Dr. Karl Frederick Wenger

Dr. Karl Frederick Wenger, 92, of Tappahannock, Virginia, passed away September 26, 2010. Born of German immigrants in Springfield, Massachusetts, Dr. Wenger received his B.S. in Forestry from the University of Maine in 1939. He later went on to earn his Master’s and Ph.D. at Duke University (1949 and 1951, respectively), with both universities later conferring on him their distinguished alumnus awards.

Dr. Wenger had a long and successful career, serving for 35 years as a U.S. Forest Service researcher. His last assignment was as Director of the Rocky Mountain Research Station in Ft. Collins, Colorado, with responsibility for the High Plains, the central Rockies and the Southwest. Throughout his career, Karl was active in the Society of American Foresters, serving as Vice President/President (1997-1998); Editor of the Forestry Handbook (1978-1984), which was published in 1984 and is still in use; Editorial Consultant of the Journal of Forestry (1978-1984); Associate Editor of the Journal of Forestry (1963-1970); and Vice-Chair/Chair of the SAF Division of Silviculture (1961-1962). He was also active in state and local SAF chapters.

In addition to his work with the Forest Service and SAF, Wenger was a member of the Virginia State Water Control Board (1996-2003); the Joint Legislative Committee to Study Chip Mills (1999-2001); and the Virginia State Tree Farm Committee (1994-1998). He served on the National Wildlife Federation Panel for Weyerhaeuser Operations in Oklahoma and Arkansas (1981-1982), and was Program Chairman for the XV Congress of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (1971). In 1960, he was chosen as President of the Duke University School of Forestry Alumni Association.

During WWII, Wenger volunteered and served for three-and-a-half years in the U.S. Army Air Forces, and spent 25 years in the Air Force Reserve. He was also active in Rotary International, the American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts of America, and the Jaycees.

While Karl was a student at UMaine, he and fellow senior Bill Craig wrote about the Senior Winter Camp in the 1939 Maine Forester Yearbook…

“Every year when the air turns sharp and chill, and the leaves become sere and brown, the fair co-eds of our University cast longing glances eastward, their spirits droop and their hearts’ tempo slows. The reason? Can’t you guess? The Senior foresters have left for winter camp…

After sharing highlights of Winter Camp, Wenger and Craig continued…

Finally there came a time when it had to end. After the last tree had been calibrated and the last table compiled, we sorrowfully or gladly, according to individual feelings, packed our belongings, and the Winter Camp of the Class of ’39 became history. It will always remain in our memories as a period of honest endeavor and close companionship, to return to now and then in affectionate reminiscences.”

(For more information about Dr. Wenger from his college years at UMaine, see the Maine Forester 1939 yearbook on-line at http://library.umaine.edu/forester/)
In Memoriam...

Bart Harvey

Ernest B. “Bart” Harvey III, 68, died October 30, 2010, in Shirley, Maine. He was born April 8, 1942, son of Ernest and Erma (Sawyer) Harvey II. He graduated from Greenville High School in 1960, and went on to the University of Maine to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry in 1964, and a UMaine Master of Science degree in Forest Economics in 1966 studying production costs of wheeled skidders. At UMaine, Bart was active in Alpha Gamma Rho, Xi Sigma Pi, and the Forestry Club.

In his professional life, Bart worked for the Great Northern Paper Company for more than 30 years. He was an active member of the Society of American Foresters, and was a valued participant in the University of Maine Pulp and Paper Foundation. Perhaps Bart’s greatest contribution was as a member of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) for 10 years, where he served as Chairman for six years.

Bart served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, receiving a Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam. He was a resident of Millinocket for 40 years, and enjoyed boating and sailing on Moosehead Lake. He also enjoyed traveling and was an accomplished woodworker. Aside from his professional duties, Bart was active in the First Congregational Church of Millinocket, serving as trustee, deacon, and choir member. He was also a member and past Chairman of Millinocket Regional Hospital’s Board of Directors.

Bart authored the 1964 Senior Class narrative that accompanied his classmates’ photos. His writing revealed the humor and sense of purpose that was to guide him through his long and distinguished career…

“The seniors returned to school this fall as well-seasoned field foresters still suffering from the black fly, mosquito, and moose fly bites received at summer camp. After eight weeks at the Princeton Campus where we learned many of the practical jobs of forestry, we sallied forth to work or play for the next six weeks before school started. Some went home to work, others worked on the University Forest, others went to the North Country on a tree-marking job, and some made a cross country trip. Nice work if you can get it!

…These last four years have been an experience that most of us will remember the rest of our lives. For some it has been a struggle to stay afloat, while others had an easier time keeping their heads above water. No matter what the case, we are all better off for having been through it. It has certainly better prepared us to meet the real problems we will face when we leave this institution.”

(For more information about Bart and his UMaine college years, visit the 1964 and 1966 Maine Forester Yearbooks on-line at http://library.umaine.edu/forester/)