

IN MEMORIAM...



Hugh D. Violette

Hugh Violette maintained an ongoing and deep commitment to the world of professional forestry. At the time of his death, he was Chairman of the New England Regional Council on Forest Engineering. He was actively involved in the Society of American Foresters, Forest Resources Association, Maine GIS Users Group, UMaine Cooperative Forestry Research Unit, and the Eastern Canada-USA Forest Science Conference.

Hugh Violette will be sorely missed as an emerging leader in Maine's forestry community. Hugh died unexpectedly in April 2011 after a very brief illness. Hugh was a 2005 graduate of the University of Maine's School of Forest Resources, earning his B.S. in Forest Operations Science. He was a licensed Maine forester, was certified by the Society of American Foresters, and worked in Aroostook County for Orion Timberlands LLC.

Hugh lived his life to the fullest and, and rather than be mourned for the brevity of his life, we all remember him for his commitment to his profession, his deep love for family and friends, and for the joy he brought to others. A special tree-planting ceremony was held by Hugh's family, friends, colleagues and professors in the Nutting Hall courtyard last October. A chestnut tree and granite marker now honor Hugh's memory as a UMaine alum and professional forester.



Stephen C. Coleman

Steve Coleman was well known throughout Maine's forestry community for outstanding dedication to his profession. Steve was a 1977 graduate of our B.S. forestry program. He was also a true woodsman whose skills – whether in the woods, on the water, steering a snow sled or in the cabin of his 185 Cessna float plane – allowed him to bring a unique, practical and always efficient approach to on-the-ground forestry. Steve's deep grasp of forest operations, as well as his ability to develop sensible, cost-effective strategies for cutting-edge forestry, is what made him so successful and widely respected. His integrity as a person and professional was of the highest order.

In addition to his position at LandVest, Steve was highly dedicated to public and community service. During his career, he served on the Maine Board of Licensure of Foresters and many other committees. When the Advisory Committee of UMaine's Cooperative Forestry Research Unit needed a practical, "no-nonsense" evaluation of research proposals under consideration, Steve was the one they looked to for an honest assessment. At the time of his passing, he was the President of the North Maine Woods Board, and an active and valued member of the Maine Forest Products Council Board, the Society of American Foresters, and the Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine. He was also running for the Somerset County Board of Commissioners.

UMaine's School of Forest Resources, as well as the entire Maine forestry community, will be forever indebted to Steve for his leadership, insight, and service.





Shavonne Sargent

After practicing as a private forestry consultant in New England for two years, Shavonne Sargent (M.F. '08) began working in November 2010 at Weyerhaeuser Company's corporate headquarters in Federal Way, Washington, as a member of the Sustainable Forests and Products team. Her work supports Weyerhaeuser's environmental policy development and efforts to meet customer environmental values and propositions. A central task of her first year was writing a FSC Controlled Wood Risk Assessment Report as part of a triple chain of custody (covering certification schemes SFI, PEFC and FSC) for all Weyerhaeuser mills, log yards, and manufacturing facilities. Currently, Shavonne is taking a breather from the office, developing her field skills by working with operations foresters on company land surrounding the North Willamette Valley of Oregon.



Damian Cirelli and Alejandra Equiza

"We came to the University of Maine from Argentina in 2002 to pursue a post-doc (Ale) and M.S. degree (Damian) in Forest Ecosystem Science. Our experiences at UMaine largely exceeded our expectations, taking us on a learning journey and forging long-lasting friendships. Today, we find ourselves still enthralled by plants and applying and furthering our knowledge at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. Our current work involves the effects of severe drought and fertilization on various species and hybrids of Populus."



Rory Eckardt

After completing a B.S. in Forest Operations Science in 2005, Rory Eckardt started a forest operations consulting company (RE Consulting LLC) while simultaneously studying to earn a Finance M.B.A. at UMaine. Rory completed the program in 2006 and continued to work as a forest operations analyst until 2008, when he went to work as a senior analyst for an international TIMO (FourWinds Capital Management). While at FourWinds, Rory analyzed and assisted with due diligence on investment opportunities in every human-inhabited continent of the world, and contributed to successful closings in Brazil, Uruguay, Eastern Europe, and New Zealand. In the fall of 2010, Rory started a Ph.D. program in Strategic Management at UMass-Amherst.



Erika Rowland

Erika Rowland (Ph.D. '06) recently took a position as an Assistant Conservation Scientist with the North America Program of the Wildlife Conservation Society working on climate change issues. Erika helps to provide scientific, conservation and technical support for projects at several landscapes across North America with the aim of applying the best-available climate change science to identify or modify conservation and management practices. The position requires close collaboration with project leaders within the WCS North America Program, as well as scientists and managers at other organizations, universities and government agencies, and diverse stakeholders in particular landscapes. To date, a

major component of the position has been to help organize and facilitate workshops designed to address climate change adaptation planning for key conservation targets. While WCS focuses its conservation work in Adirondack State Park, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, Arctic Alaska and the Northern Boreal forest of Ontario, Erika is also contributing to projects in the northern and southern Great Plains. Originally from Maine, she and her family are enjoying living in Bozeman, MT, and exploring the Northern Rockies after spending two very hot years at the University of Arizona.



1949 Summer Camp

Left to right: Art Randall, Henry Plummer, Charlie Chapman, Harold Young