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ISU Forestry Club

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There is more to college than studying, and the ISU Forestry Club is one of the alternatives. The ISU Forestry Club has had a very full year of activities. The year started off with the annual Freshman Welcome Picnic. Fifty students and faculty members got together one afternoon at a local Ames park for volleyball, brats, and conversation. This gave the incoming freshman an opportunity to meet many of the faculty and forestry students at ISU. Further in the semester, the club ventured to the forestry greenhouses to plant 7,400 seedlings to give away at VEISHEA. Special thanks goes to Rich Faltonson for his help with the project. A new activity this year was a potluck dinner for the entire forestry family. A Christmas potluck dinner took place in Bessey one Sunday night. Faculty, staff, undergraduates, graduate students, and their family and friends all gathered together for an exceptional meal.

The club also has many activities in the planning stage. Forestry Club in conjunction with the other student organizations is in the process of setting up an “Adopt-A-Highway” program. The project will give the clubs responsibility over a one- to two-mile stretch of highway. We would have to keep the area litter free and we would have the opportunity to plant the area to prairie and to plant a windbreak. Another project that is being planned is a fundraiser to raise money to buy another computer for forestry student use.

Along with our other projects such as the Christmas tree plantation, the annual Christmas tree sale, and the Forestry Wild Game Banquet, the club participated in many joint activities with SAF and FPRS. We participated in Ag Club Night which was sponsored by Alpha Zeta. The program gave incoming students a chance to see the student organizations and clubs within the College of Agriculture. We also participated in “Clubfest”. This program was developed by the Student Alumni Association to give students the opportunity to see the many different activities offered at Iowa State. Another activity that the Forestry Club participated in was VEISHEA. This year every Forestry organization combined ideas to put on a very educational and interesting display. The entire Forestry family also joined together to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

As President of the Forestry Club, I would like to thank my hardworking staff for all of the time and effort they have put towards the club and all of its activities. I would especially like to thank Dr. Colletti and Dr. Rule who were the club’s advisors during the past year.

The Forestry Club’s vice president position was held by Ryan Reichenbacker. Along with his duties as VP, Ryan was in charge of promotions. This year the club sold dozens of tee-shirts, sweatshirts, and jackets. Of course, each garment promoted Forestry at ISU.

The secretary position for this past year was unique. Sandy "Emer" Boldt was elected secretary, but she enjoyed her summer seasonal employment so much in Washington, she decided to stay through the fall semester. Also while Sandy was there, she became engaged. That may have been the reason for her extended stay. This left the club without a secretary. Wendy Bantz was appointed the task of being secretary for that semester. Wendy, who was also engaged, graduated at the end of the fall semester. This again left the club without a secretary. Sandy returned for the spring semester and took over the secretary position. Her fiance is eagerly awaiting her return.

The treasurer was Kristen Weber. This was her second term. She must enjoy bookkeeping or she knows something we don't. The club keeps Kristen busy with finances from all of the club's activities.

The Ag Council Representatives were John Fish as the Senior Representative and Steve DeCook as the Junior Representative. The Forestry Club Christmas tree plantation was headed by Bryce Duncan and the Christmas tree sale was headed by Craig Letz and Chris Ball. Dave Hansen is credited for organizing the annual Forestry Wild Game Banquet. VEISHEA representative for Forestry Club was Greg VanOrsow and the Earth Day representative for Forestry Club was Michelle Heiker.

Along with the staff, the active members contributed a lot to the club and I would like to thank everyone for making it a very rewarding and exciting year.

— Shannon Baughman