

Chairwoman's Corner

By Alex Richman

Well, here we are, it's finally 2021, we made it! There are still a lot of challenges ahead, but with lumber prices high and a booming housing market, hopefully, we will be able to enjoy some economic success for a while. For many of us 2020 was one of the worst years we've ever faced, but in many ways, we learned to ground ourselves and focus on the positive. For me, 2020 removed my distractions and allowed me to finish up my master's degree and I couldn't have done it without the support of so many KTSAF members cheering me on.

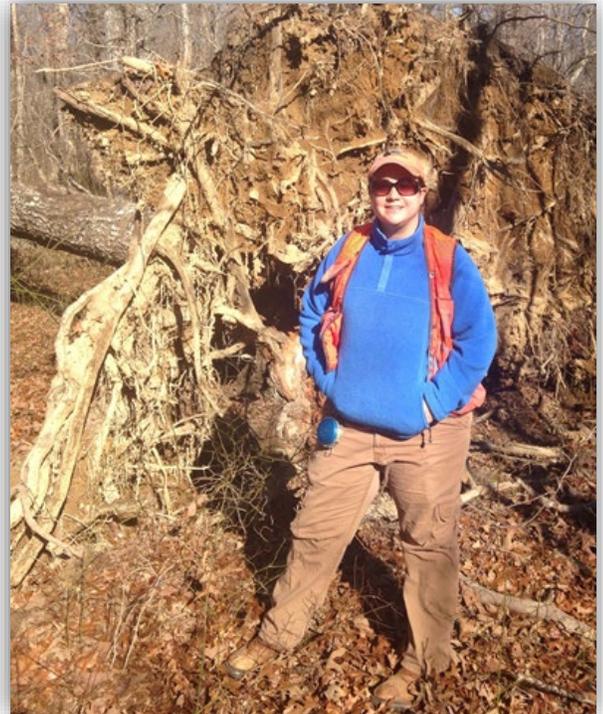
We all needed mentors and we all need to try and be a mentor. Recognizing the importance of mentoring and being inclusive of other natural resource disciplines are crucial when it comes to keeping our state society alive.

I remember when I was 12 or 13 our forester, Bill Cowan, would take me to cruise timber on our family land. He saw trees in a different way, and I began to connect the dots on land management and ecology. There is no telling what I would have become without those days in the woods eating peanut butter crackers and his mentoring me about trees. Mentoring doesn't have to take up a lot of your time, it can be as simple as taking one person out in the woods to change the trajectory of their life.

I was introduced to K-TSAF in 2010 when I started graduate school at UTK studying under Dr. Clatterbuck. At first, I felt like I didn't quite belong because of my natural resource background and that I probably would not become an SAF certified forester, but the K-T group didn't seem to care and was always so welcoming, so I just kept showing up. I went to an SAF leadership academy hosted by Dave Walters and he became a great mentor to me. Eventually, I worked my way through the leadership positions at K-T under the tutelage of Heather & Greg and here I am at the top, Chairwoman at last!

There have been a few times when I didn't want to pay my SAF dues but there has never been a time when I didn't want to pay my K-TSAF dues. I would hate to live without the fellowship, mentoring, and comradery that all of our KT members bring to the table. So many times, I've wanted to give up and there has always been a K-T member to lift me up and brighten my spirits. I hope I give that back to our members and encourage everyone to find a young person, student, politician, reporter, or community member that you can share your love of the woods with and show them a glimpse of our world and all the issues we face as an industry. If we don't tell our story, no one will.

I would like to thank all those that helped put on a great Winter meeting! Even though it was virtual, it was great to see everyone's faces and learn about a few new topics. If anyone has topics or ideas for our upcoming meetings, please email me at alexandra.richman@gmail.com. Remember, if you don't show up you might get nominated for something! I hope everyone has a happy and safe 2021!



MARK your calendar

2021 K-T SAF Summer Meeting

June 10 – 11

(Tentative)

Details not available



THANK YOU

Our thanks go out to the following members and their donation of many hours volunteering for these positions within the KY-TN Region:

Hagan Wonn – 2020 Chairman

Tom Kain – 2020 Policy Chair

Logan Nutt – 2020 Treasurer & 2019 Secretary

John Paul Hart – West KY Chapter Chair

Ron Taylor – History Chair, multiple decades

Another thanks goes out to these members for filling these roles in the KY-TN Leadership:

Logan Nutt – 2021 Co-Chair/Membership

Katie Fitsimmons – 2021 Secretary

Next time you see these folks, pat them on the back and tell them that they are AWESOME.

Next NEWSLETTER Deadline is

**Friday
May 14, 2021**

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!*

The Tennessee Division of Forestry is hiring!!

If you have an interest in working for the most diverse, adventuresome and rewarding forestry organization in Tennessee (and undoubtedly in the South) then please check out our career opportunities!

Click [HERE](#)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Heather Slayton, Assistant State Forester at heather.slayton@tn.gov.

NEEDED!!

A member to volunteer for the Committee Chair for:

West Kentucky Chapter Chair

History Chair

If interested, contact someone from the Executive Committee.

POP QUIZ !!

Forestry 101

How many species of Maple are native to North America?

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| A) 7 | B) 12 |
| C) 24 | D) 33 |

Answers at the end of the Newsletter.

AWARDS FOR 2020

Presented at the 2021 Winter Meeting

University of Kentucky

Addison Conway

Addison W. Conway is a senior at the University of Kentucky. The love of being a steward of the land started with his great grandfather, and lifetime SAF member, Emmet Conway Sr. Addison's grandfather, Emmet Jr. founded Conway lumber in the 70's. Now called Superior Hardwoods of Ohio, the companies President is his father, Adam Conway. Coming to Kentucky to pursue a Forestry degree, he has had the opportunity to work for the UK outreach post based in Quicksand, Kentucky. This job allowed him to travel the state, network, updating information in the "Forest Products of Kentucky" directory, and see different wood products being manufactured in the state of Kentucky. Upon graduation, Addison is looking forward to working in the hardwood products industry.

Sewanee, the University of the South

McRae Smith

McRae Smith, a senior from Bradenton, FL, will graduate in May 2021 with a BS in Forestry from the Department of Earth and Environmental Systems at the University of the South. McCrae is a Member of The Order of the Gown, Sewanee's Academic Honors Society. He is a very active participant in the Sewanee Forestry Club and currently serves as the President. A member of the Sewanee Control Burn Team, McCrae is certified as a Wildland Firefighter Type 2, and has participated in the University's Shortleaf Pine Restoration Project. One of his interests is fly fishing, and that contributed to his decision to work as a Colorado River Cutthroat Trout Restoration Intern with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources in the summer of 2019. He collected and spawned brood stock for the cutthroat trout restoration project, and was involved in electro-fishing stream surveys and invasive brook trout removal. The next summer, 2020, McCrae worked in Ekuk, AK as a fillet specialist with Ekuk Fisheries, where he developed the ability to fillet up to 8 sockeye salmon per minute during his typical 16-hour shifts. When not filleting fish, McCrae enjoys bouldering, practicing his plant identification skills, pressing wildflowers, and foraging for wild edibles.

University of Tennessee

Sean Clancy

Sean is from Hampshire, Illinois and served 4 years in the U.S. Marine Corps before joining us at the University of Tennessee to complete his B.S. degree in forestry. Sean has been very active in our combined SAF student chapter and Forestry Club and served as the Secretary two years ago and Vice President last year. While in office as Vice President, Sean worked with his fellow officers on several items related to hosting the Association of Southern Forestry Clubs conclave that was planned for 2020. A noteworthy characteristic of Sean is his willingness to take a shot at trying or competing in most anything. During the last conclave hosted by LSU in 2019, Sean was part of a very small team of four University of Tennessee students who travelled to Baton Rouge to compete. Sean and the other members of the team did an outstanding job of covering and competing in nearly all of the 22 technical and physical events held over two days. Following graduation, Sean is interested in pursuing a career as a forester in Tennessee, obtaining a position with the Army corps of Engineers, or working as a seasonal wildland firefighter.

AWARDS FOR 2020

Presented at the 2021 Winter Meeting

Outstanding Member Service Award - over 35 years old

Eric Bridges

[Eric works for the city of Memphis, TN and manages Overton Park.]

Outstanding Member Service Award - 35 years and under

Logan Nutt

Logan has served as KT secretary. Logan has been an engaged member since he was an undergraduate student. He has remained active and has been a good mentor engaging young foresters. [Logan lives in Paint Lick, KY and works for Copperhead Environmental Consulting.]

Outstanding Service Award to a Technician

Joel Blackburn

For over a decade Mr. Blackburn has served to protect, conserve, and enhance Tennessee's forests through his work in fire management, water quality checks and forest management. He has built outstanding relationships with local interagency partners as well as local governments and actively collaborates with volunteer fire departments to offset resource gaps for emergency response. Mr. Blackburn supervises 6 crew members and associated emergency response apparatus in Hawkins County, Tennessee, one of the most active areas of the state.

In 2020, Mr. Blackburn completed design and fabrication of the agency's first purpose-built type 6 engine. Following Mr. Blackburn's proposal to agency leadership in which he articulated the operational advantages, Blackburn and crew were tasked with building a fire engine from an underutilized flatbed truck. Through his leadership the engine now serves TN citizens and has been deployed to Texas to support their devastating wildfire season of 2020.

In 2020, Mr. Blackburn received training and executed common stand exams in partnership with the US Forest Service in an effort broaden his technical skills as well as support sound forest management on the Cherokee National Forest.

Of Mr. Blackburn's 20 nationally recognized fire management qualifications, Mr. Blackburn routinely serves as the agency's Crew Boss in which he is tasked with safely and effectively leading 19 other crew personnel to assist on wildfires across the country. While doing so for many years, Mr. Blackburn exceeded expectations in the summer of 2020, by leading 3 crews deployed across New Mexico, Colorado, and Texas. Despite the physical and mental toll, Mr. Blackburn selflessly resubmitted his name for deployment after returning from each state for the betterment of the agency and the personnel he led. Unlike most years, 2020 also presented many unknowns related to COVID-19 and ever-changing protocols. Through it all, Blackburn managed to navigate the stresses of COVID on top of the routine hazards involved with putting out a large-scale wildfire. Thanks to Mr. Blackburn's leadership no crew personnel were impacted by COVID-19.

Mr. Blackburn is revered as a leader and mentor in the state of Tennessee and is often asked for his advice in fire management, equipment, water quality, and forest management. Additionally, and I believe more telling, personnel in our agency approach Mr. Blackburn for advice about life, leadership, and values. Internally, we are capitalizing on his approach and influence as we task Mr. Blackburn with instructing multiple courses reaching personnel across the state, as well as mobilize him to assist in leading large scale interagency prescribed fire operations.

AWARDS FOR 2020

Presented at the 2021 Winter Meeting

Herman Baggenstoss Forestry Recognition Award Chris and Christina Anderson

Since the original purchase in 1995 of 147 acres, Chris Anderson has vigilantly managed the tree farm and protected the family's land from boundary disputes, trespassing, poaching day and night, threats, and arson. The land is in Rhea County on the north end of Walden's Ridge which sits on the eastern ridge of the Cumberland Plateau. We share a border with Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Natural Areas, encompassing Stinging Fork, Soak Creek, and Piney Falls, with the Cumberland Trail running through the heart of these natural areas.

The pine beetle devastation of 2000 caused Chris to seek the advice of our area forester Shannon Gann. She entered him into the Forest Stewardship Program and first stewardship management plan; to achieve the goals of a healthy sustainable forest - future woodland products and improve the habitat for wildlife. During the time of burning the infested logs, a ¼ acre pond was built which Chris stocked with catfish, bream, and bass. Today the pond is home to nesting wood ducks, frogs, bats, and a blue heron. The birds have brought in cattails and other pond grasses that make it a serene wildlife place. Our pups, Timber and Maple, keep it well aerated. In 2003 Chris replanted 10 acres of loblolly pine, with only a hand tool, an ATV, a lot of grit, and his late 4 legged pal Mako. Continuing each year to date, he has hand planted 1500-5000 seedlings annually of hardwood and pine mixes. In 2006 his land management met the standards for certification of Forest Stewardship and he also married his wife and tree farm partner Christina.

In 2007 – 2008 a total of 136 acres of old growth hardwood and pine were timbered and sold. Some tracts were clear cut, some thinned, and others cut to create oak savannahs; creating an old and new growth forest. In 2011 a total of 60 acres were replanted in shortleaf, loblolly, and yellow poplar using a planting crew. The same year, Chris hand planted an additional 3800+ hardwood and shortleaf pine seedlings.

He diligently manages the regeneration primarily through hand plantings, but also employs other methods such as crop tree release, bush hogging, invasive controls, and prescribed burns as he develops the forest back to its natural setting. These practices have allowed the big bluestem grasses and other wild flowers to naturally occur. Along ravines and wet areas, riparian buffers have been developed in accordance with state Best Management Practices. Four areas have been developed in wildlife food plots: two of them each consisting of 2 acres in strip rows with fruit and mass trees bordering it, inclusive of the American chestnut tree. The third plot is a hub-and-spoke design consisting of 3-3.5 acres inside a stand of pine and hardwood mix. The fourth plot, totaling around 16 acres, was an abandoned field converted into warm and cool season grasses with a ¼ acre pond in the middle.

In 2012 Shannon announced to us that our sustainable forest man-

agement met the standards to become a certified American Tree Farm. Throughout the years additional properties had been acquired, and in 2013 the 232 total acres had been put into a trust.

Chris and Christina hosted the Tennessee Hemlock Conservation Partnership in 2015 to hold a HWA landowner workshop for the public. This was the first time ever done on private property.

After watching an AFF webinar on the Monarch butterfly, we received a grant in 2016 to plant 1,000 milkweeds throughout 20 acres in a natural wild setting. Today we are one of over 14,000 certified Monarch Watch Waystations.

With the help of our current forester Bryan Duggan we received the D'Addario Play. Plant. Preserve. Grant Program in 2015 and 2016, planting a total of 2700 seedlings.

We are especially thankful to the East Tennessee Nursery in Delano for their high quality seedlings and friendly staff. Thanks to our foresters who have been a valuable resource in managing our properties' forest health, state forestry fire crew for prescribed burns, and the TDEC personnel that oversee our bordering Natural Areas who have helped us with this endeavor.

Our land is truly an enjoyment for the personal use of hunting, hiking, watching wildlife, and the satisfaction of ecological stewardship. We share our love of stewardship and ongoing projects with others through our website,

www.crcstewardshipridge.org, and social media channels on Facebook. We always welcome the community and abroad to visit our active American Tree Farm and Forest Stewardship.



Christina and Chris Anderson



QUIZ BOWL 2021[VIRTUAL] (A.K.A. *The Game of Multitasking*)

By Doug McLaren

During the early days of planning for the 2021 Winter Meeting of KTSAF, the organizers approached the "Quiz Bowl Team" and asked if there was a way that some version of the student Quiz Bowl could exist. It was a question that could or should have taken some time consideration to properly answer. But we quickly said. "Yes!!" It was decided quickly that maintaining the virtual version to be like that of the face-to-face experiences. We did recognize early that contestants could to be closer than 6 feet for deliberation. Some schools could possibly not be back in normal session. Worst-case scenarios were considered but it was realized that in our world of technology, contestants from three schools could possibly be in any location in the world and still be eligible to play.

The "Game Team" worked through how the game would be played. Each contestant would log into Zoom using a school identifier of UK, US, or UT. Use of the chat box would be the means to answer the question within the 15 seconds allotted. Any more time, declared by the judges, would allow the contestants to look things up on the web. OK, by now we have it worked out that we know how to identify our contestants (UK, US, UT), we know how they will answer (chat), and the allotted time in which to answer (15 seconds). What more did everyone need to know! Not much, but as a side note, I am here to declare that I am so happy that I was not a contestant. Just how much multitasking can anyone person accomplish? The students expressed in well in their game playing strategies. Within the 15 seconds allotted for each question asked, here is what took place: A student had to read the question, comprehend the question, determine the best, as well as correct answer, then type it into the computer or phone knowing the possibility that the computer or phone "word correction" could possibly corrupt the answer being conveyed. WOW! There was a lot going on within those 15 seconds. Multitasking at the highest level. Seeing, processing, identifying, typing, and finally, correcting for the spell checker.

Two games were played, twenty five questions each. From early indications we were only going to have the Universities of Kentucky and Tennessee participating, but, at the very last minute, after a quick Covid test, The University of the South lone participate registered just as we began the contest. And a contest it was. Back and forth the questions and answers came. The high score bounced back and forth between the three schools. Finally, the first round ended. A very spirited offense and defense was shown.

Round two. Again, questions were thrown up on the Zoom screen and answers were sorted out through the chat box. The scores began to separate. It was noted by The University of the South, identified in chat as "US", that he was the only student facing 12 from the University of Kentucky and an unknown number from UT. UK was slowing pulling ahead. At the end, it was evident that the University of Kentucky had the most points, BUT wait, there was a Final Jeopardy "Quiz Bowl" Question! The answer to the question was, Paulowina. Both schools bet all that they had. Two reasons, The University of the South could have won if they (he) had the right answer and Kentucky had only bet a few dollars. The University of Kentucky probably realized this also, and knew that the rule change at the beginning of the game provided them some buffer space, the rule, "points would not be deducted for wrong answers". Again, proving the point - people can multitask!

In the end, The University of Kentucky did bet everything they had knowing they would not lose any points if they were wrong maintaining their lead over The University of The South and Tennessee. Congratulations to the lone player from "US" that took on two other university teams. Congratulations to the University of Kentucky for a game well played. We do hope that we can come back to a "normal" game of KTSAF Quiz Bowl next year where game players can see one another face to face.

I also want to make a quick "shout out" to those that made this all possible, Renee Williams from the University of Kentucky who, for the duration of the entire day, kept Zoom alive and well for the entire content of the meeting. Also to Laurie Thomas (UK) for monitoring the chat box allocating correct points to the correct answers, plus add the scores together. Heck she also maintained keeping the 15 second time for each question. Billy Thomas (UK) again, who has faithfully over the years, been our quiz board moderator viewing for us the individual questions and answers. I want to thank everyone for making the first, and hopefully the last, virtual KTSAF Quiz Bowl a success.

Congratulations to all for the great game of multitasking!

Newsworthy

Vestas invests in Swedish firm that builds wooden towers for wind turbines.

CNBC 18FEB21

Vestas announced Thursday that it had invested in a Swedish firm which develops and manufactures wind turbine towers. The Danish turbine maker said it had become a minority investor in Modvion, which uses laminated veneer lumber, or LVL, to make turbine towers that are modular and put together on-site. “When compared directly with the value chain of a conventional steel tower, Modvion towers are expected to reduce carbon emissions by 80 percent for the wind turbine tower,” Vestas said in a statement. In a separate announcement, Modvion explained the idea behind the deal was to “accelerate market adoption and scale-up the production of wooden wind turbine towers.”

More [HERE](#)

PCA to permanently convert PM3 to linerboard as it halts uncoated freesheet production at Jackson, Alabama, mill.

IndustryIntel.com 26FEB21

Packaging Corporation of America (NYSE: PKG) today announced that it has discontinued production of uncoated freesheet (UFS) grades on the No. 3 paper machine at its Jackson, AL mill and will begin preparing for the permanent conversion of the machine to linerboard. As previously disclosed, in order to meet strong packaging demand and maintain appropriate inventory levels, the machine temporarily began producing linerboard in the fourth quarter of 2020 and continued producing linerboard in the first quarter of 2021. The mill will now begin preparations to permanently convert the 365,000 ton-per-year No. 3 UFS paper machine to a 700,000 ton-per-year high-performance, virgin kraft linerboard machine, in a phased approach, over the next 36 months.

More [HERE](#)

Tennessee becomes 25th US state to sign shared stewardship agreement with USDA to improve forest conditions on public, private lands.

The Rogersville Review 21JAN21

Tennessee's forests will benefit from strengthened partnerships between federal and state agencies following today's virtual signing of a Shared Stewardship agreement.

Under Secretary of Agriculture James Hubbard represented USDA and Tennessee's Department of Agriculture Commissioner Charlie Hatcher, Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner David Salyers, and Wildlife Resources Agency Director Bobby Wilson all signed on behalf of Governor Bill Lee.

The agreement between USDA's Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service and the state agencies establishes a framework to improve collaboration, accomplish mutual goals, further common interests, and effectively respond to the increasing ecological challenges and natural resource concerns.

More [HERE](#)

**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**

The 2021 K-T Executive Committee and Officers are below. Please refer to this chart for any correspondence with them.

2021 K-T SAF Executive Committee				
Chapter/Committee	Position	Name	Town	Email
State	Chair	Alex Richman	Lynchburg, TN	alexandra.richman@gmail.com
State	Chair-Elect/Membership	Logan Nutt	Shepherdsville, KY	lnutt@copperheadconsulting.com
State	Treasurer	Kimberly Burch	Etowah, TN	kimberly.burch@tn.gov
State	Secretary	Katie Fitzsimmons	Whitley City, KY	kathryn.fitzsimmons@usda.gov
Standing Committee	Policy	Hagan Wonn	Somerset, KY	haganw@somersetwood.com
East KY	Chair	Scott Shouse	Berea, KY	bsshouse@liseed.com
East TN	Chair	Greg Bailey	Oak Ridge, TN	bailey@forestlandgroup.com
Middle TN	Chair	Rance Frye	Baxter, TN	rancefrye@gmail.com
South-East TN	Chair	Diana Gennet	Hixson, TN	gennettforestry@comcast.net
West KY	Chair	<i>Vacant</i>		
West TN	Chair	David Mercker	Jackson, TN	dmercker@utk.edu

2021 K-T SAF Standing and Special Committees				
Chapter/Committee	Position	Name	Town	Email
Standing Committee	Auditing	Heather Slayton	Nashville, TN	heather.slayton@TN.gov
Standing Committee	Awards	Jon Lindsay	Savannah, TN	jon@forestmanagementinc.com
Standing Committee	Communications	Tim Phelps	Nashville, TN	Tim.R.Phelps@TN.gov
Standing Committee	Education	Laurie Smith	Oneida, TN	laurie.smith@usda.gov
Standing Committee	History	Ron Taylor	Morehead, KY	rltaylorforestry@yahoo.com
Standing Committee	Memorial Scholarship	Wayne Clatterbuck	Knoxville, TN	wclatter@utk.edu
Standing Committee	Membership Information	Greg Bailey	Oak Ridge, TN	bailey@forestlandgroup.com
Standing Committee	Nominating	Jon Lindsay	Savannah, TN	jon@forestmanagementinc.com
Standing Committee	Program	Andy Norris	Franklin, TN	andrew65norris@gmail.com
Special Committee	Continuing Ed. - KY	Doug McLaren	Versailles, KY	dmclaren@uky.edu
Special Committee	Continuing Ed. - TN	Neil Owens	Nashville, TN	neil.owens@TN.gov
Special Committee	UK Student Advisor	John Lhotka	Lexington, KY	john.lhotka@uky.edu
Special Committee	US Student Advisor	Karen Kuers	Sewanee, TN	kkuers@sewanee.edu
Special Committee	UT Student Advisor	David Buckley	Knoxville, TN	dbuckley@utk.edu
Other:				
Special Committee	Mentor -Secretary	Greg Bailey	Oak Ridge, TN	bailey@forestlandgroup.com
Special Committee	Mentor-Treasurer	Heather Slayton	Nashville, TN	heather.slayton@TN.gov
Special Committee	Student Outreach (M&M)	Rance Frye	Baxter, TN	rancefrye@gmail.com
National	District 9 Council Rep.	Tim Phelps	Nashville, TN	Tim.R.Phelps@TN.gov

K-T Officers/Leadership Chapter Leadership

Executive Committee members needed for a quorum

Standing Committees

Vacant - Needs Volunteer

Outgoing - Needs Volunteer

Last Page



Pop Quiz Answer

According to the Virginia Tech Dendrology Factsheets, there are 12 species of maple native to North America. SOURCE: [Click Here](#)

Acer circinatum - vine maple
Acer floridanum - Florida maple
Acer glabrum - Rocky Mountain maple
Acer grandidentatum - bigtooth maple
Acer macrophyllum - bigleaf maple
Acer negundo - boxelder
Acer nigrum - black maple
Acer pensylvanicum - striped maple
Acer rubrum - red maple
Acer saccharinum - silver maple
Acer saccharum - sugar maple
Acer spicatum - mountain maple

