

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 297

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May 2011

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER - David Mercker

The Apprentice

Yesterday was a big day, one to remember and one to trumpet. Earlier a local high school senior (Samuel) had contacted me to fulfill a requirement of "job shadowing." He was to seek out a professional in his area of interest and spend a day tagging along. During 12 years of serving as an Extension Forester, and 13 as a consultant, only twice have I been contacted for that reason. The first turned out to be a young man that just liked hunting. For him, spending time with a forester seemed like a good way to avoid a day of academics. He had no interest in forestry, but he eventually did impress us by becoming a sharp shooter, now assigned to protecting the president of the United States. He did well . . .

Anyway, when yesterday began, the same level of complacency was expected from job shadower #2. What a mistake that was! This lad was for real. Not only did he have a passion for trees, he knew them too. He was already enrolled in forestry school for the fall -- and he had questions, lots of them. We traveled to a local hardwood sawmill and met with a 79 year old procurement forester (yes, "79"). This sage spoke of forestry past, present and future. He lamented over the current markets yet was encouraging with his words that "all will turn around." From there, my new apprentice and I traveled to the University demonstration forest. There he discovered the difference between bottomlands and uplands, crop tree release, pine thinning and invading pests. At a NIPF property, he experienced a high-graded, previously pastured, but now-recovering woods.

The more he inquired, the more I was inspired. He probed; I answered.

"Why do you thin a forest?" - because it makes it healthier;

"What is a log defect?" - an imperfection that lowers value;

"When will these be harvested?" - soon, very soon;

"Where do you plant walnut?" - deep, well-drained soils;

"Who do you work for?" - anybody that breathes.

It was refreshing to be with this enthusiastic young woodsman. He was you; He was me; He was all of us. He captured the passion. Walking back from the woods, (six steps ahead of him because he has yet to be instructed on the reality that "time is money") I closed my eyes, clinched my fist, and whispered to myself, "YES!" I had a recruit. As the day closed, we discussed how his forestry curriculum would be challenging, how he would have to give more - when he felt like giving up, and also, how rewarding it someday will

be to attain the title of Professional Forester. Rest assured, he left knowing about the Society of American Foresters and about the SAF student chapter that he soon will be joining.

Do this. Do this same thing. All of us should get one of these . . . an apprentice. You will benefit from the experience. I promise. Though our profession has had its ups and downs, as the sage says, "all will turn around."

Your membership in SAF is valuable. It carries with it a sense of duty, a show of professionalism, a desire to contribute, to improve and to serve. It's what we do. Let's not disappoint Samuel and those other young boots that will soon be filling ours. Retain your membership in SAF and recruit another. Then don your cruisers vest and gather with us at this summer's meeting. Hosted by the Middle Tennessee Chapter, together we will live, love and laugh. Together we will learn. See you at the meeting in mid-June, or in the woods, whichever comes first.

Get the Most from Your New Membership Benefit - Free Online Access to All SAF Journals!

Beginning in January, your SAF membership now includes free online access to the Northern, Southern, and Western Journals of Applied Forestry, as well as Forest Science, SAF's premiere journal of forestry research and theory.

To take advantage of this new membership benefit, sign up for a new issue alert, which automatically sends you an e-mail when new issues are available. You can also set up a RSS feed for the latest or recent issues. Simply visit our online content, select the journal for which you wish to receive an alert or feed, then click the corresponding link beneath the issue thumbnail.

Remember: if you've never accessed SAF's online journal collection, you'll need to register first to take advantage of your new benefit. Follow these simple, one-time registration instructions and then be on your way to exploring the latest science and research, as well as new techniques and practices for effective, productive forest management.

COUNCILS COLUMN - Dave Walters

Springtime greetings! Some folks are celebrating the Year of the Rabbit, some are celebrating the Year of the Forests...I hope you are celebrating the beginning of a new and productive year where we invite hundreds of foresters to join our SAF. Please ask your colleagues again!

Proposed 2012 Dues Increase: After careful consideration and strong input from HSD, Council chose not to act on the dues increase without further consideration. In June, Council will consider a proposal to offer members membership options, some of which may actually decrease dues. I expect that we'll spend much time discussing SAF revenues (especially from alternative sources) and finances this year. I promise to post you on decisions as quickly as possible. The budget Council adopted for this year projects a \$250,000 deficit and staff are working hard to cut costs everywhere possible.

Forester rings will be presented to all student members of SAF who are graduating this spring. SAF staff is currently working with faculty advisors and society chairs to make this process of recognizing forestry students' transition into the professional ranks memorable. I hope the leadership of each Chapter and SAF society will participate in their forestry schools ring award ceremony. All District IX schools have been in contact with SAF HQ except the University of Arkansas at Monticello & Ohio State.

Districts IX and V are hosting a leadership academy for incoming society chairs, chapter chairs and student leaders on July 15- 17, 2011 near Carbondale, IL. State Society leaders have received a letter from **Joe Friend**, our Communications chair, soliciting nominees to participate. Our **Heartland Leadership Academy** team is hustling to provide our members an excellent program. My job in the operation is soliciting sponsorships so the participants just invest their brainpower, time and commitment to SAF. If you have leads for me to pursue, please send a note or call.

We need a **District Student Representative** to participate in the national student congress at convention, initiate communication between schools within our district, and communicate with the National Student Representative who is a non-voting member of Council. To apply submit a paragraph describing the student's current activity in SAF and why the student wants to take on the leadership role. The application and a letter of recommendation from the Faculty Advisor should be submitted to me ASAP. Remember the convention is in Hawaii!

The **2010 National Convention** was a big success with some 1,500 folks attending. Our **2011 convention** will be an opportunity of a lifetime. Join us in Honolulu on November 2-6. You'll save money by not taking many clothes!

Member get a Member can net you \$10 per member you sign up. If you get 14 folks, you're membership is free. Also check out the opportunity to pay your dues monthly or quarterly! Contact SAF offices to make it easy on you.

National Awards nominees are needed! Word is that folks are not being nominated for the awards that SAF presents. We know there are tons of excellent foresters making the world a better place. Please nominate someone next year. Also there is still time to get nominations for Field Forester award to me.

SAF national successes include installing a back-up generator for national HQ and the new data base should be running soon. Thanks to SAF's excellent work, EPA will not regulate biomass energy for three years. This is quite a victory for SAF and forestry in the US. Thanks are due to **Erica Rhoad** and to you for your continued support. Erica has taken another job. Kelsey is working with an intern to cover Capitol Hill.

USDA announced its **strategy to promote use of wood as a green building material**, an issue SAF has been hustling. The Forest Service will preferentially select wood in new building construction while maintaining its commitment to certified green building standards. Secretary Vilsack called for increased use of locally milled timber in all new agency buildings and facilities and is also encouraging the use of current renewable energy advances, such as wood-to-energy power systems, low-impact environmental site designs, green purchasing and operation and maintenance practices.

Quiz Bowl questions needed. **Bill Sweeny**, SAF Student Representative on Council needs good questions for the national quiz bowl. Send suggestions plus answers to William.P.Sweeney@gmail.com

Council actions from March 4-6 meeting:

- tasked HSD with identifying and designing alternative models for Convention to reduce costs
- tasked 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
- tasked the Committee on Professional Recognition to look at developing a national award for faculty advising, and to create criteria and the process for the award if it were to occur
- spent a ton of energy on strategic planning and dues

Invite a colleague to join SAF today!

Dave Walters, District 9 Council Representative
(o) 615-837-5470
(c) 615-556-0529
dave.walters@tn.gov

UT EXTENSION - David Mercker

Measuring Scenic Quality After a Timber Harvest

Typically foresters measure a number of attributes following a timber harvest. These can include: residual trees per acre, stocking, best management practices (BMPs), etc. More recently, changes in scenic quality have gained in importance too. But how is scenic quality quantified? A logging job that appears attractive to foresters and logging operators – one that is well implemented, with few damaged trees and where water and soil have been protected – can be viewed with disdain by others.

In 1990, Oregon State University set out to study this issue. Researchers sought to create a “scenic acceptability rating” for six silvicultural treatments. Comparisons were made for old-growth (the control), traditional treatments (clearcutting and thinning) and nontraditional treatments (patch cutting, snag retention, and two-story). The survey audience consisted of junior-level wildland recreation class members. Their job was to assess the scenic quality of each of the six sites. The scientists evaluated how the student evaluations changed through the first 11 years of the study.

For the purpose of the study, old growth was defined as 250-300 year old Douglas fir with a diverse maple, grand fir, and Pacific yew understory. At the other extreme, clearcuts (where all trees were removed) measured 45 acres in size.

The findings indicate that, as expected, initially old growth received the highest acceptable scenic rating. Regarding the other five methods, patch cuts received the highest rating while clearcutting received the lowest. However, by the end of the study, “acceptability rating” of the five harvest treatments had virtually equalized with an average of about 76 percent. Even the clearcut site had improved from 21 percent to 68 percent acceptability. The control was favorable throughout the study, surpassing all five treatments both at the onset and conclusion.

The most interesting finding is that the acceptability rating of the five treatments converged. There were notable differences at the onset (immediately following the harvesting), but these differences narrowed in time. This substantiates something that professional foresters have long understood, “Time heals.”

To view the findings of this work, see:

Shelby, B. et al. 2003. Changes in Scenic Quality after Harvest: a decade of rating for six silvicultural treatments. *Journal of Forestry*. Vol. 101, No. 2. March 2003, pp. 30-35(6). It is also available at:

<http://docserver.ingentaconnect.com/deliver/connect/saf/00221201/v101n2/s10.pdf?expires=1297434573&id=61162437&titleid=3830&acname=University+of+Tennessee&checksum=D53A6E150F0CFC40094520FA3B364900>

UK - Red Baker

Drs. Chris Barton and Jeff Stringer Recipients of the 2010 High Impact Research/Extension Program Award for Their Work on Streamside Management Zones

In November 2010, Drs. Chris Barton and Jeff Stringer were awarded the 2010 High Impact Research/Extension Program Award for their work on Streamside Management Zones (SMZs). SMZs for



Drs. Jeff Stringer, Scott Smith, Chris Barton

both perennial and intermittent streams are required for use on over 60 percent of the timber harvesting operations in Kentucky as mandated by the Best Management Practices provisions in the Kentucky Forest Conservation Act. The current SMZ standards were developed based on information from hydrologic studies generated outside of Kentucky and, in some cases, from significantly different forest types and hydrologic systems. To better define and ensure proper SMZ requirements for Kentucky, a collaborative effort between Extension and research faculty was initiated in 2003. This involved the development of a replicated hydrologic study to test the effectiveness of current SMZ requirements and provide detailed information to policy makers, the timber harvesting industry and woodland owners. Groups are routinely taken on tours of the different logging treatments to explain the study site, preliminary results, and value of the information coming from the research. This is classic integration of research and Extension – and Drs. Barton and Stringer provide a wonderful team-taught approach to telling the story from start to finish.

UT STUDENT CHAPTER - David Buckley

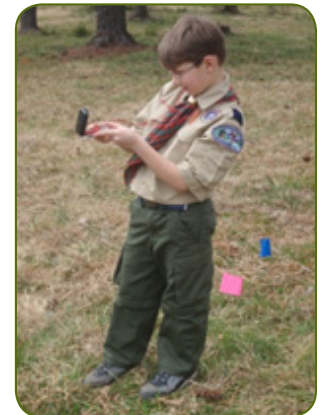
2nd Annual Forestry Field Day Held By UT Students

The UT Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters held their Second Annual Forestry Field Day on Saturday, February 19th at the UT East Tennessee Research and Education Center Plant Sciences Unit. Goals of the Forestry Field Day include educating students and other sectors of the public about forestry, practicing technical and physical events held during the spring Association of Southern Forestry Clubs Conclave, fundraising, and bringing together alumni, students from other schools, and faculty for an enjoyable day in the field.

Morning activities included the UT students working with Knoxville area Webelos on completing the various activities required to earn their Forestry and Naturalist Badges. The UT students and **Dr. Jason Henning** also provided the Webelos with the opportunity to practice their compass and pacing skills.

The UT students raised funds by holding a raffle, selling forestry club t-shirts and other items, and selling steak sandwiches and barbecue. One of the highlights on the menu was pine resin or pine rosin potatoes, which were introduced to the students by **Dr. Adam Taylor**. For those who are not familiar with them, pine resin potatoes are Irish potatoes boiled in pine resin in a large kettle, which can be cooled and reused multiple times. Historically, this method of cooking potatoes was used by sawmill and forest workers in the South, particularly in regions where pine resin was plentiful.

Several forestry students from the University of the South made the trip from Sewanee to join in the festivities, and had the opportunity to try their hand at physical events such as the overhand chop and crosscut sawing. Warm, sunny weather helped make the day a complete success.



SAF Ring of Distinction

SAF District IX Representative David Walters recently presented SAF rings to the following UT Graduates:

Bradley McQueen (Senior)

Cheryle Trent (Senior)

Zhimei Guo (Graduate student)

Becki Stratton (Graduate student)



The SAF ring program is designed to honor forestry graduates and create a tradition to last for generations. Whether you are 22 or 92, if you have graduated with a forestry-related degree, you can commemorate your accomplishment with the SAF Forestry Ring.

Every ring purchase demonstrates your pride but also salutes the work of next year's graduates from SAF-accredited programs because a portion of the purchase price goes towards recognizing 2011 graduates with a ring - FREE of charge.

Pre-order Your Ring Today for Just \$65.00

The ring is made of tungsten carbide with an SFI supplied veneer. Engraving is free.

For bulk orders, please call (866) 897-8720 x110.



Society of American Foresters
Growing Better All the Time

K-T SAF Summer Meeting - 2011

hosted by the Middle TN Chapter of K-T SAF

A Taste of Tradition

June 15, 16, & 17, 2011

Holiday Inn Conference Center
Manchester, TN

See registration form for details.

The program is packed full of
exciting tours
and
interesting presentations.

7.5 CFE credits available

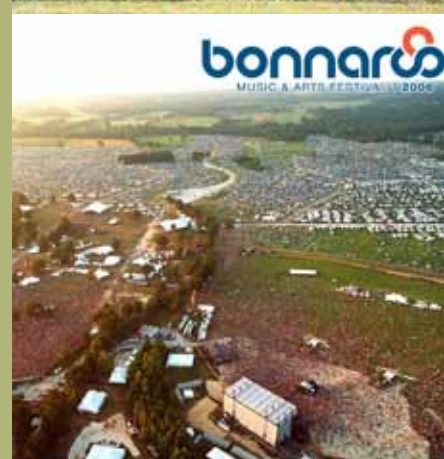
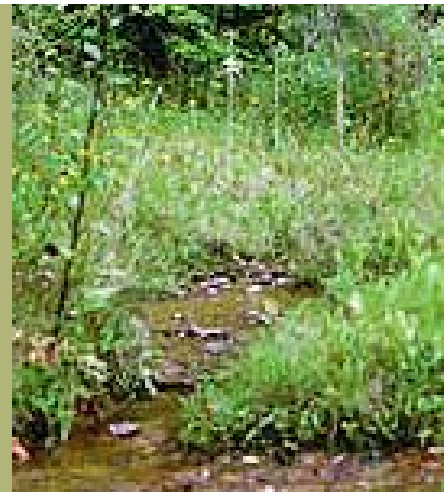
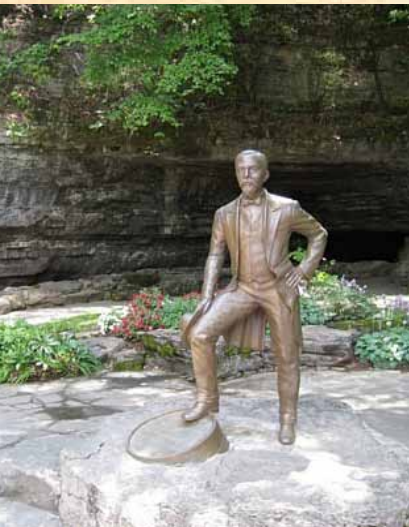
Tours (June 16):

- UT Highland Rim Forest
- Motlow Tree Farm
- JD's Seed Orchard
- Jack Daniels Distillery
- BBQ at Arnold Air Force Base - Woods Reservoir Lake

Presentations (June 17):

- History of the Barrens
- Wetlands Mitigation History
- Burning the Swamp
- TVA's Carbon Initiative
- Bonnaroo Mitigation and Management

Contact Andy Norris for more information:
andy@forestlandgroup.com
615.373.3606



2011 Summer Meeting

June 15-17, 2011

Holiday Inn Conference Center
Manchester, TN



Hosted by Middle Tennessee Chapter of K-T SAF (MT-SAF)

www.ktsaf.org

Attendee Information

Registrant Name:	<input type="text"/>
Name Tag:	<input type="text"/>
Title:	<input type="text"/>
Company:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State/Province:	<input type="text"/>
Zip/Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>
Phone:	<input type="text"/>

Special Needs:

Registration Fees

Early Registration - \$55 (postmarked by May 31, 2011):	<input type="text"/>
Regular Registration - \$65	<input type="text"/>
Student Registration - \$30	<input type="text"/>
# of guests (covers Thursday evening BBQ)	<input type="text"/> * \$15 = <input type="text"/>
Total = <input type="text"/>	

Payment

Check payable to: **Middle TN SAF**

Make payment to **Middle TN SAF** and mail with registration to :

Jeff Piatt
TN Division of Forestry
P.O. Box 40627, Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204

contact:
(o) 615.837.5091
(fax) 615.837.5003
(e) Jeffrey.Piatt@tn.gov

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn Express
111 Hospitality Blvd.
Manchester, TN 37355

direct: 931-728-9383 (block code TKSAF)
toll free: 1-800-315-2621 (block code SAF)

block rate: \$77/night; double or king beds available

<http://www.hiexpress.com/hotels/us/en/manchester/mnctn/hoteldetail>

TENNESSEE DIVISION OF FORESTRY - Tim Phelps**TDA Foresters Offer Advice on Storm Damaged Trees and Forests**

From tornados in the east and flooding in the west to general storm damage across the state, the recent wave of severe storms has caused significant damage to the trees in both urban and rural areas. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry is offering advice for homeowners and forest landowners.

While cleanup of downed trees is critical to recovery efforts in urban areas, damaged yard trees that are still standing should be left undisturbed unless they present an eminent hazard.

“Even though the top has been blown away, there is still the possibility that the tree may live,” said TDA urban forester **Bruce Webster**. “Trees have an amazing capacity to re-grow after damage, so it is good to give the tree time to recover.”

There are several factors for tree owners to consider when assessing damage:

- If the tree has a significant lean that wasn't present before the storm, if most or all the major limbs are broken or gone, or if there are obvious breakage of the trunk, AND there is the potential that the remaining portion could fall causing additional damage or personal injury, then the tree should be removed.
- If there is little or no lean, if the trunk is relatively sound and there is little potential of limbs or the tree falling and causing damage or injury, then the tree can remain. Even if the tree has lost major limbs, it may recover.

Flooded trees will have to be watched over time. Flooding causes more root damage than top damage, so the damage may not be visible for several weeks. And, trees are less tolerant of flooding during the growing season of April through September than they are November through March.

After trees appear to be recovering, homeowners should consult a certified arborist, a trained and credentialed tree care professional. Homeowners can find a certified arborist in their area at <http://www.isa-arbor.com/faca/findArborist.aspx>.

In rural areas, many forest landowners face the challenge of salvaging forest products from felled trees. Salvaging timber can be challenging and hazardous so it should be handled by professionals. Timing is also critical due to high heat and moisture, which will cause defects making the wood less merchantable.

In some cases, salvaging small pockets of timber may not be practical, or the damage may be too extensive. However, in cases where the timber may have just been blown over, opportunities to salvage timber will exist until June or July when staining and decay set in.

Landowners seeking to pursue timber salvage should:

- Select a logger willing to cut the trees and deliver products to market.
- Do market research and negotiation a fair price and terms.
- Work only with a logger under a signed, written agreement or contract.
- Take into consideration the perishability of felled trees if harvest is delayed.
- Consider federal income tax implications.

For further advice contact an area forester with Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry. A listing of area foresters by county can be found at <http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/forestry/directory.html>

For more information about other programs and services of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture visit www.tn.gov/agriculture. For information and safety tips on wood debris burning, visit www.burnsafetn.gov.

Other Resources

National Arbor Day Foundation - <http://arborday.org/programs/treecitybulletins.html>

International Society of Arboriculture - <http://www.isa-arbor.com/>

Tennessee Urban Forestry Council - <http://www.tufc.com>

TreeLink - <http://www.treelink.org/linx/?navSubCatRef=37>

UT Extension - <https://utextension.tennessee.edu/publications/Pages/forestry.aspx>

KENTUCKY DIVISION OF FORESTRY - Lynn True

Kentucky Division of Forestry Receives Toyota Grant to Support Hemlock Project

The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) received a \$15,000 grant from the Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Kentucky earlier this week during an on-site presentation of nearly \$90,000 given to five environmental programs across the Commonwealth. The funding will help KDF educate private landowners about the devastation caused by the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), an aphid-like insect that threatens the health of eastern hemlock trees.

Specifically, KDF will work through the Save Kentucky's Hemlocks project and partner with the University of Kentucky's Cooperative Extension Service to produce a step-by-step guide for landowners on how to treat hemlock trees from infestations of HWA.

"This grant will assist the division in controlling and managing one of the biggest insect threats to Kentucky's forests," said Director **Leah W. MacSwords**. "Kentucky's forests contain over 76 million eastern hemlock trees and the potential for HWA to destroy hemlock populations would have a profound impact on forest ecosystems. Fortunately, this grant will assist us in detecting, eradicating and preventing the spread of this insect and subsequent decline of hemlocks."

Since 2006, HWA infestations have been found in 19 Kentucky counties. The insect, which feeds on the hemlock's needles and reproduces exponentially, has the potential to spread rapidly and kill the tree if it is not treated in a timely manner. Many experts believe that the adverse effects from HWA could be as severe as the chestnut blight, and that we may lose our hemlocks just as we lost the American chestnut tree.

Treatment options for HWA infestations include systemic insecticides containing imidicoprad through soil drenching, soil injection and/or trunk injection. These types of treatments may remain effective for two to five years. Trees may also be sprayed with insecticidal soaps and horticultural oils during March through April and from September to October. This type of treatment may be needed during both the spring and fall or at least annually.

For more information about how you can help protect our native hemlocks, visit Save Kentucky's Hemlocks website at www.kyhemlocks.org. Citizens are asked to notify forestry officials of infestations by contacting KDF's main office at 502-564-4496.

CLASSIFIEDS

Doctoral or Masters Student Recruitment

Gilbert Foundation Scholarship
School of Renewable Natural Resources
Forest Products Marketing & Business Development
Louisiana State University

For Fall 2011, The Louisiana Forest Products Development Center at Louisiana State University is soliciting applications for the prestigious Gilbert Foundation Scholarship. Both M.S. (\$20,000/year for 2 years) and Ph.D. (\$25,000/year for 4 years) degree candidates are encouraged to apply.

In keeping with the intent of the Foundation goals, recipients must have academic credentials that place them in the upper 5 % of applicants to the graduate program in the School of Renewable Natural Resources. Eligibility will be based on the evaluation of the grade point averages, performance on the Graduate Record Examination (verbal, quantitative, and written), letters of reference, and other tangible evidence of eligibility. The minimum qualifications for MS eligibility are an earned cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 with a 3.25 for the last 60-64 hours of work towards their undergraduate degree based on 4.00.

For the Ph.D. program, the minimum requirements include a cumulative GPA of 3.6 during the pursuit of their MS, but 3.75 if undergraduate GPAs are below the 3.00 and 3.25 GPA standards. Scores on the GRE should be at least 1200 (V + Q) with each section above 500 and a writing score of 4 or greater. Performance on the GRE will be evaluated in combination with GPA, letters of reference, and other evidence of the applicant's potential success in pursuing a graduate degree and representation of the Gilbert Foundation ideals.

Recipients are entitled to a scholarship covering student fees. The Graduate School pays tuition and gives an allowance for medical insurance. The recipient has a 20 hr/wk work commitment and is covered by workman's compensation insurance. We can evaluate candidates contingent on acceptance by the Graduate School. Applications are done on-line. Information can be found at: the Louisiana State University Graduate School Home Page.

<http://gradlsu.gs.lsu.edu/Prospective%20Students/item12197.html>

The Forest Products and Business Development Program offers a multi-disciplinary approach that provides students an opportunity to develop practical skills and academic depth in a variety of areas of specialization such as promotion & branding, eBusiness, certification, wood-based biofuels/bioprocessing, and forest-based economic development/policy. The research area will depend on the interests of the successful candidate.

In addition to the on-line application process, please email me a letter of intent and interest, unofficial transcripts, resume, GRE scores (when you have them) and TOEFL score (if applicable) to vlosky@lsu.edu. Other contact information: Dr. Richard Vlosky, Director, Louisiana Forest Products Development Center: Phone: (225) 578-4527; Fax (225) 578-4251, Address: Room 227, School of Renewable Natural Resources, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803.

SURVIVE JOB LOSS WITH SAF'S HELP

The reality of today's changing economy can hit hard when companies face restructuring and downsizing. If you find yourself without a job, remember SAF offers members a vital lifeline during tough times—and we'll even reduce your dues.

Networking. Interaction with peers is a crucial part of the job search process. SAF can put you in touch with colleagues in your field. What better way to tap their expertise, swap ideas, and discuss job leads?

Educational workshops. Check out the training opportunities provided by SAF. You can learn a marketable new skill or enhance your job knowledge on a topic. But, most importantly, you will have a chance to meet fellow SAF members who can provide you with valuable job leads.

Information. Association publications provide industry information to help you stay current and competitive. They offer you practical, proven survival techniques to help you through the transition.

Job referral. SAF operates a job bank and posts job listings in *The Forestry Source*, *Journal of Forestry*, and on the website at www.safnet.org.

When times are tough, don't forget the safety net SAF provides you to get back in business. Let your association membership work for you when you need it most!

KTSAF OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS, AND CHAPTER OFFICERS - 2011

David Mercker, Chair
605 Airways Blvd.
Jackson, TN 38301-3201
(731) 425-4703
dmercker@utk.edu

Christopher Reeves, Vice-chair
2374 Allen Dr
Lexington, KY 40505-1956
(859) 257-0174
cdreev2@uky.edu

Kerry Livengood, Treasurer
PO Box 40627, Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 837-5437
kerry.r.livengood@TN.gov

Haley Frazier, Secretary
231 Lyons Ave
Morehead, KY 40351
(606) 784-7504
Haley.Frazier@ky.gov

Ron Taylor, Policy, History Chairs
830 Copperas Hollow Rd
Morehead, KY 40351
(606) 356-4999
rtaylor@forestry@yahoo.com

Wayne Clatterback, Memorial Scholarship Committee Chair
UT Forestry Wildlife & Fisheries
274 Ellington PSB
Knoxville, TN 37996-4563
(865) 974-7346
wclatter@utk.edu

Richard Evans, Teller Chair
The University of Tennessee
901 South Illinois Ave
Oak Ridge, TN 37830-8032
(865) 483-3571
revans6@utk.edu

Lloyd Foe, Membership Chair
P.O. Box 353; LaGrange, KY 40031
(502) 222-1115
Lloyd@FoeForestry.com

Tim Phelps, Membership Information
PO Box 40627, Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 837-5543
Tim.R.Phelps@TN.gov

Laurie Smith, Education Chair
1056 Big Ridge Rd
Oneida, TN 37841
(606) 376-5323
lauriesmith@fs.fed.us

Ben Worthington, Awards Chair
PO Box 889
Winchester, KY 40392
(859) 737-5154
benworthington@bellsouth.net

Ward Tarkington, Continuing ED-TN.
PO Box 40627 Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204
(615) 837-5097
Ward.Tarkington@TN.gov

Doug McLaren, Continuing ED-KY.
University of KY ; 1226 Cooper Dr,
Lexington, KY 40502
(859) 257-2703
dmclaren@uky.edu

Jeffrey Holt, Program Chair
P.O. Box 7054; Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 482-7623
JHoltOR@hotmail.com

Heather Slayton, Auditing Chair
149 Russell Lane; Harriman, TN 37748
(865) 719-4665
heather.slayton@fountainsamerica.com

Nomination & Public Affairs Chairs
Vacant

East Kentucky SAF Chapter

Christopher Reeves, Chair
2374 Allen Dr
Lexington, KY 40505-1956
(859) 257-0174
cdreev2@uky.edu

Tim Sheehan, Vice-chair
135 Hickory Drive;
Harrodsburg, KY 40330
(859) 734-0110
tim.sheehan@ky.gov

Mike Klumpke, Secretary-Treasurer
119 Sena Way; Richmond, KY
(859) 745-3120
mklumpk@fs.fed.us

West Kentucky SAF Chapter

Larry M. Doyle, Chair
103 S 14th St
Murray, KY 42071
(270) 753-8250
sldoyle@newwavemcomm.net

East Tennessee SAF Chapter

Wayne Clatterback, Chair
602 Hawthorne Dr,
Maryville, TN 37803
(865) 974-7346
wclatterback@utk.edu

Heather Slayton, Treasurer
149 Russell Lane; Harriman, TN 37748
(865) 719-4665
heather.slayton@fountainsamerica.com

Gregory Bailey, Secretary
702 S Illinois Ave; Ste. B-202
Oak Ridge, TN 37830-7975
Office Phone: (865) 481-3696
Home Phone: (865) 805-4788
Fax: (865) 481-0228
greg.bailey@amforem.biz

Southeastern Tennessee SAF Chapter

Ken Smith, Chair
The University of the South
735 University Avenue
Sewanee, TN 37383
(931) 598-3219
ksmith@sewanee.edu

Ben Myers, Vice-chair
120 E. Main
McMinnville, TN 37110
(931) 474-6203
benjaminlmyers@hotmail.com

Mike Williford, Secretary
3850 Westview Dr NE
Cleveland, TN 37312
(423) 570-1070
boh2o@aol.com

Middle Tenn SAF Chapter

Andy Norris, Chair
321 Cannonade Circle
Franklin, TN 37069
Phone: (615) 599-6366
andy@forestlandgroup.com

Jeff Piatt, Treasurer
PO Box 40627, Melrose Station
Nashville, TN 37204
Phone: (615) 837-5091
FAX: (615) 837-5129
jeffrey.piatt@TN.gov

West Tennessee SAF Chapter

Nick Bridgeman, Chair
10001 US HWY 70
Lakeland, TN 38002
Phone: (901) 867-5419 --O
FAX: (901) 867-2063
nbridgeman@lakelandtn.org

Wade McMahan, Treasurer
PO Box 191
Lexington, TN 38351
Phone: (731) 968-2953
FAX: (731) 968-7888
wade@tennesseetimber.com

Tom Cunningham, Secretary
PO Box 879
Paris, TN 38242-0879
Phone: (731) 642-3888
FAX: (731) 642-3892
tcunningham@fwforestry.com

University of Kentucky Student Chapter

Jeffrey Stringer, Faculty Representative
UK Forestry Department
213 Thomas Poe Cooper Bldg
Lexington, KY 40546-0073
Phone: (859) 257-5994
FAX: (859) 323-1031
stringer@uky.edu

University of Tennessee Student Chapter

David S. Buckley, Faculty Representative
UT Forestry Wildlife & Fisheries
274 Ellington PSB
Knoxville, TN 37996-4563
Phone: (865) 974-7978
FAX: (865) 974-4714
dbuckley@utk.edu

University of the South Student Chapter

Karen Kuers, Faculty Representative
The University of The South
735 University Avenue
Sewanee, TN 37383-1000
Phone: (931) 598-1421
FAX: (931) 598-3331
kkuers@sewanee.edu



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Tim.R.Phelps@tn.gov



Tim R. Phelps, Editor
Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters
7329 Althorp Way
Nashville, Tennessee 37211

