



# **BURNING ISSUES**

www.paforestheritage.org

**2ND QUARTER 2016**

**VOLUME XXII, No. 2**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The transition of to our new name, Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association, is nearly complete. We are now officially approved by the Pennsylvania Department of State. During this time of change we are continuing our focus on understanding and recognizing the very important role of forest fire fighting in our State, while placing it in the broader context of the struggle for forest conservation that has been waged for more than one hundred years.

Along with the new name we also have a new website: [paforestheritage.org](http://paforestheritage.org). Please bookmark this site on your favorite browser. We plan to use it to communicate with members and share our programs with the world. We also have a new email address: [info@paforestheritage.org](mailto:info@paforestheritage.org). Please use it to request information and share your ideas. I look forward to hearing from you.

You can also reach us on Facebook. This link will take you there: <https://goo.gl/tzC7Tr>.

The Forest Heritage and Discovery Center at Caledonia State Park is now open for the summer. The hours are Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1 to 5. I urge all members to stop by for a visit to see what we have to offer. Better yet, consider volunteering. With more volunteers we can open more days and more hours. It's ok if you haven't done anything like this before. You can work with an experienced volunteer until you feel comfortable. Just email me for more information.

We will also be happy to open the Discovery Center at other times for special visits by youth groups and other organizations. Please contact us through Facebook or the email address. We just need

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## **GOLF OUTING – June 24, 2016**

The Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association and Pennsylvania Forestry Association Golf Tournament was held at Rich Valley Golf Course in Mechanicsburg. Forty golfers enjoyed the near perfect weather for a great afternoon of golf. This year the net proceeds from the tournament will be dedicated to improving the displays at the Forest Heritage Discovery Center at Caledonia State Park.

The winning foursomes included:

First place: Terry Felty, John Risser, Steve Kline, Mark Chritzman



Second place, the American Legion team: Brian Shonyo, Josh Swails, Bobby Williams, Dave Dudley

Third place: Ken Brought, Phil Faust, Wayne Wright, Jake Creswell

## Cecile Stelter, DCNR –BOF

Following in a long line of women from Mary Ludwig – a.k.a. Molly Pitcher – Mira Lloyd Dock and Patricia Remy (the first woman graduate from PSU in Forestry), Cecile Stelter is the District Forester for District 14, the Cornplanter State Forest.



I am originally from the southwest region of Pennsylvania, southeast of Pittsburgh. I attended Penn State and I am a 1989 and 1990 graduate of Penn State University with undergraduate and graduate degrees in Forestry.

I began my Bureau experience working as an intern in Central Office in the Forestry Advisory Services in the summers of 1987 and 1988. I joined the Bureau of Forestry in 1998 as a seasonal Forest Technician and worked my way up to a permanent Forester position and then advanced to an Assistant District Forester all in the Cornplanter Forest District 14. I attained my current position of District Forester of the Cornplanter Forest District in June 2008.

My fire experience has included flying recon in FD14; initial attack and serving on one of the Bureau of Forestry's Type III Incident Management Teams. I have been out of state four times as a Firefighter Liaison Officer. (FFT2); or Public Information Officer (PIOF) or Trainee (LOFR)

Currently I am a PIOF and have been since 2007. My two main duties as an Information Officer

( Golf from Page 1)



2<sup>nd</sup> Place Foursome



3<sup>rd</sup> Place Foursome

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include: developing current, accurate and complete information about an incident; and providing a central source of information for the media, the public, incident personnel, local agency personnel and cooperators.

I am a Life Member of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association and the Forest Heritage Association I am Certified Forester with the Society of American Foresters(SAF) and an active member of the Plateau Chapter of SAF and also a Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), and a lifetime member of the Girl Scout organization.

(continued next page)

## **PA Forest Heritage Association**

### **Officers**

**President** Dr. Peter E. Linehan

pel2@psu.edu

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** – Bob Rudy

bob@bobrudy.com

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** - Paul Sebasovich

psebasovich@gmail.com

**Immediate Past President** - Jack Graham

jatogr@embarqmail.com

**Secretary** - Lisa LaSalle

lasallelisa@yahoo.com

**Treasurer** – John Bitzer

jbitz@ptd.net

### **Directors**

Dr. Peter E. Linehan – 2015 pel2@psu.edu

Beverly Spicer – 2015 beal70sp@centurylink.net

Jack Graham – 2015 jatogr@embarqmail.com

Bill Parr – 2016 wwparr@comcast.net

John Eastlake – 2016 jeastlake@comcast.net

Bob Schweitzer – 2016 RESchw38@gmail.com

Joe Devilbiss – 2016 joendot2@verizon.net

Jeff Stuffle – 2016 jandmstuffle@verizon.net

Richard H. Flowers, II – 2017 rflowers@flowerscpas.com

Roy A. Siefert – 2017 rsiefert2@juno.com

John Berst – 2017 berst\_2@msn.com

Bob Rudy – 2017 bob@bobrudy.com

### **Newsletter Editor**

Michael J. Klimkos

Klimkos@embarqmail.com

*Burning Issues* is the newsletter of the Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association and is published quarterly. The primary distribution is by e-mail. Paper copies mailed only on written request

### **Wildfire Statistics to, 2016**

Total Fires - 616

Acres Burned - 11,291.52

Estimated Damage - \$3,481,413

Residences Destroyed – 9

Other Structures Destroyed – 18

### **REWARD**

A reward totaling \$15,000 now is being offered for information leading to arrests and convictions in what investigators say were two fires intentionally set. Labeled the 16 Mile and Beartown fires, the wildfires were discovered April 20 and burned through May 2 in Delaware State Forest and on private lands.

*(Stelter – from Page2)*

I live near Titusville, PA in northwest Pennsylvania with my husband Jim, and enjoy many hobbies including: gardening, flintlock hunting and refinishing furniture.

*President's Message (cont.)*

enough notice to arrange for personnel.

I am sure many of you are very busy working with many volunteer groups.. One thing I have learned over the years is the importance of partnerships to strengthen the work of each organization in times like these where everyone is busy and budgets are tight. We have been exploring increased cooperation with the Pennsylvania Forestry Association. The PFA vice-president, Richard Lewis, attended our board meeting in May, while I attended their board meeting on June 7. Our missions are similar and many of our members belong to both organizations. What could be better?

I hope everyone has a happy and safe summer! Please send me your comments and ideas.

Regards,  
Peter Linehan



P.O. Box 176  
Fayetteville, PA 17222-0176

*Return Service Requested*

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association is to preserve and showcase the heritage of forests and fire protection as they relate to forestry. The association celebrates Pennsylvania's pioneers in forest stewardship – past, present and future

### Vision Statement

The Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association is a place of discovery. Significant artifacts and interactive exhibits trace the past and point to the future of forestry in Pennsylvania. The museum is dedicated to the stewardship of all forest resources and honors the men and women who sustain today's forest. Here everyone can enjoy a variety of experiences that further an understanding of forestry and forest fires. In addition to indoor and outdoor exhibits, the facility includes a library, training center, classrooms, volunteer accommodations, museum store and administrative offices. Future plans include outreach programs, transportable exhibits, an auditorium and food service.

### Membership Application

Please enroll the following as a member of the Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:

- Student/ Youth \$5
- Individual \$15
- Family (number in household\_\_\_\_) \$25
- Sustaining \$35
- Non-Profit Volunteer Organization (check below) \$35
  - Forest Fire Crew
  - Volunteer Fire Company
  - Forest Fire Wardens Assoc.
  - Other Organization \_\_\_\_\_
- Corporate \$100
- Life \$300
- Contributing \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to join but I would like to make a donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks payable to:

**Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association**

Mail to:

**The Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Assoc.  
6151 Route 209  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360-7039**