Chairman’s Corner

By Heather Slayton

You may recall in February’s newsletter, my article discussed Matt Menashes’ challenge to attract, support, and maintain young professionals in our organization. I thought the best place to start was to gather data about what makes the students tick; what they thought of SAF; what they need from SAF; and how SAF can support them. So, I visited each student chapter, University of Tennessee, Sewanee, and University of Kentucky. And WOW, I definitely got some insight!

I prepared a list of questions beforehand but, at each visit, I realized that I didn’t even need those questions to prompt the conversation. I simply asked, “In your words, what is SAF?”, and 2 hours later I was still furiously taking notes.

As diverse as the students are, I found several things they had in common:

First, the general composition of K-T SAF is somewhat confusing to them. So, I explained how K-T SAF fits into the big national picture.

Second, how K-T SAF operates is a mystery to them. So, I explained how the leadership is built and functions, what meetings occur each year, how the website and newsletter keeps us informed, and how much work is done by a handful of volunteers to keep this organization going.

And finally…and this is the most important thing I learned from our students… how K-T SAF communicates to the students and supports the students is not meeting their needs.

The most resounding request our students posed to me: please provide us more opportunity to see real forestry in motion. Granted, each chapter stated that they are exposed to a wide variety of forestry practices in school, but nothing beats being out with a practicing forester to nail the point home.

I have developed a proposal to present to the leadership of our Division at the summer meeting that addresses this request. It will take commitment on both the professionals and the students; however, I hope it will be a step towards meeting the needs of our young professionals. And, I hope it will also be a step towards meeting Matt’s challenge of attracting, supporting, and maintaining our young professionals.

I will close by stating that I had so much fun meeting with the students and encourage all of our membership to make the effort to mentor a student, talk to a student about your world, or take a student along for the ride next time you are headed out to a timber sale or any of the amazing activities we get to do as foresters.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Gatlinburg!
MARK your calendar

K-T SAF Summer Meeting

**June 8 – 10**
Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Details are on Page 4-6

Executive Committee meeting the evening of June 7th. A future email will notify committees of place and time

West Tennessee Forest Plantations Tour

**June 1**
Jackson, Tennessee
Details on Page 8

Robinson Forest Field Day

**June 3**
Clayhole, Kentucky
Details on Page 9

Oak Symposium

**October 24-26**
Knoxville, Tennessee
Details on Page 3

17th Annual Log-A-Load for Kids Golf Tournament

Monday, June 12, 2017
At the Cleveland Country Club

Hosted by Resolute Forest Products and American Forest Management

For details, contact
Mike Williford 423-570-1070
Steve Owen 423-507-7997

News and updates about YOUR KTSAF Chapter could go here!

Please send news, articles, pictures and updates to:

Greg Bailey
bailey@forestlandgroup.com
919.316.0283
Significant progress has been made in research of oak management since the mid-20th century. In 1992, a symposium, “Oak Regeneration: Serious Problems, Practical Recommendations” was held in Knoxville, TN to synthesize the state of the knowledge on problems and opportunities associated with securing oak regeneration in oak dominated forests. In 2002, a symposium, “Upland Oak Ecology Symposium: History, Current Conditions, and Sustainability” was held in Fayetteville, AR to continue technology transfer efforts, and expanded the scope of topics to include oak decline, wildlife ecology, and forest health.

We are hosting a third symposium to continue technology transfer on state-of-the-art management and research for sustainability of the oak resource in the Central Hardwood Region. The symposium will be hosted by the University of Tennessee (UT), Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries. The 2.5 day symposium will feature invited speakers on prescribed fire, silviculture, economic markets, forest health, and climate change of upland oak forests. A poster session will provide an opportunity for participants to showcase their work. A field trip will feature collaborative research between the UT Forest Resources AgResearch and Education Center, the UT Tree Improvement Program, and the Southern Research Station.

Please visit the meeting website to find updates on schedules, calls for abstracts for poster submissions, and travel arrangements. SAF-CFE credits will be provided.
Kentucky – Tennessee Society of American Foresters, 2017 Summer Meeting
Gatlinburg, Tennessee, June 8-9, 2017, Sponsored by the East Tennessee Chapter KTSAF

It CAN Happen Here
Catastrophic Wildfire in the Southern Wildland Urban Interface

Featured speakers will present and discuss Wildfire and the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), its effects, and what foresters can do about it.

Meeting Topics Include:

Managing a Small City Fire Department in the Southern WUI

History of Wildfire in Our Area

Wildfire Effects on Red Oak Log Value

Future Climate and Wildfire

Presentation by a Firefighter on the Chimney Top 2 Wildfire

Wildfire Behavior Modeling

Developing and Living with a Countywide FIREWISE Plan

Panel discussion with Fire Crew Leaders on the Chimney Tops 2 Wildfire

Field Tour of Chimney Tops 2 Wildfire Area (Optional)

Registration & Lodging Summary

Meeting Registration Fee (till 5/8/2017) .......................................................... $53
Includes meeting room, admin expenses, lunch and breaks.

Meeting Registration LATE Fee (after 5/8/2017) ........................................ $75

Field Tour Registration June 9 (Optional) .................................................. $22
Includes Transportation and hydration
Note: limited availability due to transportation requirements

Edgewater Hotel, Gatlinburg ................................................................. $89.95/night + tax
Kentucky – Tennessee Society of American Foresters, 2017 Summer Meeting
Gatlinburg, Tennessee, June 8-9, 2017, Sponsored by the East Tennessee Chapter KTSAF

Meeting & Field Tour Agenda

Wednesday — June 7, 2017
6:00 — 9:00 pm........Registration Open
7:00 — 9:00 pm........Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday — June 8, 2017
7:00 — 10:00 am........Registration
7:00 — 8:00 am........Breakfast
8:30 — 10:00 am........Session One
 History of Fire: Long-term from Dendrochronology -- Henri Grissino-Meyers, PhD, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
 Future of Fire and Climate --------------------------------- Scott Goodrick, USDA Forest Service, Athens GA
10:00 — 10:30..........Break
10:30 — 12:00 am........Session Two
 FIREWISE: Monroe County, TN ----------------- Leon Konz, FIREWISE Coordinator, Tennessee Division of Forestry
 FIREWISE: Oak Ridge, TN ----------------------- Chief Daryl Kerley, Oak Ridge Fire Department, Oak Ridge, TN
12:00 — 1:00 pm........Lunch at hotel, provided in registration
1:00 — 3:00 pm..........Session Three
 The Night of the Fire -------------------------------------- Nathan Waters, Asst. District Forester, TN Division of Forestry
 Panel Discussion ------------------------------------------ On-the-scene Tennessee Division of Forestry Firefighters
3:00 — 3:30 pm........Break
3:30 — 5:00 pm..........Session Four
 Fire and Log Value Decline ------------------------------ Joe Marschall, Univ. of Missouri, Oak Fire Consortium and Joint Fire
Science Program
 Fire Behavior -------------------------------------------- Jon Wallace, USDI Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, GA
5:00 pm....................Meeting Adjourns:
 Dinner on your own in one of the many fine Gatlinburg area restaurants. Enjoy the hospitality
of our Gatlinburg neighbors and HELP SUPPORT THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY.
List of popular restaurants will be supplied at the meeting.

Friday — June 9, 2017
7:30 — 8:15 am..........Breakfast
8:15 — 12:00 pm........Session Five
 Field Trip of local areas affected by the 2016 Chimney Tops 2 fire with discussion of firefighting
efforts, examination of fire intensity and scope, consideration of terrain that burned, and discussion
of other fire effects.
Kentucky – Tennessee Society of American Foresters, 2017 Summer Meeting
Gatlinburg, Tennessee, June 8-9, 2017, Sponsored by the East Tennessee Chapter KTSAF

MEETING REGISTRATION
Please make every effort to REGISTER EARLY. This will help the host Chapter plan and coordinate all activities of the meeting. Due to meeting space and tour transportation requirements, space for walk-ins the day of the meeting and tour may not be available.

The Program Committee has made every effort to minimize the cost of attendance. Please note that the field tour registration is a separate cost from the meeting in order to pay for and coordinate transportation.

A Late Fee for registration will incur after May 8, 2017.

Guests that will accompany meeting attendees do not need to register nor pay for the meeting. All meeting attendees must register and pay. Guests are welcome to join us for a night on the town after the meeting adjourns.

Meeting Payment Options
Online – Easiest for all. Use this option to pay in advance by credit card. Please visit the following site to register and pay:
www.squareup.com/store/kentucky-tennessee-saf

Email – This option is available if you only wish to pay in advance and by check. Please email the K-T SAF Treasurer for check and mailing instructions. ktsaf.treasurer@gmail.com

Include your full name and which meeting days you wish to attend:
Thursday, June 8 Only ...................................................... $53
Thursday, June 8 Only (after May 8 deadline)...................... $75
Friday, June 9 Only ............................................................. $22

MAKE A DONATION!!
We will not be able to facilitate a silent auction at this meeting but are asking our members to make a donation. As usual, K-T SAF will forward the first $200 to the National Forester’s Fund and put the remaining amount into our own K-T Student Development Fund. You can make your donation either ONLINE, by CHECK or in PERSON at the Meeting. THANKS!!

HOTEL REGISTRATION
You must register for your hotel separately.

Location: Edgewater Hotel and Conference Center, 402 River Road, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Rates: Rates are $89.95 + tax/night (Friday and Saturday are available at the same meeting rate)
Rate Code: “KY - TN Society of American Foresters”
Phone: 24-hour reservations department at 800-423-9582
Internet: www.edgewater-hotel.com for more information about the meeting hotel.

Hotel rate is guaranteed until May 8 by the Edgewater.

Rate includes a complimentary continental breakfast, served 7:00 am – 10:00 am daily

IMPORTANT: Parking Garage at the Edgewater Hotel
Self-parking is free in the hotel garage for hotel guests only. Note that the garage is compact. You should only plan on using the garage for a vehicle such as sedans, minivans, regular pickups, and most SUVs. If you have a larger vehicle (large pickups and SUVs, 12-passenger vans), you will need to park elsewhere (parking lot across the street available for a fee). On street parking in downtown Gatlinburg is very scarce.

Questions or Concerns? Contact Greg Bailey bailey@forestlandgroup.com
Newsworthy

Trees are moving westward in response to precipitation changes, Purdue University professor reveals

After analyzing extensive data collected on 86 tree species in the eastern United States, a research team led by Purdue University professor Songlin Fei found that over the past 30 years, most trees have been shifting westward or northward in response to climate change.

“Trees are shifting partially because of climate change, but their responses are species specific,” Fei said. “Deciduous trees like oak and maple are primarily moving westward. Evergreens are responding in a different way. They’re moving northwards.”

CLICK for full article (Purdue Univ) 5/24/2017

US House subcommittee calls for active management of national forests, including thinning, prescribed burns, to reduce high risk of catastrophic wildfire on up to 80 million acres

Today, the Subcommittee on Federal Lands held an oversight hearing on "Seeking Better Management of America’s Overgrown, Fire-Prone National Forests." Members and witnesses called for a paradigm shift in the way we manage the nation's increasingly overgrown, disease infested and fire-prone federal forests and grasslands.

Approximately 60 to 80 million acres of national forest are at a high, to very high, risk of catastrophic wildfire. Data from the Forest Service indicates that thinning and prescribed burns reduce wildfire intensity and improve health, yet only a small fraction of high risk acres are being treated.

Full article (U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources) 5/17/2017

University of Maine at Farmington bioenergy plant exceeds expectations in first year of operation, lowering energy usage, costs and generating US$7 in economic activity for every dollar spent on wood chips to fuel the plant

With the additional savings the plant has created, it is on schedule to pay itself off in less than the 10 years initially projected, although UMF director of facilities management Jeffrey McKay said he would not know until June just how much the university saved in energy costs this year. Even so, McKay said the plant had proven more efficient, using less fuel overall than in previous years and requiring less energy for heat and hot water.

Full article (Morning Sentinel) 5/10/2017

POP QUIZ !!

Which Kentucky State Forest has the smallest land base of them all?

Demographics 'most certain drag on homeownership' in US, as 10.6 million current homeowners die or move to assisted living, while younger generations struggle with student debt

“For eight years in a row now, homeownership has fallen in the first quarter, and we expect another small decline to be announced tomorrow. In our book Big Shifts Ahead, we forecast homeownership of 60.8% by 2025. Demographics are the most certain drag on homeownership. 10.6 million current homeowners whose generations achieved an 80% homeownership rate should pass away or move into an assisted living facility over the next ten years.

A generation of young adults saddled with student debt and who have experienced economic growth at less than half of the rate of their parents (see GDP growth per person during prime working years below) will almost certainly be unable to equal the homeownership of prior generations.

Full article (Virginia Tech) 5/18/2017
West Tennessee Forest Plantations Tour
Sponsored by the local SAF Chapter

Who: West TN Professional Consulting and Industry Foresters
When: Thursday, June 1, 2017, 8:30 – 1:00 (includes lunch)
Where: University of Tennessee Research and Education Center, 605 Airways Blvd., Jackson
What: A Field Tour to Discuss and Evaluate Plantation Management Including:

8:30 – Registration
9:00 - From a Dairy Pasture to Loblolly Pine – 28 years and two thinnings later
9:45 - An Ash/Walnut Grove – What worked, what didn’t, what’s next
10:30 - Bottomland Oak with Loblolly Pine as Nurse Trees – A viable option?
11:15 - Bottomland Red Oak Comparison Demo – six species and now who’s the king?
12:00 – Lunch then adjourn

Foresters will meet at room B for a brief introduction, then travel to four stops, on-site, where discussion will ensue and team effort will be expected to make silvicultural recommendations. Please bring typical field tools (prism, d-tapes, increment borer, etc.). A $15 fee is required to attend, which includes lunch. The event will occur, rain or shine, so be prepared for the weather. 3 CFEs have been assigned to this tour.

Pre-registration is required as slots are limited. Please register by May 30th. Notify David Mercker, UT Extension Forester, 731-425-4703 or dmercker@utk.edu. A $15 fee will be required and will be collected at the door. Make checks payable to the “West Tennessee Society of American Foresters.”
Robinson Forest Field Day

Saturday, June 3, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Robinson Forest Camp
617 Clemons Fork Road
Clayhole, KY 41317

Come and join us for a day of fun and educational activities!

Activities will include:
- Forest Tours to the Fire Tower
- Smokey the Bear Critter Tent
- Birds of Prey Exhibit
- Student Research Presentations
- Cutting Board Workshop
- Aquatic Exploration
- Tree Identification

There will also be a free lunch!
For directions and more information, call 606-666-2438.

Robinson Forest: come see who we are and what we do for you.

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization.
The Rolleigh Peterson Educational Forest consists of 98 acres located in eastern Jefferson County. Louisville Metro Parks and the Kentucky Division of Forestry purchased the property as part of the City of Parks initiative using $700,000 from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund and $292,390 donated to the Louisville Metro Parks Foundation from a private donor. The City of Parks Initiative calls for acquisition of new park land, significant improvements to Louisville’s existing parks, development of a 100-mile paved Louisville Loop trail and new environmental education programs. This acquisition permanently protects three-quarters of a mile of Floyds Fork, which curves around the northern and eastern edges of the property, just north of Taylorsville Road.

The property is managed for riparian and green space protection, research and educational purposes. Public access is limited to Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation fund image periodic guided tours. Fishing, hunting and all off-road vehicles, including ATVs are prohibited.

The division’s management goals are to maintain the 50-acre black walnut plantation (largest-known east of the Mississippi River) and to establish a multiple species seed-rearing site for use by the division’s tree nurseries.
29 Months...
Till the 2019 SAF National Convention
Louisville, Kentucky

David Hudnall’s Farewell Party

Next NEWSLETTER
Deadline is
Friday
August 11, 2017

Please supply NEWSLETTER information in Microsoft WORD format to:
Greg Bailey
bailey@forestlandgroup.com

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