

## And now, a word from our President:

### Welcome to the ANREP New Year!

Greetings from your new ANREP president! I'm Mike Kuhns, Forestry Extension Specialist at Utah State University. I was president-elect last year, am president this year, and will be past-president next year. I have been a member of ANREP since its inception, and of FREP before that; and I served as chair of the 2006 ANREP Conference in Park City, Utah. I thank Jeff Schalau, last year's president and current past-president, for all he did to shepherd us through a busy conference year. And wasn't that conference in Alaska great... even if it was hard to sleep? Who needs sleep when you are having fun and learning so much?

Speaking of the Alaska conference, a co-chair of that conference, Eleanor Burkett from Minnesota, was recently elected to the ANREP presidency. She will be serving as president-elect this year and as president next year, which is another conference year (that one will be in North Carolina). Other new officers elected in December are: Dean Solomon from Michigan, who is taking over as treasurer for 2011 and 2012 from Will Sheftall who did a great job for the past two years; and Duane Friend from Illinois is our new North Central regional rep.

They will serve on this year's executive committee along with continuing officers Ursula Smedly from New Mexico (Secretary), Amy Grotta from Oregon (Western regional rep), Sandy Smith from Pennsylvania (Northeastern regional rep), and Brenda Allen from Alabama (Southern regional rep). I look forward to working with this group as we carry on the business of ANREP and get



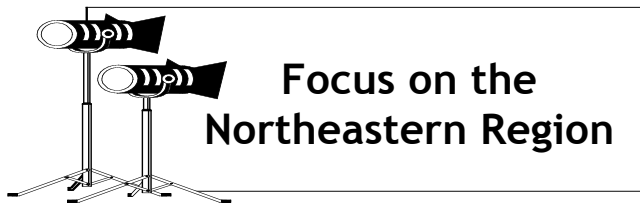
ready for next year's conference. This executive committee, along with the committee chairs and other volunteers, are what make ANREP work.

There are a couple of upcoming events you may want to consider attending. First, JCEP is having its annual Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas on February 8-10. I realize that by the time you get this newsletter the early registration date may have passed, but it's worth going if you can.

Second, JCEP will be holding its annual Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference in the Washington D.C. area April 4-6, 2011. If you haven't been to a PILD Conference before, you should make it a priority to attend one when you can. They are really eye-opening. More information on these conferences can be found at [www.jcep.org](http://www.jcep.org). You also can learn more about our important partner, JCEP.

Finally, please contact me at any time if you have input about how ANREP is run or what it can do for you (or you for it). My email address is [mike.kuhns@usu.edu](mailto:mike.kuhns@usu.edu) and my phone number is 435-797-4056.

Michael Kuhns  
ANREP President and  
Utah State University Extension Forestry  
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## Focus on the Northeastern Region

### **Mountain Roots co-sponsored by West Virginia Society of American Foresters**

This past fall, the West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters (SAF) co-sponsored an evening speaker's series titled *Mountain Roots*, featuring certified herbalist Mimi Hernandez. Ms. Hernandez is the Outreach Coordinator of Frostburg State's Appalachian Center for Ethnobotanical Studies (ACES). ACES is a collaborative, inter-institutional effort with the mission to promote multidisciplinary studies and conservation of native plants.



The evening seminars were hosted by the WVU Extension Service, with introductory remarks geared to acknowledging the WV Division of the SAF for its contribution to the seminar, and as a forum for a broad range of issues related to the forests and woodlands of West Virginia. Ms. Hernandez used the seminars to discuss traditional uses of the roots of common herbaceous and woody plants in the Appalachian region.

The five seminars were held at WVU Extension Offices around the state and were well attended by a total of 206 participants.

For the meeting in Morgantown, the WVU Student Chapter of the SAF, led by chair Marie Perrin and vice-chair Christian Roper, organized the meeting and served as greeters with 52 in attendance. Also in attendance at this meeting was WWSAF chair Aaron Plaughter and SAF member Arlyn Perkey. Arlyn signed three *Crop Tree Management* guides that were part of the door prizes. Four copies of *Forest Pharmacy* were also given out as random door prizes; this booklet, written by Steven Foster and produced by the Forest History Society, documents the history of the use of plants in medicine.



(photo: Hands on learning of an Appalachian woodland root crop, Yellow Dock)

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### **The National 4-H Forestry Invitational wants you...to get involved!**

Train a state team or volunteer leader... spread the word... find a sponsor! The National 4-H Forestry Invitational, described as the "Super Bowl" of 4-H Forestry, is hoping ANREP members will get involved in

this exciting 4-H event. 4-H forestry is a great way to get youth outdoors and excited about learning about the natural world around them. With your help, 4-H participants and volunteer leaders will increase their understanding of the uses and benefits of our forest resources.

For many 4-H members, the Invitational is the culmination of their 4-H forestry involvement and a reason to study hard and compete at the state level. It is what many 4-H members strive to achieve; representing their state at a national 4-H judging event. The Invitational was founded in 1980 (31 years ago!), and is held annually at West Virginia Universities' Jackson's Mill State 4-H Conference Center in Weston, West Virginia. The event attracts more than 100 participants and has been attended by an average of 17 state teams annually. The 2011 event runs from Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Invitational is open to all 4-H members across the US, ages 14-18. Each of the 50 states is invited to participate. Participating states select teams according to procedures established by their state's 4-H office. Many states hold forestry judging events where teams are selected. Teams also include a coach(s) and chaperones who travel with the team to the Invitational.

States represented at the 2010 Invitational included: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. Teams from Oregon, Utah, Texas, and Maine as well as others have participated in the past. It is our desire to attract additional state teams from the northeast, the Great Lakes states, and the west.

A management committee comprised of Cooperative Extension educators, US Forest Service specialists, West Virginia Division of Forestry foresters, as well as other volunteer leaders runs the Invitational. Currently, the

event's only sponsor is Chesapeake Energy. Sponsor funds are used exclusively for the implementation of the event, assisting with team travel, and providing room and board. The management committee is currently searching for additional possible long-term sponsors.



(photo: Team members representing Georgia work through the forest evaluation portion of the contest)

During the 5-day event, 4-H members compete for overall team and individual awards in several categories, including: Tree Identification, Forest Evaluation, Tree Measurement, Compass Orienteering, Topographic Map Use, Forest Evaluation, Forestry Quiz Bowl, Forest Health, and a Written Forestry Exam. Additional Invitational activities include an introduction to forestry careers, forestry tours, wildlife presentations, campfires, GPS use, and a woodsmen skills fun competition. The Invitational is managed as an intensive forest resources educational experience.

You are invited to visit our website at: [www.4hforestryinvitational.org](http://www.4hforestryinvitational.org). You will find the Invitational is indeed a quality educational event, providing numerous benefits both to those attending and to society. I hope you will consider offering youth in your area an opportunity to attend this national 4-H event. Please feel free to

contact me if you have any questions or want additional information.

Submitted by David R. Jackson  
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## Marine Expired Flares can teach us ALL a lesson

We ANREP members come together from different organizations, backgrounds, and specialties; but with a common goal of educating people about natural resource issues. You may not immediately think that marine flares have anything to do with your Extension programming, but step back from the subject to the story, and maybe it can be applied to your program area.

There are over 185,000 registered boats in the state of New Jersey, and people flock from surrounding metro areas to enjoy our waters. Every boat over 16 feet in length is required to carry safety devices at all times, and most people use flares for this purpose. Flares, however, expire after 42 months; and the Coast Guard can levy fines on boaters who are using expired flares to fulfill the legal requirement, or who shoot flares in non-emergency situations.

When asked, many organizations will say to donate expired flares to the Coast Guard, or to soak the flares in water (to relieve explosiveness) and then throw them in the trash. However, beyond the difficulties associated with the gross numbers of expired flares, they are classified as hazardous wastes (explosives); and they contain perchlorate, which has been recognized as an emerging water pollutant. Some Household Hazardous Waste collections may accept expired flares, but only for county residents. There is no consistent, environmentally safe, easy way to dispose of these required devices.

Our surveys found that many boaters do not know how to properly dispose of these expired flares; and tend to accumulate them in garages, or on their boats. They also frequently reported being turned down when trying to donate them. So, with the help of the Marine Trades Association of New Jersey, and through the New Jersey Department of Transportation's IBOATNJ program, Rutgers Cooperative Extension held an expired flare disposal event at the New Jersey Boat Expo in September 2010.



(Photo: <http://www.onboardwithmarkcorke.com>)

Over the course of a weekend, we collected more than 600 expired flares from local boaters. We also provided education about the disposal dilemma, and which counties provided household hazardous waste disposal options. The response was extremely positive, and boaters were thankful to get old flares out of their hands.

Disposal, however, was not a simple matter. There was great resistance from organizations concerned about the liability of collecting and disposing of potential explosives. In addition, regulations surrounding both transportation of explosive class materials or incineration of these materials are extremely strict, and are difficult and expensive to navigate. Due to difficulties with the air quality permitting, we eventually contracted with a consultant and had the single barrel of flares transported to Louisiana for incineration. Obviously, this was a very expensive

solution, both economically and environmentally. We are also discussing better disposal options with stakeholders from the boating community, as well as local and state government.

Flares are required by law, but are very hard to dispose of legally. Our project was successful and also necessary, because of this disconnect among mandatory item, expiration, and proper disposal. As it turns out, this problem is an issue in communities worldwide, though not necessarily with flares. In your programs, is there something that is mandated, but without a working plan for the end result? Regulations or changes in policy are sometimes a great opportunity to develop new programs.

For more information on the flare disposal project, visit the Jersey Summer Shore Safety Program at:  
<http://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/marine/JerseySummerShoreSafety.html>

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## Upcoming In-service workshop

In conjunction with the National Workshop on Climate and Forests: Planning Tools and Perspectives on Adaptation and Mitigation Options, May 16-18, in Flagstaff AZ, you are invited to participate in the following National Extension In-service workshop:

National Extension In-service on Forests & Climate: Program Planning and Scholarly Activity Development  
Thursday May 19, 2011;  
9:00am - 8:00pm  
Snowbowl Lodge, Arizona  
Before April 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$50      After April 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$65

This in-service is a follow-up planning workshop specifically designed for Extension Foresters and Educators. Activities include: workshop recap, synthesis and discussion of

the information gathered during the breakouts, discussion on strategies for partnership building and program direction, and a breakout session on translational science writing.

Thanks to funding available through RREA and the USDA Forest Service, a total of \$20,000 for Travel Reimbursement Scholarships is available. Please view the following link and respond no later than MARCH 10<sup>th</sup> to request funding for travel assistance:  
<https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dEljRUIVWkpobzA0N09ldXN0TlloaFE6MQ>

If you have any questions about attending the National Extension In-service, contact Chris Jones at [ckjones@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:ckjones@cals.arizona.edu)

## New! Climate Change & Sustainable Living eXtension Collaborate wiki:

[http://collaborate.extension.org/wiki/Climate\\_Change\\_%26\\_Sustainable\\_Living](http://collaborate.extension.org/wiki/Climate_Change_%26_Sustainable_Living)

## Last but not least: a word from your editor...

Don't forget! This newsletter is YOURS, so please help me make it what you want it to be. The submission deadline & schedule for the various regions is as follows:

Spring issue: April 15 - North Central  
Summer issue: July 15 - Southern  
Fall issue: Oct. 15 - Western Region  
Winter issue: Jan. 15 - Northeast

Sincerely,

*Diana M.C. Rashash*

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