

TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



(l-r) Markus Dirsch with Klausner, Northampton County Ranger Rodney Black, and Esther von Roehl with Klausner pose for a photograph at the conclusion of another successful meeting of the Northampton County Forestry Association. Dirsch was the featured speaker and provided an excellent overview of the company and the company's new facility under construction in Enfield, NC.

KLAUSNER FEATURED SPEAKER AT NORTHAMPTON MEETING

Klausner's Senior Vice President - Procurement Markus Dirsch was the featured speaker at the Northampton County Forestry Association's meeting held in March. The annual event attracts over 200 forestland owners in the heavily forested county.

County Ranger Rodney Black, who along with his staff have cultivated the one of the state's most active county forestry associations, opened the program with a review of the past year. Black pointed out that Northampton County has some 224,000 acres of forest, which represents 62 percent of the land base in the county.

"Northampton County always prides itself on good forest management and the numbers we produce," stated Black.

He noted that the county once again led the state in money returned to landowners through the Forest Development Plan. His office wrote 150 management plans in 2014, and his staff helped county landowners plant some 2,500 acres last year. Black and his staff also inspected 40 logging operations over the past year.

"Our loggers are doing a great job," stated Black.

Black was particularly encouraged by the replanting efforts in the county regardless of whether or not cost share funds were available.

"Every logging job that we looked at had a plan written on it," stated Black, "and it was planted (continued on page 5)

PROLOGGER CLASS GRADUATES 64 AT MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

This NCFA's ProLogger base course was conducted in March at Martin Community College in Williamston.

There were 64 registered students and several more who were auditing the class from North Carolina Forest Service and the North Carolina Department of Labor. The first two days took place in the classroom followed by a field day session.

A special thanks to all of our volunteer instructors, including Chris Huff and Bryan Wagner with Forestry Mutual, Chuck Murdock and Eric Smith with the North Carolina Department of Labor, Anthony Andrews of Andrews Logging, Jim Slye, James Caddy, Gail Bledsoe, Mike Hoggard and Tom Gerow with the North Carolina Forest Service, and First Sergeant C.T. Griffin with the North Carolina Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Division. We appreciate their expertise and willingness to participate in the ProLogger program. We had positive feedback from the course.



First Sgt. Griffin was one of the featured speakers during the classroom sessions.

One logger said, "People may complain about coming to a three-day course, but I have enjoyed this class, and learned a lot."

Another comment came from a participant auditing the class. "I didn't know much about logging coming into this class, but I was amazed how many different things go into a logging job - the safety, the emphasis on the environment, and the other factors I didn't think of. This really gave me a new perspective."

We also want to thank Chuck Daniels with Domtar for his awesome help during the week with snacks, arranging our logging field visit and sponsoring our Friday lunch. Also a big thanks to Gary Evans and his crew for allowing our class on his job.

In addition to a wealth of information, the base course is a powerful relationship starter between the local service and enforcement personnel in the area and the new ProLoggers. The classroom setting allows a healthy dialogue between both that at times can be pretty humorous! ■



ProLoggers visited Gary Evans logging job during the first base class of 2015.



Chris Caddy (right) the NCFs reviewed water quality techniques on the field day.



NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFCA

TreeLine is the monthly newsletter of the NCFCA. News items should be sent to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or by calling (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

The NCFCA is the state's oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,000 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry. A private, non-profit organization, the NCFCA promotes healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners, the forest products industry, and related groups that responsibly manage and/or use forests. ■

POLITICAL NEWS & REGULATORY ISSUES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

The House and Senate are taking a break after the Easter weekend and will not meet next week. They will resume their normal work schedule April 13th. Here are some highlights from the session this far:

House Bill 183 - Repeal Map Act has been introduced by Representatives Rayne Brown (R- Davidson), Debra Conrad (R- Forsyth), Donny Lambeth (R- Forsyth), and Sam Watford (R- Davidson). It would repeal the Transportation Corridor Official Map Act, which authorizes the Department of Transportation, local governments, and transportation authorities to adopt maps for future transportation projects and places restrictions on properties within the mapped areas.

House Bill 378 - Amend Criteria/Certain Agricultural Cost-Share Programs has been introduced by Representatives Chris Whitmire (R-Transylvania), Bryan Holloway (R-Stokes), Roger West (R-Cherokee), and Michele Presnell (R-Yancey). The bill changes the criteria for a forest landowner to be eligible for two cost-sharing programs - the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) and the Agricultural Water Resources Assistance Program (AGWRAP). Under current law, a forest landowner must have a forest management plan and a copy of that plan. The bill would change the eligibility requirement to only needing evidence of a forest management plan.

House Bill 456 - Clarify Weight Limits/Agricultural Vehicles is a bill to broaden the road weight limit exemption for the transportation of agricultural products. It was filed by Representative Rena W. Turner (R-Iredell) and would allow any farm vehicle, including forestry vehicles, to transport water, fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, fuel, or animal waste to/ or from a farm to another location to qualify for the road weight limit exemption. Currently, the vehicle must meet certain criteria to qualify.

Senate Bill 20 creates a new gas tax formula and that sets the gas tax rates through 2017. It was signed into law by Governor McCrory. The tax dropped to 36 cents per gallon from 37.5 cents per gallon on April 1st. On January 1st, it will drop to 35 cents per gallon, and then to 34 cents per gallon by July 1, 2016. In January 2017, the new formula will take effect and will have a base tax of 34 cents per gallon, instead of the previous base of the wholesale price of crude oil. The purpose of the change is to help stabilize gas tax revenues, which are used for transportation projects.

Senate Bill 155 - Reduce Present Use Value (PUV) Entry Time for Farmland was introduced by Senator Stan Bingham (R-Davidson). One of the main goals of the bill is to reduce the current waiting period of three years in terms land ownership to one year. When farm and/or forestry lands are passed down through inheritance or through a sales transaction, the new landowner has a limited time period to re-enroll the lands in PUV under the new ownership name. This bill was referred to the Senate Agriculture/Environment/Natural Resources committee.

Senate Bill 361 - Occupational Licensing Reform Study directs the Legislative Research Commission to study all boards to see if they are necessary or can be combined with other boards. This bill was filed by Senator Fletcher Hartsell (R-Cabarrus)

Senate Bill 369 - Sales Tax Fairness Act, filed by Senators Harry Brown (R-Onslow), Brent Jackson (R-Sampson), and Ben Clark (D-Hoke), changes the sales tax distribution formula to a population-based distribution. Current law has the sales tax revenue going to the county where the sale was made.

Senate Bill 469 - Occupational Licensing Boards Reporting Requirements changes which state agencies the boards file reports with as well as adding information, such as a financial report. This bill was filed by Senator Fletcher Hartsell (R-Cabarrus).

(continued on page 3)

FORESTRY DAY IN LEGISLATURE - MAY 20TH

The NCFCA's Forestry Day in the Legislature takes place on May 20, 2015 on the Halifax Mall in Raleigh. This day is the best chance for members to meet with their elected officials and advocate for forestry and the forest products industry. Registrations will go out in April for this event.

After Forestry Day, the Friends of Forestry PAC will be once again holding its Reverse Raffle Event at the Brownstone Hotel. FFPAC and NCFCA Board Members are now selling tickets (one for \$50, three for \$100). Please support the FFPAC by participating in this raffle that raises money for the FFPAC and creates a jackpot of \$5,000 for the winning ticket(s). ■

Senate Bill 513 - North Carolina Farm Act of 2015 was filed by Senators Andrew Brock (R-Davie) and Brent Jackson (R-Sampson).

1. Changes captive deer regulation in North Carolina. The captive deer issue continues to generate comments on both sides of the issue.
2. Modifying the Prescribed Burning Act: A landowner who causes fire damage due to a prescribed burning would not be liable for civil action. This exemption would not apply to negligent burning only (current law states that the exemption does not apply to negligent or improper burning). Landowners with 50 acres or less would be able to get coverage without being a certified prescribed burner. The NC Forest Service would be allowed to accept prescribed burner certification from another State or entity.
3. Any H-2A agricultural worker that is exempt from federal income tax withholding would also be exempt from state income tax withholding.
4. If a landowner has land that qualifies for the present use value tax in one county, the assessor can assume the tax qualification applies to that landowner's land in another county.
5. Adding a procedure for termination of conservation agreements.
6. Prohibiting the implementation and enforcement of federal standards for wood heaters and air emission standards that limit fuel sources providing heat or hot water.
7. Changes the penalty for failure to guard a fire by a watchman from a misdemeanor to an infraction.
8. Establishes a policy for supporting sustainable agriculture.

Senate Bill 572 - Agricultural Regulatory Relief may require the Department of Transportation (DOT) to study bridge weight restrictions in agricultural areas. Senator Bill Cook (R-Beaufort) filed the bill. It directs DOT to study several impacts that weight restricted bridges have on the transport of agricultural products from farms to market in terms of economic burden, safety and bridge repair schedules.

Senate Bill 656-Workers' Compensation/2015 Omnibus Law Changes was filed by Senator Michael Lee (R-New Hanover) that would create a Criminal Investigation Unit within the Industrial Commission to investigate workers' comp fraud. It would also allow healthcare providers to get reimbursements for over the counter drugs, instead of just prescription.

In terms of budget discussions and development, Governor Pat McCrory has already released his budget recommendations for 2015-2017, which included a \$1.2 to \$1.4 billion transportation infrastructure plan. The House will introduce its budget plan first this year and then send it to the Senate, who will most likely make changes. If the House does not accept their changes, which is also extremely likely, members from both chambers will be appointed to iron out differences.

The NCFEA will continue to monitor these budget negotiations that typically run into July to ensure that forestry interests are represented during these discussions. ■



NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT FUND ANNOUNCES NEW HOFMANN FOREST PLAN

The NCFEA is sharing a press release from Dean Mary Watzin of the College of Natural Resources at North Carolina State University about the Hofmann Forest.

I am pleased to announce that the Board of Trustees for the Endowment Fund of North Carolina State University in conjunction with the Natural Resources Foundation have endorsed a long-term strategy for Hofmann Forest that includes retaining ownership of the majority of the property and ensuring conservation over as much as 70,000 acres of the land. The plan preserves the Hofmann Forest name, maintains access for students and faculty and maintains a sustainable working forest, the same three goals that have been paramount in any transaction from the beginning.

Opportunities that will be pursued include the following.

- * Negotiating the sale of easements and leases to support the training needs of the U.S. Navy/Marine Corps.
- * Potentially selling a multi-decade timber deed on the approximately 56,000 acres of existing pine plantation with requirements for certified sustainable practices.
- * Negotiating conservation easements for the approximately 18,000 acre Big Open Pocosin.
- * Potentially selling the current 1,600-acre farm for continued agricultural use.
- * Potentially selling the two mitigation banks, totaling about 450 acres, for continued mitigation use.
- * Developing a long-term strategy for the approximately 4,000 acres south of State Highway 17 near Jacksonville (known as Block 10) that considers its highest market value.
- * Exploring additional conservation prospects.

This plan is a different approach where the Endowment Fund keeps the majority of the forest, trading off short-term financial return for control of the property and greater return over many years.

North Carolina State Chancellor Randy Woodson comments:

"We believe this is the most responsible way to move forward. We learned a great deal during last year's sales effort and in the process became aware of long-term opportunities that allow for greater control of the land, and ultimately more benefit to the College of Natural Resources, its students and faculty."

Although the timeline has shifted, the Endowment Fund could see more than \$125 million in return from this approach in the next several years, and much more over the next several decades.

All of these additional resources will go to strengthen the academic offerings and research programs within the College of Natural Resources by providing additional scholarships, funding new experiential education opportunities for students, facilitating interdisciplinary research and supporting new professorships, assist with the strategy, the Endowment Fund Board is seeking a conservation entity/financial advisor that will act as an agent to manage the process and facilitate discussions with interested parties.

Proposals are being accepted until April 15; details are available online at www.ncsu.edu/hofmann-facts.

I am pleased by this approach. This plan will generate significant income for the college while maintaining control over future uses of the property. It supports the strategic needs of the college and ultimately may serve as a model for sustainable solutions to the twin challenges of natural resource conservation and economic development. ■

CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The NCFEA's Forestry & Environment Camp will be heading to Greensboro at Bryan Park on April 29 - May 1. We hope you will be able to help out! There will be two days of instruction and Friday will be the field day. Call Chris Brown (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 or e-mail cbrown@ncforestry.org if you can assist. ■



MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING EXPO SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2015

Mark Your Calendar! The Mid-Atlantic Logging Expo will take place on September 18-19, 2015 in the same Smithfield-Selma area as the previous two Expos. Expectations are for the largest show in recent years based on initial response and inquiries by equipment dealers and other vendors.



The Expo will once again feature live demonstrations of the newest equipment with the opportunity for loggers to get an up-close look at the materials. The Expo is once again being jointly sponsored by Hatton-Brown Publishers, Carolina Loggers Association, and the NCFA. The NCFA's Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee will be providing staff support for the event. ■

MODULE 15 SCHEDULE

If you are hosting a class, please let Chris Brown know at cbrown@ncforestry.org or (800) 231-7723 so it can be advertised in TreeLine and on our website.

- 4/10, 2015 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Chatham Ag Center
..... Pittsboro, NC
- 4/14, 2015 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Roaring River VFD
..... Roaring River, NC
- 4/14, 2015 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Domtar
..... Plymouth, NC
- 4/16, 2015 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Weyerhaeuser
..... Vanceboro, NC
- 6/30, 2015 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Roaring River VFD
..... Roaring River, NC

IP ANNOUNCES IMPROVEMENTS FOR RIEGELWOOD FACILITY

International Paper has announced plans to invest \$135 million to expand fluff pulp production at its Riegelwood Mill. The investment will convert the mill to 100 percent fluff and softwood pulp production, adding an incremental 400,000 tons of capacity, with ongoing flexibility to shift between the two products. When the conversion is complete, the company will have the capability to produce up to 1.4 million tons annually of high-quality fluff. The new fluff pulp capacity is expected to ramp up mid-year 2016.

"The investment at Riegelwood proactively repositions assets to serve our customers in the growing global fluff pulp market and best positions International Paper to increase shareholder value," said Mark Sutton, chairman and CEO, International Paper. Fluff pulp, which is projected to grow globally at an annual rate of 3 to 4 percent, is used in a variety of applications including baby diapers, feminine hygiene and adult incontinence products.

"This new capacity will support the growth of IP customers across the globe," said Mike Amick, senior vice president, North American Papers & Pulp and Consumer Packaging. "Riegelwood is ideally located with access to fiber and proximity to shipping ports critical for supplying a global customer base."

As a result of the Riegelwood Mill conversion to 100 percent fluff and softwood pulp, the company will reduce its coated paperboard capacity by 350,000 tons, sell the Carolina brand ® to MeadWestvaco (MWV), and focus the business on supplying customer demand in the food service and packaging markets.

The sale of the Carolina business, which represents the majority of the coated paperboard volume reduction, is expected to close April 30, 2015. Terms of the sale were not disclosed. Carolina is a premier coated bristols brand used in a variety of applications including greeting cards, book covers and marketing collateral. The sale captures the brand's value, supports International Paper's
(continued on page 7)

NEW MEMBERS

- MEMBER** **City**
- Armstrong, James..... Fayetteville
 - Barbolish, Aaron..... Lewiston
 - Dobson, Ryan P Manteo
 - Draper, David Jo Williamston
 - Gladson, Anthony Aurora
 - Gladson, Gilbert Aurora
 - Harrelson Logging Inc..... Snow Camp
 - Leigh Farm Hunt Club Elizabeth City
 - Mayes, Matthew Star
 - Rex Hunt Club..... Holly Springs
 - Richardson, James Wayne Star
 - C. H. Robinson, Charles Robinson III,
Harry J Robinson..... Elizabeth City
 - Whitfield, Richard..... Pittsboro
 - Wilson, Griffith..... Chester, SC

NCFA PARTICIPATES IN STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

The NCFA is one of the invited stakeholders for the North Carolina Division of Water Resources Rule re-adoption. Similar to what the North Carolina Forest Service is doing with its rules, the DWR needed to identify, label, and readdress all of its rules. This review is dictated by legislation.

The first introductory meeting was held on Tuesday. Jeff Manning, the Chief of the Classifications & Standards/Rules Review Branch of the Water Planning Section with DWR, directed the meeting. All of DWR's existing rules were deemed pertinent and subject to public comment. The first session focused on definitions and how DWR was attempting to consolidate and simplify the language without altering any of the rules.

Manning took feedback and comments throughout the meeting. The stakeholder group will meet four more times to complete the review. The NCFA will continue to participate and supply comments when appropriate. ■

PROLOGGER BASE CLASS SCHEDULE



May 13-15, 2015
Agriculture Center
Winston Salem, NC

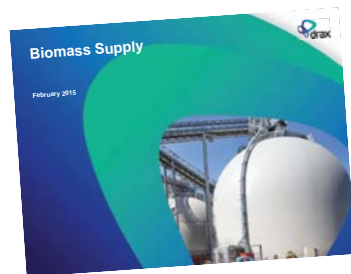
September 23-25, 2015
McDowell CC
Marion, NC

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NEWSLETTER, ZIPLINE, BY TYPING YOUR
E-MAIL IN AT THE NCFA'S HOME PAGE -
WWW.NCFORESTRY.ORG**

DRAX RELEASES SOURCING REPORT

Drax, which is the United Kingdom's largest renewable power producer, recently released a new report on where it sources the biomass used in its power plant. The report details where and what type of materials the company is purchasing at home in the UK and overseas, including a special breakdown of the southeastern United States. Obviously, this report is meant to address sustainability questions.

The power station at Drax has six units – two of which have been transformed from burning coal to wood pellets. The company hopes to convert a third unit in 2016. It is worth noting that while Drax is making a bold move to using biomass, prior to this conversion, it's coal burning technology is the latest and best available in the world. Combined with the increased use of biomass, the company is drastically shrinking its carbon footprint while still producing nearly eight percent of United Kingdom's electricity supply.



The company's report points out that a third of Drax's energy capacity is now derived from biomass. Drax utilized 4.1 tons of wood pellets in 2014 to generate 29% of its power supply. Nearly 80 percent of those pellets originated in Canada or the United States. In 2013, Canada was the top supplier of pellets to Drax, but the U.S. took over the top spot in 2014 by accounting for 58% of the company's supply.

In a breakdown of biomass by category in the United States, Drax reports that the top biomass resource is from forest residues (942,000 tons). Biomass from thinnings (805,815 tons) ranks second and sawmill residues a distant third (222,047 tons). In terms of the company's entire sourcing from all countries, forest residues (1,196, 070 tons) ranks as number one.

The report also lists data on some basic net growth and removal data on southern forests, noting that USDA data collected in 2012 shows the resource has a plus of 124 Mm3. Even more recent data from the U.S. and North Carolina Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analyses Data show that North Carolina is growing more trees than it is removing. North Carolina maintains 18.6 million acres of forestland in the most recent data (2013), which is a slight increase from the last survey in 2012.

Drax continues its ambitious goal of reducing its carbon footprint with some remarkable results. In 2013, 12% of its energy production was from biomass. In 2014, that percent jumps to 29. The company expects that number to grow when the newest unit goes online.

While Drax is pleased with its results and North Carolina landowners appreciate the new markets created by power companies such as Drax using biomass, some skeptics still point to the sustainability of supplying pellets and the basic formula's used in calculating the carbon footprint of biomass energy production and use. ■

USFW ASSIGNS THREATENED STATUS FOR NLEB

In late March, the Fish and Wildlife Service released the final rule listing the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) as a threatened species, which is a preferred status to listing the bat as an endangered species that was originally proposed in October of 2013. The agency also included a section 4(d) rule to provide exceptions for specified activities to the prohibition on "take" of the bats. The rule is characterized as an "interim" final rule.

The interim section 4(d) rule contains the same elements as the proposed rule:

- No prohibitions on forest management outside the white-nose syndrome buffer zone;
- No prohibitions on forest management outside 0.25 mile (0.4 kilometer) from a known, occupied hibernacula;
- Avoid clearcuts (and similar harvest methods, e.g., seed tree, shelterwood, and coppice) within 0.25 mile (0.4 kilometer) of known, occupied roost trees during the pup season (June 1-July 31);
- Avoid cutting or destroying known, occupied roost trees during the pup season (June 1-July 31) ■

Northampton Meeting...(from page 1)



(l-r) Northampton Ranger Rodney Black, consulting forester Justin Boone, and Northampton County Forestry Association President Billy Ivey pose for a photo. Boone accepted the group's Landowner of the Year Award on behalf of Sandra Sperry.

"Every logging job that we looked at had a plan written on it," stated Black, "and it was planted with or without cost share, so that's commendable. Consultants and landowner are doing a great job of getting these tract replanted."

In addition to reviewing last year's forest management achievements in the county, Black announced that Sandra Sperry is the 2015 Northampton County Forest Landowner of the Year. Due to inclement weather, Sperry was unable to make the meeting, but consulting forester, Justin Boone with Michael D. Neal & Associates accepted the award on her behalf.

The featured speaker of the night was Dirsch, who provided a quick overview of Klausner as a global company and what they hoped to achieve in North Carolina.

Klausner grew out of an Austrian mill owned by the Klausner family. The current chairman, Fritz Klausner, took control of the company in 1987. He sought to grow the company after the unification of Germany, growing his enterprise to five mills throughout Europe.

By the early 2000's, about 70-80 percent of all lumber produced by Klausner mills were heading to the United States. The next step was to establish mills in America. The company began to study possible location sites in the southeastern portion of the United States. The housing market crash and subsequent economic slump slowed Klausner's plans, forcing the company to restructure and reevaluate its expansion.

In 2010, the company renewed its study of the southeast.

"Infrastructure is important to us," stated Dirsch. "Highways, interstates, port access, electricity, natural gas and of course, wood supply."

Dirsch noted that while it was clear not all facilities were operating at full capacity during the slump of the 2005- 2010, the company's research pointed to a positive log supply in each of the areas that were selected.

The first mill constructed is in Florida. It started production this January, roughly nine months after the start of construction. In North Carolina, the new Klausner mill will be located in Enfield. One of the top attractions for Enfield was its location in one of the state's most abundant supply of wood.

"With everything active, it always showed that we
(continued on page 7)

LANDOWNERS

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA TIMBER CONFERENCE - APRIL 30, 2015

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program will be hosting the Western North Carolina Timber Conference on April 30, 2015. This is an informative all-day conference held annually in the Asheville area. Speakers include updates from the U.S. Forest Service, North Carolina Forest Service and other government and non-profit organizations concerned with forest health and productivity. For more information on the WNC Timber Conference or the Tree Farm Program in general, please contact Leslie McCormick at (919) 917-8646. ■

WILSON FORESTRY CLUB LEARNS MORE ABOUT AGRITOURISM

The Wilson County Forestry Association met in March. Dr. Carla Barbieri, an Extension Tourism Specialist with North Carolina State University provided an excellent overview of the value that agritourism can add to the family farm.



Dr. Barbieri spoke with Wilson County landowners about agritourism options. ■

Barbieri presented several different examples of where farmers have added value to their farm and reached new markets by directly engaging the general public with an agritourism venture.

She stressed that this may not be suitable for every farmer, but for those farmers, whether their crop is trees or sweet potatoes, who have a passion for their land, it can be a great opportunity to increase farm profits while educating the public.

The NCFA was happy to be one of the sponsors of this event and brought materials along with the NC SFI State Implementation Committee display.

Scotch Meadows Golf Tournament

When: Thursday May 28, 2015

Where: Scotch Meadows Golf Course in Laurinburg, NC

8000 Tartan Road Laurinburg

Shot-gun start: 1:00 pm. Please check in by 12:00 pm.

Cost: \$65 per player or \$245 per team, includes green fees, cart, food, prizes (including a \$10,000 hole-in-one challenge) and beverages. Dinner and awards to follow immediately after golf. Please call Scott Brewer at (910) 620-2503 or Boyd McLaurin (910) 217-0189 with questions. ■

The Forest Resources Association (FRA) held its southeastern regional meeting in Wilmington in March. (Right) former North Carolina Senator and current NCFA Executive Board Member Michael Walters addressed the audience as part of the program. NCFA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson was one of the presenters during the meeting. ■



NCFA ANNUAL MEETING WILL HEAD TO SOUTH CAROLINA THIS YEAR OCTOBER 7-9, 2015

The NCFA's Annual Meeting will take place on October 7-9, 2015 at the Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes. The room rate is \$142 and the cutoff date is September 6, 2015. The phone number for NCFA members to call for a reservation is (843) 449-8880.

The committee is still working on some details for the speaking program, but the format has been established. The meeting will open with recreational events on Wednesday followed by a reception with a band performance. Thursday will feature an informative speaking program. On Thursday night, there will be the traditional awards dinner followed by entertainment.

NEW SILENT AUCTION LEADERS: The NCFA staff would like to thank Billy Cipriani of Claybourn Walters Logging and Scott Askew of Jordan Lumber for agreeing to lead the 2015 Silent Auction effort. Cipriani and Askew will be looking to hear from NCFA members who would like to donate items, events, and trips to the fundraising effort. ■



The Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF) met for two days in Holly Springs in March. The meeting was entitled, "The Business of Consulting" and drew over 50 consultants. NCFA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson spoke to the group on the first day of their meeting.

EQUIPMENT EXPO 2015 HITS ATLANTA

The Forest Products Equipment & Machinery EXPO 2015 will be held June 10-12 at Atlanta's Georgia World Congress Center. The show for 2015 is shaping up to be the largest event in several years - almost 35% larger than the 2013 event - benefitting from an industry-wide recovery and many companies now poised to upgrade their operations. More than 150 companies are set to exhibit the latest equipment and services for the forest products industry, across nearly 50,000 square feet of indoor space.

For questions about the show, contact Eric Gee, SFPA's exposition director at (504) 443-4464 option 3 or by e-mail at egee@sfpa.org. ■



SHORTLEAF PINE WORKSHOP

The Greater Uwharrie Conservation Partnership, in conjunction with the Shortleaf Pine Initiative, is hosting a Shortleaf Pine workshop on May 12-13, 2015 at the James Garner Center in Troy, NC. There will be CFE credits for foresters. The workshop is free, and lunch is provided the first day.

To learn more, go online at <http://gucpworkshop.weebly.com/>. ■

Northampton Meeting...(from page 5)

had a positive result," stated Dirsch. "With all facilities running, everybody could still have access to enough logs."

The Klausner mill takes its own approach to creating its products that are marketing through five sales offices stretched across the globe. The products are made to meet specific specifications and processed through a linear procedure.

"It is a linear process, the saws do not move," explained Dirsch. "We always use a uniform log. All of the logs have same size and length before they enter production. The saw blades are set for to create specific products. That's one of our strengths. We are not focusing on one market or one type of lumber."

Another difference for the Klausner mill from your typical American mill is the drying time. Instead of a two-day drying period, the process takes three to seven days.



Markus Dirsch provided an overview of Klausner's operations.

When it is completed and running at full capacity, the mill is expected to accept about 220-240 truckloads a day and about 80 - 100 truckloads of lumber products will leave daily.

One of the popular question for the group of landowners gathered was what sort of "uniform log" will the mill be looking to accept. In general terms, the mill will be looking for chip n saw and sawtimber. The chip n saw dimensions are five inch top, 9 inch butt, and a minimum of 29 feet in length. The sawtimber stats are an eight inch top, 13 inch butt, and a 29 foot minimum in length.

Dirsch also introduced Esther von Roehl, who is responsible for procurement for the mills in the United States.

"We want to become part of your community, we want to be part of the wood industry here in North Carolina, and we are also here to help you with the managing your forests," stated Dirsch in his closing. ■

SESAF PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

The Southeastern Society of American Foresters (SESAF) has published a new book as an education project. The book is called: How Forestry Came to the Southeast; The Role of the Society of American Foresters. The SESAF expects that foresters and forestry association members interested in the roots of scientific forestry in the conservation movement in the United States will enjoy a book written by foresters about forestry. You can find out more about the book on Amazon.com. ■



LEAF OUT - VISIBILITY IS REDUCED NOW THAT SPRING IS HERE

By Bryan Wagner, Forestry Mutual

A logger's vision and visibility are key factors to his safety in the woods. Visibility in the logging woods is generally good from November to the end of March. The month of April and into May brings a natural phenomena and it is called leaf out. The deciduous forest blooms to new life with a fresh growth of new leaves. What was once a bright and open environment in the late fall and winter, with good visibility, has been transformed to a lush green environment with filtered light.



As the forest rejuvenates itself, risk is increased due to reduced visibility caused by the new canopy of leaves. This new canopy hides overhead hazards, or death from above. Overhead hazards are the leading cause for catastrophic injury and death in the forest industry. Please take the time to brief your crew on overhead hazards and the reduced visibility caused by leaf out.

- Be visible; wear high visibility safety colors to make your presence known.
- Use approved personal protective equipment (PPE) for head protection.
- Look and scan at least 50 feet ahead on your ground path of travel.
- Look and scan at least 100 feet ahead for all overhead hazards.
- Don't place yourself under any object that can fall or move due to gravity or the loss of hydraulic pressure.
- Maintain at least two tree lengths from all felling operations.
- Maintain communication with anyone in the work area. Verify their location with frequent eye contact.
- Never walk into a work area with running or moving equipment until the equipment is stopped, engine cut-off and implements grounded.
- Timber-cutters shall use proper felling techniques which include proper face notches, with no by-pass, and adequate hinge-wood to control the tree's fall to the ground.
- Timber-cutters should be using the "5-part" felling plan. This plan reduces risk during the manual felling process.

New life grows before our eyes in the spring logging woods. The reduced visibility caused by this new life could be responsible for taking a life. Look Up! ■

IP Announces Improvements for Riegelwood...(from page 4)

plans to expand fluff pulp production at Riegelwood and streamlines and strengthens its coated paperboard business.

"International Paper's printing papers and coated paperboard businesses remain strategic to the company and these moves capture value while allowing for strategic repositioning and growth," Amick said. International Paper is well positioned to support current and future coated paperboard customer demand from its two world-class mills in Texarkana, Texas, and Augusta, Georgia. ■

TREELINE

APRIL 2015

**BRYAN WAGNER
WAS STUMPING
FOR SAFETY
AT THE LATEST
ProLogger
BASE COURSE!**



MEETINGS

Board of Directors

May 21, 2015 at Brownstone Hotel, Raleigh, NC.

Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee

April 8, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at McLaurin's Farm, McColl, SC

NC SFI State Implementation Committee

May 27, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at NCEA office, Raleigh, NC

EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

April 29 - May 1, 2015 - Forestry & Environmental Camp, Greensboro, NC

May 20, 2015 - Forestry Day in the Legislature, Halifax Mall, Raleigh, NC.

May 20, 2015 - Friends of Forestry PAC Reverse Raffle, Brownstone Hotel, Raleigh, NC.

June 16-19, 2015 - Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy, New Bern, NC

June 22-26, 2015 - Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy, Asheville, NC

July 7-10, 2015 - Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy, Asheboro, NC

September 18-19, 2015 - Mid-Atlantic Logging Expo, Smithfield-Selma area.

October 7-9, 2015 - NCEA Annual Meeting, Myrtle Beach, SC.

October 26-30, 2015 - Forestry & Environmental Camp, Wilmington, NC

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