CHAIRMAN’S CORNER - Christopher Reeves

Just as thinning and crop tree releases will not have effects until long down the road, our current investments in our Kentucky-Tennessee state society will incur long lasting positive change. The big financial investment this year is in an update to our website. Using our own funds, supported along with money from the Foresters’ Fund, we were able to update our website with a modern and clean design. The site is live and you can visit it now at www.ktsaf.org. The site will continue to evolve with additions such as current job postings in our region and updates to the useful links for the general public. We will also begin to post copies of presentations and agendas from previous meetings to allow members to review past topics and trends. Chapters can also house all of their records on the site as well. Meeting minutes and agendas can be posted on each chapter’s specific page. I also know that there are significant gaps in recognition of our past award winners. I invite you to review all aspects of the new site and offer any suggestions, improvements, or additions that you think are necessary.

I also want to publicly thank our previous webmaster, newsletter developer, communications committee chair, and current vice-chair Tim Phelps. Tim has shepherded the site for many years and will be transitioning off some of those duties to focus and devote more effective time to just a few duties. I will be taking over the website and as of the next edition Greg Bailey will be putting together the newsletter. These changes will allow Tim to just be the communications committee chair and focus all his volunteer SAF time on just one position.

We also continue to invest in new member development. Membership packets have been mailed out to state agency and consulting foresters asking them to consider joining SAF at rock bottom costs. Our next focus will be on reinitiating contacts and relationships with the U.S. Forest Service. Our federal counterparts used to have a sizable presence in KTSAF but their numbers have dropped drastically in the last decade. There are currently fewer than 5 active (non-retired) Forest Service employees in KTSAF ranks. We want these folks to know that their views and opinions on forestry and our profession are important and relevant in today’s world. We want them as active members in SAF. These yearly investments into new member recruitment are more important than ever and must continue to maintain our relevance in the natural resource community.

I am honored to represent KTSAF’s interests at the National SAF Convention in late October in Spokane, WA at the House of Society of Delegates meeting. HSD is SAF’s grassroots committee that is represented by all the state society chairs from across the country. This is as close as national SAF leadership (president, president-elect, council, etc.) can get to local members in the most efficient manner possible. These groups want to know your issues with SAF and I will do my best to accurately represent them. In that spirit, if you have any issues that you think need to be brought up at the House of Society Delegate meeting do not hesitate to contact me (christopher.reeves@uky.edu, or (859) 257-0174).

I, for one, am glad that summer is ending and that fall is coming upon us. The leaves seem to hide the true forest. Not to mention the added bonus of saying goodbye to the ticks, droughts, spider webs, hot weather, and numerous other annoyances that come with summer. Others may love the summer for the better logging weather but I really don’t care for it. With that, I hope your fall is as great as the color show we’re about to get from the trees!

KTSAF WINTER MEETING PLANS - David Mercker

Back to the Business of Forestry

Pull out your tally books and reserve Jan 23-25 for the KT-SAF winter meeting. The West TN Chapter has chosen the theme of “Back to the Business of Forestry” for our gathering to be held in Jackson. Tentative subjects to be addressed include: the future of pulpwod/pine and hardwood sawtimber markets, forest and wood certification, state of the logging industry, BMP compliance, timber sale contracts, review of forest financial analysis and QDM at the Hobart Ames Plantation. In addition, we will tour the Casey Jones RR Museum and enjoy our traditional awards banquet, student quiz bowl and silent auction. Very reasonable room rates have been secured and we anticipate an affordable registration fee. To top it all, the meal vendor will be a local favorite - The Old Country Store. So set your boots and prisms aside and join us as we get back to the basics of once again showing a profit margin for our forestry business, because without a margin, we have no mission...
COUNCILS COLUMN - Dave Walters

Council met June 1-3 and accomplished much. Besides slogging through the business of SAF, we participated in a 2 hour session on SAF focus, our “hedgehog process”. My take away from that session was that all SAF leaders need to be constantly thinking and acting on ideas to enhance SAF’s professional community. If all SAF chapter, state & regional leaders increase their focus from a couple of times a year to weekly, even daily then we’ll expand our community and our influence. Another light bulb moment for me was in sharing our fears for SAF’s future. FEAR was explained as occasionally being False Expectations Appearing Real. One item that many Council members identified as a FEAR was, foresters would become less relevant or lose control of our organization if we open up our membership to graduates of Natural Resource Management schools. In discussing that scenario, we came to identify that as a false expectation. Other issues of relevance to state networks include:

All District IX Fellows nominees were accepted. Congratulations to Carrol Guffey of Ouachita Society, Ron Rathfon of Indiana SAF, and Jeff Dawson and John DePuy of Illinois. Our District Fellows Committee did a great job under the guidance of Phil Perry. We’ll need a new Fellows Committee rep from Missouri beginning in January. Our charter says we should have a woman if possible. Council also approved the 2012 national award winners submitted by the Committee on Professional Recognition. National SAF Award recipients will be notified of their selection by the SAF National Office within the month of June, and each will be honored at the National Convention.

Council approved a revised position statement on Timber Harvesting on Public Lands, and recognized that the position statement on Silviculture expired because it served its purpose and the principles are covered in other position statements. Council also accepted the Task Force Report on Terrestrial Ecosystem Management and recommended that actions be continued toward the adoption of new accreditation standards for a “natural resources” related degree program.

Conventions

2012 - Spokane: October 23-28
2013 - Charleston
2014 – Salt Lake City

Registration is now open for the 2012 SAF National Convention in Spokane (see website: www.safconvention.org or call 866-897-8720 for assistance and information). Members are encouraged to make early reservations (prior to August 26) for savings on air fares, convention hotel rooms, and meeting registration fees.

Council initiated action to launch The Pinchot Founders Circle at the Spokane Convention. This giving program will grow the Forester’s Fund, and give members and friends of SAF opportunities to donate $1900 or more (to commemorate our founding year) over the course of four years. As an organization that has largely been funded by membership dues, SAF’s declining membership has placed significant stress on our financial resources, so new revenue is needed to grow the capacity of SAF. Details of this new program will be discussed at the upcoming House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting in Spokane, and a table will be set up at the convention registration desk for convention participants to be among the first to sign up.

2013 Heartland Leadership Academy

It is time to put a team in place to host the Heartland Leadership Academy in 2013. Indiana SAF has expressed an interest in hosting. Positions needed on the team include:

- Academy Dean—Responsible for the whole shindig & evaluation of it
- Arrangements Chair—Responsible for location, food, lodging & equipment needs
- Program Chair—Responsible for agenda & presenters
- Communications Chair—Responsible for keeping folks informed of the event and overseeing nominations/ participants
- Finance Chair—Responsible for managing the funds & hustling money
- State Reps—Responsible for keeping local folks informed of the event

Let me know of your interest. By September I hope to have a date and location identified and a core team in place.

SAF membership continues to decline at roughly two percent per year, but the new tiered dues structure has been very successful. 79% of members have signed up for the gold level, 19% for silver, and 2% for the platinum level. Current paid membership totals 10,500. A number of delinquent members are being contacted and asked to pay the local dues assessment. As of June 1, 2012 SAF has received more in dues payments than for the entire year of 2011.

The new membership incentive and recruitment program implemented this year provides for as much as a $100 discount on dues ($20 per year for five years) for new member recruitment, and the new recruit gets a 30% discount if they maintain current membership for at least five years. Interested members can contact Christopher Whited, whited@safnet.org, with specific questions about the membership recruitment program, or go to the website: www.safnet.org, then click on “join” on the bar at the top of the page for more detail. To date about 100 members have taken advantage of this opportunity.

Nearly 750 members nationally have not paid Chapter, Division or State Society dues. This has caused some financial difficulties for local SAF units, including Districts 1, 2, and 4. SAF Executive Vice-President Michael Goergen has sent letters and invoices to each of these members requesting payment of local dues. Local SAF units are also contacting these individuals and encouraging their renewal and payment. Chapter Chairs should also check Chapter rosters for accuracy. Improved Membership Invoices should minimize this problem next year.

Thanks for your commitment to our profession. Ask a colleague to join today!

Dave

Dave Walters
District 9 Council Representative
O 615-837-5470
C 615-556-0529
Dave.walters@tn.gov
**Woodland and Savanna Management Workshop**

**Date:** Wednesday, September 5, 2012 - Thursday, September 6, 2012  
**Event Topic:** Range/Grasslands Management  
**URL:** www.chjv.org  
**Location:** Cumberland County Fairgrounds Community Complex, Crossville, TN  
**Category 1-CF Hours:** 7.5  
**Category 1-FCA Hours:** 0.0  
**Category 2 Hours:** 0.0  
**Description:** This workshop was developed to aid land managers in understanding the components of woodland and savanna communities, the value these vanishing landscapes provide, and how best to restore these critical habitats. The information presented will allow you, as a land manager or consultant, to better understand savanna and woodland community types and have the knowledge to manage these forgotten ecosystems.  
**Contact Info:** Larry Heggemann  
**Email:** lheggemann@abcbirds.org  
**Phone:** 573-576-3775

**Save Your Hemlocks Workshop**

**September 15, 2012**  
**Located at Dunaway Hunting and Fishing Club, near Dunlap, TN**  
**Hosted in cooperation with the TN Hemlock Conservation Partnership**  
**All are welcome to join us to learn about the threat of hemlock woolly adelgid and gain skills needed to chemically treat and preserve your hemlocks. During the workshop, the group will treat and save hemlocks at the site as well.**  
**Specific topics to be covered are:**  
- background of hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA)  
- complete hands-on training with tips and tricks  
- treatment options for do-it-yourself or contracting the work  
- contacts for purchasing chemicals  
- opportunity to meet state and federal agency staff who are combating the HWA on public lands  
**For registration, directions, and information, contact Trisha Johnson trisha_johnson@tnc.org 931-854-1552**

~TN Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry will be leading the workshop in collaboration with partners TN Department of Environment and Conservation, the TN Wildlife Resources Agency, The Nature Conservancy, and the National Park Service.~

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**Woods and Wildlife Field Day**

*a program of the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center*

**Hosted by UT AgResearch**  
**Saturday, Sept. 22, 2012**  
**Oak Ridge, Tenn.**  
**8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

This free event will feature expert presentations focused on forest economics, reforestation techniques, small woodlot harvesting/utilization and wildlife habitat improvement. The field day is being co-hosted this year by the Tennessee Tree Farm Committee as part of the “What goes on behind the sign” annual workshop series. Professionals with the Tennessee Division of Forestry and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency will also be on hand to answer your forest and wildlife management questions.

A special lunchtime program will entertain you with live woodsman skill demonstrations by the Lumberjack Feud in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and the UT Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries Conclave Team.

Advance registration is required for planning purposes. Please visit [http://forestry.ut.state.tn.us](http://forestry.ut.state.tn.us) for registration and the latest details about the event.
MIDDLExE TENNESSEX - Kerry Livengood

Try taking your canoe through a three strand barbed-wire fence – twice. That was just part of the Swan Creek watershed stream assessment conducted by members of the Kentucky Tennessee Society of American Foresters, the Tennessee Division of Forestry (TDF), Tennessee State University, Department of Agricultural and Environmental Science, and the University of Tennessee, Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries. Attendees included John Woodcock and his son Kyle, Dave Walters and his wife Cindy, Mark Fly, Dalia Abbas, Kerry Livengood and his kids Christian, Benjamin and Susannah.

The Tennessee Forest Action Plan identified fourteen watersheds in the State that were greater than 50% forested, face significant threat to development, and provide most of the public water supply for at least one community. Since water quality depends on a healthy forest, the TDF developed a three pronged strategy for protecting and improving water quality: streamside management zones would be identified, protected or established; emphasis would be placed on keeping forests in forests by developing Forest Stewardship Plans for all landowners with 10 acres or more of forestland; and lastly, an outreach to all loggers working in the watershed designed to make sure that best management practices are being followed.

The Swan Creek watershed begins on the edge of the Natchez Trace Parkway and flows north to Highway 50 in rural Middle Tennessee. A few miles past that the stream empties into the Duck River. At Highway 50 the town of Centerville has a public water supply intake where the water is piped to a nearby treatment facility. Swan Creek’s banks and many bridges were damaged by a 500 year flood event that took place in 2010, a flood that also submerged the Grand Old Opry building in Nashville.

With 604 property owners in the 46,562 acre watershed, finding which landowners own the forest and the stream banks would appear to be a difficult problem, but the TDF used spatial analysis to identify how much forest and streamside areas were in the watershed. Prior to the float trip, the flowlines for the creeks in the watershed were digitized into a geodatabase in ArcView using one foot resolution aerial photography taken by the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) and provided by the Office of Information Resources (OIR). Forested areas had been previously digitized and also provided by the OIR. Buffers, mostly 25 feet on either side of the creek, were developed and evaluated as to whether there was adequate vegetation. Parcel maps were then clipped so that each landowner identified as owning forestland and/or the non-vegetated stream banks could be contacted.

continued
Since the Swan Creek Watershed was in a rural area, the standard stream assessment approach used for urban stream corridors, leaking sewer lines, trash and debris, storm water outfalls, was not necessary but ground checking the streamside buffers, documenting severe erosion, and locating livestock crossings and loitering areas in the stream were important.

John Woodcock with the TDF organized the assessment trip and foregoing a Saturday of leisure for an arduous morning of paddling and swimming, ten volunteers assembled for the four hour trip. This area of Tennessee has received below average rainfall since the flood of 2010 producing near drought conditions, yet the stream flow was adequate for canoeing requiring portaging only three or four times for crossing gravel bars and once for getting around downed trees. During the 5.7 mile trip, cattle were seen in the stream at two locations, severe bank erosion at two, one bank had been armored, and fences crossed the stream in two places creating a hazard for boaters, especially in fog or low light conditions.

The next step will be to contact landowners with cattle in the stream and severe bank erosion and work with them to develop plans to install fencing, restore vegetation along the stream corridor and revetments for the severely eroded spots.

RESOURCES

TN Dept. of Environment and Conservation
Division of Water Pollution Control

List of Impaired Waters in TN

The 303(d) List is published every even-numbered year and is a compilation of the waterbodies in Tennessee known to violate one or more water quality standards or, because of the threat of increasing concentrations of a specific pollutant, are expected to violate a criterion within the next two years. The list is prioritized for future control strategy development studies called TMDLs.

While the draft 2012 303(d) List is neither a regulation nor an action of the Water Quality Control Board, it is available for public review and comment and must ultimately be approved by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. A public notice has been posted on the TDEC website which provides information about the public review period, plus a public meeting scheduled on August 6.


The draft 303(d) List can be accessed at:


Questions about Tennessee’s water quality assessment process can be directed to:

Gregory.Denton@tn.gov; 615-532-0699

AWARDS

Tarkington Receives Forester of the Year

Ward Tarkington was recently named the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry’s Forester of the Year. The award is presented annually to a division forester who exemplifies the highest level of professionalism in serving the citizens and forest landowners of Tennessee.

“The citizens of Tennessee are fortunate to have such a dedicated individual working to improve the sustainability and quality of our forests through the use and integration of technology,” said recently retired State Forester Steven Scott.

Ward was born and raised in the Nashville area. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry Resource Management from the University of Tennessee in 2002. Upon completing his degree he joined the Division doing geographic information system analysis work for the 15 state forest properties managed by the division. Following four years in that position, Ward was identified for his leadership skills and qualities, and was promoted to the Data & Technology Unit Leader position where he has been since.
TN STATE FORESTER POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

The TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE invites all qualified candidates to apply for the following position: STATE FORESTER-ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF FORESTRY

Location: Nashville, Tennessee

Executive Appointment

Minimum Salary: $73,000

Minimum education requirements: BS Degree in Forestry

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is seeking to fill the vacant State Forester position in the Department of Agriculture. The successful candidate will serve as an Assistant Commissioner and be a member of the Commissioner’s leadership team. The State Forester has statewide responsibility for successful delivery of programs and services provided by the division. The State Forester is responsible for the division’s $27 million annual budget including 317 full-time employees and 167,000 acres on 15 state forests.

Duties and Responsibilities: Under the supervision of the Commissioner of Agriculture and in coordination with the Tennessee Forestry Commission, directs and implements all forestry programs to wisely utilize the state’s forests and forest products while effectively conserving these natural resources. Directs the development and administration of policy and procedures for forest management protection and reforestation. Reviews and makes decisions on employment and other personnel actions. Reviews and approves annual work plans and sets priorities for the next fiscal year. Develops annual budget based on work plans and pertinent information furnished by subordinates. Reviews, evaluates and modifies forestry programs to insure that set goals and objectives are reached.

Minimum Qualifications: Minimum of BS Degree in Forestry from a Society of American Foresters-accredited college or university. A minimum of five (5) years full-time experience in forest management and protection is required. Experience in field or administrative forestry including fire suppression and incident command, long range planning, budget administration, personnel management and public relations is desired.

To apply: Send resume to Deputy Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 40627, Nashville TN 37204.

For more information: Call 615-837-5103 or www.tn.gov/agriculture/

Resumes will be considered until August 31, 2012

The State of Tennessee Is An Equal Opportunity, Equal Access, Affirmative Action Employer

CENTER FOR FOREST AND WOOD CERTIFICATION LAUNCHED

The Center for Forest and Wood Certification is one of the most aggressive efforts to provide sustainable certification options for woodland owners in the United States. It was developed to facilitate wood and forest certification in the central hardwood and southern Appalachian regions. The Center is focused on assisting woodland owners, forest industry, loggers, and foresters with certification. The Center coordinates efforts to ensure effective and sustainable development of certified forests and industries. The Center’s mission is to build regional forest and wood certification capacity through the delivery of unbiased information; technical assistance; and the development of programs for landowners, loggers, and forest products industries to participate in certification in a sustainable and affordable manner.

The Center is focused on developing solutions for problems that impede landowners and industry that are interested in benefiting from certification. A sample of the more important impediments includes:

- cost of certification including initial, annual, and periodic audit costs
- initial costs and risks associated with exploring certified wood markets
- lack of knowledge and educational resources and materials
- lack of local certified lands and wood supply for industries
- lack of incentives for forest and woodland owners to become certified

The Center’s primary efforts are the holding of group certification certificates. The Center holds group forest management certificates in the American Tree Farm System and the Forest Stewardship Council. Chain-of-custody services for forest industry are offered through the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Services through these certificates are offered in Kentucky and the seven border states but the Center is open to discussing large scale projects outside of the original service area.

Consulting foresters can manage their current or traditional clients as well as industry lands. Consultants can upgrade if necessary their management plans of their current clients to meet the Centers standards. The Center will assist and provide tools to help the foresters accomplish this. The
Center will provide group services such as Native American notification, threatened and endangered species, and archeological assessment. The Center will also provide templates and web resources available to trained foresters to aid in aspects of forest management (sustainable yield calculations and other silvicultural planning were necessary, stakeholder input, etc.) The Center will also appropriately provide information to allow foresters to efficiently and effectively develop agreements for the sale of certified wood. The Center will provide the same assistance to industry foresters as provided to consulting foresters. Industry Foresters can manage their own lands as well as private lands. The Center will provide the same assistance to industry foresters as provided to consulting foresters. Trainings are available to all foresters to learn about all facets of certification.

An every other month electronic newsletter is produced by the Center and can be signed up for on our website. Costs for Center services can also be located on our website. You can find out more information by visiting: www.forestcertificationcenter.org or calling toll-free (855) 579-2690.

**STAND REPLACEMENT**

Patrick (Pat) Cleary was selected as the new Property Manager at Clark State Forest and Deam Lake State Recreation Area for the Indiana Division of Forestry.

Pat takes a wealth of experience to the Division, including several years with the Kentucky Division of Forestry as a Forester, Senior Forester, Chief Forester and District Forester. Also as a Forester/Chief Forester managing 90,000 acres of coal company forestlands, and most recently as a consulting forester in Eastern Kentucky.

Pat is a 1979 graduate of Purdue University and began his new job with the Indiana Division of Forestry on September 17th.

We wish Pat the very best on his new endeavors.

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**Vacant**

**Vacant**

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**Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters NEWSLETTER Number 302 August 2012 Page 7**

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It has been a joy and a pleasure serving as your KTSAF Membership Information Chair over the past few years. Sharing news and information across our region is an exciting endeavor, and I look forward to continuing in that vein as the new Communications Committee Chair.

I am extremely grateful to Christopher Reeves for his commitment to revamping our website and becoming our new webmaster. The redesigned site would not have happened were it not for Chris’s efforts. If you have not yet checked it out, please do so. KTSAF.org has landed firmly in the modern era of web design and is in very capable hands.

I am also equally grateful to Greg Bailey for taking over as our Newsletter Editor. This is also now in very capable hands, and I’m looking forward to Greg’s fresh approach on this vital product for our society. Please see the neighboring sidebar for Greg’s contact. I’m sure he would appreciate receiving news and information directly from you to include in the November issue.

Cheers,
Tim