# California SAF

50 History 1967-2017

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1/13/20
Funded by SAF Forester Fund grant

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In 2016 the Centennial of the California Society of American Foresters was celebrated. This report represents the second 50 year history for the period 1967 - 2017.

The California State Society of American Foresters was established in 1916 with 29 members and geographically covered northern and southern California. In 1939 southern California broke off to become a subsection and later was renamed a state society, and northern California was reorganized as a subsection and subsequently a state society in 1941. In 2015 Northern and Southern California made plans to celebrate their Centennial.

The goals of the celebration were to:
- Reflect on and celebrate 100 years of the California State Society of American Foresters.
- Identify goals for NorCal and SoCal State societies for the next century.
• Excite the current and next generation of foresters and natural resource managers about opportunities in SAF to practice and influence forestry in the next 100 years.
• Develop and commit to an action plan to achieve another 100 years of success.
• Promote awareness of SAF and professional forestry at a state and national level.

Board of Forestry Meeting, CA SAF received the Francis H. Raymond Award. Keith Gilles, Board of Forestry Chair. Julie Lydick, Centennial Committee Chair, Bill Snyder, NorCal SAF Chair

2016

The Centennial Celebration kicked off with the unveiling of a special logo at the annual member meeting January 2016 at the Fountaingrove Inn, Santa Rosa, California. Char Miller, SAF member, Professor of Environmental Analysis at Pomona College, and author of several books such as, The Greatest Good; 100 Years of Forestry in America (1999, second edition 2004), and America’s Great National Forests, Wilderness and Grasslands (March 2016) spoke about our history as we reflected on the future of forestry in California.

Approximately $27,000 of funding was raised from Forester Fund grants, individual donors and the forest products industry. The Centennial year celebration culminated with the Summer Field meeting held in Mariposa County. The event included unveiling of the Oral History project, that included interviews with Rick Standiford, who explained the purpose of the project, and clips from interviews with past SAF President John Helms and Golden Members, Bill Libby, Bob Solari and Bill McKillop. Marc Garman, of Lab Rat Pictures demonstrated how special the Oral History Project would become, in that moment.

The event also included sharing with members the State Proclamation, honoring California SAF, by the Honorable Brian Dahle, 1st Assembly District and Honorable Mike McGuire 2nd Senatorial District and the Francis H. Raymond award given by the Board of Forestry honoring the Society's role in California forestry.
A special live performance by Gary Hines as Gifford Pinchot was given at the evening celebratory dinner.

The next day included a field trip to Yosemite National Park and the Bass Lake area of the Sierra National Forest to review and discuss the impact of the multi-year drought on California’s forests. The afternoon lunch included a performance by Lee Stetson as John Muir.
All who attended the Centennial Celebration were provided with mementos embellished with the Centennial logo. Additional SWAG was generated for sale that included tee-shirts and ball caps.

The Oral History project was completed with 41 videos of Golden Members and prominent SAF members. The videos are posted on the SAF You Tube channel and norcalsaf.org website. The videos will also be maintained by the Forest History Society on hard drives.

October 2018 was a disastrous fire season in Sonoma and Napa counties that saw the Fountaingrove Inn, where the Centennial celebration was launched, burned to the ground. George Roby, one of the Golden Members filmed during the Oral History project, provided an excellent explanation of fire retardant and its use. A six minute clip of this video was distributed to several local media outlets.

The Centennial Committee included Julie Lydick, Wendy Snyder, Bill Snyder, Rick Standiford, Tamara Hanna, J. Lopez, John Todd, Brian Barrette and Doug Wickizer. Wendy was awarded the 2016 Forestry Achievement Award for her leadership in developing the Oral History project.
The 2017 Forestry Achievement Award was made to Bill Snyder for the successful fundraising he accomplished to support the Centennial and excellent programs during the Centennial year.
Background:

2016 marked the Centennial of the California State Society of American Foresters. It was established in 1916 and covered the geographic areas of southern and northern California starting with 29 members. In 1939 Southern California established itself as a subsection, later becoming a State Society and Northern California reorganized similarly in 1941. The topic of remerging as one State Society was initiated in 2013. Rick Standiford, SAF District 3 Board of Directors Representative (2016-2018), summarized the background and results of voting on this issue.

The issue of merger of the Northern California (NorCal) and Southern California (SoCal) SAF began at the summer 2013 Executive Committee of the two Societies at the Swanton Pacific Ranch in Santa Cruz County (August 23-24, 2013). A six-person Ad Hoc committee of individuals from NorCal and SoCal was appointed by the two Executive Committees to develop the pros and cons of a merger. Two additional people were added to the committee in August 2014. The committee met regularly via conference calls through December 2015.

A workshop on a merger was held at the joint NorCal/SoCal Winter SAF meeting in Berkeley, CA on January 24, 2014. A white paper was distributed to all members of both Societies with the key committee findings on March 27, 2014, and feedback was obtained using an electronic survey. Both Executive Committees continued the discussion of merger throughout this entire period based on feedback from the workshop, the response to the report, and informal discussions.

The Executive Committees of both NorCal and SoCal made the recommendation to move towards a formal vote of membership of both Societies in the spring of 2015, and started a petition drive calling for a vote. The chairs of both NorCal and SoCal forwarded their petitions to the national SAF Board of Directors in September 2015. The SAF Board of Directors authorized a vote of the members of both Societies on December 6, 2015.

The Vote Process:
The two Executive Committees developed a simple ballot to distribute to members. Christopher Whited, SAF Senior Director of Marketing and Membership, provided the current membership list for each Society to District 3 Board of Directors Representative, Richard Standiford. The ballot was distributed electronically to those with email addresses. Paper ballots were provided to those without email access. There were 682 ballots sent to NorCal members (635 electronically, 47 direct mail), and 139 ballots sent to SoCal members (132 electronically, 7 direct mail). The ballots were distributed January 12, 2016 and the deadline for voting was February 5, 2016. Twenty-one percent of the NorCal members voted, and 17 percent of the SoCal members voted.

Vote Results:
The results of the formal vote were 84 percent of the NorCal members, and 87 percent of the SoCal members voted to support the merger of NorCal and SoCal SAF.

Footnote:
The merger was completed in 2019 and recognized by the office of the Secretary of State. John Kessler became the first Chair of the newly re-merged State Society.

Leadership

### Officers 1960s

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**JOF Society Affairs and Front Matter**

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Long-serving NorCal SAF Treasurer, John Bradford celebrating his birthday at the 2011 Summer Meeting in Amador

## Officers 2010

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Northern California SAF has utilized contract positions to support its volunteer efforts. Those positions include the following:

- Paul Cox, Executive Secretary, 1987 - 1990
- Ron Adams, Executive Secretary 1991 - 1996
- Claralyn Nunamaker Executive Director
- Wendy Wickizer, Education Stewardship Coordinator
- Heather Morrison - Executive Director, Education Coordinator
- Stacey Dodge, Education Coordinator/Bookkeeper
- Jane LaBoa, Executive Director
- Jan Bernedo Bray Executive Director
- Kevin Locke, Executive Director
- Sherry Cooper, UC Cooperative Extension, although not an SAF position, all Sherry’s contributions to SAF made the organization realize that if it was to continue its level of programs, that the organization would need to create contract positions.
Notable Events

1980
George A. Craig, former VP of Western Timber Association and current President of the California Forestry Foundation served on President-elect Ronald Regan’s transition team. He worked with the US Forest Service to put together information on issues needing early attention by the new administration.

1988
Joe McBride met with the Chinese Counsel and presented tree seed to the Chinese Society of Foresters.

Forestry Institute for Media held at UC Berkeley Blodgett Forest, included over 60 participants, including 14 environmental writers from the LA Times, San Jose Mercury, Sacramento Bee and major Sacramento TV news stations.

1991
California SAF hosts the National SAF Convention in San Francisco, Arrangements Chairman Ron Stewart, Program Committee Chair, John Helms. The Theme was Pacific Rim Forestry Bridging the World.

1992
Northern Calif. SAF established a paid position at the California Office with the title Education Stewardship Coordinator.

Cooperative effort that led to the Forestry Education Exchange was initiated.

1993
California Office opens, Wendy (Wickizer) Snyder is hired to run operations.

NorCal SAF approved a $10 dues increase to support education activities. It passed 63%37%.

1994
60 Second Forester radio program created by Frank Barron in partnership with SAF, California Licensed Foresters Assoc. and Crane Mills starts at KPAY radio in Chico and runs for fourteen years.

1995
On April 24, 1995 Gil Murray, California Forestry Association was killed by a package bomb delivered to his Sacramento, CA office. Eventually this act of terrorism would be attributed to the Unabomber, Ted Kaczynski. NorCal SAF and the California Licensing Forestry Association create memorial in his honor.

2008
California and the Intermountain State Society hosted the 2008 National Convention at Reno, NV. Tad Mason, CA SAF and Lynn Sprague, IM SAF were General Chairs.
NorCal SAF receives grants from the US Forest Service, State & Private Forestry to support forestry education activities.

2009
Southern California SAF held its spring meeting at Santa Barbara Botanical Garden. The group toured the Living Redwoods Collection, which included redwoods planted in 1927 and a tree ring exhibit. Two weeks later the Jesuita Fire burned through the garden and destroyed the tree ring exhibit, which had rings dated back to 1300 AD. SoCal SAF offered to help find a replacement redwood round. The search extended to Mendocino county to Swanton Ranch and finally a Giant Sequoia round from Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest was located. Doug Nickles, Doug Piirto, Jim Kral and Johnathan Wagy were key to locating the 5 ft. round, cutting and transporting it.

2011
San Gabriel Chapter and Humboldt Alumni host screening of Climbing Redwood Giants a National Geographic documentary.

2015
Forester Fund project to restore the Dolber Steam Donkey - poster presented at the 2015 SAF Convention in Baton Rouge, LA, John Nicholes, Project Leader.
A Chapter is Born - High Sierra Chapter by Chuck Sicker

In the 1950s there was the San Joaquin Conservation Forum. It attracted participants from Yosemite NP, south to the Kernville area. It included foresters, wildlife biologists, meteorologists, federal and state park rangers, school teachers, etc. Meetings were held monthly, usually in the Fresno area.

About 1964 (maybe 62 or 63), Jack Dozier and I started efforts to create an SAF chapter for the same area. We didn’t know how to do it, so we got a number of SAF members to petition the Section. The Section meeting that year was in Grass Valley. I took our “petition” to that meeting and was instructed to go ahead with forming a chapter.

As I remember, at our first meeting we named the chapter the High Sierra Chapter. Jack Dozier was Chairman, I was Vice-Chairman, Andy Anderas was Treasurer, and Hank Abraham was Membership Chairman. The next year I was Chairman. Andy, Hank, and everyone else eventually went through the “chairs”.

There was opposition to the formation of an SAF chapter. Those in opposition rightly predicted that it would be the end of the conservation forum. All the forum members were invited to attend and participate in the SAF meetings, but most dropped out in a few years. Too bad; the forum was well attended.

From the Southern California Newsletter Archives

In 1967 Humboldt State college reported that nineteen new foresters graduated from the forestry school this past fall and approximately one hundred new students entered the forestry program the next quarter. This seems to be about the ratio of new students to gradate (20% make it). Of the nineteen new graduates only one is without a job. Eight found permanent position, three went on to grad school, one is in the armed service and six have temporary positions.

Southern California noted that it had 255 members in 1972.
The Humboldt State Quiz Bowl Team with 2006 Keynote Speaker Dr. Wangari Maathai. Pictured left to right are: Clayton Seado, Shannon Sandhaus, Dr. Wangari Maathai, Marissa Perez and Mark Villalobos.

2008 Newsletter

All About FIT

The FIT Steering Committee

The FIT Steering Committee is comprised of teachers, foresters and other natural resource professionals, Project Learning Tree and Project WILD coordinators (CAL FIRE and CDFG staff respectively) along with the NCSAF fundraising chair and Executive Director. Every year at the FIT Debrief Meeting, the group gets together to celebrate the success of the FIT sessions and to begin planning for the next year. They hash out any issues that need discussing and continually reevaluate teaching methods to ensure that FIT not only meets the needs of the current state teaching standards, but also that it meets the needs of each teacher/participant. Better ways of evaluating the effectiveness of the program, exploring new funding sources and discussing various issues that surface at FIT are all tasks that committee members must tackle. Without the committee, the program would not run as smoothly as it does.
Golden Member Recognition
The following members were recognized for 50 years of membership with the Society of American Foresters: Geri Bergen, Karl Graves, William Oliver and Ronald Voss. Golden Members receive a certificate from H. William Rockwell, Society of American Foresters President. Geri Bergen attended the NorCal SAF Winter Meeting and was presented with her certificate by Anne Heissenbuttel, NorCal SAF Chair, and Michael Goergen, SAF Executive Vice President and CEO of the Society of American Foresters. In acknowledgement of Geri’s place in history as the first woman in California to achieve Golden Member status, the women of NorCal SAF had their picture taken with her at the winter meeting.

Berkeley Student Chapter: celebrating a historic founding

by Ariel Thomson, chapter president
The University of California-Berkeley Forestry Club celebrated its centennial on January 26, 2012. The Forestry Club also serves as the Society of American Foresters Student Chapter at UC Berkeley. One hundred years ago, on January 26, 1912, a small group of students gathered and began the effort that led to the UC Berkeley Forestry major and the subsequent formation of the UC Berkeley School of Forestry was the beginning of forestry education in California and a milestone for California forestry.

The 2012 Forestry Club commemorated this centennial by hosting a traditional “Bean Feed,” serving homemade chili, cornbread and drinks to over 150 current students, faculty and alumni. Bean feeds are a monthly event for the Forestry Club/SAF Student Chapter that are normally held on the patio outside Mulford Hall. Centennial Bean Feed, or what was called the “Bean Feed of the Century,” was held on campus at the Hillside Club. Primary student organizer was Allegra Mautner, a 2012 Forestry major. Mautner and Forestry Club president Ariel Thompson (Forestry major, class of 2012) addressed the group. College of Natural Resources Dean and California Board of Forestry member, Keith Gilless, also welcomed the group. Lizzie Ebert (joint Forestry/Business major), Nico Alegria (joint Forestry/Society and Environment major), Corrie Munger (joint Forestry and Conservation and Resource Studies major) and Mautner made some of the best chili in Club history.

The oldest alumnus present was Emerson Smith, class of 1942, who drove down from Auburn for the event. Emerson was joined by many other alumni from past decades and many current forestry students for the event. Historical items such as intramural trophies, old copies of the Forestry Club yearbook (“Timber”), and other old documents and photos were on display. The band “Creek” played music and the Forestry Club sold centennial sweatshirts, t-shirts, and decals with a special Centennial logo. One student noted afterwards how “cool it was to be part of this history,” and another hoped she would “still be around for the next centennial.” The UC Berkeley Forestry program is not finished with centennial celebrations; the Forestry major was founded in 1914 and the long-running Forestry Field Camp began in 1915. The club celebration was a great success and the perfect way to kick off the series of centennials to come!

In 2013 Jim Chapin was recognized as a Golden Member of SAF. This is his story

I was raised and went to school in the San Bernardino Mountains near Lake Arrowhead. As a teenager, myself and a friend cut and sold fire wood for spending money and to pay for college. Being a mountain boy, I became interested in forestry and wildfire management at an early age.

At age 18 just out of high school I went to work for the U.S. Forest Service, San Bernardino National Forest as a Forestry Technician. I worked on fire crews, trail crews, insect control crews and in Fire Prevention from 1957 to 1962. I attended the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho from 1960 to 1063. I graduated with a B.S degree in Forest Management in 1963. I joined SAF as a student in 1963.

After graduation I worked as a forester for the Forest Service from 1963 to 1980 on several national Forests in California including the San Bernardino, Eldorado, Sierra, and Shasta-Trinity National Forest. My last assignment was as District Ranger on the Shasta-Trinity N.F. from
1974 to 1980. That was the hay days of the Forest Service when we actively managed the National Forests.

In 1980 I left the Forest Service to start a forestry consulting business in Redding. In 1981 the business became a partnership with Frank Borden (RPF) under the DBA of Shasta Land Management Consultants. We are still working together in the business now in 2013, 32 years later.

I have been a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) since licensing started in 1973 and an ACF forester since 1985.

Shasta Land Management Consulting is a partnership firm providing a wide scope of resource planning, resource management, and forest management for private landowners, industry and agencies in Northern California.

As part of my professional and community service I have been a member of several professional and community organizations over the years, including:
- Society of American Foresters, 1963 to present
- Association of Consulting Foresters, Of American, past board member
- California Licensed Foresters Association, past board member

**SAF Members Making A Difference**

**Francis H. Raymond Award**
F.H. Raymond Award, given by the California Board of Forestry is given to an individual or organization for outstanding contributions during the prior five years to the protection and wise use of forest resources in California. The Award recognizes outstanding performances in management, research, education, and seeking public awareness of forest resources. Since 1987 the Board has presented the Francis H. Raymond Award on a nearly annual basis.

John Zivnuska 1987
Raymond Rice 1990
Bob McCrary 1991
Pete Passof 1992
Gary Nakamura 1993
Kay Antunez 1994
Norman Pillsbury 1995
Tad Mason 1997
Frank Barron 1998
Ron Adams 1998
Sherman Finch 2000
John Nicoles 2005
Bill Libby 2009
John Mount 2010
Jere Melo 2012
Mike DeLasaux 2013
California SAF 2016

Doug Piirto 2016
Rick Standiford 2017

**Forestry Achievement - Northern California SAF**
Anne Delaney 1980 Rob York 2011
Ted Lucrezi 1982 UC Berkeley 2014
Bill Woodruff 1988 Wendy Snyder 2016
Pete Johnson 1989 Bill Snyder 2017
Brian Rueger 1993
John Nicoles 1996
Debra Walker 2000
John Kessler 2003
Karín Korda 2005
Diane
Savin-
Dukleth 2006
Mike DeLasaux 2007
Kevin O’Hara 2009
Joanne
Drummond 2010

**Chapter of the Year Award**
Northern California SAF
- High Sierra
- Sacramento - Tahoe
- Wyntoon
High Sierra Chapter of the Year 2015
Clark Seeley, SAF President, High Sierra
Chapter Members: John Mount, Ryan
Stewart, Tom Catchpole, Joshua Soderlund
, Diane and Don Dukleth and Julie Lydick,
NorCal Awards Chair

John A. Beale Memorial Award
Clyde M. Walker 1982 Dr.
John A. Helms 1999
Harry W. Camp Jr. 1992

Sir William Schlich Memorial Award
John Zivnuska 1993
John Heissenbuttel 2010

Alwin Schnek Award
Dr. Joe R. McBride 1993 Dr.
Kevin L. O’Hara 2013

Barrington Moore Award
F. Thomas Ledig 1991

Giﬀord Pinchot Medal
Dr. Henry J. Vaux 1983
Dr. John A. Helms 2011

National SAF

Communication/Journalism Award
Bill Keye - 2000, 2005

2015, New Orleans, LA, Don
Dukleth recognized as Field
Forester
District 3 Field Forester of the Year

Michael J Goodner 2002  Doug Nickles 2003
Diane Savin-Dukleth 2006  Edward Tunheim 2004
Karen Jones 2007
John Kessler 2008
Ramiro Rojas 2009
J. Lopez 2011
Martin Gubrud 2012
Richard Wade 2013
Mark T. Smith 2014
Don Dukleth 2015
Robert York 2016
James Able 2017

Fellows

The Fellow Award is a prestigious award that recognizes an SAF member for long-standing service to forestry at the local, state, and national levels. The SAF Fellow is recognized as an ambassador for the advancement of forestry.

Hank Abraham  Bob Maben
Ron Adams  William Macro
Diana Apple  Walter Mark
Tobe Arvala  Ed Martin
David Bakke  Tad Mason
Brian Barrette  Joe McBride
Frank Barron  James McElroy
Bill Beaty  William McKillop
Geri Bergen  John Mount
Roy Berridge  Gary Nakamura
Bill Branham  Dewitt Nelson
Lloyd Britton  Doug Nickles
John Bryant  John Nicoles
John Callaghan  Kevin O’Hara
Bob Callaham  William Oliver
Harry Camp  James Ostrowski
Warren Carleton  Jerry Partain
Edward Carpenter  Pete Passof
Thomas Catchpole  Donald Perkins
Don Clark  Clint Phillips
Robert Colwell  Doug Piirto
Paul Cox  Norman Pillsbury
George Craig  Walter Puhn
Mike DeLasaux  John Sandor
Ken Delfino  Scott Schreiner
Nicholas Dennis  Brad Seaborg
John Dozier  Robert Solari
Richard Dresser  William Snyder
William Dresser  Richard Standiford
Glen Duysen  Ronald Stewart
Larry Duysen  John Sweeley
Emmanuel Fritz  Dennis Teeguarden
Keith Guenther  Tina Terrell
Ralph Hall  John Todd
Tamara Hanna  Henry Trebitsz  Anne Heissenbuttel  Henry Vaux
John Heissenbuttel  Clyde Walker
John Helms  Myron Wall
Fritz Koepp  Dale Weirman
Donald Knowlton  Alan West
Jane LaBoa  Everett Wieslander
Emmanuel Fritz  Carl Wilson
William Libby  Theodore Zrelak
J.Lopez  Lennart Lindstrandt
Dean Lücke  John Zivnuska
Julie Lydick
Kenton Clark
Elvin E. Cole
George Coombes John
Combes
Geoffrey Conine Sr.
Richard (Don) Cosens
George Craig
Keith Crummer Ronald
Cunnington David S.
Dealey

2016 Golden Members Jim Able, Dale Wierman
and Al Stangenberger with SAF President Clark

Golden Members

James Able
Hank Abraham
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Golden Members Continued

William Libby
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Robert Malain
Jerry Marrs
Daniel Marlatt
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Joe McBride
William McKillop
Herman Meyer
Reed Miller
Grant Morse
John Mount
Robert Muir
James Murphy
David Myhre
Thomas Neff
David Nelson
James Nile
William Oliver

Jesse Sinclair
Robert Smart
Emerson L. Smith
Mark Smith
William F. Smith
Robert Solari
Dean Solinsky
Alan Stangengerber
Bernard Sweet
John Sweeley
Joseph Tanski
Dennis E. Teeguarden
Walter Thomas
Lansing Thornton
Warren Tracy
Edward Tunheim
Ronald Voss
Gilbert Ward
Gordon Watts
Jack Weddle
Duane Wells
Alan West
Dale Wireman
William Oliver
The California Society started with 29 members in 1916. In the 1980’s the membership in southern and northern California was in the 1400’s. Since the late 1980’s the newsletters frequently mentioned declining membership. In 1990 there is a note in the records that membership had declined by 200 in the past 10 years.

Many ideas have been raised as causes for declining membership. These include:

- The creation of the California Licensed Foresters Association where the cost and time to be involved in two organizations is an issue.
- Reduced forestry school enrollment
- Changing society values such as two career families or younger generations not seeing the value of a professional society

In the past 20 years the age demographic has shifted such that the majority of members are 50 or older, instead of in the mid 20’s-50 age group. This correlates with the highest employer identified now as retired. The percentage of women has slightly more than doubled since 1990 and is up from 8 percent to 17 percent.
**Snapshot of Membership 2017**

**Employer Type**

**Gender of Membership**

**Type of Membership**

**Age of Membership**

**1990**

Southern California membership 200  
Northern California membership 1257  
Total California membership 1457

**1987**

The typical member is described as 31-35 years old male and employed by the federal government as a mid-level field forester. The largest age group was 26 to 50. 8% of the membership was female.
Forestry Education Exchange

Forestry practices and the forestry profession started to take a beating in the late 1980’s and 1990’s. The visual impact of clearcutting, wildlife issues such as the spotted owl, and interest in designating more wilderness and wild and scenic rivers became the focus of the public, environmental groups and media.

In 1992 a group concerned that understanding of forestry was being lost in the rhetoric gathered to develop a strategy for coordinating and supporting environmental and natural resource education programs in California. This became the Forestry Education Exchange. It was a cooperative effort that included educators, natural resource agencies, forest products industry, professional foresters and other resource professionals. The mission of the Forestry Education Exchange (FEE) was to build greater societal and lifelong understanding of the connection between humans and natural resources.

In the long term FEE hoped to change how the public perceived natural resources management in California. This included understanding the connection between use and production of forest products and to provide a sense of how California's forests are professionally managed. It set out to establish opportunities to provide discussion and education that would increase the understanding of complex issues involved in forest science, forest ecology and forest management, and to promote critical thinking skills for informed decision making.

This effort gave birth to California SAF programs, Forest Conservation Days, Forestry Institute for Teachers, Forestry Institute for Media, continuing education programs offered to foresters and landowners and the Forestry Helpline, which provides the public with answers to their forestry questions. These programs have been a partnership between SAF leadership and its volunteers with partners from the forest products industry, U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, county schools and other resource agencies and groups.
2009 FCD volunteers in front of the Dolbeer steam donkey.

2009 FCD volunteers at the annual BBQ sponsored by Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation.

1992
It's reported, that SAF member Tad Mason was concerned that his daughter going to school in Santa Clara County didn't have exposure to forestry education. As a result, Tad and Gary
Nakamura teamed together to develop Forest Conservation Days (FCD). The Northern California SAF hosted its first conservation days at Villa Montalvo Arboretum and County Park in Saratoga in March 1992. The public was hosted March 7 on Arbor Day. Conservation Week followed March 9-13 for 5th and 6th graders from Campbell/San Jose area schools. The first event reached 1,540 students, 60 teachers and 100 parents. 88 volunteers (40 SAF members) put in 2,000 hours to prepare and conduct the event.

The format of the program was structured so that the public and students visited 6-12 exhibits and then participated in a 1 1/2 -2 hour hike with a forester through the woods. The cost of the event was approximately $25,500. This was funded by the Renewable Resources Extension Act - $13,000 the Wyntoon/Mt. Shasta SAF Chapters - $2,500 and the California Forest Products Commission - $10,000. The expenses covered busing, rental of exhibit structures and curriculum materials.

The first event proved that there was significant demand for balanced, science-based environmental education. The next year FCD was held at Sanborn Park, Santa Clara County at the request of Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation. Sanborn Park proved to be a much better location due to additional space, more hiking trails and close proximity to lodging for FCD volunteers. The second year 3,600 fifth graders and 650 members of the public attended over a two week period. Over 200 volunteers helped with the event. Starting around 1996 boy scouts and girl scout Councils were contacted regarding scout participation during the bridge weekend between the weeklong sessions that targeted elementary schools.

Funding support for FCD came from Norcal SAF chapters such as Wyntoon Chapter (annual conservation education fundraising dinner), High Sierra Chapter, California Forest Products Commission, and the USFS. Ancillary initiatives such as rebuilding the steam donkey were also managed by Norcal SAF Education Committee and dedicated individuals such as John Nicoles (donkey puncher extrodanaire) provided oversight.

Forest Conservation Days has been held 26 times (1992 -2017). The format has remained essentially the same throughout the years. It was moved from Santa Clara County to Fresno County in 2012 because lodging for volunteers became unavailable at Sanborn Park. FCD was held twice in 2012 when the location was moved to Sequoia Lake YMCA camp outside of Kings Canyon National Park. The event was cancelled in 2015 due to wildfires when the camp was used as a fire staging area and smoke caused a safety hazard.
FCD patch created in 2011 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of FCD. This was handed out to girl scouts and boy scouts that participated in FCD.

Super Volunteers
The long-term sustainability of the project has depended upon volunteers. Notable volunteers include John Stewart the on-site coordinator for multiple years for two weeks straight, even in the rain. John Nicoles ran the popular steam donkey and included physics lessons. Tom Catchpole makes the tree cookie name tags every year and supports the logistics of the event. Don and Diane Dukleth coordinated the event for years and assisted with the transition of the event to Fresno County. Also there was the support of companies such as Collins Pine and Sierra Pacific Industries that sent large numbers of their staff to participate. The forestry students at Reedley College and forestry instructors Kent Kinney and Joshua Soderlund became key resources for providing volunteers and support for the effort when the event moved to Sequoia Lake YMCA camp.

Forestry Institute for Teachers
1993
At the request of the Forestry Education Exchange the Forestry Institute for Teachers was developed. It is aimed at teachers K-12. The Northern California Society of American Foresters and the Shasta County Office of Education partnered in the summer of 1993 to offer two 1 week sessions at Quincy, UC Berkeley Forestry Camp. Fifty-four teachers attended each session in the first year. The cost was approximately $800/teacher.

The Forestry Institute for Teachers is high-quality professional development that provides cross-curriculum (Math, Language Arts, Science, History, etc.) training that emphasizes and models Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards while examining current forestry issues.

The goal of FIT is to provide K-12 teachers with knowledge, skills and tools to effectively teach their students about forest ecology and forest resource management practices using award winning environmental education curriculum: Project Learning Tree and Project WILD. The program brings together natural resource specialists and teachers from rural and urban settings for one week, working side by side to gain a deeper understanding of forest ecosystems and human use of natural resources.

Funding
Today, the partnership to support this effort includes the Northern California Society of American Foresters, University of California Cooperative Extension, Shasta County Office of Education, The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and Project Learning Tree. The FIT Program is underwritten by a consortium of public and private sources. The Fundraising Committee and Education Committee coordinate fundraising efforts sourcing between $80,000 and $140,000 per year since 1992.

In 1994 NorCal SAF voted to increase its dues $10/year for three years to support education programs. That dues increase has been maintained ever since.

The program is offered free to California teachers

Growth
The program has been very popular. Since 1993, over 2,600 teachers have graduated from the program. The program has expanded and is generally held annually at the following locations; Plumas County, Quincy, UC Berkeley Forestry Camp, Tuolumne County, Sonora, Sierra
Outdoor School, Humboldt County, Arcata, Humboldt State Univ. and Shasta County, Shingletown, Mccumber Camp.

In 2014 and 2015 FIT + FIT, two day sessions were held that focused on water and forestry issues. These sessions were held in Southern California at James Reserve, San Jacinto Mountains (Oct. 2014) and Mt. Baldy Visitor Center, Angeles National Forest (Jan. 2015) and in Northern California at Walden West Science and Sustainability Center, Saratoga (2014).

The FIT program website is http://www.forestryinstitute.org

**Forestry Institute for Media and Legislators**

NorCal SAF received a Foresters Fund grant in 1994 to put on a Forestry Institute for Media. Three sessions were held, 2 in northern California and 1 in southern California with mixed success (1995-Blodgett, 1996- Newhall CA, 1998 -Shaver Lake). The event at Blodgett was focused on the Forestry and Wildland Fire outlook for 1995. 18 important media representatives attended. There was coverage by major TV stations and several news articles resulted. The Newhall and Shaver Lake sessions focused on prescribed fire. No news media showed up for the Shaver Lake event.

In the early 2000’s a few SAF members organized by Bill Keye held Forestry 101 for State legislators with their staff at the State Capitol. In the mid to late 2000’s an annual Forestry Field tour for State legislators and staff has been held at Blodgett Forest.

**Fairs**

Annually SAF has a booth at the Los Angeles County Environmental Education Fair hosting K-12 grade students and teachers.

Annually SAF staffs the Forest Products Commission booth at the State Fair in Sacramento.

Chapter participation in County Fairs occurs regularly.

**Policy**

**Bylaws Updated**


1969

1982
Name change to Northern California Society of American Foresters
Ballot measure on licensing to support allowing up to 2 years of academic education if it didn’t result in a forestry degree - Failed
1988
NorCal SAF was very active in studying proposed policy, regulations and initiatives that would affect forest management. Policy statements and letters commenting on regulation were developed.

NorCal SAF spent time reviewing Section 208 State Water Board regulation, BMP practices for site prep and erosion control structures, cumulative effects analysis and loss of lawsuits, Licensed Timber Operator education and testing and State Forest Assessment.

Results included Cumulative Effects Policy statement, Report on Reforestation and Erosion Control Structure Maintenance, extended position statement on wood use for energy production, letter to State Board of Forestry on Fire Safe regulation.

1989
NorCal SAF renewed policy statements on California hardwoods, Herbicide Use in Forestry, Urban Forestry, Long-term Timber Resource Production, Spotted Owls and California Dept. of Forestry Directors should be Registered-Professional Foresters.

1990
SAF spent time working with the legislature and other resources professional in re-evaluating the role of Foresters Licensing and what constituted the practice of forestry. Concerns were being raised by other resource professionals such as ecologists and range managers. NorCal SAF developed an analysis of several State propositions dealing with classification of mountain lions as endangered, Forests Forever, the Dark Forest and Big Green concepts that threatened restrictions on forest management activities.

1991
NorCal SAF worked with the National Office to take the report on biodiversity and condense the report into a policy statement for SAF.
Provided input to the legislature on county general plan inclusion of fire safe planning NorCal SAF started developing a statement about the problems with single species management as pursued by the endangered species act.

1992
NorCal SAF adopted policy statement: Beyond Single Species Focus Toward More Anticipatory Environmental Management. Russ Henly Policy Chair
NorCal SAF wrote letters to the State Legislature on topics such as old growth forest types, Registered Professional Forester licensing and specialty licenses such as the Range Management Advisor
The Cultural Diversity Committee held a workshop in Chico in August with the intent of developing and connection between resources professionals and educators.

1994
Biomass Utilization Restructuring California’s Electric Services Industry policy developed NorCal Charters for Pest Management and Audit Committee approved.

1995
Pitch Canker position statement developed
NorCal SAF voted on and approved a $10 surcharge for education programs
The NorCal SAF policy committee provided comments on the Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project, particularly with regard to mapping identification problems of Old Growth. Provided comments to the draft EIS on Managing California Spotted Owls in the Sierra Nevada Forests of California. Issued press release on post fire salvage and fire issues.

1996
Pitch Canker position statement finalized
Bylaws guidance to Policy Committee provided to guide development of position statements and policy.

1997
NorCal SAF approves letter of support for the Quincy Library Group legislation
NorCal SAF adopted policy, The Need for Expanded Wildland Fuel Management in California
Work initiated on 5 state SAF position statement on Salmonids
NorCal SAF co-sponsors “Fire Summit”, June 24-27 in Diamond Bar with CDF, USFS, and the State Fire Safe Council.

1998
Testimony provided to the Board of Forestry regarding special Forest Practice rules for Santa Cruz County.
5 State Society position statement on Salmonids is approved
Letter of support for retention of the Woodlands as part of the Jackson Demonstration State Forest and recommendation to not transfer to State Parks
Policy Committee worked on a position statement related to Forest Product Certification
NorCal SAF adopted a charter for the Wildland Management special committee.
John Mount was endorsed in his bid for National SAF President
NorCal SAF established a special committee to work on bylaw revisions

1999
NorCal SAF sent letters to the Board of Forestry on Salmonid Forest Practice Rule proposals, support for the addition of Sequel property to the Demonstration State Forest system, Professional Forester business ethics and practices regarding Forester Licensing.
NorCal SAF commented to CDF on the draft EIS for Vegetation Management Program.

2000
NorCal SAF approved the position statement, The Need for Commercial Timber Harvesting in Forest Ecosystem Management.
NorCal SAF sent letters to the Air Resources Control Board about proposed agriculture burning regulations, the Sacramento Bee about salvage logging after fires and ecological consequences of fires, to CDF regarding RPF, Plan submitter and LTO responsibilities, and a letter to Senator Feinstein in opposition to the creation of the Sequoia National Monument.

2003
The NorCal SAF policy committee reviewed existing position statements for updating, The Need for Wildland Fuel Management in California and Sustainable Forest Management. It considered a position statement on Sudden Oak Death.

2005
NorCal SAF requests that the Board of Forestry modify regulations about aspen to improve regeneration. The Board adopted the recommendations.
NorCal SAF sends letter to Humboldt State University encouraging continuation of an accredited forestry program.

2009
NorCal SAF sends a letter to the California Climate Action Registry on the draft revised forest project protocol.

2011
NorCal SAF submitted comments to the USDA Forest Service on the planning rule.

2012
NorCal SAF submitted comment to the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit on its draft Forest Plan.
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