Chairman's Corner Richard Vilcox

Next year we are going into our 100th year as an organization. WOW? Is this important? I hate to say this but no it is not any more important than it was 100 years ago. But! WOW? Was it important 100 years ago!!! What this means is 100 years ago there was a majority of the population that did not understand the importance of the Forestry Profession. There were no standards established to insure that students graduating from college had the basic knowledge needed to be a Forester. There was no system in place to continually improve the knowledge of practicing foresters and share experiences and technical information within the group that practiced the profession of forestry.

All that was needed 100 years ago is needed just as much and maybe more next year. The urgency of all professional foresters getting involved in the Society is as important now as it was 100 years ago.

It is much easier for our elected leaders to ask a past chairman to continue doing what they were doing. This year some of the GREAT ONES of our society are stepping aside for others to take the rains and drive some of our organization. Bob Schnell has been News Letter Editor since 1965. Doug Boadman has manage our Scholarship Fund since 1981.

Both of these individuals have gone beyond just doing these two jobs. If you have a moment drop Bob and Doug a line and thank them for their major contribution to the Forestry Profession. Or if you have the opportunity, shake their hand and thank them personally. What they have done is no more than each of you are capable of doing. They recognized the need and the importance and chose to make a significant contribution. The Charter members of our Society chose to do the same in 1900 and again in 1943 when the K-T Society was formed. Are you willing to make a similar Choice? I am enclosing a replacement page of the leadership team for K-T for your handbook. These people have agreed to step forward and make a difference. I hope to see your name on the list next year.

KTSAF WINTER MEETING GETTING RIGHT all set to go at mammouth cave site

West Kentucky chapter will host our KTSAF winter meeting at Mammouth Cave the last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of Jan. 2000.

Meeting theme may not be completely nailed down but it will likely be close to "Forest, Field and Water Management in the Next Millennium." Or, how about "Strategies for the New Millennium." Registration fee will be about \$35. Rooms will be available at the Park Lodge for about \$40 for a double.

Gail O'Neill is Program Chair aided by Gorald Crowe, Pam Snyder and John Woods. Larry Doyle is Arrangements Chair.

If you think you read the above Winter Meeting notice before, you probably did! It was in the last Newsletter, but it's the best we have. You should be getting a formal meeting notice and registration forms soon—in the mail!

* *

On October 27, 28 and 29th a relatively large group of Foresters assisted in the Future Farmers of America National Forestry Contest and the SAF Display at the National Career Show. What an opportunity. 52,000 students, teacher advisors and parents with a common interest in the land.

This fall Allan Houston (an individual) met with the Land Between the Lakes Advisory committee. He asked to be put on their schedule. The committee had invited groups to talk about the things that shouldn't be done on the area. Allan literally became a voice in the wilderness. If you see Allan, thank him for helping to get the word out about how important Forestry is to the Land Between the Lakes area.

If you like to work alone take up the charge. If you prefer to work with others grab a couple of friends

Conit next page

KTSAF OFFICERS

Chairman Richard Wilcox Chairman-elect.......... Dave Walters Secretary-Treasurer..... Grant Curry NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Bob Schnell....Norris, TN 37828 Doug McLaren. Lexington KY 40546

CHAPTER CHATTER

On Nov. 19, 1999, the East Tennessee chapter met at Sycamore Shoals State Park in the Johnson City/Elizabethton area. Forest Service members conducted a show-me tour of timber harvest sites on the Cherokee Hational Forest. In the evening. Tennessee Forestry Division personnel shared information and activities going on in Districts 1 and 2.

* * * * SE Tennessee chapter met Dec. 7, 1999, to tour the Wagner Pencil Co. in Bakewell, Ternessee. Millions of wooden pencils of all kinds, sizes and designs are made -a manufacturing miracle which turns a piece of wood, some graphite, paint and other materials into something we take for granted every day. It was a "write good" meeting!

Eric Schmeckpeper's (formerly forester at LBL and now GIS Coordinator for the National Forests in SC) new address is: 242 Bishopgate Road, Columbia SC 29212

Phone: 803/407-4167

Email: e_stumps@bigfoot.com

p.s. Yes there is life after TVA and LBL.

* * * * Chairman's Corner (con't)

and get the word out. There is still a majority of our society that does not yet understand the importance of Forest management. If you feel you need help, don't hesitate to ask. We have some members that are really quite good at getting the word out and they would love to help you become an effective spokesperson.

There is some really great information from university research, and management of company, private and government land. The people learning this great information are more than willing to share the information with you. BUT they also would like to learn from your experiences in return. Come to our meeting in January at Mammoth Cave to learn more. Set aside time to go to your chapter meetings.

This next year will be one of the most important years for The Society of American Foresters, I hope you will help us make a difference.

The National FFA Convention

The K-T Society participated in the National FFA Organization's Agricultural Career Show. Representing the society were Rick and Cindy Wilcox, Dale and Kelly Weigel, from the Indiana Society and Wade Maggerd, Hazard, Kentucky.

The Career show is an integral part of the National FFA Convention. The exhibition, held October 27-29, allows young people to explore the breadth and depth of agricultural-related careers. It was gratifying to be able to address specific concerns of the students, their teacher advisors and in some cases their parents. There were a wide variety of questions such as: "Do I need to go outside the my State to get a good Forestry Degree? What courses are required to get into college and what courses will I take in college? What kind of jobs are available and what do they pay? There were a lot of questions about what a forester can do to help a farmer or land manager.

Although this is the 72nd National FFA convention, the Society of American Foresters has participated in 31 of the 35 years that the Career Show has been part of the convention. There were 350 exhibitors. There were businesses recruiting for future employees and there were many universities recruiting for future students. We were there to provide information on the Profession of Forestry as a career as well as its importance in the future management of farms and rural lands that these students may be managing in the future. With 52,000 members of the FFA, their advisors, supporters and guests this is a major opportunity to improve the future management of our forest resources in this country.

With this convention under our belt, we hope to make some changes to the display and presentation of information. Obviously the majority of people at the convention are not going into the forestry profession. But most are tied to the land and need to know that Foresters can be a great assistance in managing land.

The display needs to make two major points. How to get information on being a forester and how to get help when you need a forester. In addition to the display we need a career information package for teacher / advisors, and a very inexpensive handout on where to get additional information.

Continuing Education Opportunity: Fire, People and the Central Hardwood Landscape Conference, March 12-14, 2000 Eastern Kentucky University. Early Registration \$35. Call Gemma Short at 606-257-7597.

Several years ago Charlie Crail must have

had a dream about Cincinnati, Ohio, which triggered the following filler information:

* * - + *

The first American Forestry Congress was held in Cincinnati, April 25-29, 18δ2. It was the best attended of any previous meeting in the annuals of American forestry. (KEEP LOOKING)

1999 K-T SAF Executive Committee

Executive Committee	Core Team	
Chairman: Dave Walters 6209 Foothills Dr. Murfreesboro, TN 37129-2651 O = (615) 837-5470 H = (615) 848- 0327 F = (615) 837-5003 dwalters@mail.state.tn.us	Chair-Elect: Jeff Stringer Dept of Forestry University of Kentucky Lexington, KY 40546-0073 O = (606) 257-5994 H=(606) 233-5905 jstringe@ca.uky.edu	Trus Joist MacMillan 610 Trus Joist Lane Chavies KY 41727 O= (606) 436-8787 H= (606) 666-7037 curryg@tjm.com
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KTSAF ELECTION WAS A WINNER with "red" anderson and jeffrey stringer

But the real winner was the KTSAF. We had two good candidates for each of the two contested offices making it a real election. As reported by Teller Richard Evans, Jeff Stringer is our new chairman-elect and Red Anderson is our secretary.

Congratulations and thanks to all candidates for their willingness to serve our professional society. KTSAF could not have lost no matter who won!

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1999 K-T SAF Executive Committee

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Middle TN Chapter Alive and Wet! Queve Walters

What happens when you mix foresters, wildlife biologists, educators and endangered mussels?

A meeting breaks out!

On October 2, a flotilla of SAFers, a couple of classroom teachers, and other natural resource advocates braved the placid Duck River in canoes.

The group's search for the endangered Birdwinged Pearlymussel was led by aquatic biologist <u>David Simms</u>, of TWRA. Tennessee conservationists will recall that the Birdwinged Pearlymussel was one reason the Columbia Dam project was halted. The Duck is home to other threatened mussels: Oyster, Cumberland Combshell, and Pyramid Pigtoe.

In addition to abundant native fauna, the group found beds of Asiatic clams, an exotic to the Duck.

The fearless scientists sampled for aquatic fauna in the afternoon then sampled American cuisine grilled to perfection by retired SAF personalities Joe Clayton and Bob Leonard.

Bruce Kauffman and Jeff Burns agreed that coordinating the outstanding handson educational experience was a pleasure.

"This excursion is proof that not all meeting are useless and dull", summarized Brant Miller, TWRA forester and revered SAF member.

First public planting of a memorial grove in America was on Arbor Day, April 27, 1882. School children took the day off and 35,000 persons gathered in Eden Park, where else but Cincinnati, Ohio.

Forest Inventory Data Published

Data taken in the latest forest inventory (1997) for Tennessee is now available in published form for the West Tennessee and the western Highland rim units. Data for the other three units is expected to be published by the end of spring. To get a copy of this information Call the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, forestry division 615/837-5520 or search the web at

In Forest Statistics for West Tennessee, 1997, Dr. Callie Jo Schweitzer of the Southern Research Station of the US Forest Service, reveals that

- Forested acres in the 18 county area increased by 11% over the preceding 10 years
- Area of planted pine forests decreased by 14%
- Ownership by private individuals increased by 15%
- Ownership by corporations declined by 24%
- Clearcutting or some other form of final harvest was used on 26% of the harvested sites
- Hardwood growth exceeded removals by 48%
- Growth of pine exceeded removals by 5%

The gap between annual growth and removal narrowed considerably compared to the previous ten year data. However, Dr. Schweitzer said "The West Tennessee region continues to have a surplus of growth, which may be a key indicator of the high level of forest productivity this region supports."

- <u>Lou Vowell</u>, Sustainability Forester, Pinson TN

WHAT'S GOING ON AR

USFS AND LLAMAS GET IN THE GROOVE to protect trails from boots and hooves

Llamas will soon be a common sight on trails in the Ocoee Region's Chilhowee Mountain complex and the John Muir trail along the Hiwassee River. Their light weight and unique foot structure has less impact on a trail than a hiker wearing boots. Forses likewise damage fragile trails....The new arrangement is scheduled for December 1999 through April 2000.

East Kentucky Chapter News - Lauric Smith.
The fall chapter meeting was at the Morehead
Ranger District. There we had two demonstrations
on how to conduct a "Walk in the Forest". One
walk consisted of using a developed trail with
interpretive signs. The other walk led the group
through different forest areas with the discussion
about forestry practices led by a forester.

The chapter is developing a brochure and signage for several "Walk in the Forest" trails. The brochure will indentify trails that will serve as "Walk in the Forest" trails and will identify the place where people can make a contact to work with a forester. There are two areas where trails have been identified: Robinson Forest and Tygarts State Forest. Both areas have a self-guided trail and a trail that would exhibit forestry principles.

East Kentucky Chapter Members have contributed 25 hours to various local Habitat for Humanity projects.

<u>Christopher Will</u> and <u>Donald Graves</u> are new to the Kentucky Chapter. Welcome!

Myra Williamson will be leaving our chapter. She has accepted a position as Planning Team Leader for the Bienville Distict in Mississippi. Congratulations Myra, we will miss you!

Richard Evans, superintendent of the UT
Forestry Experiment Station, has launched
a hot lunch speaking circuit. On Dec. 7,
he spoke on "Trees, Forests and People"
and ate lunch with the League of Women
Voters of Oak Ridge. He discussed issues
of forestry, forest management and the
environment. The UT Experiment Station is
headquartered at the UT Arboretum in Oak
Ridge and includes research in Morgan,
Scott, Franklin and Hamilton Counties.

* * * * * * *

CHRISTMAS TREE GROWING'S A LITTLE SLOW for some it's become a tough row to hoe

No matter how you trim them, Christmas trees are not as attractive as they used to be. It was a good deal in the early 1980's and a lot of people got into the market. But there is almost "a glut of trees now" and that seems to be holding prices down.

Some growers are getting out of the business and abandoning their plantations. This leaves landowners with either forested acreages or having to clearcut tracts to reclaim pastures. The <u>Tennessee Christmas Tree Growers Association</u> has seen its membership drop in recent years.

On the plus side, the Christmas tree market is becoming a national market. But that attracts large wholesale growers who can flood the market and keep prices down. For some it's kinda rough no matter how you look at it.

First issue of the American Journal of Forestry was published Sept. 82, in C.,OH.

The first municiple forest preserve (Mt. Airy Forest) was established in Cincinnati in June 1911. It later became a park and its arboretum contains 1000 species of trees and shrubs. (Thanks, Charlie)



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