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SAF National Convention

Ames Forestry Club

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The 1981 Game Banquet

Rapid-fire speech, a spectacular voice range, and a gift for encouraging smiles and laughter describe the abilities of Dr. Bill Boon. The Landscape Architecture professor was a refreshing and stimulating conclusion to an excitement-packed 1981 Wild Game Banquet.

The food, as always, was excellent. Donators included Steve Keys, Reinee Eshelman Hildebrandt, and Al Wimmer.

Mike Scanlon and Al Weber performed beautifully in organizing the banquet, and Al Wimmer showed skill as the Master of Ceremonies, creating a smoothly flowing program.

A total of 12 students were presented gifts and scholarships for their scholastic abilities and professional activities. The Most Beloved Instructor award was presented to Dr. Joe Colletti, due to his performance at the 1980 Lubrecht Summer Camp in Montana and competence as a teacher. Of course, laughter and wisecracks were more common than congratulations and handshaking. Gag awards were also presented, highlighted by Dr. Richard Schultz’s bag of pine needles for the memorable biomass experiment he arranged for student enjoyment at Lubrecht the previous summer.

President Al Weber and rest of the Forestry Club Officers turned over their responsibilities as the new officers were announced. Dave Peters took over the gavel as club president and looked forward to leading the ISU forestry students through an exciting, successful year.

The banquet was a time to remember the past. A time to recognize those who will be the foresters of the future. The 1981 Game Banquet was indeed, a memorable experience.

SAF National Convention

The last week in September of 1981 marked the Society of American Foresters National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Dr. and Mrs. Thomson and seven students traveled to the “Sunshine State” to be part of this gathering of professionals. Donna Grosz, Gail Hall, Jody Nelson, Dave Peters, Jim Schone, Claire McDonald, and Frank Lucido listened to seminars and working-group meetings on this year’s theme, “Increasing Forest Productivity”. While these meetings occupied the majority of our time, we were still able to enjoy the alumni breakfast, Walt Disney World, Clearwater Beach, and the immediate Orlando area.

Jody Nelson accepted the Student Publications Award at the final convention banquet. The 1981 Ames Forester, co-edited by Jody, won third place out of about 20 student publications.

For the students that drove to the convention, the trip home was an appropriate way to end the week. They drove through Daytona and St. Augustine, Florida and finished the trip with a friendly chat with an Illinois State Trooper.

Although all of us came back to overdue assignments and delayed tests, we agreed that the SAF convention was well worth the time off from classes.