1-1-1988

Society of American Foresters

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This year we again continued the tradition of firesides. A fireside is when a professor invites into his home eight to fifteen students for dinner and conversation, usually on a Sunday evening. These firesides allow the students to become better acquainted with the professors, meet their families, and provides the opportunity to socialize with the other students while enjoying a special meal.

Dr. Colletti, Dr. Kuo, and Dr. Shultz co-hosted the first fireside of the school year. After a delicious meal, they each showed slides from 1987 summer camp in Montana and Dr. Kuo showed his long-awaited video tape. It was a very memorable evening. As this goes to press, our head of the department, Dr. Jungst, is making final preparations for his fireside. Last year, the Jungst family served a delicious meal, and I'm sure this year will be no different.

Hosting a fireside is one way that a professor shows that he truly cares about the students. Not only do firesides provide a way to meet new faces and strengthen old friendships, they create new memories that students can look back on long after graduation.

The 1987-1988 academic year has proven to be a highly successful period for the Iowa State University Chapter of the Society of American Foresters. The fall semester saw the Chapter kicking the year off with a picnic welcoming all incoming forestry students to the University.

The month of October saw the Chapter sending four members to the National SAF Convention in Minneapolis. Those who attended the convention found that it gave them some valuable insight into the profession. In November the Chapter hosted an informational program in which Ag placement official Roger Bruene discussed resumes and cover letters. As the fall semester came to a close, the Chapter had just begun the sale of Iowa State Foresters caps to raise some sorely needed funds.

As I write this column, the spring semester is just weeks old; however, there are already plans to make this semester even more exciting than the last. One of the potential projects on tap for the spring semester would have the ISU SAF members working in conjunction with one of the local elementary schools in presenting forestry related material in the classroom. Another potential project is a canoe trip in tandem with Dr. Schultz's Forest Hydrology class. Last but not least are projected plans to do some sort of tree identification layout for the VEI-SHEA celebration in May.

To reiterate the 87-88 year has thus far proven highly successful and has shown every indication of continuing in that vein as the year progresses.

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Chairperson ISU SAF