CHAIRMAN’S CORNER - Don Hodges

The SAF National Convention in Forth Worth last month was a great opportunity to catch up on changes in forestry as well as with old friends. KTSAF was well represented in Texas, with student groups from UK and UT making the trip and several members making presentations or moderating sessions. I had the privilege to serve as the KTSAF representative to the House of Society Delegates. Most of the HSD meeting was devoted to the recommendations included in the VOS Task Force report. The major concerns expressed by HSD members (based on comments received from their members) involved the recommendations to change the structure of SAF. Specifically, the HSD voted to oppose reducing the number of SAF districts from 11 to 7 (and therefore reducing the size of the council) and holding a national meeting every other year. The majority of delegates noted that their members believed that the changes would result in less representation by council members for the state societies. Additionally, delegates argued that many of the proposed regions were too diverse and would not be conducive to the proposed regional meetings planned for the years when national meetings would not be held. There still is time to provide your comments to SAF on the VOS report via the SAF website.

Everyone remember to reserve January 25-27 for the 2006 KTSAF Winter Meeting. The meeting will be held at Jenny Wiley State Park. The Eastern Kentucky chapter has developed an excellent program titled Surface Mine Reclamation, Timberland Taxation, and Carbon Sequestration: Progress, Potential, and Pitfalls.

UPCOMING KTSAF MEETINGS

The East Tennessee SAF Chapter will host a field day on November 10, 2005 at the UT Forest Resources Research & Education Center in Oak Ridge, TN. Registration will be from 8:00 – 8:30. Presentations will start at 8:30. At Noon there will be a box lunch ($5.00) After lunch the program will continue at the UT Cumberland Forest R&E Center in Morgan County, TN. At 4:30 Travel to Newstead Tree Farm near Wartburg, TN for social, cookout ($7.00) and Presentation…6 CFE’s - Cat. 1 Details of the program are at http://www.ktsaf.org/meetings.htm R.S.V.P. by Nov. 7, '05… 865-483-3571, or email utforest@utk.edu

The 2006 KTSAF winter meeting will be held at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park in Prestonsburg on January 25-27, 2006. Working title is "Surface Mine Reclamation, Timberland Taxation, and Carbon Sequestration: Progress, Potential, and Pitfalls". Weather permitting, there will be a field trip on Friday to see some of the state-of-the-art reclamation demos in action. Rooms are $55 for a double or single and cabins are also available.

The West SAF TN chapter will be hosting a multi-county forestry field day on March 11, 2006. The event is called the "Spring Forestry and Wildlife Reunion" and will be held at the West Tennessee Center for Research and Education in Jackson. The target audience are members of the County Forestry Associations in west Tennessee. Subjects include: beaver control, hardwood bottomland afforestation, native warm season grasses, commercial thinning of pine, and crop tree release. For more info contact David Mercker, Extension Forester, 731-425-4703.

The 2006 KTSAF summer meeting is scheduled to be hosted by the Middle Tennessee SAF Chapter.
KT- SAF Memorial Scholarship Committee

Below is a note from Susanna Tomlinson, spouse of SAF member Charles Tomlinson who passed away in 2004. Her note was in response to contributions made to the KT- SAF Memorial Scholarship Fund in memorial of her husband.

*Please express our gratitude to the members of the Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters for the contribution to the Memorial Scholarship Fund in Charles’ memory. It is such a fitting tribute to Charles’ interest in and work toward fostering solid educational values for forestry students. The family and I greatly appreciate the honor given to Charles by this contribution.*

*Sincerely, Susanna Tomlinson*

If you would like to make a contribution to KTSAF Memorial Scholarship Fund as a memorial to someone or just as a contribution, contact Wayne Clatterbuck at 865-974-7990 or wclatterbuck@utk.edu. The purpose of the fund is to recognize the outstanding undergraduate forestry student in each of our KTSAF student chapters at UK, UT, and the Univ. of the South. A $200 check is given to the student and their expenses are paid to attend the KTSAF winter meeting.

Presently, we have a principal of about $15,000 in the fund with investment/interest income each year of about $600 to $800. That income is used to fund the student scholarships each year. We would like to grow the principal of the fund so we do not dip into the principal with our annual expenses and perhaps increase the amount of the student scholarship. Contributions to the KTSAF Memorial Scholarship Fund are encouraged.

**DEADLINE for February 2006 KTSAF newsletter is February 6, 2006.**