

Report on National SAF Activities from District 3 Board Representative Nick Dennis

District Board Member's Report 8/15/19

Annual Convention: Louisville October 30 - November 2; theme: "Goods from The Woods"; the total revenue goal for the convention is \$730,000 from registrations, exhibitors, and sponsors

Student Executive Committee—Chairwoman is Brittney Church a senior at Grey Harbor Community College; D3 member is Alex Flores a junior at Cal Poly

CEO has laid out his priority hiring goals:

--State society manager; Senior administrator/executive assistant; Professional development/certification manager; Marketing director; Development manager; the last two would be expected to "pay for themselves" within 5 years

Policy director John Barnwell has left; his assistant Danielle Watson has been elevated to director of policy and communications

Remember when SAF was in the life insurance business? That program, although having been inactive for decades, had approximately \$90,000 in a trust; we finally received a legal opinion recommending we incorporate those funds into our general fund

Hawaii SAF—what to do? State society has been inactive, no meetings, hasn't filed tax return in 5 years, so has lost tax exempt status; I've been working with member Katie Friday; her preference and that of Terry Baker would be for HI to merge with CA SAF

Student recruitment and retention: Considerable interest in having SAF play a larger role in university conclave sponsorships; there are 5 regional conclaves, all independently organized

CFE program: in transition from state society coordinators to 6 national coordinators who would be stipended; national SAF currently evaluates 1,700 classes for CFE assignment annually

Have a committee assessing opportunities to monetize CFEs, with the intent to generate revenue from non-SAF members and non-CFs; no specific recommendations yet

Audit committee is reviewing the CF program; similar to California's RPF licensing, which had a large number of licenses "grandfathered" to candidates who were not required to pass an exam, the CF program initially had large numbers of enrollees "grandfathered" in the same way; consequently, the number of CFs has declined from 3,400 to 1,100; the program appears to be losing money for SAF, although allocating costs is difficult; focus of the review is to identify who values the program? Is it foresters, employers, states, or the public?

Considerable discussion about state society "warchests"; several state societies have large accumulations of assets that do not appear to be used to grow or develop SAF; can also be said to be true of national SAF

Decline of chapters: several state societies (WI, MI) have eliminated chapters and are operating exclusively as state societies

