

# Kentucky - Tennessee Society of American Foresters

## NEWSLETTER

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

Number 276

Up-to-date news on the Web at <http://www.ktsaf.org>

February 2006

### **CHAIRMAN'S CORNER - Don Hodges**

I just returned from an outstanding winter meeting hosted by the East Kentucky Chapter. Thanks to all the chapter members who made the meeting a success! More than 100 members heard some excellent presentations and used the opportunity to catch up with old friends. Congratulations to Red Anderson, our newest SAF Fellow – and to George Anderson, Ed Buckner, and Gary Schneider for receiving their Golden Member certificates.

I want to thank you for allowing me to be the KTSAF Chair the past year. I enjoyed the opportunity to work with many of you over the year. I also want to thank my fellow KT officers – Greg Dale, Ed Smith, and Ron Taylor – for their work and patience through the year.

Due to a change in job responsibilities, Greg Dale will not be our chair in 2006. Doug McLaren from the East Kentucky Chapter will serve as chair in his place. Doug graciously agreed to fill the position to maintain the chair rotation between Kentucky and Tennessee. Other officers for 2006 include Jeff Holt, Chair-Elect; Ron Taylor, Treasurer; and Diana Gennett, Secretary. I am confident that they will do a wonderful job in moving KTSAF forward.

### **SAF COUNCIL REPORT - Bob Cunningham, Council Representative, Voting District IX**

Busy and productive are words that best describe the December 2005 Council meeting in Bethesda, Maryland. Our business meeting was preceded with a breakfast gathering between Congressional staff members that work with forestry issues and SAF Council members. Council members independently heard unsolicited comments praising SAF as a highly respected organization, and that the SAF National Office staff were unequalled in their professionalism and effectiveness. Any SAF member would have been proud to hear this. Here are some highlights from Council's business meeting.

#### **Volunteer Organizational Structure (VOS)**

The Volunteer Organizational Structure Task Force completed their report in December 2004. The questions of "who are we" and "who do we want to be" as a professional society were the report's central theme. Fifteen recommendations grouped under the broad headings of National Structure Changes, National Level Unit Changes, and Recommendations and Comments – Non-Structural were provided. Council approved the following changes:

- !Added a non-voting student participant on the SAF Council.
- !Renamed the Forest Science and Technology Board to the Science Committee.
- !Approved development of a national committee / task force information area on the SAF website.
- !Amended the process for nominating candidates for national offices.
- !Revoked the charter for the Gift Acceptance Committee.

Full details regarding Council's actions with the VOS Report can be found at <http://www.safnet.org/who/VOScouncilaction.pdf>.

## **SAF Strategic Plan**

SAF's *Strategic Plan and Suggested Actions 2006-2010* was reviewed and approved by Council. Council has provided the plan to local units for guidance. This is a great tool filled with ideas to help identify annual programs and activities. Please consider that no individual unit is expected to accomplish its entirety. A full version of the plan can be found at <http://www.safnet.org/who/strategicplan.cfm>.

## **Foresters Fund**

Do you have a great idea for forestry field day, a legislative luncheon, or perhaps a session to develop leadership at your local SAF level? The Foresters Fund could help turn your thoughts into reality. Absent since 2004, \$40,000 in Foresters Fund grants will be made available in 2006. This is \$10,000 more than any previous year's program. Full details can be found on SAF's website or by contacting Louise Murgia at [murgial@safnet.org](mailto:murgial@safnet.org) or 310-897-8720 x 118.

## **Presidential Field Forester of the Year Award**

Did you know how many thousands of SAF members currently work as field foresters? No doubt you have known some great ones. So why not nominate one of them for the Presidential Field Forester of the Year Award? The award recognizes foresters who have dedicated their professional careers to the application of forestry on the ground using sound, scientific methods and adaptive management strategies. Each of SAF's eleven voting districts is allowed one recipient per year. Winners are traditionally recognized at the SAF National Convention. Nomination packets are due to me by May 15, 2006. Full details can be found at <http://www.safnet.org/who/ffaward.cfm>.

## **Roots of Forestry**

The Roots of Forestry has become SAF's latest member benefit. Thanks to a grant from the U.S. Forest Service, all five of SAF's periodical journals – *JOF*, *Forest Science*, and the *Northern, Southern, and Western Journals of Applied Forestry* from their first issue through 1999 will be available free to SAF members. Non-members can access the 100 years of forestry information on a pay-per-view basis, while educational institutions and libraries can purchase subscriptions.

## **Changes in the SAF Fellows Procedures**

Council accepted the recommendation of the Fellows subgroup (consisting of the chair of the HSD, chair of the Professional Recognition Committee, and a Council Representative) and approved changes to the By-laws pertaining to Fellows nominations. SAF honors those members who have provided outstanding contributions to the forestry profession with the title of Fellow. The goal of the Society is to recognize approximately five percent of its members with this honor.

The basic process will be as follows:

!A District Fellows Committee established in each voting district by the District Council Representative will solicit and review all Fellow candidate applications.

!The DFC will consist of at least five Fellows, one from each of the state, multi-state or intrastate societies in the District.

!The DFC shall include at least one Fellow elected in each of the preceding three decades and at least one woman Fellow, and they will serve staggered terms.

!The DFC shall remain continuously active and meet by telephone conference calls as necessary. It will seek out potential candidates for Fellows from among the voting District members, compile background information on candidates, evaluate candidates against the criteria for Fellow, and recommend to the Council voting district representative nominees from those found qualified.

!Council shall review and act on Fellow nominations at a meeting preceding the annual members' meeting.

Candidates for Fellow must have demonstrated a strong continuing commitment through direct SAF volunteer activities and, exemplary action, sustained leadership and advancement of the forestry profession in at least one of the following areas: application of forestry, education, public policy, research, or technology transfer. Instructions and forms for Fellow nominees are in revision and will be posted on the SAF web site. The links to the forms will be provided via the E-Forester in mid-March.

### **Election Reminder for Council Representative in Voting District IX:**

This will be my final year to serve as your Council Representative. For those interested in seeking the position of Council Representative for Voting District IX, the petitions and nomination packages due to the SAF National Office by July 1. I welcome any questions regarding the duties and responsibilities, or to discuss my experiences. Please let me know if someone in your unit is planning to run for Council.

Please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns about SAF.

Bob Cunningham  
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417-257-8206 (cell)  
417-257-0848 (home)

### **UPCOMING KTSAF MEETINGS**

The **West SAF TN chapter** will be hosting a multi\_county forestry field day on Saturday, March 11, 2006. The event is called the "Spring Forestry and Wildlife Reunion" It is designed for landowners with forest and wildlife interests and will feature the west Tennessee area. Registration is \$15 per person and starts at 8:30 AM at the main lobby of the headquarters of the West Tennessee Center for Research and Education in Jackson. For more info contact David Mercker, Extension Forester, 731\_425\_4703.

### **Lighting Up LBL**

#### **KTSAF Summer Meeting**

**June 7, 8 & 9, 2006**

Sponsored by Middle TN Chapter  
Meeting headquarters, Paris Landing State Park  
400 Lodge Road  
Buchanan, TN 38222-4141  
Room Reservations: 1-800-250-8614 ext. 1003

**Wed June 7:**

**6:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting**

**6:00 PM Registration**

**Thursday June 8:**

**7:00 AM Registration at Paris Landing State Park**

**8:00 AM Welcome to Meeting**

**9:30 AM Load vans for LBL Tour**

**5:30 PM Buffalo Tro Dinner at LBL**

**7:00 PM return to Paris Landing**

**Friday June 9**

**8:00 AM General Session**  
**Carbon Credits**  
**Forester Certification**  
**Forestland Ownership Changes**  
**Business Meeting**  
**Forester Ethics**  
**11:45 Adjourn**

Info Czars:

Jere Jeter 615-837-5435

Jeff Piatt 615-837-5091

Dave Walters 615-837-5470

## **FORESTRY POSITIONS WITH THE TENNESSEE DIVISION OF FORESTRY**

The State of Tennessee had forestry eight positions that they were filling. The register closed on February 6, 2006. We learned at the KTSAF winter meeting that there is now a short period that the register will be open for state positions including those in forestry. If you are interested in a forestry position with the State of Tennessee, contact either David Arnold [(615) 837\_5426] or Jere Jeter [615\_837\_5435] to let them know of your interest and to let you know when the register will be open in the future.

## **RESULTS OF KT-SAF ELECTION FOR CHAIRMAN-ELECT AND SECRETARY - Richard M. Evans, KT-SAF Teller**

In accordance with KT-SAF Bylaws (Page 4, Article 7) I am reporting to you the following results from our 2006 election of officers.

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Votes Cast</u>
Chairman-elect	
Jeff Holt	34*
Mark Young	33
Secretary	
Dianna Usher Gennett	41*
David Mercker	27

I certify these results as a true count of all ballots received in this election and declare **Jeff Holt** and **Dianna Usher Gennett** as the 2006 KT-SAF Chairman-elect and Secretary, respectfully.

Congratulations and thanks are extended to all of the candidates for their willingness to serve our professional society and their recognized leadership abilities. Special thanks go to the nomination committee for their dedicated service to KT-SAF.

## **2005 FFA NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The 2005 National Future Farmers of America Annual Convention was held in Louisville from October 26<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>. An estimated 10,000 + of the estimated 50,000 + students who participated in the convention visited the Society of American Foresters booth. The KTSAF thanks Alan Fowler, Dale and Kelly Weigel, and Rick and Cindy Wilcox for staffing the booth.

In addition, the KTSAF sends a special thanks to Rick and Cindy Wilcox for providing the display and to MeadeWestvaco for continuing to provide material, signs and logos for the display.

## **EAST TENNESSEE SAF CHAPTER HAS FALL FIELD TOUR**

Forty members and guests of the East Tennessee Chapter of the Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters participated in a Fall Field Tour program hosted by the University of Tennessee Forest Resources Research and Education Center (FRREC). The UT Forest Resources Center (formally, the UT Forestry Experiment Station) includes 12,000 acres in four locations in East and Central Tennessee, and is one of 10 Research and Education Centers of the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station.

Program participants were given an overview of selected research and management activities on the Center's Oak Ridge and Cumberland Forest Units. Topics focused on a variety of research projects (forest regeneration, oak coppice, soil deprivation and invasive exotics plants) and adaptive management demonstrations on the Center. Special presentations included an overview of a cooperative (UT, NRCS, TVA, and Fish & Wildlife Foundation) stream restoration project and the Clinch River Environmental Studies Organization (CRESO), an environmental studies/research program for grade school through high school students which are located on the UT Forests. Presenters from UT included David Buckley, Wayne Clatterbuck, Jennifer Franklin, Jordan Marshall, Martin Schubert, Mark Young and others, including Chester Bush and Lorella Jennings, NRCS, and John Byrd and Kathy Strunk, CRESO. Richard Evans, UT Forest Resources Center Superintendent, coordinated the day's activities and hosted an evening cookout and social at his tree farm in Morgan County, TN.



## **CLOSED TRAVERSE**

Thomas Franklin Ramke, Sr. died December 26th, 2005 at the age of 88. A native of Bancker, Louisiana, he received a B.S. from the School of Forestry at Louisiana State University. Ramke had a 35 year career with TVA, retiring as Manger of the Office of Tributary Area Development in 1979. He lived in Knoxville for 44 years. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Thelma Moist Ramke, three daughters, a son and seven grandchildren. He was deeply rooted in community service through his involvement with Kiwanis Club and his love for gardening. Based on the Knoxville News-Sentinel

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