

West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters October 2015 Newsletter



West Virginia Division SAF Summer/Fall Meeting



**WVD OF Assistant State Forester, Barb Breshock, discusses a wildlife opening
in the Bark Camp II Harvest at Cabwaylingo State Forest**

The West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters held their Summer/Fall Meeting on September 9-11, 2015 at Chief Logan State Park Lodge and Conference Center. Approximately 30 members attended. The theme for the meeting was **Forestry in Southwestern West Virginia**. The meeting began on Wednesday with a Hatfield McCoy Trail Ride and Tour and registration.

On Thursday, members enjoyed an all-day field tour of Cabwaylingo State Forest. Tour stops included: the Big Tree Program and a Shortleaf Pine Specimen, Hemlock Research, Fire Tower Prescription, Tick Ridge Harvest, Tree of Heaven and Stiltgrass Control, Bark Camp Harvest/Wildlife Opening and Japanese Knotweed Control. The Executive Board met following dinner, although there was no quorum so no decisions were made.

Friday's activities began with the WV SAF Business Meeting including an introduction of the new WVDNR Director, Robert Fala and a State of the State Report by WVDOP Deputy State Forester Greg Cook. Technical sessions followed. Randy Kelly reported on **Elk Restoration Program in Southern West Virginia**, Executive Director, Jeffrey Lusk spoke about **The Economic Impact of the Hatfield McCoy Regional Recreational Trail in Southern West Virginia**, Senate Natural Resources Staff Attorney, Noelle Starek, discussed **The Profession of Forestry and the Legislative Process**, WV DNR Administrator, Robert Beanblossom, gave **Some Historical Highlights of Forest Fire Control in Southern West Virginia** and USFS's Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy ended the day with a presentation on **Fire Severity Modelling**.



WVDOP's Tom Oxley discusses the Big Tree Program
And how measurements are were made on this Shortleaf Pine



Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Mortality

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THE MEETING POSSIBLE!

With special thanks to Jamie Schuler



Chair Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy

LEADERS

Chair – Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy
Vice-Chair – Jamie Schuler
Past Chair – Dave McGill
Secretary/Treasurer – Charles Copeland
Communications Chair – Barb McWhorter
At-large board member – Jim Hays
At-large board member – Rick Sypolt
At-large board member – Todd Lotter
At-large board member - Jon Pomp

Elections will be held in January, contact a board member if you are willing to serve!

Tennessee Team Earns Top Honors at 2015 National 4-H Forestry Invitational



Tennessee placed first among 14 state teams that competed in the 36th annual National 4-H Forestry Invitational from Sunday, July 26, through Thursday, July 30. Teams from New York and Alabama placed second and third, respectively. Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia were also represented at this year's Invitational.

The invitational was held at West Virginia University Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp and Conference Center near Weston, West Virginia. The event is sponsored by Farm Credit System, Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc., ***Society of American Foresters***, West Virginia University Extension Service, USDA Forest Service State and Private Southern Region, Southern Region Extension Forestry, American Forest Foundation, and Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals.

While at the Invitational 4-H members competed for overall team and individual awards in several categories. Events included tree identification, tree measurement, compass and pacing, insect and disease identification, topographic map use, forest evaluation, the forestry bowl and a written forestry exam.



Tennessee was represented by Emily and Julia Palacios and Rebekah Meese. The team was coached by Laura Palacios.

Julia Palacios from Tennessee received the high point individual award. Second place high individual award was given to Rosanne Mow from New York and third place high individual award was given to Tim Caswell from Florida.

The Joe Yeager "Spirit of the Invitational" award was given to Devin Hipp from South Carolina. This award recognizes an outstanding 4-H contestant at the Invitational. It is presented to the individual who takes initiative, is enthusiastic, and is eager to lead academic and social situations.

4-H is a youth education program operated by the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the state land grant universities. More than six million youth, 540,000 volunteers, and 3,500 professionals participate in 4-H nationwide, and nearly 100,000 are part of the 4-H Forestry Program.

The event would not be possible without the generous support of its sponsors;

Farm Credit System (FCS) supports rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services. FCS has been helping areas grow and thrive for a century by providing farmers with capital and by financing infrastructure and communication services.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®), Inc. is a fully independent, charitable organization dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management. The SFI® label is a sign you are buying wood and paper products from a certified source, backed by a rigorous, third-party certification audit.

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) is the national scientific and educational organization representing the forestry profession in the United States. SAF is the largest professional society for foresters in the world.

West Virginia University (WVU) Extension Service educators and volunteers build and sustain partnerships with people and organizations in West Virginia, to improve their lives and communities. WVU's programs and services strengthen individuals of all ages.

USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry, Southern Region programs bring forest management assistance and expertise to a diversity of landowners through cost-effective, non-regulatory partnerships. The staffs also play a key role in implementing the National Fire Plan.

Southern Region Extension Forestry serves as a liaison between the USDA Forest Service and the thirteen Extension Forest Resources units in the South. The position has evolved into a regional programming, representation, promotion, and communication role within the forestry and natural resource communities.

The American Forest Foundation® (AFF) works with families, educators, and elected officials to promote stewardship and protect our nation's forest heritage. AFF works with its partners to provide hands-on support for America's 10 million family forest owners.

The Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals (ANREP) is a professional society for natural resource Extension professionals. The mission of ANREP is to bring Extension professionals together to discuss mutual natural resource issues, needs, and opportunities and to advance natural resource Extension through continuing education.

For more information on the National 4-H Forestry Invitational, go to: <http://4hforestryinvitational.org/>.

Contact: David R. Jackson, Penn State Cooperative Extension, Willowbank Building, Room 322, 420 Holmes Ave., Bellefonte, PA 16823, (814) 355-4897, drj11@psu.edu



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

The "West Virginia Logging" unframed prints are available for \$35.

Those interested should contact Charles Copeland at: Charles.R.Copeland@wv.gov

"FORESTER AT HOME" prints are also still available from the West Virginia Forestry Association has teamed with the WV Society of American Foresters to sell the "Forester at Home". Unframed: \$85 Shipping and Handling. Contact the WVFA office to order your copy or for more information at 304-372-1955

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS?

There are a number of Allegheny and National SAF awards available.
Consider nominating someone.....

Allegheny SAF Awards

Below is information about and links to Allegheny SAF annual awards:
Deadlines for annual award nominations is **December 5**

Presidential Field Forester

Learn more about the Eligibility Criteria, Career Narrative and Timeline for Selection click the link below.

Contact: [Kelsey Delaney](mailto:kdelaney@alleghenysaf.org) or call (866) 897-8720 ext.202.

Webpage: https://www.safnet.org/about/field_foresters_criteria.cfm

Presidential Field Forester Nomination Form

http://www.alleghenysaf.org/docs/awards/NominationForm_PresidentialFieldForester.pdf

Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry

The purpose of this award is to give official recognition to professional achievements in forestry, and to recognize superior service to the Society of American Foresters. Robert W. Bauer Outstanding Service to Forestry Nomination Form

http://www.alleghenysaf.org/docs/awards/NominationForm_OutstandingServiceForestry_2014.pdf

Forester of the Year

The purpose of this award is to give official recognition to current professional achievements in forestry, to recognize a specific accomplishment or achievement in forestry during the previous year and to demonstrate to the public that the profession is a vital and active part of the total conservation effort. Forester of the Year Nomination Form

http://www.alleghenysaf.org/docs/awards/NominationForm_ForesterYear_2014.pdf

Student Leadership Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize a forestry student who exemplifies the leadership capabilities desired in future forestry professionals. Student Leadership Award Nomination Form http://www.alleghenysaf.org/docs/awards/Nomination-Form-Student-Chapter-Leadship-Award_2014.pdf

National SAF Awards

<http://www.safnet.org/about/awards.cfm>

Through national recognition the Society of American Foresters selects recipients in the categories of Forest Science & Technology, Communications, and Professional Recognition. Nominations for national awards are due to the national office by February 28th yearly.

Fellows

One of the highest honors for members of the Society. This exceptional recognition is bestowed upon a member by their peers for outstanding contributions and service to the Society and the profession. All nomination packets must be received by the national office by February 28 yearly. <http://www.safnet.org/about/fellows.cfm>

Presidential Field Forester Award

Through presidential direction, eleven members (one from each of the eleven SAF districts) will be selected to receive an outstanding field forester achievement award. This process will assure that each region of the United States will be able to recognize an outstanding field forester. Members must forward all nominations to their district Council Representative by May 15th yearly.

Student Awards

An Outstanding Student Chapter Award is presented yearly. Applications are due to the national office by June 20.

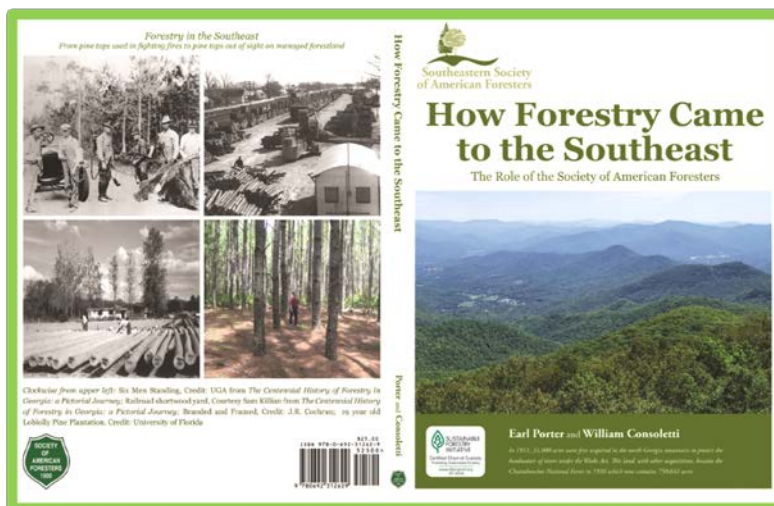
International Year of Soils



The Soil

Science Society of America is coordinating with the Global Soil Partnership and other organizations around the world to celebrate the 2015 International Year of Soils and raise awareness and promote the sustainability of our limited soil resources. We all have a valuable role in communicating vital information on soils, a life sustaining natural resource. Therefore, we want to provide you with resources to learn about soils and help us tell the story of soils! <https://www.soils.org/IYS>

Book Available.....



How Forestry Came to the Southeast; The Role of the Society of American Foresters by Earl Porter and William Consoletti is available on Amazon for \$25.

All proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards supporting Teacher Conservation Workshops and Project Learning Tree facilitator workshops in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, the original four states of the Southeastern Section which was formed in 1928.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....

Upcoming Forestry Events

2015 SAF National Convention – November 3-7

Recreating Forestry: The Confluence of Science, Society, and Technology

The 2015 SAF National Convention will highlight contemporary forest resource management issues including the trends, influences, and technologies that are facilitating the profession's progress toward the future.

Enjoy fabulous hospitality, the charm of Baton Rouge on the mighty Mississippi, and world-renowned cuisine alongside a scientific and technical program that will explore the many links between the social, economic, and ecological considerations that form the confluence of forest stewardship.

Plenary sessions will provide forward-thinking ideas and address what we need to know about trends in science, society, technology, and education to remain relevant as we continue to enhance the credibility of our profession, effect continuous improvement, and strengthen communities



2017 National Boy Scout Jamboree

Looking way ahead to 2017, the National Boy Scout Jamboree will be held July 19th through the 28th at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve. We have been asked if we would like to participate in the Conservation Trail and need to designate a representative responsible for any exhibits or activities we'd like to conduct. We should also be thinking about budgeting for these activities in 2017. Melissa has the contact information for the BSA task force for the effort; anyone wishing to volunteer their time should contact her at mthomasvangundy@fs.fed.us or (304) 478-2000. Bob Radspinner has volunteered to be the contact person.



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 (Barbara.McWhorter@wv.usda.gov)

Attention all West Virginia University graduates of the Division of Forestry and Natural Resources Management

New and exciting activities are happening with your WVU alumni association. Please consider joining the new West Virginia University School of Natural Resources Alumni association. For just \$15.00 annual dues you can become a member of this organization and impact the future of natural resources management. For details contact Jim Harrold at harroldjb@gmail.com.