Middle TN Chapter Tour of Fox Lumber

By Rance Frye

After a filling breakfast at the Loveless Café the Middle TN SAF Chapter Toured Fox Lumber Co in Leiper’s Fork, TN on Friday Nov 14th. Tommy Fox and his Procurement Manager Jordan Beasley were kind enough to open their mill to our group of 10 Foresters on the coldest morning of the waning year.

Jordan Beasley began the tour at the log yard. He described their general hardwood log procurement process and ‘some’ merchandizing details on how they decided on which logs to sell and which logs to run through the mill. After a Q and A session on the log yard Jordan led us to the sawmill debarker to begin the process portion of the tour. Our group was quite interested to learn that the local markets for mulch established a regrinding and curing process from the bark. After the debarker, two people at a time were allowed to stand in the saw cab for some live sawing action while the remaining group discussed lumber markets in the break room. Everyone enjoyed watching the logs opened to reveal their imperfections and we all debated the yields on the logs. The yield debate carried over into the resaw and edging area of the mill and was heavily discussed at the lumber grading station and green chain. Jordan was proud to discuss how Fox has developed specialty markets for several species that have been challenging in the past. He explained how each person, from the Sawyer to the Lumber Grader and Stackers, is responsible for determining the best yield from their logs.

It was interesting to tour the air-dried yard and learn about their Post and Beam business and other specialty products they sell to the regional markets around Nashville. We finished our tour by exploring the dry-kilns under construction and the re-grading station where they sort the air-dried material for resale. Our Group bombarded Jordan with questions for over two hours until our curiosity was satiated and Jordan nearly hoarse from talking over equipment. The general consensus was that our understanding of our regional forest products chain was greatly improved and the cold morning air still better than a stuffy office. Thanks again to Fox Lumber for their Hospitality.
What's Going On?

On September 26, the West Tennessee Chapter hosted the “Forest Research Overview Gathering” (FROG). The event was held at the Hobart Ames Plantation with 38 foresters in attendance. Drs. Allan Houston and Scott Schlarbaum, along with a several other professionals, addressed subjects of artificial hardwood establishment and crop tree enhancement. FROG is a program occurring every three years that is designed to bring current research to practicing foresters. Reviews were very favorable with calls for continuation.

Contributed by David Mercker

Photo below

Dr. Allan Houston address, “Romancing the Crop Tree.”

EK Fall Meeting
By Kevin Tudor

The East Kentucky Chapter Fall Meeting was held on October 22nd at the Red River Gorge (RRG) on the Daniel Boone NF. Twelve EK-SAF members attended and were joined by 3 Daniel Boone National Forest employees. Highlights of the meeting included a Chapter business meeting and tour of RRG comprising prescribed fire, wildfire, archeological sites, and timber sales.
Chairman’s Corner
By John Perry

The year is winding down and little is left of my stint as Chair. It goes by fast and the blur of activity around the Winter meeting will finish the term. I want to thank Kevin Tudor and Jerry Adams for stepping up to leadership roles as respective candidates for Chair-elect and Secretary.

Most significantly, as of this writing, National has not made a final decision on the 2017 meeting location. The decision keeps getting pushed back. If Louisville is not the site (due to renovations on the chosen venue, reported in August), it is possible that a site in Tennessee will be the alternate. I had hoped to begin laying some ground work for preparation this year, but that is out until we have a location.

Thanks to the KY-TN SAF, I attended the National Meeting in Salt Lake City with the attendant House of Society Delegates meeting. Our own Dave Walters and Tim Phelps had prominent roles in their respective positions, National President and Chair-elect of HSD. I gained considerable insight into how the “whole thing fits together” just in time for my term to end. The general meeting had a greater attendance due to combining it with the Canadian Institute of Forestry’s National Meeting and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations’ World Congress. The latter brought folks in from every corner of the planet. It was enjoyable to meet forest scientists from so many countries.

Through both contact at the National Meeting and the Heartland Leadership Training, I feel confident that our new CEO, Matt Menashes, is an able leader to guide us through this period of change. I had not attended a National Meeting in well over a decade. From my current perspective, it brought up concerns of disconnect between National and the forester member (or potential member) somewhere out on the ground. I expressed this to Matt and others at a “think-tank” type gathering midway through the meeting, but began to feel it more profoundly as the meeting went on. It does not matter who we expand our membership to if those starting out a career in the forest don’t feel connection to the organization. I hope to begin a discussion about this among our group.

The picture of a large yellow-poplar tree (left) is on a tract that I have marked for sale. The owner of the South Central KY tract is the grandchild of a forester that bought the tract circa 1930 and managed until his death in the late 1950’s. I don’t know all management that went on, but a commercial improvement harvest took place in the 1950’s to give some of the best trees room to grow. There has been no management since his death other than some tree planting in old fields. The size and quality of the trees is a testament to past forest management and the best our profession offers the world. Thanks to that forester’s work, the current generation will harvest fine trees and leave an excellent and valuable residual stand. (The tree, well bigger than most on the tract, shown is one of a grove of trees left around the tract spring area as a legacy to the former forester/owner.)

Have a great holiday season and I look forward to seeing all at the Winter Meeting in Knoxville. Please contact me with issues important to you where KY-TN SAF is concerned.

~John

270-925-3683
john_perry@berea.edu
**Newsworthy**

### Tax Cuts Bolster Forest Thinning Program

A tax incentive program started in 2004 to promote forest health in Arizona has picked up steam in recent years as legislators have bolstered the program with additional tax credits and exemptions. Four companies, the majority from northern Arizona, reaped a total of almost $50,000 in benefits from the Healthy Forests Tax Incentives program in 2013. That's up from participation by four companies that received $12,000 in incentives in 2012 and five companies that received $23,000 in incentives in 2011, according to the Arizona Commerce Authority.

*AZ Daily Sun.com 9/13/2014*

### Update

#### Hofmann Forest Deal Changed

North Carolina State University has altered its plan to sell the 79,000-acre Hofmann Forest and will instead sell about 70 percent of the forest to an Alabama-based investment company. The Resource Management Service will buy 56,000 acres of the land, while Hofmann Forest LLC, the original buyer, will purchase the remaining 23,000 acres.

*Technician Online.com 9/10/2014*

### Virginia Governor: No Fracking in George Washington National Forest

Citing assurances from federal officials, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe said drilling for natural gas (aka: "Fracking") would not be allowed in the George Washington National Forest. Environmental and conservation groups have rallied against any fracking in the forest, which lies primarily in Virginia but also includes a sliver of West Virginia. They are fearful of polluting the headwaters of a primary water source for the region and the industrial footprint drilling would bring. The Forest Service initially proposed a ban on fracking in the forest, but it was met with opposition by the energy industry. Opponents fear the agency will bow to the industry pressure.

*The Eagle.com 9/10/2014*

### Enviva to Open Two North Carolina Pellet Plants in a $214.2 Million Investment

Biofuels company Enviva said it will open a pellet plant on North Carolina 177 North, one of three facilities planned for the Carolinas. Gov. Pat McCrory said wood pellet plants in Richmond and Sampson counties will create a combined 160 jobs and an investment of $214.2 million to North Carolina by 2017. Enviva is based in Bethesda, Maryland, but is incorporated in Delaware. The company ranks among the world's largest producers of wood pellets made from sawtimber byproducts, producing about 1.6 metric tons of pellets per year.

*YourDailyJournal.com 9/9/2014*

### Who Will Own Southern Forests in the Future?

Find the results from the Southern Forest Futures Project [HERE].

*Contributed by Laurie Smith*

### "Femme Fatale" Emerald Ash Borer Decoy Lures and Kills Males

An international team of researchers has designed decoys that mimic female emerald ash borer beetles and successfully entice male emerald ash borers to land on them in an attempt to mate, only to be electrocuted and killed by high-voltage current.

*PSU.edu 9/15/2014*
What’s Going On?

(Continued)

KTS AF Winter Meeting Jeopardy
By Doug McLaren

It’s approaching January so it must be time for KTS AF Student Jeopardy!

Annually the students from Sewanee University of the South, the University of Tennessee, and the University of Kentucky compete in the traditional “Quiz Bowl” event. This year (January 28-30, 2015) in Knoxville will not be different.

Last year we saw the winning team, the University of Kentucky, squeak by with only a 100 point lead to have the honor of taking home the “gold” in the form of the Hard Hat Plaque. The winner was not decided until the actual “Final Jeopardy” question of, Project Learning Tree is the curriculum aligned for trees. What is the curriculum for wildlife?

Hopefully the same format will be followed, two games, with an intermission between the games providing the opportunity for the teams to plan their strategy and get refreshed.

Professionals – hopefully we can get you involved again this year also. It is always great to see the competitive spirit between the two groups even though the professionals can only walk away with the “bragging rights” of a game well played.

Thanks again to Wayne Clatterbuck and Chris Reeves for their assistance in running the program last year.

See you all at game time.

PS - A note to the University of Kentucky team members, please remember to bring the Hard Hat Plaque back. You will have the same opportunity as the other two schools to “bringing to your university campus the gold of KTS AF Jeopardy”.

Tennessee Forestry Association
Knoxville Regional Meeting

January 28th in Knoxville, TN at Calhoun’s by the River. Social hour starts at 5:00pm and the dinner is at 6:00pm.
Scott Jones with Nation FLA is the guest speaker.

Coordinate this with the Winter Meeting!

Nominations for Fellows

Three Fellows were added to our ranks this year and there are others that are equally as deserving. Nomination Packets are due by FEBRUARY 28, 2015 and can take some time to organize. Start them early!

Contact the Executive Committee or Nominations Chair for information.

Before the Winter Meeting...

Award Nominations due by December by DECEMBER 15 th !!

Award Nominations needed for:
- Outstanding Member Service Award 35 years and under
- Outstanding Member Service Award over 35 years old
- Outstanding Service Award to a Technician
- Herman Baggenstoss Forestry Recognition Award

Send to Allan Houston
ahouston@amesplantation.org

All Committee Chairs, remember to submit a report for the yearly activities to the K-T Secretary.
Brant Miller
ForestBrant@comcast.net

Auction Items Needed!!

We always need items for the Silent Auction so start planning on what you’ll bring and donate. This year we are putting a slight twist on the bidding so you’ll need to be on your toes!

Some of the popular items...
- One-of-a-kind Items
- Company Labeled items
- Antiques
- Shirts and Caps
- Forestry Tools
- Crafts
- Wine and Liquors (always a favorite!)
- Prints or Paintings

Proceeds from the Silent Auction go towards the National Forester’s Fund and the K-TSAF Memorial Scholarship.

Remember: Bid High and Bid Often!
Roles in Forestry and their Future

Featuring speakers from all over our region to present and discuss future tasks and responsibilities of the forestry profession including:

Timber Trespass
Biomass Energy Supplies
Futures In Pulp and Paper

Visual Title
Solid Wood Markets
Testifying as an Expert Witness

Research
Drone Usage
Forest Technology

Featuring:
~ Four Member Panel to discuss the Roles of Representing Forest Owners and Asset Managers ~
~ Guest Speaker from TBI to share stories, experiences and safety concerns of Meth Labs in the Woods ~

... plus the usual Activities and Events

Silent Auction
Business Meeting
College Quiz Bowl
Awards & Presentations

[Registration Fees]
Registration Fee $100
Late Registration Fee $125
(Student Registration Fee $45)
Guest (banquet only) $20
Adopt a Student $45

Hilton Knoxville (Government Nightly Rate)
2 Queen Beds $90
w/ Parlor and Sofa bed $180

[Meeting Registration]
Meeting Registration must be made ONLINE and with a Credit Card

We are using an established University e-marketplace website template to collect registration fees that has a few nuisances that are not self-evident. Please use the following directions to register online. Some information must be entered twice (seems redundant) as noted below.

Directions to Register Online with a Credit Card
1. Click HERE.
2. Choose View Details
3. Scroll down and choose Add to Cart
4. Enter name and address information. Choose registration options at the far right (can choose more than one option). Then continue
5. Choose Checkout
6. Delivery method. Choose None. Then continue
7. Enter e-mail address again. Website uses this box to send registration receipt. Choose unregistered
8. Enter credit card information and billing address (again). Website uses this information to check and accept credit card. Choose continue
9. Choose submit order

Walk-ins can pay at the meeting registry desk with cash or check only.

Questions or Concerns? Contact Greg Bailey 865.248-8315 greg.bailey@amforem.biz
KTSAF 2015 Winter Meeting Agenda

Roles in Forestry and their Future

Wednesday – January 28th
7:00 – 9:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting
6:00 – 9:00 pm Registration Open

Thursday – January 29th
7:00 – 10:00 Registration
7:00 – 8:00 Breakfast
8:00 Silent Auction Opens (Administered by Greg Bailey)

8:30 – 10:00 Session One
What can/does SAF do for you?
Tim Phelps Forestry Communications & Outreach Unit Leader, TN Forestry Division
Tales from the crime scene: Timber Trespass Issues and Experiences
Jake Almond Regional Manager, American Forest Management, Inc.
Issues and Opportunities for Forestry Drone Use
Dr. Kevin Hoyt, Director, Forest Resources Ag Research and Education Center, UT

10:00 – 10:30 Break and Silent Auction

10:30 – 12:00 Session Two
Managing Neighboring Landowners Perceptions of Visual Title
Mark Woods Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway
Foresters and Natural Resources Professionals as Expert Witnesses
Nick Holt Esq., US Department of Interior, Field Solicitors Office, Knoxville, TN

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch and Forestry Technology Presentation
Terry Porter ForesTech Resource Solutions, LLC

1:00 – 3:00 Session Three
Business Meeting
John Perry KTSAF Chair
Forestry Roles in Pulp and Paper Chemistry Research and what might be coming
Bruno Marcoccia Director of Research and Development, Domtar
Forester In The Role Of Researcher And Communications Results Of Research
William G. Burkman Program Manager, USDA Forest Service's Southern Research Station
Forest Inventory and Analysis Work Unit

3:00 – 3:15 Break and Silent Auction

3:15 – 4:45 Session Four
Biomass energy supplies and the future
Dr. Timothy G. Rials, Director of the Center for Renewable Carbon, UT Institute of Agriculture
Solid wood Markets and Pricing
Dr. Adam Taylor Assistant Professor and Forest Products Extension Specialist, UT Institute of Agriculture

5:30 – 8:00 Cash Bar Opens
5:30 – 6:30 Quiz Bowl (Hosted by Dr. Doug McLaren)

6:30 – 8:00 Banquet Dinner
Meth Labs in the Woods from a Safety Standpoint
Guest Speaker: Special Agent Thomas Farmer
Tennessee Methamphetamine and Pharmaceutical Drug Task Force, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

7:15 pm Silent Auction Closes
8:30 pm Downtown after Dark - A tour of Downtown Knoxville’s watering holes (Optional)

Friday – January 30th
8:00 – 8:25 Breakfast

8:30 – 10:30 Session Five – Roles Representing Forest Owners and as Asset Managers
Panel Discussion followed by questions from the floor (Moderated by David Hudnall)
Pete Madden Plum Creek Timber Company, Inc. (Public Company)
Andy Norris The Forestland Group (TIMO Investors)
Marshall Thomas F&W Forestry (Large Consultant)
Candice Dimwiddie Tennessee Forestry Association (Forest Land Owners)

10:30 Meeting Adjourns
The six States that claim an oak as their State Tree are:

- **Connecticut (White Oak)**
- **Georgia (Live Oak)**
- **Illinois (White Oak)**
- **Iowa (Oak)**
- **Maryland (White Oak)**
- **New Jersey (Northern Red Oak)**
35 Months...
Till the 2017 SAF National Convention
Louisville, Kentucky

Sights from the SAF 2014 National Convention

Next NEWSLETTER Deadline is
Friday
February 13, 2015

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!