



NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

School of Forestry

I am pleased to introduce this new issue of our Forest Seasons newsletter. The last issue was published in November of 2003. Due to alumni requests, we have brought the newsletter back to life. I hope you enjoy reading the latest news about your alma mater. The School of Forestry faculty continues to maintain both a high rate of productivity and a great enthusiasm about our future. Two recent positive developments include a fall freshmen class that is the largest we have ever had and the addition of four new faculty members in the last two years, who are introduced on page two.



In addition to the new faculty, there have been several valuable additions to our staff. Connie Ott, our Development Officer, is making connections with alumni and friends. As a result, our scholarship funds and giving to specific projects such as the Centennial Forest Environmental Learning Center and Field Campus have increased. Grover Decker, our new Student Services Coordinator, has been active in recruitment and retention activities, along with his counterpart Robin Long, of the Ecological Restoration Institute. Lauri Patton, our new Program Coordinator, has been of great assistance in helping with the day-to-day administration of our school.

We continue to be involved in study abroad programs in Ghana and there is interest in providing new study opportunities in Mexico, Panama, Kenya, and Australia. Currently we have a visiting professor from Spain and a Chinese professor is scheduled for the next academic year.

One of the highlights of Fall 2006 was homecoming weekend. Thirty-three Forestry alumni attended the 1960's Reunion. Thanks to John Stephenson (class of 63), Don Richard (class of 63), and Doug Smith (class of 62) for making this happen (see the article on page five).

I hope you enjoy this new issue of Forest Seasons. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for future issues. Also, please stay in contact with us by email, letter or telephone so that we can stay in contact with you.

David R Patton

David Patton, Executive Director, School of Forestry,
Dean, Consortium of Professional Schools



NAU at the SAF National Convention

The School of Forestry was well represented at the Society of American Foresters National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA this past October. A total of five current faculty, one professor emeritus (Ernie Kurmes) and 18 students attended. Two of the faculty (Margaret Moore and Kristen Waring) gave presentations on their research, one presented a poster (Denver Hospodarsky) and three participated in

the Silviculture Instructors' Tour (Alex Finkral, Ernie Kurmes and Kristen Waring). Another faculty member (Jim Allen) represented the SOF at the National Association of University Forest Resource Programs meeting held just before the main convention. The students participated in the Quiz Bowl, helped out at the SOF's booth in the exhibit hall, attended many technical sessions, and participated in the



All of the SoF students took turns at the NAU booth. Shown here (from left to right) are Chris Sorenson, Eric Osborn, Chris Olson and Adam Gaumont.



Jason Metnick ('01, Manager of Label and Licensing for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative) talks with current graduate student Ben DuBlois at the Alumni Reception.

Job Fair. Another highlight for the students and faculty was receiving an award for third place among the 83 SAF student chapters across the nation. Two of the students (Karen Koestner and Elysia Zarate) were awarded Diversity Scholarships, which provided much of the funding for them to attend the conference in return for their participation in a panel on diversity issues in forestry. In addition to the faculty and students in attendance, several alumni were also present, at least eight of whom attended an alumni get-together sponsored by the SOF.

New SOF Faculty

In the last two years, four new faculty members have joined the School of Forestry. In the order in which they were hired they include:

Alex Finkral: Dr. Finkral joined the SOF faculty as an Assistant Professor in August, 2005. After obtaining his B.S. degree in Forestry from Colorado State University, Dr. Finkral went on to receive both an M.F. and a Ph.D. in Silviculture from Yale University. While at Yale, he served as the manager of the Yale School Forests for eight years. Dr. Finkral's research interests include forest management, silviculture, forest stand dynamics, and forest operations. His research in northern Arizona examines different aspects of the perturbation of the ponderosa pine and pine-oak forest types. In addition to his experience in North American forests, Dr. Finkral has worked on forestry research projects in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Republic of the Congo, Peru, and Sri Lanka.

Andrea (Andi) Thode: Dr. Thode joined the SOF faculty in November, 2005 as an Assistant Professor. She has both a B.S. degree in Environmental Biology and Management and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of California, Davis. Her primary research interests are fire ecology and management, restoration ecology and landscape ecology. Prior to joining the SOF faculty, Dr. Thode served as a Fire Ecologist and Sierra Nevada Fire and Fuels

Monitoring Team Leader for the USDA Forest Service. In addition to her teaching and research responsibilities, she will be playing a major role in helping the SOF develop a fire science program.

Jim Allen: Hired in July, 2006 to be the SOF's first Associate Director, Dr. Allen has forestry or closely related degrees from Paul Smith's College (A.A.S.), Virginia Tech (B.S.), Cornell (M.S.) and Louisiana State University (Ph.D.). Prior to coming to NAU, he was the Dean of the Forestry Division at Paul Smith's College for six years. Most of his career has been spent as a research scientist for the USDA Forest Service in Hawaii and the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Louisiana. His research expertise is in forested wetland ecology and management. Dr. Allen also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Swaziland.

Kristen Waring: Dr. Waring has both a B.S. in Forest Resources Management and an M.S. in Forest Entomology from the University of Montana. Her Ph.D. is from the University of California, Berkeley, where her focus was on silviculture and forest health. After working as a post doctoral scholar at U.C., Berkeley for one year, she joined the SOF faculty as an Assistant Professor in August, 2006. Dr. Waring plans to build a research program in the areas of silviculture, applied forest health, introduced forest pests and forest stand dynamics.

SOF Research – Quantity and Quality!

As the School of Forestry's research program continues to grow, so does its output of publications. In the past three years, the SOF faculty has produced over 170 publications, nearly all of which have appeared in peer-reviewed journals. This is quite an impressive number for a relatively small faculty, many of whom have appointments that emphasize teaching over research. The

list of faculty publications was recently posted on our website and can be viewed at: <http://www.for.nau.edu/cms/content/view/689/965/>.

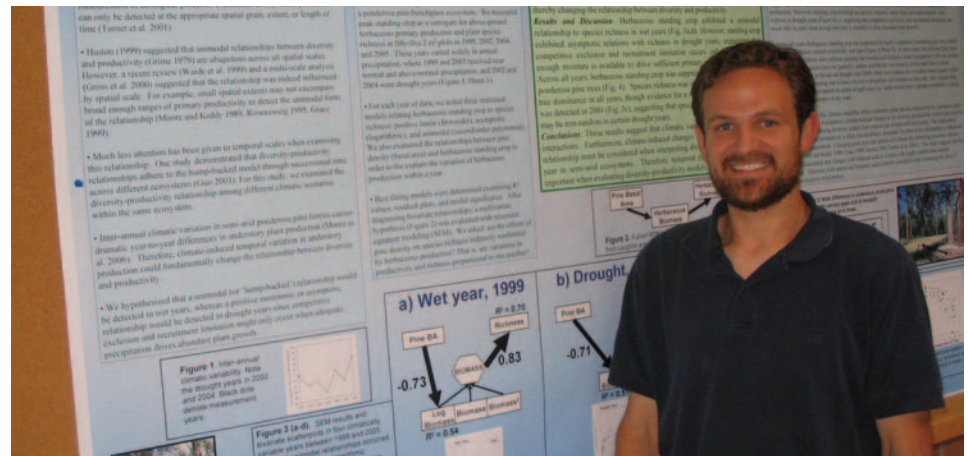
In addition to producing an impressive number of publications, there are also indications that SOF research is having a significant impact. For example, a study published in the July/August 2006 issue

of the Journal of Forestry found that NAU SOF ranked 19th out of 53 forestry programs in the total number of times its publications were cited and an impressive 6th in the number of citations per research faculty member. The number of times an article is cited (referred to in another publication) is a good indication of how useful that publication was found to be by other scientists.



Graduate Student Wins Prestigious Award

It's not just our faculty who are doing good research! SOF graduate student Daniel Laughlin is shown to the right with the poster he presented at the Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting in August, 2006, at Memphis, TN. His poster was selected for the E. Lucy Braun Award, which is awarded to the best student poster. This is a major achievement, because of the high quality competition, so congratulations to Daniel and to his advisor, Dr. Margaret Moore.



Graduate Student Wins Tamarisk Coalition Scholarship



Tyler Johnson, a Masters of Science student in Forestry, was recently awarded the Tamarisk Coalition's President's Scholarship. Tyler was selected on the basis of his past work with tamarisk, which he presented in October at the Tamarisk Research Conference in Fort Collins, CO, as well as a description he provided of his future research plans. Tamarisk is a non-native shrub that has invaded many stream and river floodplains in the southwest, causing significant ecological harm. Tyler started out doing volunteer work with tamarisk control along the Upper Verde River, AZ and is now employed by the U.S. Forest Service as a Biological Sciences Technician at the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Flagstaff, where he continues to work on tamarisk control both as a Forest Service employee and as part of his M.S degree program.

SOF Continues to Serve Native Americans

Since the departure of Ron Trosper [for the University of British Columbia in June of 2004], the SOF has been without a Native American Coordinator. While we hope to fill this position in the future, that doesn't mean, however, that nothing is happening in the interim. Over the last two years, for example, the SOF has developed a 2+2 transfer agreement with the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute in Albuquerque, NM. Also, SOF faculty member Thom Alcoze and his wife, Sally, are serving as the advisors for a new Native American group at NAU called the Indigenous Sisterhood for Interdisciplinary Studies, or ISIS. One of the central activities this group, which includes forestry students as well as students from other majors, is to conduct environmental research on the Kaibab-Paiute Reservation in Northern Arizona.



Thom Alcoze (left) with ISIS students.

SOF and International Forestry

The current SOF Strategic Plan calls for a greater emphasis on international forestry. A number of recent developments suggest that good progress is being made in this regard. Of particular note is the recent seminar organized by Dr. Michael Wagner and doctoral student Sky Stephens called the International Seminar on Forest Administration and Management (ISFAM). ISFAM was sponsored jointly by the SOF and the USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs. Twenty people from 17 different countries participated in this three-week seminar, which was designed to enhance the skills of senior natural resource professionals by providing an interactive collaborative approach to environmental issues and land management. After spending two weeks at NAU, during which a number of field trips were undertaken, the group spent the last week at the forestry department at the University of North Carolina and meeting with



Regents' Professor Mike Wagner, upper left, and forestry graduate student Sky Stephens, organizers of the ISFAM seminar, stand behind attendees Marina Muran, bottom left, an agricultural assistant from Russia; Harry Prasetyo, deputy director of forest production distribution from Indonesia; Wandreia Dos Santos Baitz, a researcher from the Amazon Institute of People and the Environment in Brazil; and Lauren Chitty, an African program specialist with the U.S. Forest Service.

environmental policy makers in Washington, D.C. Under its agreement with the USDA Forest Service, NAU will host this workshop annually for a total of at least five years.

Also, thanks in part to work conducted by Dr. Pete Fulé last year while on sabbatical, the SOF now has a bit of a "Spanish Connection." While in Spain on a Fulbright Fellowship, Dr. Fulé carried out a study entitled, "Forest Fires and Climate Patterns in Ancient Spanish Pine Forests: Ecological and Social Implications," in the Sierra Turmell mountains of Castellón Province. During his stay in Spain, Dr. Fulé met Dr. Jordi Cortina, of the University of Alicante, who is now spending a sabbatical year at NAU. Dr. Cortina's research involves ecological restoration of arid ecosystems, pine-oak forests, and fire—all topics for which northern Arizona offers excellent learning opportunities.

Centennial Forest Update

Under the able leadership of Dr. Mike Wagner, the Centennial Forest (CF) continues to be a vitally important component of NAU's forestry program. One key goal for the CF is to "practice what we preach," and much has been achieved on the ground. For example, over 1,000 acres of the CF have been treated to reduce the risk of wildfires in the Flagstaff wildland-urban interface. Also, in addition to being used extensively for the education of NAU forestry students, the CF continues to see

active use by a variety of youth groups during the summer. This includes the CF led Junior and Senior Forester Academies, the Outdoor Leadership Academy and the Youth Conservation Corps. In addition to the full slate of activities they have on the forest, the CF staff also took time this fall to organize an interactive environmental education display at the Coconino County Fair. For more on the CF, please check out their website at: <http://www.for.nau.edu/CentennialForest/>.

ERI Hosts a National Conference

The Ecological Restoration Institute recently hosted a three-day conference on the NAU Mountain Campus entitled *Conserving and Restoring Frequent Fire Landscapes of the West: Linking Science, Collaboration and Practice*. The conference, which was held on October 24-26, was

chaired by Dr. Wally Covington and was attended by over 150 foresters, researchers and others from around the country. In addition to Dr. Covington, several other SOF faculty members participated in the conference by presenting or co-presenting papers, serving on panels, and/or

leading field trips, including Pete Fulé, Carol Chambers, P.J. Daugherty, Yeon-Su Kim, Tom Kolb, Margaret Moore, and Dave Ostergren. SOF graduate students Carolyn Breece, Evan Herpje, Liz Kalies, and Daniel Laughlin also presented papers at the conference. An SOF alum-

nus also participated in the conference as a presenter (Dan Binkley, '77), as well as a former SOF faculty member (John Bailey). More ERI-related news, including electronic versions of recent newsletters, can be found at: <http://www.eri.nau.edu/cms/content/view/535/730/>.

Alumni Stories

60's Reunion

The Making of Memories – the '60s and Now

Thirty-three fascinating and experienced professionals appeared on the NAU campus during homecoming in October of 2006. Their reasons for returning to NAU were similar: reconnect with fellow alumni and with the NAU School of Forestry.

These extraordinary men were the returning Forestry alumni from the classes of '61 – '69. The knowledge from their collective years of experience in their various professions was palpable and their senses of humor were delightful.

The School was honored to have the alumni, their spouses, and friends on campus to provide a venue to reconnect and bring them up-to-date on the School's continuing program of excellence. The itinerary included a tour of the Southwest Forest Science Complex, a visit to the School's Centennial Forest with presentations in the field by faculty and the forest manager, an alumni breakfast, NAU parade, a winning football game, and dinner. (Oh yes, and a trip to El Charro!)



Eight of the visiting alums posed for this photo, including John Stephenson, John Dunlap, Fred Fuchs, Harold Kuhne, Doug Smith, John Mezes, Bob Wagenfehr, and Larry Schmidt.

A gathering with this success only happens with alumni championing the event. The original committee included **Don Richard** '63, **Doug Smith** '62, and **John Stephenson** '63. But the excitement quickly grew with additional alumni sending letters to their classmates, phone calls to "lost" alumni, and other efforts to create a memorable weekend.

Doug Smith, the first President of the NAU Forestry Club said, "It was great fun to get back together with ASC (Arizona State College) Forestry classmates and reminisce about the 'good old days.' We missed those that could not make the trek back to Flagstaff but at least they received a salute at the evening functions. The plans for camp at the Centennial Forest were impressive and the research on 'carbon banking' was fascinating. I hope that the other attendees enjoyed the event as much as I did."

From the feedback received at the School, everyone enjoyed the weekend, including the faculty, staff, and students – new memories all around! Also, the roughly \$4,000 that the alumni donated for construction of a Hogan on the Centennial Forest was greatly appreciated.



Our 1960's alumni watched as the Lumberjacks coasted to a 39-22 victory over Sacramento State at the Homecoming football game.

Alumni return to campus to “mock interview” students



Our mock interviewers (from left to right) were Richard Van de Mark ('81), Kent Bushman ('95), Michael Smith ('85), Brian Poturski ('91), Debbie Luteh (), Aaron Green ('02), Demica Vigil ('85), John Niestadt, Dr. Carolyn Hull-Sieg, and Robert Lacapa ('88).

Mock Interviews...these two words conjure up dread or elation depending on the Semester A student that you ask. “For me, the experience was first of all nerve-wracking, then educational, and then reassuring,” said Chris Sorensen, Junior. Grace Hancock, also a Junior, shared, “Interviewing is by far one of my greatest fears, especially when our class was required to interview in front of a silent observer who was our peer. Overall, I really enjoyed the experience and was thankful to have the opportunity to participate in interviewing.”

For the past six years, the School of Forestry has hosted a mock interview session to give juniors the chance to hone their interview skills in a formal setting. Ten local forestry professionals, selected to represent the wide range of careers available to foresters, volunteered to spend an afternoon in September interviewing and coaching students. Eight of the mock interviewers were alums of the School of Forestry.

The students were instructed to dress in interview attire, prepare a résumé, and be ready to identify their technical and job related skills for each position based on a job description provided in advance. As the afternoon progressed and the candidates rotated among the interviewing stations, the students visibly relaxed as each successive mock interview boosted their confidence.

The session ended with a debriefing among the employers and students. Robert Lacapa, an SOF alumnus and Forest Manager with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, participated in the first mock interview workshop six years ago. He praised the students on their interviewing skills calling them “the best class” he had ever seen. The result? Students who had begun the session with some trepidation were smiling and shaking hands with alumni, thanking them for their participation, collecting business cards, and patting each other on the back. Just another day in the life of a busy Semester A student!

Rick Cables' Visit

Any forestry school would naturally be proud of an alumnus who went on to reach the top ranks of the USDA Forest Service. As one of only nine regional foresters in the United States, Rick Cables (B.S.E., '76), Regional Forester for the Rocky Mountain Region, has certainly reached those highest ranks. We were therefore especially pleased that Rick was able to spend some time on campus recently visiting with faculty and students.

At the SOF's invitation, Rick traveled to Flagstaff from Golden, Colorado in early fall. The students and faculty put together a busy 1½ day agenda for him, which included time in the forest to view ecological restoration research sites with Dr. Wally Covington and with Dr. Tom Kolb to view his carbon flux tower research site related to climate change and forest carbon storage. Students were pleased to have him participate in Dr. Marty Lee's Wilderness Management class and Dr. Pete Fule's Ecological Restoration Applications class. A lunch of pizza was shared with the leader-

ship of the SOF student organizations. Rick was also introduced to the new style of student housing when he visited the Living Learning Community Residence Hall for forestry students, aptly called the “Tree House.”

Last on the agenda was a dinner and presentation at a meeting of the Northern Arizona Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. Over 70 people attended this meeting, including professional foresters, students, and the 20 participants of the ISFAM seminar referred to earlier in this newsletter. The title of Rick's talk that night was, “Changing the Debate: Partnerships, Forest Health, Water, and Climate Change.” His talk was followed by a wide ranging question and answer session.



Rick Cables sharing memories (and lunch) with SoF Students and faculty.

In a recent letter to David Patton, Rick wrote, “I wanted you to know how impressed I am with what I see happening at Northern Arizona University, and particularly the School of Forestry. I came in contact with so many bright, helpful, and excited students and faculty.” He went on to highlight every aspect of his visit to NAU and the positive impression it left with him. There is no doubt that Rick also left a very favorable impression on us!!

Alumni Notes

Terrance “Terry” Clark, B.S.F., 1972

After a long career with the State of Maryland, Terry now works for the Society of American Foresters (SAF), where he serves as the Associate Director for Science and Education. He is a SAF Fellow and in 2005 he was selected as the Alumni of the Year by the NAU School of Forestry. Terry lives in Crofton, Maryland with his wife, Marcia. They have a daughter (Erin) and a son (Adam). An interesting summary of Terry’s career and thoughts about forestry can be found at: <http://www.enviroeducation.com/interviews/terry-clark/>.

Ray Sowers, B.S.F., 1974

Ray is the State Forester for South Dakota. He lives in Pierre, SD. He is married to Conant “Candy” Sowers and has two sons (Paul and Robert).

David Borland, B.S.F., 1975

David is a forester with the Bureau of Land Management. He lives in Sante Fe, NM, with his wife, Theodara. He is active in the Society of American Foresters, and is the chair-elect of the Southwestern SAF Chapter.

Gerald Tuskan, B.S.F., 1978

Gerry is a member of the plant molecular ecology group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Recently, he led a team of researchers that sequenced the entire genome of black cottonwood. This is the first complete genetic map of a tree species. The results of this project were reported in the September 15, 2006 issue of Science and featured on the cover of that issue. Dr. Tuskan was also interviewed by National Public Radio about this project. He resides in Chattanooga, TN.

Mary J. Coulombe, B.S.F., 1984

Mary is the Chief of Natural Resources for the Army Corps of Engineers. Prior to becoming chief, she worked for the USDA Forest Service, where she was involved in international forestry issues and for the American Forest and Paper Association, where she was involved in public forest land issues. She is a Society of American Foresters (SAF) Fellow, serves as the District VII SAF Council Representative, and was honored as the Alumni of the Year in 2000 by the NAU School of Forestry. She and her husband Craig live in Oakton and have one daughter (Natalie).

James Vose, M.S.F., 1984

Jim is Project Leader and Supervisory Research Ecologist at the USDA Forest Service’s Southern Research Station. He received his Ph.D. in Forest Ecology from North Carolina State University in 1987. His research work unit is based at the well-known Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory in the mountains of western North Carolina, and his research focuses on watershed ecosystem responses to a variety of natural and human-caused disturbances. The research unit was recently expanded to include coldwater fisheries

and wetland ecosystems. He resides in Franklin, NC, with his wife Donyelle and two sons Aaron and Christian. Aaron is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Christian is a junior in high school.

Robert Ong, B.S.F., 1988

After completing his B.S.F. degree at NAU, Robert went on to earn his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. He then returned to Malaysia, where he now serves as Program Leader for Natural Forest Ecology and Management, Forest Research Centre, Sabah Forestry Department. Robert also serves as chairman of the editorial board for the journal Sandakania, which publishes papers on plant systematics, morphology and natural history. Robert is married (his wife’s name is Melissa) and has three children, Katrina, Jonathan, and Amanda. Robert would love to hear from some of his classmates. He can be contacted at Robert.Ong@sabah.gov.my.

Lena Tucker, B.S.F., 1992

Lena is a District Forester for the South Cascade District of Oregon Department of Forestry. She is married and lives in Sweet Home, Oregon.

Elizabeth Yolin Sandler, B.S.F., 1999

Elizabeth (Liz) Yolin Sandler was recently named Director of the American Tree Farm System. As the director, Liz is responsible for overseeing Tree Farm operations, including internal program communications, meeting planning, the National Tree Farmer Convention and National Leadership Conference, and inspector training. Liz will continue to oversee the ATFS Group Certification program and is involved in seeking international endorsement of the ATFS certification system. Prior to joining the ATFS in 2002, Liz was the Lead Coordinator for the Forestry & Wood Products department of the American Forest & Paper Association. She also completed a Henry Clepper Forest Policy Internship with the Society of American Foresters. Liz resides in Arlington, Virginia with her husband, Maj. Kenneth M. Sandler (USMC).

Jason Metnick, B.S.F., 2001

Jason is the Manager, Office of Label Use and Licensing, for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, a position that keeps him heavily involved in issues related to forest certification. He lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Merrily.

Jonathan Bakker, Ph.D., 2005

Jon is an Assistant Professor in the College of Forest Resources at the University of Washington. His research program focuses on ecological restoration and sustainable ecosystem management, particularly in ponderosa pine forests and Garry oak savannas. He lives in Shoreline, WA, with his wife Erika and kids (Aidan, Linnea, and Marijka). He can be reached at jbakker@u.washington.edu.

We would like to include your update in an upcoming issue! Please send any information that you want us to print as an alumni note to forestry.alumni.info@nau.edu or by regular mail c/o Jim Allen, Associate Director, at the address listed on the back page of this newsletter.



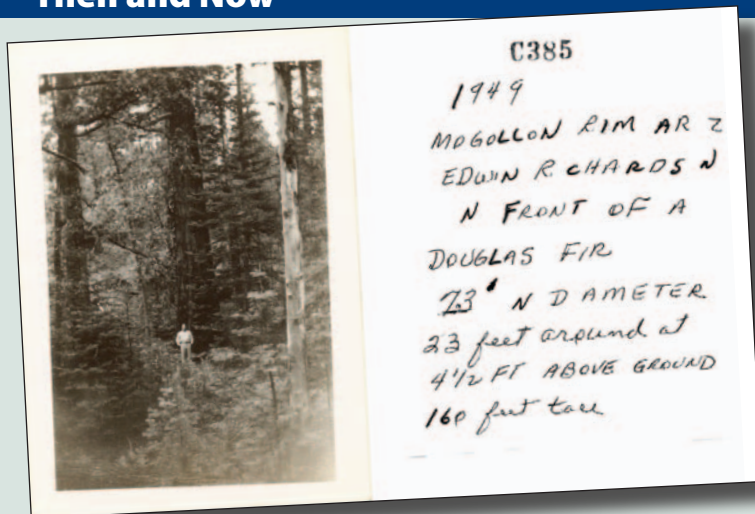
NORTHERN
ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

Non-Profit Org
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Northern Arizona
University

School of Forestry

P.O. Box 15018
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5018

Then and Now



C385
1949
MOGOLLON RIM ARIZ
EDWIN RICHARDSON
IN FRONT OF A
DOUGLAS FIR
23' IN DIAMETER
23 feet around at
4 1/2 FT ABOVE GROUND
160 feet tall

Rusty Richardson, a friend of the NAU School of Forestry and founders Drs. Minor and Applequist, took a picture of his cousin Edwin in front of a very large Douglas Fir in 1949. This monster was found at the head of Miller Canyon on the Coconino on the Mogollon Rim. Diameter 7.3 feet, 23 feet around at 4 1/2 feet above the ground, 160 feet tall. Rusty revisited his tree last year and found the stump with fire damage. Both Rusty and the tree stump are pretty impressive.



Forest Seasons is a newsletter for Northern Arizona University School of Forestry alumni and friends. We welcome your feedback on the newsletter and encourage you to stay in touch.

Feel free to call us at: 928-523-3031

School of Forestry website: www.for.nau.edu/cms/

Centennial Forest website: www.for.nau.edu/CentennialForest/

Ecological Restoration Institute website: www.eri.nau.edu/cms/