Chairman's Corner

Time Phelps

Greeting Fellow Foresters!
What a great turnout we had at our summer meeting at Montgomery Bell State Park in June! The meeting was highlighted by fantastic speakers discussing timely and relevant topics, a riveting field tour of Cheatham Wildlife Management Area where we saw applied silviculture in action, and an entertaining and educational dinner speaker, Dr. Stacy Tomas of TN Tech Univ., introducing us to nature-based tourism. The meeting was capped off by a tour of a local logging site followed by an exciting zipline adventure where members got a new perspective of the forest canopy. I want to again express a great deal of appreciation to the Middle Tennessee Chapter for hosting such a great event. Kudos specifically to John Woodcock, Rance Frye, Brant Miller, Andy Norris, Joe Schwartz, Jeff Piatt, Michael Holder, David Hudnall, and Jonathan Boggs for pulling it all together.

KT members at the summer business meeting took the opportunity to express concern related to the financial and non-financial costs and benefits of the national SAF office being located in Bethesda, MD. Some members see the cost of operating a national member based organization in the Washington D.C. metro area as a significant operating expense with little benefit. Other members recognize the value of being in the nation’s capital potentially outweighing the high costs. I was asked to gather information and to learn of any reports or conclusions SAF staff and Council may have as a result of previous analysis of this subject at the upcoming House of Society Delegates (HSD) meeting in October. I plan to report back at our winter business meeting.

Another item on the HSD agenda will be the “Big Hairy Audacious Goals” (BHAG) challenge. You may recall at our last winter meeting in Jackson that SAF President Joann Cox challenged us to envision and write a news headline about SAF 15 years from now. What would we want SAF to look like in the future and what would we represent. This was to get us thinking about BHAG for SAF’s future. Criteria for determining whether a goal meets the BHAG status includes clear and compelling, an audacious 10 to 30 year goal, measurable, understandable, action-oriented, exciting, and fits within the new brand framework (follow this link for more on the latter: http://www.forestry.org/media/docs/2013_SAF_Brand.pdf). An example of BHAG from Google: “Organize the world’s information and make it universally accessible and useful.” Are you up to the challenge of drafting SAF’s big hairy audacious goals? I’d like to hear your thoughts and share them with HSD. Now is the time to make your voices heard. Send me your concepts by October 1.

Keep on doing great work and enjoy your neck of the woods!

Tim
615-428-5913; tim.r.phelps@tn.gov
Meeting Results:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forester’s Fund</td>
<td>$538.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Profit</td>
<td>$1,691.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,230.22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UK Forestry Alumni Reception at the 2013 SAF National Convention

The University of Kentucky Department of Forestry will be hosting an alumni reception at the Society of American Foresters National Convention in Charleston, South Carolina. The UK Forestry Alumni Reception will be held on Thursday, October 24 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Charleston Area Convention Center. If you have any questions about the UK Forestry Alumni Reception, please contact Laura Lhotka at laura.lhotka@uky.edu or (859) 257-8718. We look forward to seeing you in October!

International Paper Mill in Courtland, Alabama Closes

International Paper’s announcement indicated that 1,100 jobs will be lost as a result of the Courtland, Alabama mill closure. Additional jobs across the state will be impacted, including those in sectors that provide inputs to the mill, such as trucking, logging, and sawmills, as well as jobs that result from employees’ spending in local communities. Total losses to the state of Alabama are estimated at nearly 5,000 jobs and over $300 million per year.

The Courtland facility is the largest pulp mill in the South, drawing wood from more than 70 counties across Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. With a 24-hour pulping capacity of 4,750 tons, the closure of this mill reduces Alabama’s pulping capacity by nearly 21 percent and the South’s pulping capacity by nearly 4 percent.

While most of the volume used for paper production at this mill comes from roundwood (logs and chips), additional sources include by-products of other mills in the area, mostly sawmills. Hardwoods make up more than half of the species mix. In these three states, this mill uses a substantial proportion of the roundwood production, in particular hardwoods (based on 2012 data). The loss of a mill of this size has far-reaching consequences for forest landowners who provide wood to the mill.

News and updates about
YOUR KTSAF Chapter could go here!

Please send news, articles, pictures and updates to:

Greg Bailey
greg.bailey@amforem.biz
(865) 248-8315

POP QUIZ !!

Where is Prentice Cooper?
SAF ELECTIONS
SAF members may vote online for national and local SAF unit elections. All candidate information is available by just clicking the candidates' name on the ballot. Please remember you will only be allowed to vote one time. You should receive an email from SAF with directions for accessing online elections and voting ballot information.

The Candidate Information for the KTSAF elections:

**Secretary/Treasurer**

**Ben Meyers**

Campaign Statement
I have found the KTSAF to be a useful and helpful network over my 12 years of being a part of it, so I happy to serve in this capacity. I hope to continue the strong tradition of this organization, and will strive to uphold the quality standards that my predecessors have set.

Current Professional Position
Owner of Panther Creek Forestry, LLC in McMinnville, TN

SAF Activities
Past Secretary, Treasurer, and Chairman of the Southeast TN SAF Chapter

Professional accomplishments
1. The lights are still on after transitioning to consulting forestry out of logging and timber buying in 2008!
2. ATFS Inspector

Community activities
President of the Savage Gulf Preservation League
Member of Rotary
Member of St. Catherine's Church in McMinnville
Proud father of six month old twins and a three year old!

**Brant Miller**

Campaign Statement
I have been a K-T SAF member for 23 years and through my participation, I have benefitted in many ways professionally, but also on a personal level through the many friendships I have made and maintained. Although I have held office locally, I have never served SAF at the statewide level. I have always admired the dedication and leadership of those who have taken that leap, folks who were no less busy than I, whose leadership helped ensure the health and viability of K-T SAF. When I was asked to run for Secretary-Treasurer recently, I decided it was my turn to step up and lead by example by running for this office.

I am qualified to be your Secretary, having a wealth of experience at accurately recording meeting proceedings as a member of numerous state and interstate committees, and organizing them into comprehensive reports. I would also serve as a competent Treasurer, due to my extensive experience as a manager with the State of Tennessee over six permanent projects with a total budget in excess of $400,000, and as a small business owner for 20 years who has kept meticulous records. If you elect me, this experience will benefit K-T SAF. I will also work to improve the Society through providing input at executive committee meetings and other forums.

Current Professional Position
I am currently the statewide Wildlife Forestry Program Manager for the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, where I have been employed since 1994. There are 8 foresters and 4 technicians under my supervision, who manage over 90,000 acres of forestland for wildlife habitat on a number of wildlife management areas. I am coordinator of the Northern Cumberland Forest Resources Habitat Conservation Plan involving over 216,000 acres, and I also serve on a number of interagency and interstate committees, including the Lower Mississippi Joint Venture Forest Resources Working Group, the Forestland Resources Technical Committee of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Tennessee's State Stewardship Committee, the Emerald Ash Borer-Thousand Cankers Communications Committee, the Tennessee Prescribed Fire Council, and I am co-chair of TWRA's upland forest habitat committee that is developing TWRA's new strategic plan.

SAF Activities
I have been a professional member of SAF since 1988. I served as Chairman of Middle Tennessee Chapter of K-T SAF for 2005. I have been on the planning committee for several K-T SAF summer and winter meetings, including the 2013 summer meeting, where I recruited speakers and organized the wildlife forestry tour. I have attended numerous K-T SAF summer and winter meetings, as well as local chapter meetings. I have donated and solicited a number of items to silent auctions over the years (as well as bidding on them!). I have been a Certified Forester since 2002.

Professional Accomplishments
I have been instrumental in growing TWRA's forestry program from 4 foresters who managed approximately 60,000 acres when I started in 1994, to 8 foresters and 4 technicians managing over 90,000 acres of agency forest land today. I was a member of the Working Committee that developed the Tennessee Forest Resources Assessment & Strategy Plan, which was awarded the Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Forestry Conservation Achievement Award for 2010. I was also part of the Working Group that wrote the publication, “Restoration, Management, and Monitoring of Forest Resources in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley: Recommendations for Enhancing Wildlife Habitat.” I serve on the Executive Committee of the Tennessee Hemlock Conservation Partnership, which is working to save thousands of acres of eastern hemlocks on public lands in Tennessee by combatting the exotic invasive hemlock woolly adelgid. In addition to SAF, my professional affiliations include the Tennessee Forestry Association and The Wildlife Society.

Community Activities:
I am a member of the Cane Ridge Community Center, and participate or contribute to a number of charitable organizations, including the Red Cross (including blood donations), UNICEF, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Public Radio and TV, Walden's Puddle Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center, and others. I am also a musician and songwriter, and have played for a number of public and charity events with my trio, 2nd Nature.
Rance Frye

Campaign statement
I grew up in the receding forests of Davidson County, TN as Nashville expanded. Watching the forests and farms disappear I decided I wanted to spend my life merging Leopold’s Land Ethic with Pinchot’s Conservation Ethic.

My woods experience ranges from slogging through swamp cruises in Florida to grunting up the Appalachians and recently, sweating in the amazing Amazon. While a dimension mill manager I ran most of our US hardwoods through a molder for furniture parts. I’ve flipped boards on the sawmill green chain as an NHLA lumber grader which led to several years as a lumber buyer and trader.

At each station of my journey I have been frustrated by the lack of Professional connectivity in our vertical supply chain. The Wood Products industry spans a broad distance from our roots in Forestry; we need to be better linked to provide leadership that can meaningfully serve the public as the world searches for “sustainability”. I will strive to facilitate these connections as I have in my efforts with the Middle TN SAF chapter. It is an honor to be nominated for the Vice-Chair position of the KYTNSAF.

Current Professional Position
Global Forestry Program Leader
Dow Corning Corporation

SAF Activities
Chapter Chair – Southwest VA Chapter SAF 1999
I have been active in the SAF intermittently since 1991 and have attended 3 national conventions and numerous regional meetings. My “slack” periods occurred while working as a Lumberman; I was active in the National Hardwood Lumber Association and other Lumber organizations.

Professional accomplishments
Chapter Chair – Southwest VA SAF
NHLA Certified Lumber Inspector
Member of the Virginia Water Quality Taskforce
Member of Xi Sigma Pi
Lots of sweat and exhausted trucks

Community activities
Politics – I enjoy “pimping” forestry at the State and Local level – my local Rep calls me the Tree Pimp
TN Forestry Association
Nash Grove Baptist Church
Environmental education – PLT work with local schools and youth groups
I love to fish, run half marathons, and hang out with the family on the farm.

Ken Smith

Campaign statement
I currently spend many of my days in the woods or in the classroom with groups of young people generally aged from 18-22 years. They take forestry for many reasons but the main ones are the following: their family owns some forested land, it is the best option for their science requirement, a friend suggested it, or they have a romantic vision of the forest and want to know more about it. Because most of these young adults will go into careers other than natural resource management, these introductory classes are my only shot at exposing future and productive members of society to all the things that excite KTSAF members about the different facets of our profession. Sometimes we put down the notebooks and equipment just to take an old fashioned walk in the woods with no technology. One of the most valuable things that KTSAF should continue to do is to introduce the younger generation to the forest, forest management and the source of all the raw materials that make our lives so comfortable. After all, what is cooler or more sustainable than a locally (and organically) grown and processed oak floor that has lasted 40 years?

Current professional position
Forestry professor and university forester at the University of the South (Sewanee)

SAF activities
I have been in the Southeast Tennessee chapter since 1998 and have participated in or organized a variety of chapter meetings over the years. I also served as chapter chair for several years and have worked with colleagues to organize two winter meetings and one summer KTSAF meeting. I also assist our local student forestry chapter on occasion.

Professional accomplishments
I have helped manage multiple harvests, prescribed fires, and other management activities in Sewanee’s forest over the past 15 years. I am currently an elected board member of the Franklin-Marion County Water Utility District and I also participate in the Cherokee National Forests’ Resource Advisory Committee. I currently serve on the Forest Guilds’ National Board and just completed a term as a Board member for the Valles Caldera National Preserve in New Mexico. In the more distant past, I served as a forestry volunteer in the Peace Corps (West Africa), conducted forestry research projects in Quebec and Brazil, and spent a couple of years directing the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute.

Community activities
Besides being heavily involved in community water and wastewater issues, I have spent the past 10 years coaching youth soccer in the fall and little league baseball in the spring. I also assist our local Boy Scout troop with field events on occasion.
Newsworthy

Bent Creek Researchers Study the Effects of Fire on Upland Hardwood Forests and Wildlife

For centuries landowners in the southern Appalachians have used fire as a tool to clear land, control insects, encourage forage, and eliminate unwanted vegetation. But little is known about how fire affects regeneration of oak or other hardwood trees, and how it can be used to meet specific management or restoration goals for upland hardwood forests and wildlife of the southern Appalachians. The U.S. Forest Service Southern Research Station (SRS) is trying to answer this in a multi-year research study on the Bent Creek Experimental Forest. The study will include repeated prescribed burning at approximately 3- to 5-year intervals, depending on weather, fuels and the availability of personnel. Forest response will be compared between growing season burns, dormant season burns, and unburned controls by measuring growth and regeneration of different tree species, herbaceous plant diversity, changes in fuels, and breeding bird communities.

Promoting the Benefits of Planting Trees in Cities

The USDA Forest Service reported last year that the number of trees in 17 of 20 major American cities surveyed is declining, a development that has negative consequences for air and water quality, energy usage, and air temperatures. David Nowak, a Forest Service researcher who coauthored the study that estimates the loss of urban trees to be about four million a year, is focused on reversing this trend.

Engineers Create a Battery Made of Wood

A sliver of wood coated with tin could make a tiny, long-lasting, efficient, and environmentally friendly battery. But don't try it at home yet—the components in the battery tested by scientists at the University of Maryland are a thousand times thinner than a sheet of paper. Using sodium instead of lithium, as many rechargeable batteries do, makes the battery environmentally benign. However, sodium doesn't store energy as efficiently as lithium, so you won't see this battery in your cell phone any time soon. Nevertheless, its low cost and common materials would make it ideal to store huge amounts of energy at once, such as solar energy at a power plant.

North American Wood Pellet Exports Up 50 Percent

Pellet exports from the two primary pellet-producing regions on the North American continent—the southern United States and British Columbia—showed no signs of slowing in early 2013, with the rate of growth likely to accelerate in the second half of the year.

Woodpecker Population Surges as Birds Discover Emerald Ash Borer

The Detroit area's dubious distinction as ground zero for an invasive species of ash tree-destroying bug has led to an unexpected side effect: a surge in the population of at least two species of woodpecker, according to a new study.

North Carolina Ports Gains State Approval for Pellet Export Project

The North Carolina Council of State approved recently approved a lease agreement that gives the North Carolina State Ports Authority the go-ahead to enter the highly competitive wood pellet industry. The agreement between the Ports and Enviva Holdings LP could allow for construction of a wood pellet export facility at the Port of Wilmington. The agreement could bring an estimated $2 million annual investment and at least $1.25 million in annual revenue. If built, the facility would receive, store, and load wood pellets for export to Europe, where they would be used as a renewable energy source.

Smokies Add Two New Beetles, Canopy Cages in Fight against Hemlock Adelgid

At the eastern end of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, two more "predatory" species of beetles have been introduced to prey on the hemlock wooly adelgid. A new strategy is to put the predator beetle species into nylon hemlock canopy cages before their release, making them more likely to remain in the area after the canopies are unzipped. The two new predator beetles occupy different niches that complement the two species that have been introduced earlier. The plan is to reduce pesticide treatments on individual hemlocks to the lowest possible level and let the predator beetles take over.
Pop Quiz Answer:
Established in 1945 and located on 24,686 acres, Prentice Cooper State Forest is found in Tennessee, just 10 miles west of Chattanooga. Within the boundary, Hix’s Gap Natural Area (350 acres) was developed to protect the federally endangered Large-flowered Skullcap. Management activities of the forest focus primarily on sustainable timber management, forest management demonstration and wildlife habitat improvement while maintaining recreational opportunities for the public. Hunting has been a traditional use of the forest and the south end of the Cumberland Trail State Park is located within the Forest’s 35 miles of hiking trails. Other recreational activities include OHV use in designated areas, rock climbing, Mountain biking, horseback riding, bird watching, and camping.
Next NEWSLETTER Deadline is
Friday
November 8, 2013

Please supply NEWSLETTER information in Microsoft WORD format to:
Greg Bailey
greg.bailey@amforem.biz

• Articles on forestry related topics
• News and events from your Chapters
• Accompanying photographs are greatly appreciated!