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The Knothole, October 30, 1963

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Student Body

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OUR CAMPUS AS SEEN THROUGH THE
KNOTHOLE



Editors: R. Bathrick, J. Dwyer, M. Kelly, R. Kutty, H. Rupp, R. Sena

October 30, 1963 Deadline for Entries: Monday 8:45 A.M. Published by Alpha Xi Sigma

Dear Editors:

Feeling that your paper will print honest opinions concerning the field of forestry, I would like to comment on the convocation of the week of October 22nd.

Soon after our speaker rose I began to note his strong preservationists feelings; but I never thought his talk would be so one-sided. To back this opinion up let me mention several things:

His slide of the two brooks - one that dried up and one that was reduced to one-quarter its volume in dry weather. I detected some anti-logging here. He did not tell us:

1) That very little of Rocky Mountain, adjacent to Giant of the Valley, Keene Valley, New York, drains into any branch of the Ausable (only little Chapel Pond brook enters the Ausable system).

2) The watershed areas of the streams are vastly different in size.

3) The geological make-up of the two stream bed areas are also very different, allowing much underground water in the "dry" stream area.

4) During springtime, good for comparison, the two streams are quite different in size.

5) Most of the land feeding the "dry" stream is state owned, and has been for many, many years, allowing no management whatsoever except the great hikers erosion starting trails. Most, if not all, of the land supplying the "running" stream is privately owned, (perhaps by the Ausable, or St. Huberts club?).

6) The fire which ran from Route 73 to Route 9 east and west, and north and south from Underwood to Route 9N is famous for having burned everything; there are no stumps or snags on much of the area, trees either were burned completely or were never there in the first place.

I believe all my previous comments can be substantiated by objectively going over local topographical maps and visiting the scene. Our speaker's slide of the dead "deer" really gave me a jolt. He did not enlighten us on the following:

1) The dead animal did not look like any dead deer that I've ever seen, but more like a dog. (Living in the woods allows me to see many dead deer every winter, mainly due to running dogs owned by good citizens who swear that their itchy-bitsy doggy would never chase deer; until the damn thing gets shot.)

2) The cutting in the area was to a 3" min. d.b.h.; but who owned the land and what were the circumstances of the cut? Please don't suggest that some bad day in the future any group will be allowed to tell you what you can and cannot do with your land timber-wise.

3) What good, beside some awfully thin cover, is a three inch or larger tree to a deer. The animal can't reach the crown on most 3" or larger trees, and don't tell me that deer can climb trees either. I say this because our speaker said that lack of food, not cover, killed the animal. Food-wise, if a deer can't reach the crown, he probably doesn't care if the tree is there or not.

4) I believe that some of our school's staff have said that cutting will provide more feed - in down tops, the usual new shoots and increased seedling growth. How many of you have noted the lack of game over much of the preserve (state)? Sure, the place looks good because the trees are all big, but, look on the ground - there is no feed in reach of the deer. Take heed, there are organizations trying to eliminate the deer herd from our preserve.

5) In the slide's example - perhaps better hunting practices would have saved the speaker the sight of this dead animal, death caused by logging, of course. (or possibly dogging)

6) I'm sure the garden club likes this. A dead deer, what a pity; you know, of course, that logging (forest management in the Adirondacks) caused this. Now if we can close all the woods to forestry the trees will grow out of reach of deer; the deer will die off so there will be no hunting and no cutting (management). Remember that Lewis and Clark nearly starved to death though the trees were magnificent.

7) Some wood has to be cut to supply our needs; a man can cut what he wants on his own land; a desk forester doesn't have much of a job without the clod out in the woods. Trained foresters are supposed to convince people of the need of proper game and land management, entailing harvesting of timber and "deer" by either man, or

When any person indicates to me that he is in favor of locking up the preserve, and sometimes my land too, he usually is an advocate of the "forever wild" clause.

How can this person sleep nights knowing that there are people tramping muddy, eroding trails, building fire roads, building buildings, nailing brightly colored metal disks and signs to the trees, laying telephone wire, and making bridges over the many dangerous torrents pouring from the mountains, all through his "forever wild" woods.

When I hear people expressing contempt for New Jersey hikers, or any less fortunate hiker, either in knowledge or equipment, I am reminded that these people, "professional woodsmen" from "outside" had to learn once. They most likely pulled some pretty good boners in the eyes of the old climbers at that time. These "professional woodsmen" can look damn silly to the local people, carting their shiny equipment and touting their great knowledge before the less fortunate. They should be more concerned with being helpful and teaching, not with running these people down in public. After all, every New York taxpayer owns as much of the "forever wild" preserve as the most biased next fellow. Let each man enjoy his share of the land in his own way.

However, I also wish to thank our speaker, who would not have talked to a group twenty-five years ago, for feeling that at least a group has come along to which he may speak. Why us? He didn't go into that too much.

Perhaps this seems like a poison attack on an individual, or more likely, on an organization; it is. I listen to too many people, who have never seen the Adirondacks, attacking forestry, or have you forgotten that the logger is also a forester, because some soul told him, or his wife at the garden club meeting, that this forestry kills their pretty deer, and on and on.

A fed-up taxpayer, habitant of the Adirondacks, opponent of locking up the woods for the die-hard preservationist, and ignorant worker of the woods.

Russell W. Deming
Class of 1966

HAPPINESS

How many times have each of you heard a friend or fellow classmate say, "All I want is to be happy"? This in itself is a logical statement; however, do most of us know what happiness really is? Haven't you heard a classmate say that all he needed was to become a District Ranger, Mill Manager, Lab Scientist, or many other positions that are a little less than the person is capable of attaining. Is there any happiness other than becoming the most that we are capable of? I think not and feel that the following arctilce by Leo Rosten entitled The Real Reason For Being Alive accurately describes the happiness that we should strive for.

Ask any American mother what she most wants for her child. The chances are that she will reply; "To be happy." But there was a time when we most wanted for our children and ourselves was to AMOUNT to something.

What is this myth, "happiness" that has bamboozled so many of us? And what is this idiotic thing "fun" which so many of us chase after. Where people once said, "good by", they now say "have fun". They even talk, God Help Us, of such

things as a "fun time", a "fun thing", a "fun book".

I know of nothing more demanding than the frantic pursuit of "fun". No people are more miserable than those who seek desperate escapes from the self, and none are more impoverished psychologically than those who plunge into the strenuous frivolity of night clubs, which I find a form of communal lunacy. The word fun comes from the medieval English "fon" -- meaning fool.

Where was it ever promised that life on this earth can ever be easy, free from conflict and uncertainty, devoid of anguish and wonder and pain? Those who seek the folly of unrelieved "happiness" - who fear moods, who shun solitude, who do not know the dignity of occasional depression -- can find bliss easily enough in tranquilizing pills, or in senility.

The purpose of life is not to be happy. The purpose of life is to matter, to be productive, to have it make some difference that you lived at all. Happiness in the ancient noble sense, means self -- fulfillment and is given to those who use to the fullest whatever talents God or fate, or Luck bestowed upon them.

Happiness, to me, lies in stretching, to the farthest boundaries of which we are capable, the resources of mind and heart.

J. Dwyer

ROBIN HOOD

The Robin Hood Junior Honorary had its first meeting on Sunday, October 27th at Raphaels Restaurant. Its members are elected from the upper quarter of the Junior Class and were seen carrying staffs ornamented with green ribbons over the past week. Professor Ralph T. King, chairman of the Forest Zoology Department, was the guest speaker. His talk entitled "Accumulation, Accretion, or Assimilation, ---Which?", was truly inspiring. He explained the merits of a liberal education, and the real ways to learning. This talk certainly made the evening both enjoyable and educational.

The new officers are:

Robin Hood -----	Bill Harman
Little John -----	Les Monostory
Will Scarlet -----	Doug Kapple
Alan - O - Dale -----	Lynn Donaldson

Other members are:

Charles Baker	Marshall Hill	Bill Saalman
Fred Blausner	Ted Hooker	Tom Sands
Richard Cunningham	Anthony Jeric	Dave Skinner
James Fish	Christopher Macey	Gary Snider
Bob Fowler	Doug Maurer	Marty Sorokin
Bob Gage	Eugene Miller	Ray White
Norm Grenell	Dave Moorhead	Paul Wicker
Jim Hanson	Vincent Pigiet	

MOOSEWOOD'S NOTEBOOK
#21

'Tis said that at some teachers' colleges the motif is to learn how to teach through ignorant!

The following is a letter received by Terry Amburgey, a graduate student in the Botany Department.

#232 78-Ban, 1-ku Kye-Rim Dong
Kwangju, Chollanam Do,
Korea

Dear Mr. Amburgey:

I'm very glad to write this letter to you and at the same time guess that it will surprise you, for it will be a quite unexpected letter to you.

Truly I have been wanting for a long time to have a pen friend in America but no good opportunity came to me. However, with a good luck, I found your name in the letter that you wrote to my friend Mr. Yang-Hee Hong.

I'm Junior of Forestry Department at Chun Nam University and am going to major in Wood Technology.

Now, Mr. Amburgey, would you be kind enough to introduce a pen friend to me? As I've said I'm Junior, so I hope to have a friend in the Junior class of your school. It would be better for me if he were a sincere Christian, for I would like to have good fellowship with Christian friends, also.

Then, hoping for a good answer soon, I'll stop here.

Sincerely yours,

Chong Hyuk Bae

Any takers?

N O T I C E

Any persons interested in participating in a student-faculty talent show, contact me through student mail or at X2768.

Fred Blausler

From the: Constitution of the Students' Association of State University of State University of New York College of Forestry

Article II - Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of the organization shall be to foster a true professional forestry spirit among the student body, to promote the individual welfare of every member, and to promote the interests of the College through the activities of the Students' Association.

Article III - Membership

Section 2. All regularly enrolled students, graduates and undergraduates, of the State University of New York College of Forestry shall be members.

From the: By-Laws

Article II - Meetings of the Forestry Council

Section 4. Any member of the Students' Association may attend meetings of the Council. Said attendance does not involve the right to vote. The gallery may be cleared at the discretion of the chairman.

Your council officers and representatives meet regularly on Monday afternoon at 4:30 P.M. in 127 Marshall Hall. The meetings are open to students in order to give each an opportunity to make his views known. The Association's student mailbox is available for this same purpose. Become an active participant rather than a passive resident of the Students' Association, and promote its purposes!

J. M. C.,
Senior Senator