

Kentucky - Tennessee Society of American Foresters NEWSLETTER

Professionals advancing the science, technology, practice and teaching of forestry to benefit society and the environment.



Society of
American Foresters

Number 298

www.ktsaf.org

August 2011

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER - David Mercker

In Sign Language There Is No Symbol for Silviculture

Reaching the unreached . . . seeking new audiences . . . conveying the same message but in nontraditional ways . . . then to evaluate how our words are articulated. All of these were the goals of our 45 member West Tennessee SAF Chapter back in 2002. And all of these steered us to handicapped children.

Nearly ten years ago our chapter sponsored a forestry field day for 9-12 year old deaf children. Thirty children arrived from both Memphis and Jackson schools. Together the children developed by learning and discovering about the forest and the creatures that inhabit it. Yet in the end it was our circle of professional foresters that perhaps learned the most. As the children attentively watched their interpreter, our skills in simplifying the forestry message were both challenged and strengthened.

Given the children's limited vocabulary, presenters were instructed to avoid technical jargon. For instance, species of trees became "types" of trees; forest products were "things we get from trees;" nocturnal meant "hunts at night." This pressured us to be thinkers before speakers. You see, in sign language, there is no symbol for "silviculture." Instead, we said "taking care of the forest." One word became five.

On that day, a lesson for our entire profession materialized . . . that our story must be told from the roots up, not the perch down. Maybe support for foresters and our fascinating line of work will more likely be embraced if we pause, contemplating well chosen words before speaking. Maybe this will help us achieve our underlining goal of sustainable forestry, which when simplified means "trees for tomorrow." As professional foresters, society is more apt to listen if we carefully select our words when telling our story – just something to consider.



On other notes, there is good news to report regarding our 2011 membership drive. We began the year with 304 KT-SAF members. As of the writing of this, we have 323 members, a 6% increase. Thanks to all of you who have prodded our forester colleagues. To have grown our membership at a time when national SAF is shrinking is extraordinary.

Congrats to the Middle Tennessee Chapter on a very successful and informative summer meeting. Andy Norris and team did well! All in attendance came away having satisfied their networking and educational cravings. It was memorable. Similarly we are expecting a "high site index" winter meeting in Lexington, KY in January. Be sure to set aside time during the last half of January to attend.

Until then, may your fires be modest, your logs be straight, your lumber be FAS, and your management plans be . . . well . . . implemented.

SUMMER
MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS



Richard Evans leads a discussion on the effects of fire on hardwood forests in the "Barrens" of Tennessee's Eastern Highland Rim.



Ben Myers and Alex Richman discuss management objectives and implementation at Motlow Tree Farm.



Scott Schlarbaum introduces the group to the Jack Daniel Distillery Forest Tree Seed Orchards.



Ben Myers discusses a harvesting operation at Motlow Tree Farm.



KTSAF contingency take a group shot with Jack Daniels.



Richard Evans was recognized for his years of service for forestry in TN and his recent retirement from UT.

COUNCILS COLUMN - Dave Walters

August 17, 2011

Greetings District IX SAF,

Hope your forests are getting some rain. My family spent a few days in July camping at a lake in Oklahoma near the Texas border. Word was the lake was dropping by an inch a day. We saw no mosquitoes and we witnessed a couple of trees fighting over a dog! Man is it dry in some places!

Heartland Leadership Academy:

We held a very successful Leadership Academy at Touch of Nature near Carbondale, Illinois on July 15 -17. Sixty six SAF members from 17 states participated. Every state in SAF districts 5 and 9 sent delegates except one. Tom Davidson and Stephanie Brown were our primary instructors. These pros gave us great tips on improving our teams and increasing our understanding of how people think. SAF staff members Louise Murgia, Christopher Whited and John Barnwell impressed our participants by overviewing the many services SAF provides. The Academy was staffed by SAF members from across the eastern US and was funded primarily by small private donations and Foresters Fund money. Total cost of the Academy excluding the donations of travel, time and contributions of participants was just over \$15,800. Cash raised was \$16,000. To those of you who contributed, a hearty thanks is offered. The generosity of Academy Staff is amazing!



2011 Heartland Leadership Academy attendees

2012 Dues changes:

Council held its second meeting of the year on (June 4-5, and approved some very exciting items intended to reverse the declining trends in SAF membership and revenues; a tiered dues structure with members deciding the level they desire and an improved member recruiting incentive.

In response to SAF members' request that the Society implement a tiered dues structure rather than a one size fits all approach, membership rates will now range from \$95 to \$240 and will include different products and services throughout the tiers. Enrolled student members will pay only \$40 per year.

SAF leaders at the local level want to recruit members and grow the organization, but believe that doing so will require a more flexible dues structure. The Council believes a tiered approach will allow members to belong to SAF at a price and services level that suits their individual needs. The SAF Council approved this new tiered dues structure at its June 2011 meeting in response to the concerns of the membership and, especially, the House of Society Delegates—a leadership body made up of the Chairs of SAF State Societies.

The SAF is currently developing an implementation plan for tiered dues. Since there will be questions about what is included at each tier, how members can take advantage of the program and many additional thoughts and ideas, staff will be developing a communications plan, information guides, and working with SAF leadership to ensure a smooth transition to this new approach.. Staff's goal is to have the program fully articulated and understood by the time SAF sends its first set of annual invoices to its membership. Please check the SAF website for more information, webinars, and other communications about this exciting new approach to membership at SAF.

Outstanding SAF members recognized:

Joe Friend (communications director of the Heartland Leadership Academy) of Arkansas and Stephanie Foster-Miller of Ohio were approved as SAF Fellows. Their contributions to SAF and forestry over an extended time are applauded. Excellent job! Also Ed Hurliman of Oklahoma was selected as our District's Field Forester Award winner. Ed is a creative, clever and hardworking forester. Congratulations to our best!

Terrestrial Ecosystem Management Accreditation:

Council has asked the Task Force on Educational Programs in Terrestrial Ecosystem Management to proceed with the development of a separate set of accreditation standards for a more broadly-based land-management curriculum. As university forestry schools change, SAF is moving to insure students of natural resources are competent. These subtle changes will have profound effects on our profession.

There are a growing number of Natural Resources Management degrees and many of the graduates are managing our forests. This is a potential way for SAF to engage the profession of forestry as it changes. However, there are fundamental skills that forest managers need and the profession's responsibility is to ensure that students master these skills.

The intent of the university programs is not to change forestry, but to introduce a broader land management scheme into forestry. If SAF develops a separate set of accreditation standards, the organization could accredit these programs and embrace the further diversification and specialization of forestry.

KT-SAF 2012 Officer Election

Meet your Candidates

This fall you will be electing a KT-SAF Chair Elect and Treasurer. Please take a moment to read the short biographies of each candidate, and using these, as well as your professional experiences, decide who you feel best represents our two-state chapter.

Electronic ballots will be sent by National SAF by Oct. 4th to members who have an email address listed with their membership. If our members do not receive an electronic ballot by that date due to buffering (i.e. your agency server rejected it), then they should contact Patricia Adadevoh, Leadership Services Manager, to request a paper ballot. She is at: (866) 897-8720 ext.123; adadevohp@safnet.org

Members who prefer a paper ballot (and have historically voted that way) and members as noted above should receive a paper ballot in the mail around the second week of October.

Candidates for Office of Chair-elect

Tim Phelps

It's great to be a part of the SAF community. Like most of us, I got involved in forestry because I enjoyed learning about and working with the forest resource. It didn't take long though to realize that this profession is just as much about the human resource. I was fortunate to have received my Bachelor and Master of Science degrees from Southern Illinois University (SIU) where the human dimensions of forestry were a prominent subject. In serving as the President of SIU's SAF student chapter and later as the President of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation, I realized the importance of making the connection between the forest and human resources, and had plenty of opportunity to practice making that connection. What I learned was that, as foresters, we are just as much like teachers as we are natural resource professionals. I enjoyed learning and practicing both aspects as a Research Support Technologist at Penn State University where I researched the restoration of the American chestnut tree (studying silviculture and plant breeding) and tree improvement of central hardwoods and Christmas trees, and taught forest dendrology. Currently, I'm fortunate to work for the Tennessee Division of Forestry where I'm responsible for public relations, promoting the role the Division plays in maintaining a healthy forest resource, and the general promotion of forestry as a discipline. I also continue to serve as a Board Member of the American Chestnut Foundation and as your Newsletter Editor and Webmaster for K-T SAF. Still learning, still practicing...

Heather Slayton

My name is Heather Slayton and I am running for the office of Chair Elect for KY-Tn SAF for the 2011 term. I have served the KY-Tn Division for the past two years as Secretary (2008) and Treasurer (2009). I also have served as Chair for the East Tennessee chapter from 2007- 2009 and am currently the Treasurer for this chapter. Throughout these various terms, I have learned a great deal about how SAF is organized and have acquired essential leadership skills that will not only improve my ability to serve SAF, but will be helpful in my professional endeavors. I am constantly looking for ways to improve the division's operations and information communication. I thoroughly enjoy participating in the Society of American Foresters and believe in the organization's objectives and purpose. I am currently employed by Fountains Forestry, Inc. in Oak Ridge, Tn. where I monitor all aspects of our industrial harvesting operations on 40,000 acres. I also head up our private consulting sector and am a qualified Technical Service Provider for the NRCS. I maintain a Tennessee Master Logger certification and am a Tree Farm Inspector.

Candidates for Office of Secretary

Greg Bailey

I have worked with American Forest Management for the last 11 years as a Consulting Forester, GIS & Data Specialist and Affiliate Real Estate Broker. My duties vary extensively from timber cruising and marking; data management; map creation and analysis; project manager for a variety of timber inventories; hunting lease administration; and working on anything in the office that is plugged into the wall. I received both a M.S. and B.S. from the University of Tennessee. Hobbies and activities consist of photography, wood working, home renovations, and training/participating in Tough Mudders. I am also a U. S. Army Veteran (Cold War and Operation Desert Storm) and have been a member of SAF since 1996.

Ken Smith

Ken Smith is a Forestry and Geology professor at Sewanee (University of the South). He also serves as the university forester on the school's 13,000 acre forest where he has co-managed multiple small scale harvests and prescribed burns with students and staff. Smith has been an SAF member since 1991, and he has served as the chair of the Southeast Tennessee chapter. Smith currently sits on managerial boards for the Sewanee Utility District, the Valles Caldera National Preserve (New Mexico) and on the Resource Advisory Committee for the Cherokee National Forest.

AWARDS

Hoyt receives Forest Conservationist award

Kevin Hoyt was awarded the prestigious Forest Conservationist award from the Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF). Kevin received the award for his efforts in sustainable forest management and forestry. It was presented to him at the TWF Conservation Achievement Awards ceremony in April in Nashville.

TWF has given these awards annually since 1965 to those individuals, organizations and businesses which go beyond normal "call of duty" to ensure the conservation of Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources for current and future generations.

Congratulations to Kevin also for recently filling **Richard Evans** former position as Director of the Forest Resources Research and Education Center at the University of Tennessee.



Kevin Hoyt accepts the Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Forest Conservationist Award

KTSAF Award Nominations - Ben Worthington

Get nominations in by December 1

This is the time of the year to be thinking about nominating folks for the national and local SAF awards. There are 12 national awards. I will not list all the awards here. You can find them at the National SAF website:

<http://www.safnet.org/about/national.cfm>

Locally, for KTSAF, we have several awards.

- Outstanding Member Service Award 35 years and under
- Outstanding Member Service Award over 35 years old
- Outstanding Service Award to a Technician
- Herman Baggenstoss Forestry Recognition Award

The Herman T. Baggenstoss Forestry Recognition Award is for an individual or group where contribution to forestry has been beyond the demands of their regular employment. The recipient should not be a professional forester. The Herman T. Baggenstoss Forestry Awards will be presented to a recipient from Kentucky on odd years and a recipient from Tennessee on even years. This is the year for Tennessee to nominate for the award.

A nomination form can be found on our website at:

<http://www.ktsaf.org/Committees/Awards.htm>

There are 3 Ways to contact me. You can mail me the nomination forms at the following address:

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PO Box 889
Winchester, KY 40392-0889

You can e-mail me your nomination at:
benworthington@bellsouth.net

You can also contact me by phone at 859-749-6254

Please make my job tough. We have a lot of good people in the KT SAF doing excellent stuff. Send me their nominations.

Ben Worthington
Awards Committee Chair

PROTECT TREES, FORESTS & WILDLIFE HABITAT

The transportation of invasive insects and diseases on firewood is destroying trees in prime hunting, fishing and recreation areas.

DONTMOVE FIREWOOD.org

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

East Kentucky Chapter of KTSAF - Chris Reeves

The East Kentucky chapter of KTSAF wrapped up a successful spring meeting at the Kentucky Division of Forestry's Morgan County Tree Nursery in late May. The business meeting highlighted the financial strength of the chapter and a fall meeting location was tentatively scheduled for the University of Kentucky's Robinson Forest to give final data and recommendations from the Streamside Management Zone. This meeting will take place sometime in October. Several members brought up the notion of potentially merging the West and East Kentucky chapters into one based upon the East having so many more active members than the West. The East Kentucky chapter also has long standing ties with the University of Kentucky. Stay tuned for potential details from EKSAF leadership on this specific issue and many more.

The meeting began with the manager of the tree nursery, **Charlie Saunders**, detailing what the mission of the tree nursery is and how they manage their fields and orchards. The educational portion of the meeting focused primarily on the nationwide restoration efforts of the American chestnut tree by The American Chestnut Foundation. **William White**, a regional science coordinator for TACF, presented information regarding the success story of the cross breeding program and the road ahead for the eventual restoration of the American chestnut. Mr. White detailed the nationwide efforts to procure seed source and established orchards, similar to those at the KDF nursery, all over the eastern half of the US. **Rex Mann, Scott Friedhoff, Ann Bobigan, and Lynn Garrison** then detailed the specifics of what is going on to restore the imperiled species in Kentucky. These presenters detailed the challenges and potential pitfalls in attempting to restore a species missing from the landscape for almost a century. Charlie Saunders then led a walking field tour of the tree nursery that concluded with a visit to the onsite orchard of American chestnuts.



East Kentucky Chapter of KTSAF met at KY Division of Forestry's Morgan County tree nursery in May.



Kentucky Division of Forestry's Morgan County tree nursery



The Kentucky Division of Forestry is working with the American Chestnut Foundation to grow chestnuts.

...continued from page 2

Convention:

Hawaii in early November, what a way to work! SAF's room block is sold at over 60% at this point and our registrations are well ahead of recent years at this point in time as well. Make it if you can.

SAF property:

SAF staff continues to work hard to evaluate buyer proposals of the headquarters property in Bethesda. It appears that current negotiations provide for SAF keeping the mansion and its footprint. No time frame for a contract has been established and negotiations are in process.

SAF Staff:

SAF has hired a new database manager named Zachary McKenna. He has a good background in database management and program and has even dealt with similar challenging transitions while he worked at Barnum and Bailey...the Circus! He should be well trained...

Student Video Contest: Why Trees are the Answer

We want students and student chapters to show us why you think Trees are the Answer. Make a 60 or 120 second video and you could win one of three awards. Winning videos will be presented at the 2011 National Convention. Submit your videos by Friday, September 30, 2011. See full contest rules at: http://www.eforester.org/fs/student_video_rules.pdf

Dates to remember:

August 26 Last day for Early bird registration for Hawaii convention.

Sept. 15 Forester's fund deadline

Invite a colleague to join SAF today!

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District 9 Council Representative
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UT Extension



UT AgResearch
Forest Resources Research and Education Center

September 27
Oak Ridge, TN

Forest Research Overview Gathering (FROG)

A continuing education field day addressing silviculture, wildlife, & forest operations

Purpose of FROG –University of Tennessee Department of Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries faculty (and other researchers around the region) engage in natural resource research projects. The results of these works are published in various professional journals, but the results often do not reach field foresters, at least not without considerable delay. Many foresters are missing out on opportunities to stay current. Therefore, a venue is needed to more quickly expose field foresters to academic research and for research faculty to receive valuable feedback from practitioners. **Forest Research Overview Gathering (FROG)** is being developed as reoccurring field days (every two or three years), rotating around the state. The intent is to offer high quality educational experiences and an opportunity for professional exchange and debate. The first **FROG** will occur on **September 27, 2011** at the Forest Resources Research and Education Center, Oak Ridge, TN.

This has been approved for 7.0 Cat-1 CFEs.

Agenda:

8:00 Registration & Social

8:30 Reforestation of Disturbed Sites: the quarry quandary

Dr. Jennifer Franklin - UT Associate Professor Tree Physiology
Dr. Dave Buckley - UT Professor, Forest Ecology & Silviculture

Effects of Site Preparation on Establishment of Oak-pine Stands and Impact of Partial Harvest on Retention Trees

Dr. Wayne Clatterbuck - UT Extension Professor, Silviculture

11:30 (Working Lunch)

Habitat for Nongame Species

John Byrd – Coordinator, Clinch River
Environmental Studies
Organization

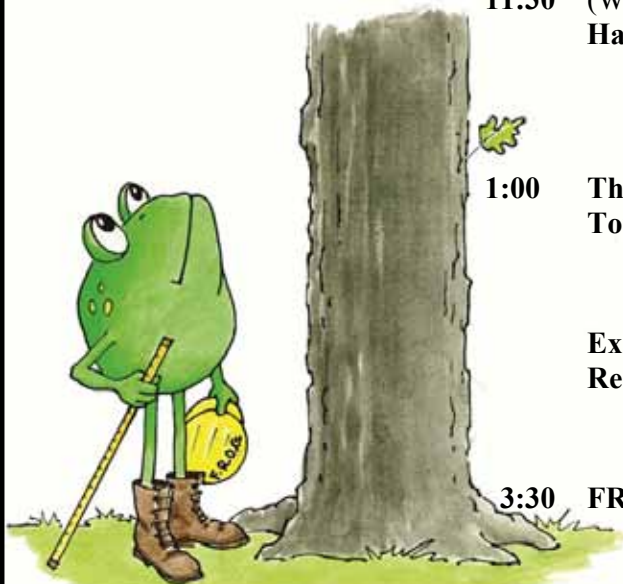
1:00 Three Regeneration Options Following a Tornado

Jon McGrath - Forester, Allegheny Wood
Products

Examining Techniques for Artificial Oak Regeneration

Dr. Dave Buckley - UT Professor, Forest
Ecology & Silviculture

3:30 FROG Wrap-up



Please register by September 21st.

CLASSIFIEDS

Tennessee Division of Forestry

Forester 1, 2, and 3 Registries open until Sept. 7, 2011

The TN Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry (TDF) is looking for qualified candidates to register for forester positions across the state. If you have an interest in a forester position with TDF (currently vacant or not), you are strongly encouraged to submit an online application during this registry open enrollment period. You have until September 7th at which time the registries will close. Past applications will need to be resubmitted.

These registries will be used to fill future vacancies, so it is imperative to get an application in at this time. Vacancies currently exist in multiple counties across the state.

Applications must be submitted electronically through the following Department of Human Resources web site:

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/tennessee/default.cfm>

While you are online at the website you may want to sign up to be automatically notified by HR of all register openings for forester classifications. Your enrollment is good for 12 months and can be extended for 12 months.

Don't miss this opportunity to get on a TDF registry.



The American Chestnut Foundation

The American Chestnut Foundation is seeking a forester/ reforestation scientist in the Appalachian region. The successful candidate will work closely with partners to manage current planting projects under development, secure additional partners to expand reforestation opportunities on mine lands, and work with private landowners, coal operators, conservation/ environmental groups, state/federal agencies and other partners on the planning, design and implementation of projects.

For full position announcement contact:
Mark Banker
(mark@acf.org)

Henry Clepper Forest Policy Internship Available

An internship is available in natural resource policy for graduate or upper-level undergraduate students currently enrolled in accredited forestry programs, or graduate students in public policy with a background in forestry. Strong written and oral communication skills are needed. Membership in SAF will be considered.

The intern will serve as assistant to the SAF Forest Policy Team and will prepare background reports, monitor environmental and natural resource legislation, and provide liaison to other environmental and natural resource organizations.

TERM: 4-6 Months (Duration Flexible)

STIPEND: \$1,400.00 per month

Send resume, transcripts, writing sample, list of references, and term desired to:

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Topics

- SURVEY FINDINGS
- RESPONSE ACTIVITY
- RESEARCH
- LESSONS LEARNED
- FIREWOOD MESSAGING
- DEMONSTRATIONS

Who Should Attend

- Natural Resource Professionals
- Researchers
- Extension Specialists
- Plant Protection Specialists
- Urban Foresters
- Land Use Planners
- Municipal Leaders
- Arborists
- Utility Professionals
- Conservation Organizations

Pesticide and Professional Certification credits available

SPONSORS & COOPERATORS





2012 Annual Winter Meeting

January 25 – 27, 2012

Clarion Inn
Lexington, KY

The Future of Forests and SAF

Please make plans to join KTSAF at the annual winter meeting to discuss where the forests are headed and what is in store for the future of the Society of American Foresters. Big changes could be on the way for your professional society and leadership needs your input and recommendations.

Executive Committee meeting begins on Wednesday night, January 25th with formal conference proceedings kicking off Thursday morning, January 26th. Specific agenda and CFE information will come closer to the event.

Your full registration includes all breaks, lunch, and banquet dinner. Breakfast is included with stay at hotel.

Hotel Information

Clarion Inn
1950 Newtown Pike
Interstate 64/75 – Exit 115
Lexington, KY 40511
Rates are \$89/night

Visit www.clarionhotellx.com and use group code *forest* for discounted rate or call (859) 233-0512 and ask for the KY/TN Society of American Foresters (SAF) rate.



Name _____ Organization _____

Badge Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

Registration Type (circle): \$100-SAF Member \$125-Non-member \$55-Student \$80-Thursdays Only (no banquet)

Extras (circle): \$50 Exhibit Table \$30 Companion Banquet \$10 Student Support Donation

Total Registration Fee \$_____ Please make checks payable to EKSAF and mail along with registration form to Christopher Reeves, 213 T. P. Cooper Bldg; Lexington, KY 40546-0073

OBITUARY

Clinton Strohmeier, age 56 of Winchester, TN, passed away June 10, 2011 following a long and courageous battle with cancer. A native of Paducah, KY, Mr. Strohmeier was the son of the late Joseph and Murray Freeland. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Illinois University. He later attended the University of Tennessee where he obtained his Masters of Science in Forest Recreation. He was a Forester for the State of Tennessee,



Division of Forestry and was stationed in Franklin County from 1984-2005. In 2005 he became the Insect and Disease Specialist at Ellington Agriculture Center in Nashville. Mr. Strohmeier was a member of the Society of American Foresters and The Nature Conservancy. He was also a member of the Winchester Lions Club and was active in the Lions organization at the state and national levels. Clint will forever be remembered for his endearing and optimistic nature, his genuine kindness and unlimited generosity toward his friends, family and community. He will be dearly missed. He is survived by his sisters, Hope Freeland of Vernon Hills, IL and Lucy Lynch of Wellesley, MA; brother John Freeland of Paducah, KY; long time companion Adrienne Butterfield of Winchester, TN; nieces, Claire and Madeleine Lynch. A private family memorial service will be held at a later time. On-line condolences may be sent to www.watsonnorth.com.

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**NEXT NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE IS
NOVEMBER 4, 2011**

Send in an article on a forestry related topic in your area. Articles should be sent in Microsoft Word format. Accompanying pictures are highly preferred.

Send to:

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