MFPC Enjoys 50th Annual Meeting
By Patrick Strauch
MFPC Executive Director

Members of the Maine Forest Products Council enjoyed a great couple of days at our annual business meeting and 50th anniversary celebration on September 12 and 13.

On Sunday, about 40 members enjoyed golf at Maine’s #1 golf course- Belgrade Lakes Golf Club. Golf was then followed by a famous “Robbins Family Pig Roast” at the MFPC headquarters in Augusta where a large crowd gathered to socialize.

That evening, winners of the annual fall scramble were announced by James Cote of MFPC. In a tie that had to go to back to the scorecards, the Prentiss & Carlisle team of Don White, Janice White, Jim Maynard, and James Cote were announced the 1st gross winners for the second year in a row.

First net winners were former MFPC Executive Director Ted Johnston, Kathleen Newman, Doug Newman and Mike Saucier. The next morning began the annual business meeting which was kicked off by the election of offic-

Wildfire TV – Special One-Hour Show
Hosted by George Smith and Harry Vanderweide

A Conversation with Maine’s Gubernatorial Candidates
Where do they stand on hunting, fishing, and other outdoor issues?

On October 2, we taped the first-ever gubernatorial debate on hunting, fishing, conservation, and environmental issues. All five candidates participated in a vigorous and enlightening discussion. Provided below are links to two news stories about the taping session.

Viewers will gain insight into the depth of knowledge of each candidate on the issues of concern to us, as well as each candidate’s temperament for dealing with our challenges.

Now, please help spread the word so lots of people see the debate! Please alert your members/supporters/staff/employees/friends and family to the following opportunities.

The debate will be aired three times in prime time during the third week of October by the Time Warner cable channel statewide:

Saturday, October 16, from 4 to 5pm
Tuesday, October 19, from 6 to 7 pm
Thursday, October 21, from 9 to 10 pm

The show will also be available on-line

(Continued on page 2)
Past President Doug Denico handed the reigns over to Don White of Prentiss and Carlisle who was elected the Council’s next President.

Mark Doty of Plum Creek, Steve Coleman of LandVest, and Jim Robbins of Robbins Lumber Company all were also voted to join the Executive Committee.

After a few remarks by Don and Doug, Berry Dunn McNeil and Parker provided a financial report on the Council’s activities in 2009. Following that presentation, Executive Director Patrick Strauch and James Cote reported on the Council’s advocacy and communications efforts for the year.

Members then enjoyed a lunch served at the MFPC headquarters. After lunch, Patrick and James helped to lead an interactive discussion and review of MFPC’s 50 years in business. Many members, including Rand Stowell Jr., Fred Huntress, Jimmy Robbins, and others pitched in to help us remember all the things that MFPC has accomplished and experienced in its existence. This presentation was a fun and informal way of recounting a great history of fighting for the industry.

During the afternoon, members were given the choice of attending several workshops. Topics of choice were the Atlantic salmon restoration and stream crossings by staff at Kleinschmidt and Sewall Company, energy issues facing Maine’s forest products industry by Eric Kingsley of Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, and Keeping Maine’s Forests by Patrick Strauch, Don White, Peter Triandafillou, and Marcia McKeague.

Monday evening, members enjoyed the annual banquet and auction at the Senator Inn in Augusta. Once again this year Steve Coleman of LandVest did a fantastic job of being our auctioneer. After a

(Continued on page 4)
Verso Paper is named the MFPC Manufacturer of the Year. Pictured above Jim Contino, Marc Connor from Verso Paper and presenting the award is Peter Triandafillou of Huber Resources.

Logger of the Year Award given to Shawn Craig of SC Wood Harvesting on the left and presenting the award to him is Andy Hartt of Huber Resources on the right.

The Abby Holman Public Service Award went to State Senator Doug Smith on the far left and Senator Richard Nass on the right. The presenters are Patrick Strauch and James Cote both of the Maine Forest Products Council.

MFPC Forester of the Year award given to Frank Cuff on the right and the presenter Mark Doty both of Plum Creek.

The Presidents award this year went to Sarah Medina of Seven Islands Land Co. given to her by Doug Denico, MFPC President.

The Albert D. Nutting Award presented this year to Fred Huntress on the right and presenting him the award is Peter Triandafillou of Huber Resources.
Annual Meeting  .......... (Cont. from page 2)

great dinner, awards were given to many outstanding members in the industry.

A big thanks goes out to all who helped sponsor and organize such a wonderful annual meeting— including MFPC’s Sue McCarthy who did an outstanding job of keeping it all coordinated! We look forward to another great year fighting for the industry and serving the diverse needs of the membership!

Presidents Reception Sponsor
Huber Resources

19 Hole Reception Sponsors
Seven Islands Land Company
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Breakout Meeting Sponsors
LandVest
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Farm Credit of Maine ACA

Award Sponsors
American Forest Management
Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker
Don & Lynda Tardie

Pictured above: Representative Tom Saviello of Wilton, Environmental manager of Verso paper in Jay presents Patrick Strauch, Don White and James Cote of MFPC with a legislative sentiment recognizing the Council’s 50 year anniversary.
Landowner Meeting Scheduled for October 14

An important landowner meeting has been scheduled for 12:30 on Thursday, October 14, immediately following the Executive Committee meeting. There are many important issues to be discussed, and MFPC would like to elect a chairman of the Landowner Committee in an attempt to become more organized (we will also be doing this for the Manufacturing Committee).

On the agenda are many topics, including Keeping Maine’s Forests, Deer, Site Location Law, the Maine Forest Service Fire Suppression budget, and recreational access. We hope that all interested landowners will attend. For more information, or for a copy of the agenda, please contact Patrick Strauch or James Cote.

Gubernatorial Candidates Debate Forest Industry Issues at “Speaking from the Stump” Forum

On September 2, the Forest Resources Association, Maine Forest Products Council, Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine, and the Maine Pulp and Paper Association teamed up to sponsor a gubernatorial debate with the three leading candidates for governor. Paul LePage (R), and Eliot Cutler (U), both attended. Libby Mitchell backed out of the debate after learning that the other two lesser known candidates, Kevin Scott and Shawn Moody, were not invited. About 150 people attended. For a DVD copy of the debate, please contact James Cote (jcote@maineforest.org)

Wildfire. ......................... (Cont. from page 1)

beginning on October 16 at www.wildfiremaine.tv.

Here are links to news stories about the taping session.


Think of us as your natural resource

AT BERRY DUNN, WE DO IT RIGHT. With vibrant entrepreneurial spirit, deep resources, seasoned judgment, and Maine roots. Our experts understand the complex issues that drive today’s business in the region—and around the world. We’re fully engaged, responsive, and ahead of the curve.

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Millinocket, and Jackman MFPC Breakfasts Coming Soon!

Last call for anyone who would like to attend the final two MFPC breakfasts! We’ll be in Millinocket on the morning of October 20 at the Pelletier’s Restaurant, and in Jackman on October 27 at the Four Seasons Restaurant. Both breakfasts start at 7:00 a.m. and will last until 8:30. Legislative candidates are invited and we’ll be reviewing what issues the Council is currently working on.

So far, the Farmington and Bangor breakfasts have been a big hit and the Gray breakfast looks to be very well attended. Thanks goes out to all of our sponsors!

1. Wednesday, September 29- Homestead Bakery, Farmington
   Sponsor: Plum Creek Timber Company & Fontaine Group

2. Wednesday, October 6- Bangor Motor Inn, Bangor

3. Wednesday, October 13- Cole Farms Restaurant, Gray
   Sponsors: LaValley Lumber, Limington Lumber, and Hancock Lumber

4. Wednesday, October 20- Pelletier Loggers Family Restaurant, Millinocket
   Sponsors: Katahdin Millinocket Forest Management & Huber Resources

5. Wednesday, October 27- Four Seasons Restaurant, Jackman
   Sponsors: LandVest & E.J Carrier

If you would like to attend Millinocket or Jackman, please contact James Cote at jcote@maineforest.org.

Sponsor: Verso Paper & Prentiss & Carlisle

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Maine Forest Legacy PAC Releases Candidate Rankings!

LEGISLATIVE SURVEY RANKINGS

The Maine Forest Legacy PAC is a political action committee of the Maine forest products industry. Members of the MFL PAC include landowners, logging contractors, paper mill employees, saw mills, biomass energy facilities, truckers, and foresters. The MFL PAC is organized to support and promote legislative candidates who support the interests of the forest products industry.

The MFL PAC provides support to candidates for the Legislature. As a means to assess the strength of candidates, the MFL PAC distributes a legislative questionnaire which candidates may choose to voluntarily respond to. Those responses are then calculated into a grade for others in the industry to evaluate and make choices upon.

This year, 76 candidates responded to the survey. Of those, 19 were Democrats and 57 were Republicans.

The Evaluation Process:
For this survey, the MFL PAC Board of Directors chose to evaluate responses to selected questions in the survey, and, in the case of incumbents, votes on two pieces of legislation were of critical importance to the forest products industry in the 124th Maine Legislature.

One point was awarded for favorable responses on policy position questions, number 6,7,8,9,10,11,15, 17, 19 (see attached).

For incumbent legislators, the MFL PAC also evaluated their position on two of the most critical pieces of legislation that the industry worked on in the 124th Maine Legislature. A favorable vote on each piece of legislation was awarded two points. See the legislation and roll call numbers below.

LD 1552- AN ACT TO IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAINE WORKERS IN THE FOREST INDUSTRY (SECOND REGULAR SESSION, MFPC OPPOSED, DEFEATED)
LD 1552 would have ejected landowners from Maine’s Tree Growth Tax Program for using federally legal forms of foreign labor. The land would then be required to be taxed at just value for the property tax year for which the classification is suspended. In addition, the bill would have also assessed a tax equal to 150% of the landowner’s share per acre of the State’s commercial forestry excise tax. The forest products industry was very concerned that this bill could have led to a lack of qualified labor in remote regions of Northern Maine, and therefore threatened wood supply to mills and other manufacturing facilities. (Senate roll call #372, House roll call #321)

LD 413- An Act To Clarify Land Use Regulation in Unorganized and Deorganized Townships (First Regular Session, MFPC supported, ADOPTED)
LD 413 amended the statutory Purpose and Scope of the Land Use Regulation Commission to include a new emphasis on residents, property owners, and local economies of the Unorganized Territory. The bill was amended from its original version, but established an important new precedent of statutorily recognizing these parties in the comprehensive planning process. (House roll call #220)
# Maine House of Representatives Candidate Rankings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate Name</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Support of Forest Products Industry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Representative Herb Clark*</td>
<td>H10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbi Perkins</td>
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<td>Carol Kemmerer</td>
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Representative Gary Knight  H81  12  Very Strong
Representative Patrick Flood*  H82  12  Very Strong
John Picchiotti  H84  9  Very Strong
Representative Jeff McCabe*  H85  11  Very Strong
Representative Philip Curtis*  H86  13  Very Strong
Representative Paul Gilbert*  H87  8  Strong
Larry Dunphy  H88  7  Strong
Representative Lance Harvell*  H89  13  Very Strong
Russell Black  H90  8  Very Strong
Irving Faunce  H90  6  Strong
Representative Jarrod Crockett*  H91  13  Very Strong
Representative Matthew Peterson*  H92  10  Very Strong
Tom Winsor  H95  9  Very Strong
Representative Ralph Sarty*  H99  11  Very Strong

*Incumbent

Blue= Democrat
Red= Republican

House Ranking Scale (Incumbents):
10-13= Very Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Industry
7-9= Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
5-7= Moderate Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
1-4= Weak Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry

House Ranking Scale (New Candidate):
8-9= Very Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
6-7= Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
4-5= Moderate Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
1-3= Weak Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
(Incumbent House members could achieve a maximum of 13 points. New candidates could achieve a maximum of 9 points.)

**Maine State Senate Candidate Rankings**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Candidate Name</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<td>Michael Estes</td>
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<td>Senator Gerald Davis*</td>
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<td>Rod Whittemore</td>
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<td>Representative Brian Langley*</td>
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<td>Senator Kevin Raye**</td>
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<td>Senator Jon Courtney**</td>
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<td>Senator Richard Rosen*</td>
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<td>Nichi Farnham</td>
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<td>Joe Palmieri</td>
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*Incumbent/Sitting Legislator

Blue= Democrat  Red= Republican

Senate Ranking Scale (Incumbents):
9-13= Very Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Industry
6-8= Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
4-5= Moderate Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
1-3= Weak Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry

Senate Ranking Scale (New Candidates):
8-9= Very Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
6-7= Strong Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
4-5= Moderate Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry
1-3= Weak Supporter of Maine’s Forest Products Industry

(Only sitting House members who are running for the Senate and who voted favorably on LD 1552 and LD 413 can achieve the maximum of 13 points. Because LD 413 did not have a roll call in the Senate, all other incumbent Senate candidates could achieve a maximum of 11 points. New candidates could achieve a maximum of 9 points.)
Summary of Rankings:

Very Strong- Candidates in this category demonstrate a very strong support of the forest products industry in their survey responses and many in their voting records during the 124th Maine Legislature. These candidates have a firm grasp on policy issues pertaining to the forest products industry and can be looked to as champions on our issues.

Strong- Candidates in this category demonstrate a very strong support of most of the policy positions of the forest products industry, and have a firm grasp on many of the industry’s policy issues.

Moderate- Candidates in this category may not be as familiar with forest policy, but are usually thoughtful and eager to learn more details about the issue at hand. The industry recognizes the need to share more information and details with these candidates.

Weak- Candidates in this category often have not had a lot of exposure to the forest products industry, but welcome the opportunity to learn more. The industry also recognizes the need to share more information about the industry with these candidates.

POLICY POSITION QUESTIONS EVALUATED FROM MFL PAC SURVEY 2010

Please provide your perspective on the following policy issues:

6. The Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement (BETR) program, which reimburses businesses for property taxes paid on equipment placed in service after April 1, 1995. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

7. A state budget that increases or adds new taxes on the forest products industry. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

8. The Tree Growth property tax program, which reduces property taxes on forest land that is kept in commercial production and not developed. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

9. Requiring state agencies to provide unbiased data on the cost of complying with proposed new or expanded regulations. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

10. Further restrictions on the use of pesticides for forestry purposes. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

11. Requiring the Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) to seek more input, advice and consent of landowners when making land use planning and zoning decisions for the Unorganized Territory. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

15. Creation of a national park or other federal government ownership in Maine’s north woods. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

17. Further restrictions on foreign (mostly Canadian) labor for the forest industry in Maine [when U.S. labor is unavailable]. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:

19. Increase state ownership of timberland. Support/Oppose/Undecided Explain:
USE GOOGLE EARTH TO EXPLORE YOUR WOODLOT

Editors Note: This article was contributed by Richard Bard, Assistant Regional Wildlife Biologist at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

By Richard Bard
Assistant Regional Wildlife Biologist

An inventory of the natural resources on and near your woodlot is one of the first steps you’ll take in developing a forest management plan. The power of the internet and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can supplement the “boots on the ground” information that a forester has traditionally provided.

Google Earth is a free, downloadable program that provides access to resources that used to cost hundreds of dollars and required advanced computer skills. All you need is a computer and a high speed internet connection – dial-up will be too slow for Google Earth. Go to http://earth.google.com/ to download the free software. The User Guide can be found at http://earth.google.com/support/bin/static.py?page=guide_toc.cs or just play around with the controls on the right side of the screen to learn how to zoom in and out or move the screen around. You can also enter a town name or full address into the white box on the left side to automatically zoom to that location.

Once you are familiar with the basic controls, zoom in on your property and click the clock face near the top of the screen to explore the different sets of aerial photography available for your location. A series of aerial photos shows you some of the changes that happen over time and may even give you insight into your land’s history, if you recently purchased it.

One of the most valuable aspects of using Google Earth is that you can easily see your land as part of a whole ecosystem. No one parcel of land can provide all of the annual needs of every species of native wildlife, but several parcels together can certainly provide more options. If you see from an aerial photograph that a nearby landowner has opened up some early successional habitat not far from your land, maybe you would change your harvest plan to focus more on providing mature forest cover, or you might decide to delay your harvest until your neighbor’s land has grown up to a different cover type.

The State of Maine has decided to make an unprecedented amount of public information available through Google Earth, so that people can see for themselves the resources that their land holds as well as be informed about potential sources of pollution in their neighborhoods. Most other states are far behind us. Go to http://www.maine.gov/dep/gis/datamaps/ in your usual web browser (not in Google Earth), then click the Google Earth link to the right of the description for the data that you want to add to your view. In other websites, the Google Earth data might be labeled kml or kmz. These are all forms of Google Earth data.

When you add data from the internet to Google Earth, the name shows up in the “Places” box on the left side of the screen under the “Temporary Places” heading. If the box to the left of the name is checked, the data is visible on the screen. If it is unchecked, that data is loaded, but not visible. The image on the screen stacks the data in the order that it is shown in the Places box, so if you have two sets of overlapping data checked, only the one closer to the top of the list is actually visible. Uncheck that box and the layer below it will be visible.

The most relevant data in terms of wildlife information are the NRPA bird habitat, NRPA vernal pools, Wetlands (from USFWS), Bald Eagle Habitat and Deer Wintering Areas layers. The Hydrologic Units (Watersheds) layer can also be useful to understand how water moves to and from your land. If you click on the Google Earth link next to “Imagery – orthophotos” you can also access other sets of aerial photography not automatically included with Google Earth, as well as topographic maps, nautical charts and hillshade maps. All of these options give you different ways of viewing the same location.

This brief summary barely scratches the surface of what is possible with Google Earth. Play around with the check boxes and “+” signs in the “Layers” box on the lower left of the screen to see other options that are available. You can also search the internet for other sources of data.

Being able to see this information doesn’t change anything about what you can or can’t do on your land, or how you harvest your timber. No one knows your woods like you do, but having access to this data can help you understand how your land relates to the rest of the forest, and the hope is that you will use the information to benefit wildlife and the health of the ecosystem, while still accomplishing the goals you’ve had for your woodlot.

For information about how to incorporate this information into a timber management plan or a harvest prescription to benefit wildlife, please contact the Regional Wildlife Biologist for your area. Contact information is at http://www.maine.gov/ifw/contact.htm#regionalheadquarters, or call 287-8000.
Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine Hires New Executive Director

Augusta - - - After a nationwide search, the 12,000-member Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine (SAM), the state’s largest sportsman’s organization, has appointed Tim Bell its new executive director. Bell is replacing George Smith who is retiring at the end of the year having served as SAM’s executive director for the last 18 years. Bell officially assumed the E.D. position on Monday, October 4th.

In his capacity as Maine’s leading advocate for sportsmen and women, Bell draws on more than 15 years of experience in legislative and political affairs. Before joining SAM, Bell was director of governmental affairs of a national physician’s organization and, previous to that position he served as legislative assistant to a state representative in the Florida House of Representatives.

Bell has managed several legislative campaigns and ballot initiatives and understands how to build credible coalitions that bring together grassroots and grass tops support around complex issues.

Bell earned his B.S. degree from Florida State University and attended the University of Illinois College of Law where he was co-founding president of the school’s Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) and where he served as president of The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies.

Bell commented on his appointment, “I am excited about working for the members of the Sportsman’s Alliance of Maine and will strive to build upon SAM’s impressive statewide grassroots network of advocates who are passionate about hunting, trapping, fishing, and the defense of the 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms. This will be a team effort — I will work non-stop for and alongside of SAM members to fight for the passage of pro-sportsmen legislation and regulations.

KENNEBEC WOODLAND PARTNERSHIP

Fall Conference October 21-23, 2010

Do you own or care about woodlands in Kennebec County?

A three-day conference on the importance of sustaining Kennebec County’s woodlands will provide a background on the forest resource and a range of tools and strategies to help landowners make informed decisions about their woodlands. The conference is open to the public.

The Kennebec Woodland Partnership is a forestland conservation initiative whose mission is to help landowners make informed decisions about their woodlands and to ensure a long-term future for the county’s forests.

LEAD PARTNERS

Maine Forest Service
Kennebec Land Trust
Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine
Kennebec County Soil and Water Conservation District Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands
Forest Society of Maine
Maine Forest Products Council

For more information and to register online for the Fall Conference, please visit KWP at: www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fpm/projects/kwp. Please direct questions to Amanda Mahaffey, KWP Program Consultant, at KennebecWoodlandPartnership@gmail.com