we have given out “speaker gifts”, both of which constitute additional expenses.

SoCal SAF provided funds to assist Cal Poly students with expenses at the National Convention in Pittsburgh. SoCal SAF provided \$480 for four students or \$120 per student. Per Samantha Gill one Cal Poly student, Elizabeth Lucas, attended the Convention. The SoCal SAF EC would welcome a short article for *The Sundial* from the Elizabeth sharing their experiences at the Convention.

Instead of requesting repayment of the funds the EC agreed that the remaining \$360 should stay with Cal Poly and it can be considered an initial payment to support Cal Poly student travel to the 2007 National Convention in Portland, Oregon.

#### **Newsletter Report:**

J. is requesting that everyone provide their input for *The Sundial*. J. is requesting an article from the Chair (outgoing), the Chair-Elect, (incoming), a membership spotlight, treasurer’s report, and tellers’ committee report. Also, we would like to include a brief introduction to Shawna Meyer. J. will need to receive all input by Friday, December 15, 2006 or sooner. Newsletter will go out immediately after that start of the year and it will include a ballot for Chair-Elect.

#### **Membership Dues, Policy, Structure Proposal:**

During 2006 National Convention House of Society Delegates Meeting a new proposed dues structure was rolled out by Charlene Schildwachter, SAF’s Senior Director of Marketing and Membership. Tamara recently forwarded this proposal to all members of the EC for their review. The EC briefly discussed some of the high points of the report. District III Council Representative Julie Lydick stated that Council would be looking for input from the membership for their March Council Meeting. As the proposed changes are multi-faceted and will take the action of both Council and the membership the timeframes for implementation are not currently known.

National has provided a PowerPoint program detailing the proposed changes and the reason they are needed. Tamara, as she attended the original presentation, will present the PowerPoint to the EC during the January 12, 2007 EC Meeting. All EC members should review the proposed changes and be ready to discuss them at the meeting.

In addition, J. will send the current proposal to all members that have e-mail. He will also make copies and send via the US Mail to members that do not have e-mail access. All members will be encouraged to provide their thoughts to members of the EC prior to the January meeting.

As always, all members are invited to attend the EC meeting to share their thoughts and to assist in drafting SoCal SAF’s response to the proposed changes.

### **Award for Gary Nakamura, Outgoing District III Council Representative**

J. provided a brief overview of outgoing District III Council Representative Gary Nakamura's contributions to SoCal SAF. J suggested that we have an award made up for Gary which could be presented to him at a later date. Tamara stated that money was not set aside in the 2006 budget for this purpose. However, she said she could look for an award when she purchases the award for the outgoing Chair and the perpetual plaque is updated. John made a motion to spend up to \$100 (from the 2007 budget) for a suitable award for Gary. J seconded the motion award. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes. Tamara will report her findings at the January EC Meeting.

### **Planning Committee for 2008 National Convention in Reno, NV**

A small group of members from NorCal SAF, InterMountain SAF and SoCal SAF have already participated in three conference calls and are hard at work doing the 'pre-planning' for the 2008 National Convention in Reno.

The following individuals have been selected for the major leadership roles during the 2008 Convention.

#### General Co-Chairs:

Lynn Sprague, InterMountain SAF, [glsprag@aol.com](mailto:glsprag@aol.com)

Tad Mason, NorCal SAF, [tmason@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmason@sbcglobal.net)

#### Program Co-Chairs:

Rod Brevig, InterMountain SAF, [rbrevig@tax.state.id.us](mailto:rbrevig@tax.state.id.us)

Greg Biging, NorCal SAF, [biging@nature.berkeley.edu](mailto:biging@nature.berkeley.edu)

#### Arrangements Co-Chair:

Skip Ritter, InterMountain SAF, [skip\\_ritter@nv.blm.gov](mailto:skip_ritter@nv.blm.gov)

Bob Solari, NorCal SAF, [dkcrvr@yahoo.com](mailto:dkcrvr@yahoo.com)

Julie Lydick will send an article for *The Sundial* that will detail progress to date and will also cite additional volunteer roles that need to be filled.

The first national planning meeting for the 2008 Convention will take place in March in either Reno or at SAF Headquarters in Bethesda. The identified co-chairs and national office staff will be attending.

In order to better plan are activities and in the interest of getting to know each other better prior to the National Convention a joint winter meeting of the three state societies may be planned for the Reno area during January, 2008.

### **Spring Meeting:**

While working with Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council J. has come up with a facility to host the Spring Meeting. The facility is called 'Nature Friends' and it is a retreat in the hills above Sierra Madre (Go to: <http://www.naturefriendsla.org/index.html>). This facility would allow attendees to

stay on site for a nominal cost. Urban Forestry, the Wildland-Urban Interface, and the special issues that communities like Sierra Madre face could all be topics to discuss. Caroline Brown, of the SoCal Fire Safe Council will be able to assist with reserving the facility and planning for the event. The dates that the facility is available are April 20-21, 2007. We will need to submit a \$150 deposit to reserve the facility. Ron Morrow made a motion that the EC authorize J. to spend \$150 to reserve the Nature Friends facility for our Spring Meeting. A second was received from Martin Gubrud. All in favor, none opposed, motion passes.

Per Doug Piirto, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo will not be available for the Spring Meeting.

**Roundtable:**

Martin Gubrud was confirmed to the National Who's Who Directory on November 22, 2006 for his contributions to the field of Forestry.

Dan Turner is now in charge of the Urban Forestry Ecosystem Institute at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Short courses in Urban Forestry and other natural resources courses with college credit will be offered in the future.

**Calendar:**

Executive Committee Meeting, Glendale Fire Department Headquarters: January 12, 2007

SoCal SAF Spring Meeting, Sierra Madre: April 20-21, 2007

House of Society Delegates, Portland, Oregon: October 21-22, 2007

SAF National Convention, Portland, Oregon: October 23-27, 2007

**Next Executive Committee Meeting:**

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on **January 21, 2007** at Glendale Fire Department Headquarters (Fire Station 21), located at 421 Oak Street, Glendale, CA 91204. Doug Nickles will reserve the conference room for our meeting.

A discussion of topics to be covered during the meeting came up with the following:

Leadership Training for 2007

Leadership Manual Update

Membership Report

Membership Dues, Policy, Structure Proposal

Planning for Spring Meeting

Publicizing opportunities to get involved in the 2008 convention

Increased SoCal SAF involvement in meetings like the one that took place in San Bernardino during 2006 (Doug Nickles may lead this discussion)

Meeting adjourned at 1048 hours.

Respectfully submitted by John R. Todd  
Secretary, Southern California SAF