

West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters

Spring/Summer 2022 Newsletter



WV SAF Holds Spring Meeting



The WV Division of SAF met in Lewisburg on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 to tour operations at a cooperage and the WV Great Barrel Company. The schedule for the following day included WV SAF Business and Executive Committee Meetings followed by the following presentations:

Introduction and Welcome - Jeff Kochenderfer, Chair WVSAF

Trends of White Oak in WV – Randell Morin, USDA Forest Service

Ecology and Regeneration of White Oak – Melissa Thomas Van Gundy, USDA Forest Service

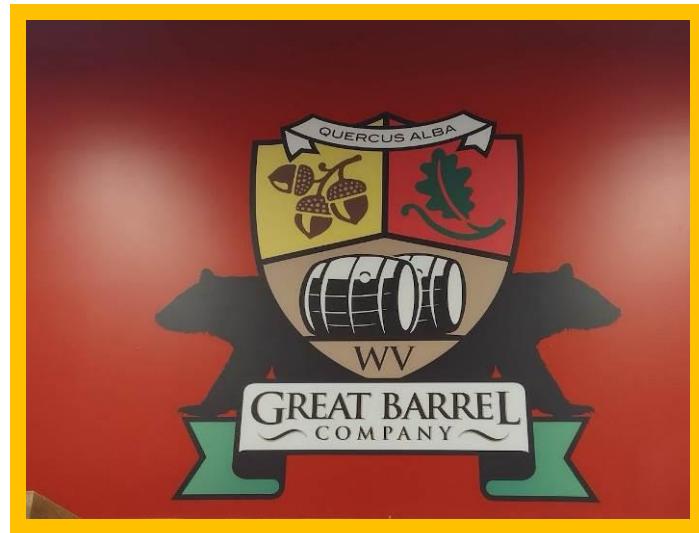
White Oak Initiative – Taylor Tibbals, White Oak Conservation Manager

Trends in the Paper Industry

Spotted Lantern Fly – James Watson, WVDA

Preliminary Results to Characterize Sugarbushes in WV – Dr. Jamie Schuler, WVU

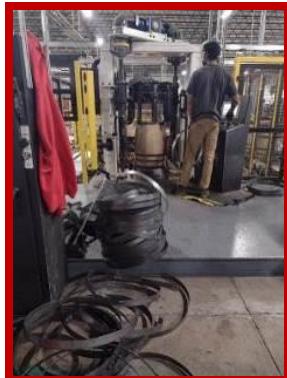
The Fall 2022 Meeting is scheduled for September 6-7, 2022 at the Fernow Experimental Forest in Parsons - topics and speakers to be determined.



Tour of the WV Great Barrel Company in Caldwell, WV

The Great WV Barrel Company was started by local business men in Greenbrier County to provide good jobs and economic development for the area. One hundred people are employed at the cooperage where they produce 700 barrels a day from mostly WV white oak. Their barrels are a value-added product that is high quality and sought after by the spirits industry. The pride in their product shows in the WV rivet that holds the band on the barrel. This steel band will long outlive the wooden barrel.

Submitted by: Barb Breshock



LEADERS

Jeff Kochenderfer – Chair

Rexana McCourt- Chair-Elect

Todd Lotter – Past-Chair

Chuck Copeland – Secretary / Treasurer

Barb McWhorter – Communications Chair

Phil Spangler – Member-At-Large

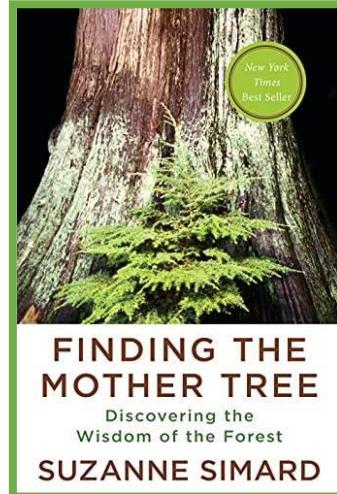
Barb Breshock – Member-At-Large

John Holstine – Member-At-Large

Linda Burke – Member-At-Large



Book Review



Finding the Mother Tree is the memoir of Canadian forest ecologist Suzanne Simard. Simard asserts that trees in forests are interdependent with fungi mycelium. Trees and other plants exchange sugars through their respective root and mycelial structures to share and trade micronutrients. Simard presents her research that fungi physically and

chemically connect with the root systems of multiple trees, across species, to create micronutrient pipelines of exchange within a forest community to share these nutrients as well as other molecules challenging the "prevailing theory that cooperation is of lesser importance than competition in evolution and ecology".

*The Wall Street Journal named *Finding the Mother Tree* one of the ten best books of the year; The Washington Post and Time magazine named it one of the best books of the year.*

facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WVSAF/>

**Please visit and "Like" WV Division of the SAF Facebook page and share it with your friends.
Share your forestry activities and perspectives by commenting and posting.**

We would love to see what you're up to!

As a member of our society, you are encouraged to connect and engage with others through our Facebook page.

**IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TAKING THE LEAD IN MAKING SURE THAT TIMELY AND INTERESTING INFORMATION IS POSTED TO THE
WV DIVISION OF SAF FACEBOOK PAGE AND OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA OUTLETS,
PLEASE CONTACT JEFF KOCHENDERFER AT:
JEFFREY.KOCHENDERFER@USDA.GOV**

Glenville State College Offers Online GIS Certification Program

The Online Certificate in Geographic Information System (GIS) will prepare students for work in the GIS industry with a focus on mapping, visualization, processing and analysis of geospatial data. Geospatial technology is a field that involves global positioning systems, geographical information systems and remote sensing. This technology offers an innovative way to combine information and maps to produce informational tools to help manage our communities, environment, natural resources and industries. The online Certificate program is designed for traditional students from academic departments other than the Department of Land Resources, non-traditional students and those who are already in the workforce to enhance skills, advance career and increase competitiveness to meet the challenges of working in this growing field or to continue their education within the geospatial and natural resource management disciplines. Faculty will work collaboratively with industry partners to develop hands-on projects and experiential learning that simulate real-world solutions to industry problems.

Program Requirements

NRMT 234	GIS Applications I	3 hours
NRMT 125	Computer Assisted Mapping	3 hours
NRMT 334	GIS Applications II	3 hours
LAND 244	Remote Sensing and Aerial Photo Interpretation	2 hours
LAND 243	Introduction to Drone Technology	1 hour
		12 credit hours

For more information, contact:

Rico M. Gazal, Ph.D, Department Head
Professor of Forestry
204 Waco Center
304-462-6372
Email - Rico.Gazal@glenville.edu

Benefits of being a Registered Professional Forester

Part of the benefit of attending SAF meetings/training is the acquisition of CFE's needed to maintain your registration and/or licensing as a professional forester. In WV it is set out in H.B. 4447 30-19-6 (a) that registration is required "to use the title of "registered professional forester," "professional forester," "forester" or **other title connoting to the general public that the applicant is a registered forester qualified to perform professional forestry services."**"

The requirements and forms needed for registration can be found at:

<http://www.wvlicensingboards.com/foresters/registration.cfm> . Renewal forms and requirements can also be found using this link. All renewals including CFE requirements are due by June 30th.



Advocates for an autonomous WV Board of Registration for Foresters at the State Capitol

L-R Jeff Kochenderfer, Dr. Robert Burns, Cinda Francis, Todd Lotter, Darrell Donahue, Dave McGill, Chad Westfall

During the WV SAF Business Meeting, the following Position Statement was adopted:

West Virginia Board of Registered Foresters Position

The WV chapter of the Society of American Foresters supports the structure & function of the WV Board of Registered Foresters. The WV chapter of SAF firmly believes that those who manage the state's forests, both public and privately owned, must be professionally qualified through both education and experience to fulfill their responsibilities. This includes a broad knowledge in the field of forestry and land management. These qualifications must be kept current through continuing education, experience and cross-training.

Issue

Forester registration in the state of West Virginia is done through the WV Board of Registered Foresters. The independent nature of the board, by which a variety of interests within the profession are represented, is essential to provide balance in the requirements for registration in the state. The board provides an important function by ensuring that foresters are adequately trained and qualified to practice forestry. Forester registration provides an important service to forest landowners and the public by ensuring that individuals with inadequate training or skills do not misrepresent the forestry profession. Registration provides landowners with ability to hire professional foresters to perform various complex management task, such as timber harvesting, timber stand improvement, wildfire suppression, and wildlife habitat improvement on their property. Ultimately registration of forestry professionals protects the public, environment and natural resources in WV.



THEME-BASED ACTIVITY COLLECTIONS

PLT's Activity Collection provides content in support of an identified theme for a particular grade level. Each collection offers hands-on activities for teachers and nonformal educators, youth group leaders and home schoolers, to connect youth to nature and the outdoors. Designed to be flexible, the activities that comprise each collection can be used as individual, stand-alone lessons, or all together as a cohesive unit of instruction using a storyline technique.

Sensational Trees is a downloadable resource for educators of students in grades K-2 that uses sensory exploration to understand objects, spaces, people and interactions.

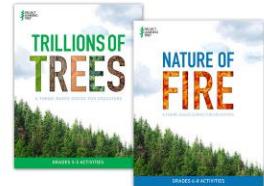


Biodiversity Blitz is a downloadable resource for educators of students in grades 3-5 that invites learners to investigate variability among species in an ecosystem, and how this variability – or biodiversity – helps sustain life on Earth.

Discover Your Urban Forest is a downloadable resource for educators of students in grades 6-8 that invites learners to explore their urban environment and investigate environmental issues that affect their urban community.

Trillions of Trees is a downloadable resource for educators of grades 3-5 students to encourage the investigation of the unique characteristics of different tree species and discover how best to plan, plant, and care for trees in their community.

Nature of Fire is a downloadable resource for educators of grade 6-8 students that invites learners to investigate wildfire and ecosystem change.



Get the Materials

Purchase each resource as a downloadable pdf from shop.plt.org. For additional information on professional development opportunities, [contact your state PLT Coordinator](#).

Want to learn more about PLT in West Virginia? Visit the [West Virginia PLT Website](#) and contact:

Linda Carnell - West Virginia Division of Forestry

304-822-4512

West Virginia PLT State Coordinator

Linda.O.Carnell@wv.gov

The West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame

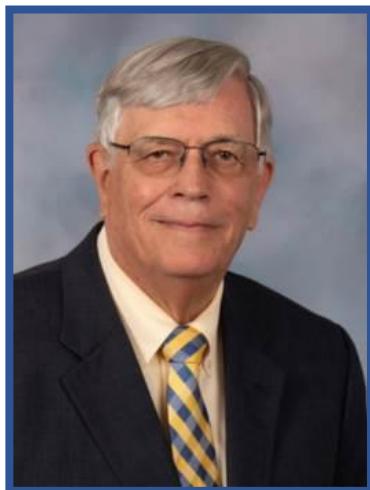
The West Virginia Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame is an incorporated, independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan foundation, devoted to honoring those West Virginians who have made outstanding contributions to the "establishment, development, advancement or improvement" of the agricultural and forestry industries in West Virginia and the nation.



The deadline for nominations for 2022 induction to the WV Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame has passed, but if you would like to nominate someone in 2023, the nomination form can eventually be found at:

<https://agriculture.wv.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2021-AFHOF-Application.pdf>

In Memoriam - WV SAF Member



Larry Barger

Larry S. Barger was born in Elkins in 1940. He passed away suddenly on May 2, 2022 at the age of 81. He earned a B.S. in Forest Management from WVU in 1966 and was a certified Wildland Firefighter from 1972-77. The U.S. Forest Service named him a Certified Master Estimator in 1982, a designation he alone held in West Virginia until his retirement in 1994. He began his career with the U.S. Forest Service in 1967 and held positions in Richwood, Petersburg, Bergland, Mich., and Elkins. In May of 1977, he transferred to the Monongahela National Forest Supervisor's Office as the timber sales and mensuration forester. He was also the contracting officer and was responsible for training and certification of all the timber markers for the forest. After his retirement from the forest service, he started Barger Forestry Services, a consulting firm with more than 200 clients. During his first year of college, he planted 200

Christmas trees, an operation he continued. He also helped market Christmas trees produced by other growers. In 2018, the Society of American Foresters presented him with its Golden Membership Award, for his 50-year affiliation with the organization. In 2021 Larry was inducted into the WV Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame. He was a member of Otterbein United Methodist Church, where he had served as finance secretary since 1979. He is Past Master of Elkins Masonic Lodge #108, belonged to other Masonic orders, and was a member of Elks Lodge #1135 in Elkins. He served as judge for the Mountain State Forest Festival Lumberjack Competition for more than 30 years.

Do you want to get more involved?

During the executive committee and business/training meetings many new ideas are discussed.

Are you interested in helping to develop some of these ideas?

If so, contact Jeff Kochenderfer at:

Jeffrey.Kochenderfer@usda.gov

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FOR



THEIR SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS?

National Awards, Fellow Nominations

SAF Introduces Three New Awards

Time is running short to identify and nominate your worthy peers for the service and contributions they provide to the Society and the forestry profession. Nominations will be due in March of 2023. Three new awards have been added to the suite of national awards to provide for recognition of excellence in the areas of student leadership, leadership in diversity, and leadership in employer support. The three new awards are the Diversity Leadership Award, Employer Leadership Award and Student Leadership Award.

All award nominations for 2022 are closed.

2023: Award nominations will open in January and are due by March 15.

If you have any questions, please email awards@safnet.org.

Nominations for National Awards

Please contact Lori Rasor at rasorl@safnet.org with any questions,

Additional information about National SAF Awards is available at:

https://www.eforester.org/Main/Community/Awards_Fellows/Awards.aspx?hkey=08ba93f9-1ce4-4faf-ae09-8917c9f00e94

Fellows

One of the highest honors for members of the Society, the rank of Fellow is an exceptional recognition bestowed on a member by his or her peers for outstanding contributions and service to the SAF and the profession.

Forest Science and Technology Awards

Award in Forest Science

The Award in Forest Science recognizes distinguished individual research in any branch of the quantitative, managerial, and/or social sciences leading to the advancement of forestry.

Barrington Moore Memorial Award

The Barrington Moore Memorial Award recognizes outstanding achievement in biological research leading to the advancement of forestry.

Technology Transfer Award

The Technology Transfer Award recognizes outstanding performance in the areas of technology transfer, implementation and extension.

Communications Awards

Outstanding Forestry Journalism Award

The Outstanding Forestry Journalism Award recognizes high quality journalistic coverage of topics that increase the American public's understanding of forestry and natural resources.

W. D. Hagenstein Communicator Award

The Hagenstein Communicator Award recognizes an SAF member who leads innovative and exemplary communications initiatives and programs that increase the general public's understanding of forestry and natural resources.

Professional Development Awards

Carl Alwin Schenck Award

The Carl Alwin Schenck Award recognizes devotion and demonstrated outstanding performance in the field of forestry education.

John A. Beale Memorial Award

The John A. Beale Memorial Award recognizes outstanding efforts over a sustained period by an SAF member in the promotion of forestry through voluntary service to the Society.

Gifford Pinchot Medal

The Gifford Pinchot Medal recognizes outstanding contributions by a forestry professional in the administration, practice, and professional development of North American Forestry.

Sir William Schlich Memorial Award

The Sir William Schlich Memorial Award recognizes broad and outstanding contributions to the field of forestry with emphasis on, but not limited to, policy and national or international activities.

Honorary Membership

The Honorary Membership Award recognizes individuals whose contributions to forestry are viewed as outstanding by their peers.

Young Forester Leadership Award

The Young Forester Leadership Award recognizes outstanding leadership by a young forestry professional in the development and promotion of an individual program or project, or for a sustained leadership role benefiting the practice of forestry and the Society of American Foresters.

Leadership Awards

Diversity Leadership Award

The Diversity Leadership Award recognizes outstanding individual achievement leading to innovative and exemplary diversity and inclusion efforts.

Employer Leadership Award

The Employer Leadership Award recognizes an employer that demonstrates leadership through consistent support of employee participation in SAF and broad engagement in the profession.

Student Leadership Award

The Student Leadership Award recognizes individual student achievement and leadership at the local, regional, or national level.

Presidential Field Forester Awards

The Presidential Field Forester Awards recognize foresters who have dedicated their professional careers to the application of forestry on the ground using sound, scientific methods and adaptive management strategies. The awards are presented to individuals who have displayed uncommon talent, skill, and innovative methods to achieve a record of excellence in the application of forest management.

Outstanding SAF Student Chapter Award

The Outstanding SAF Student Chapter Award recognizes the outstanding SAF student chapter in the nation and its faculty representative during an academic year.

Three student chapters are recognized annually during the SAF National Convention. The first-place student chapter will receive a \$500 honorarium. All three student chapters will be recognized in *The Forestry Source*. The school's department head and/or dean, the university president, and the SAF faculty representative will receive notification of the award.

More information regarding Allegheny SAF Awards can be found at: <http://www.alleghenysaf.org/awards>

Allegheny SAF Awards

The deadline for annual award nominations is December 5.

**Presidential Field Forester
Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry
Forester of the Year
Student Leadership Award**
<https://www.alleghenysaf.org/awards>

Contact: Kelsey Delaney at delaneyk@safnet.org or call (866) 897-8720 ext.202.

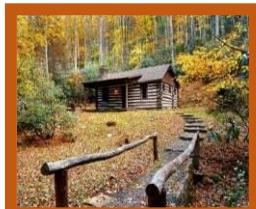


For Sale - "West Virginia Logging" and "Forester at Home" Prints

"Forester at Home" prints are available from the West Virginia Forestry Association as they have agreed to handle print sales for the WV Society of American Foresters. Unframed: "Forester at Home" are \$85 plus shipping and handling. Contact the WVFA office to order your copy or for more information at 681-265-5022 or e-mail at wvfa@wvfa.org. In the near future WVFA will also be handling the "West Virginia Logging" prints for \$35 plus shipping and handling. In the meantime, those interested in the "West Virginia Logging" print should contact Charles Copeland at: Charles.R.Copeland@wv.gov

WV WOMEN OWNING WOODLANDS

By Barb Breshock



CURRENT EVENTS

WV Women Owning Woodlands (WV WOW) is still gaining interested women landowners and planning for new events. Nine of us enjoyed a tour of a farm in Monroe County, on June 7. The landowners are enrolled in two NRCS programs, one to create/maintain golden-winged warbler habitat and the other to create pollinator habitat. In addition to talking about the birds and bees projects, we identified some non-native invasive plant species and some wildflowers. The property has a limestone base, and the plant communities reflected that soil parent material.

We have tentatively scheduled a weekend at Watoga for August, but expect that to be postponed until next spring. A landowner in Upshur County will host a tour on her property in September. If you know of a woman landowner who would like to meet other women landowners and have a chance to learn and network together, please have them contact us at wvwomenowningwoodlands@gmail.com



MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Upcoming Training Opportunity

2022 North American Biochar & Bioenergy Conference

The 2022 North American Biochar & Bioenergy conference will focus on bridging scientific, industrial, practitioner, and policy gaps in biomass utilization for biochar and bioenergy production. The meeting will draw attention to biochar and bioenergy science, technology, and sustainability issues at local-to-global scales.

The [US Biochar Initiative \(USBI\)](#) promotes the sustainable production and use of biochar and has hosted the pre-eminent North American biochar conference since 2009. WVU is our academic conference partner. WVU is currently leading the [MASBio](#) Program through funding from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

North American Biochar and Bioenergy will be held August 8-10, 2022 at the WaterFront Place in Morgantown, WV.

Registration: [North American Biochar & Bioenergy 2022 Conference \(meetinghand.com\)](http://North American Biochar & Bioenergy 2022 Conference (meetinghand.com))

Upcoming SAF National Convention

Allegheny SAF will host the 2022 SAF National Convention in Baltimore, MD

September 20 - 24, 2022

A note from our General National Convention Chair - Kimberly Bohn.....

You should be receiving an Advance Brochure highlighting the 2022 SAF National Convention from the SAF national office in the mail soon, but as the General/ Local Chair for the Convention, and with early bird registration ending in just over a month (July 15), I wanted to make sure everyone is reminded about this upcoming exciting event. The convention will be held on September 20th-24th at the Baltimore Convention Center.

What can you expect at this year's convention? Under the theme of "Our Working Mosaic" there will be educational sessions spanning the full range of topics in forest and natural resources, focusing on collaboration and the diversity of who we are and what we do across rural, suburban, and urban landscapes. This year's convention features 7 field tours, 3 plenary sessions, 'Thursday Think Tanks', 3 days of technical sessions, "Popcorn, Policy, and People", the student quiz bowl, silent auction and much more. The convention typically attracts over 1,000 foresters from around the country. Come for the CFE credit hours and endless networking opportunities. There will be special networking opportunities for young professionals and students. And... ANSAF will be hosting our 100th Anniversary party at the Convention too!

Come also to see the many exhibitors from equipment companies and tech companies, as well as universities and organizations, who are there to share the latest technology and products and to develop new business relationships. OR...consider being an exhibitor yourself! This could be a great opportunity to market your organization to a national audience!

We hope you take advantage of everything convention has to offer! If you have never been to a national convention, I highly recommend you take advantage of the opportunity this year. It will be worth the investment!

Register by July 15th to take advantage of early-bird convention rates. Sponsors and exhibitors have until August 5th! Convention details can be found at: <https://www.eforester.org/Safconvention/Safconvention2022>

Sincerely,

Kimberly Bohn, Ph.D.

Call for Volunteers – National SAF Convention

Allegheny SAF members-

I have reached out on a few occasions in the past asking for volunteers and some of you have enthusiastically agreed to help.

Since I have done that over many months in various venues, I would ask that you confirm your availability. If you have not previously volunteered and would like to do so, please contact me. We will need volunteers to assist with field tours, the quiz bowl, moderators for concurrent sessions and other tasks.

Just a reminder that all volunteers must register for the convention. If you can't attend the entire convention (September 20-24), you may register for a single day.

Thank you in advance for volunteering your time to help us make this convention a great one.

Susan E. Lacy, CF

Executive Director - Allegheny SAF

PO Box 667, Honey Brook, PA 19344, E-Mail: ansaf@comcast.net, Phone: 610-273-0118

National Convention Silent Auction and Raffle

We're excited to continue hosting SAF's annual Silent Auction and Raffle at convention this September. Both the auction and raffle will be completely in person this year. SAF2022 convention attendance is required to bid on items.

Get Involved!

To help make the auction successful, we need your help getting the best, unique items to support the SAF Foresters' Fund* and Kurt Gottschalk Science Fund**. Read on to find out how you can donate.

Who can donate items?

State societies, chapters, members, companies, organizations, businesses, and anyone else are encouraged to donate items for this fun and important event.

What is the item donation process?

Here's how the donation process works for the silent auction and raffle:

- Donate an item that you will either bring to the event or ship ahead of time (see Donation Form for more information). Examples include (but are not limited to): artwork, clothing, specialty foods, gift baskets, and gift cards - anything that will entice a bid is welcome. Handcrafted items by forestry folks and their family members are especially encouraged. No alcohol please, as it is not allowed at the convention center; food items are acceptable if items are pre-packaged.

- Fill out and email the completed [**Donation Form**](#) to Rachel Reyna at rreyna@pa.gov by September 12, 2022.

Key items to note on the donor form to include:

- Description: A detailed and accurate description will help showcase your item(s).
- Estimated value: Include the estimated value of the item(s) as well as your suggested minimum bid.
- Donor Contact Information: Please make sure to include your contact information so that we can provide you with a donation receipt.

What happens after you donate an item?

You will receive a gift-in-kind donation receipt.

Consider asking local businesses to donate items!

[Download this brochure](#) to help with your donation request efforts.

This page will be updated with additional auction information as it becomes available. For additional information, contact Rachel Reyna at rreyna@pa.gov. Thank you.

*The [Foresters' Fund](#) promotes forestry education and the enhancement of public understanding of forest management through grants provided to state societies.

**The [Kurt Gottschalk Science Fund](#) supports development and dissemination of scientific findings and new technology for natural resource professionals to facilitate science-informed management.

Check out the SAF Website at: <http://www.safnet.org/>



HELP WANTED.....

As the Communications Chair, I welcome any input you can provide regarding content suggestions, upcoming events, awards, obituaries, etc.

Thank you --- Barb McWhorter (mcwhorterbarb@gmail.com)