

TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

NCFA BOARD ANNOUNCES NEW DUES STRUCTURE FOR 2014

The NCFA's Board of Directors approved a new dues structure for the association at their fall board meeting on October 4, 2013. The Board reviewed and approved a recommendation report from a membership task force that spent much of 2013 exploring and developing a new dues structure that would be more representative of the forest products industry. The NCFA has not revised its dues structure since 2000.

The membership task force consisted of Jeff Hanks, Chair Hanks Lumber; Ray Allen, Uwharrie Lumber; Eddie Campbell, FMIC; Chip Capps, Arcola Logging; Jim Durham, IP; Ashley Faircloth, Hoffman Forest; Robert Jordan, Jordan Lumber; Allen Plaster, Premier Forestry; Frank Rackley, Weyerhaeuser; Jim Reavis, Enviva; Bernard Rose, Kapstone; Jim Sitts, Columbia Forest Products; Dennis Stone, Canal Wood; Ken Stuart, Domtar; Bob Schaefer, NCFA; Jack Swanner, NCFA.

After months of deliberation, the task force recommended a modest increase for all membership categories. On the average, the increase is a 10 percent bump. After sampling other forestry associations in the southeast, the NCFA was at the lowest range in terms of dues. In addition to an increase in dues, the task force also recommended that the NCFA seek to increase its membership in each category by 10 percent.

The NCFA will no longer have just have 11 categories of membership. The new structure breaks membership into 17 categories. Those categories are: 1) Pulp & Paper, 2) Bio Energy, 3) Chip Mills, 4) Sawmills, 5) Secondary Manufacturing, 6) Engineered Wood, 7) Wood Suppliers/Dealers/Brokers/Woodyards, 8) Logging Companies, 9) Transportation Companies, 10) Landowners, 11) Individuals, 12) Hunt Clubs, 13) Consulting Forestry Entities, 14) By Products, 15) Equipment, 16) ProLogger, 17) Service Industries, Other Non-Profits.

After the recommendation was presented, NCFA Board of Directors member Brad Howard made the motion to approve the new structure. The motion was seconded by Board Member Marshall Thompson. The motion was approved on a unanimous vote. The new dues rates will go into effect on January 1, 2014.

"When we first started this process," stated NCFA Executive Vice President Bob Schaefer, "We actually thought we were going to simplify things and create less membership categories. But, when you look at how our industry has evolved over the past 20 years, and all the different types of industries that are actually using the forest resource, it was clear we needed to redefine our membership."

The goal of the new membership structure is to clearly define each category. This will help existing members understand where they stand and in the future will make it easier to recruit new members to the association. ■

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MEMBERS CAN SIGN UP

TODAY AT WWW.NCFORESTRY.ORG



WILMINGTON CAMP HOSTED ROLAND GRISE AND MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN OCTOBER



Students from Ms. Kathy Larkins' class celebrate winning the overall Forestry Camp competition.

The NCFA's Forestry & Environmental Camp hosted close to 600 sixth grade students from Roland Grise and Murray Middle Schools in October. The competition between the two schools was tight and the enthusiasm for the competition was high, which of course, drove up the volume!

Murray Middle School was making its first trip to the camp and two of the school's classes finished in the top three of the competition. The class rooms took the names of their teachers. The Larkins Team from Murray finished first in four of the five events to capture first place overall. A side note here is that Ms. Larkins did teach at Roland Grise for several years. The second place team went to the Weesner Team, which captured two first place finishes and one (continued on page 2)

NC STATE ENDOWMENT BOARD SIGNS \$150 MILLION HOFMANN FOREST SALE AGREEMENT

The Board of Trustees for the Endowment Fund of North Carolina State University has agreed to terms for the sale of Hofmann Forest - a move that will pave the way for unprecedented investments in students, faculty, research and extension in the College of Natural Resources (CNR) and continued access for students and faculty.

Jerry Walker, manager of the purchaser, has signed an agreement to buy the 79,000-acre property near Jacksonville, NC for \$150 million. Walker is a third-generation agribusinessman who runs the family's multi-state agriculture business based in Illinois.

Proceeds from the sale will be placed in an endowment with the annual return of interest benefitting the College of Natural Resources, in keeping

with the intent of the original deed gifted to the Endowment Fund in 1977 by the private non-profit Forestry Foundation (now known as the Natural Resources Foundation). The benefit to CNR is estimated to be \$6 million annually, which is more than three times the current annual yield from the forest.

The purchase agreement also indicates the buyer's intent to address additional objectives set by the Natural Resources Foundation, which include access for students and faculty to conduct research, preserving the legacy by



keeping the Hofmann name, and maintaining a working forest on the property.

"The income generated annually by the investment of the sale proceeds will provide tremendous educational and research opportunities for the College of Natural Resources and its students," said NC

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2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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DO YOU HAVE A NEWS ITEM?

TreeLine is the monthly newsletter of the North Carolina Forestry Association. News items and photographs should be sent to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org.

The NCFA, the state's oldest forest conservation organization, is a private, nonprofit partnership of forest managers, landowners, mill operators, loggers, furniture manufacturers and others that actively promote healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners and forestry-related businesses and organizations that responsibly manage or use forests.

NCFA, 1600 Glenwood Ave., Suite I, Raleigh, NC 27608. Telephone (919) 834-3943 or (800) 231-7723. ■



FOREST ROADS UPDATE

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee recently approved the Silviculture Regulatory Consistency Act (H.R. 2026) that seeks to preserve the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 37-year-old policy that successfully regulates forest roads as non-point sources under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

As some may recall, the Supreme Court ruled on March 20, 2013 in favor of forestry interests by reversing a May 2011 ruling from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (NEDC v. Brown) that forest roads should be regulated by mandatory permits under the CWA. The Court ruled that the EPA was within its authority to regulate forest roads as it saw fit. However, the Court did not resolve the more fundamental question of whether forest roads are point sources or non-point under the law. Point source discharges, which are typically applied to manufacturing facilities, require mandatory CWA industrial stormwater discharge permits.

The Silviculture Regulatory Consistency Act (H.R. 2026), which was introduced by Representatives Jamie Herrera Buetler (R-WA) and Kurt Schrader (D-OR) on May 16, 2013 and supported by 67 cosponsors, has also been unanimously added to the House version of the Farm Bill that is now in conference with the Senate. This legislation confirms that forest roads are non-point sources and should be treated as such. ■

SILENT AUCTION RAISES OVER \$9,000 FOR THE NCFA'S FORESTRY FOUNDATION



Fay Raynor

This year's silent auction, which was directed by Fay Raynor of Domtar and a committee of volunteers, raised over \$9,000 during the 2013 Annual Meeting. With over 75 items on display, NCFA members had plenty of choices when it came time to supporting the NCFA's Forestry Foundation. The Foundation supports education initiatives and the production of educational materials such as posters for teachers and the general public.

"Fay did an excellent job of collecting quality items from a wide range of people within our membership," stated NCFA Executive Vice President Bob Schaefer. "Over the past few years, we have really bolstered this part of our Annual Meeting and it has become one of the highlights for our members during the meeting. Our members have really stepped up with special trips for hunting, fishing or just hanging out at the beach in addition to the great items that are donated each year. We hope we can continue to build on this next year." ■

NCFA Forestry Camp...(from page 1)

third place, and was also from Murray. The third place team overall was the Spooner Team from Roland Grise.

"We had a great week," stated the NCFA's Executive Vice President, Bob Schaefer. "The teachers from Murray were really pleased to be part of our camp this year. Our friends at Roland Grise are always appreciative of the time and effort our volunteers put forth in making the camp a fun and exciting learning experience."

The top three teams are rewarded with a pizza party for their efforts during the week. All students received a camp t-shirt and a cup from Anthony Andrews, who was recently named Forestry Mutual's Logger of the Year, that showcases his new logo (see page 4). ■



Bucket Brigade Trio: Brett Goulding, Dale Strickland and Everette Bullock tried their best to stay dry during the bucket brigade competition. Not an easy task with buckets and water flying around.

"Bob, just wanted to say thank you to you and your team for the amazing experience that you provided for our students last week at the NC Forestry camp. Our students were so excited and eager to participate in the activities and events that you offered. Better yet, our teachers thought the camp was amazing and are already looking forward to next year. It is a rare thing for so many students, teachers, and parents to agree on an event but all of the folks from Murray Middle School agreed - 'The camp is an awesome, amazing, experiential event and we were so glad to be able to attend.' Thank you so much for allowing us to participate. We look forward to working with you next year and many years to come." - Kathy Larkins, Murray Middle School Teacher

LOOKING FOR PRESENTATIONS FROM THE 2013 NCFA ANNUAL MEETING?

A complete list of the speakers and their respective presentations from the NCFA's 2013 Annual Meeting are listed on the NCFA's website under the members section. Members can also find speaker information and their presentations on the NCFA's Annual Meeting App. The application is still available. **Next year's meeting will take place in Greensboro at the Grandover Resort on October 1-3, 2013.** ■

THANKS TO OUR 2013 SPONSORS

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POINT OF VIEW

SELL THE HOFMANN FOREST

Dr. Robert D. Brown, Retired Dean of the College of Natural Resources, North Carolina State University

By the time this issue of TreeLine is published, the Hofmann Forest may have been sold, or not. A small group of vocal faculty and staff who are opposed to the potential sale have filed suit, and as a result no one from North Carolina State University or the Natural Resources Foundation (NRFB) can comment publicly. Although the plaintiffs have every right to voice their dissent, some of the information that has been published has been misleading.

As a brief recap, the Hofmann Forest was purchased by "Doc" Hofmann, the first Dean of the College of Forestry in 1934. He formed the North Carolina Forestry Foundation (NCF) to hold the title and sold bonds to pay for the Forest. The bonds were paid off in 1972, and the land was deeded over from the NCF to the NC Endowment.

As the College grew, it developed from a forestry program to a more broadly-based natural resources curriculum, to include Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology; Environmental Technology; Paper Science and Engineering; Wood Products; Parks and Recreation; Tourism; as well as Sports Management and Professional Golf Management.

Profits from the Hofmann have been distributed across the college's three departments, with about half going to the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources. Some funds were kept in the Dean's Office for college-wide projects. Eventually the College changed its name to the College of Natural Resources (CNR) to reflect its growth and academic diversity.

The merger of the Pulp and Paper Foundation and the Forestry Foundation into the Natural Resources Foundation, approved unanimously by both, was also done to better reflect the overall interests of the college. This structure is similar to that of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), which has a dozen or more foundations and groups raising funds for their favorite programs, be they poultry, horticulture or horses. The NRFB is composed of forest industry executives and alumni.

The funds from the Hofmann are used for undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, support staff salaries, vehicles, research and teaching equipment, visiting lecturers, support of student clubs, subsidy of Study Abroad programs, renovation of labs and classrooms, matching funds for state and federal grants, start up funds for new faculty, and other projects.

The college-wide uses are not "overhead" as some suggest. Each year the dean prepares a budget in collaboration with his/her department heads, associate deans and other staff, the Natural Resources Foundation, the Forest Manager, his staff and the NRF Executive

Director. Eventually, the chancellor must approve the budget.

The concept of selling all or part of the Hofmann has been around a long time. It was discussed as early as the tenure of Dr. Eric Ellwood, Dean of CNR after Doc Hofmann. Deans Larry Tombaugh and Larry Nielsen, and Interim Dean J.B. Jett, also saw the value of selling the Forest.

When Dr. Nielsen became dean, the income from the Hofmann was still only \$ 500,000 per year when its total value was about \$ 100 million – about a .05% return on investment. He directed the faculty and staff to either increase the income or consider selling it. A more modern, yet sustainable management plan was developed, with a faster conversion of natural stands to plantation stands with better quality seedlings.

In 2009, after a peak income from the Hofmann to the college of \$3.5 million per year, the income from the Hofmann plummeted to about \$1.5 million per year, a 57% decrease.

With a current value of about \$125 – 150 million, that is only about a 1% return on investment. The University Endowment normally returns 4% with the remaining interest enhancing the endowment corpus. That would amount to about \$5 – 6 million annually for the college. Yes, we could pay for a new building and other improvements with that, as well as replacing the dozens of scholarships and fellowships, as well as faculty positions lost from the Hofmann and state budget cuts.

The critics of the use of Hofmann funds suggest that the shortage of funds could be corrected by cutting back on the management costs at the Hofmann and by reducing funding of the CNR Development Office. The operating budget at the forest has already been trimmed to the bare minimum, reducing the staff by one and reducing infrastructure improvements. The management staff at the Hofmann Forest has done a remarkable job of stewardship during difficult financial times. They are a dedicated, hard-working and competent group. The CNR Development Office has only four employees, whereas the College of Agriculture has over 20. Cutting the budget of your fundraising staff when money is short seems counter intuitive.

Some say that the mission of the Hofmann Forest is to teach, research and demonstrate, and while that may have been its original mission, but it is not the case in recent history. A review of the past and current teaching and research productivity on the Hofmann shows that the forest has been used very little for research. In fact, from 1934 – 2000, only half a dozen scientific papers were published from work on the Hofmann, an average of about one paper

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Bob Brown



PROLOGGERS

PROLOGGER DIES IN WOODS IN WILKES COUNTY

N CFA ProLogger Jack Gordon Eller Sr., 56, died when he was struck in the head by the tree while conducting a timber harvest in Wilkes County in October. From all reports, Eller was struck by a dead tree while he was trimming the limbs of a tree he had just felled. Eller was wearing PPE, including his hard hat, at the time of the fatal accident. The dead tree is believed to be brought down by the gusting winds that were in the area at the time of the accident.

"We are truly sorry to hear this news," stated NCFAs Vice President Jack Swanner. "This is just further proof that logging is a dangerous occupation, plain and simple. It's why I have so much respect for what our ProLoggers do for our industry every day out in the woods. Jack Eller was a true professional and a quality individual. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends."

The NCFAs newest training module, Module 14, contains a segment that reviews overhead hazards and the potential dangers whenever loggers and/or foresters are working in the woods. The segment is hosted by Forestry Mutual's President Keith Biggs and features Forestry Mutual's Chain Saw Trainer Bryan Wagner. ■

MODULE 14 SCHEDULE UP AND RUNNING

The NCFAs ProLogger continuing education element training, Module 14, is now being shown throughout the state. Module 14 details four topics in the two hour program, including Rutting, Emergency Plans, Overhead Hazards and Technology. The NCFAs would like to thank all the ProLoggers and training partners who participating in the making of this module.

The NCFAs would also like to thank the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee and Lampe & Malphrus Lumber Company for its support of the video.

As a reminder, PROLOGGERS must take Module 14 by **JUNE 30, 2014** to remain in the program. Any ProLogger who fails to take Module 14 by this deadline will be **REMOVED from the program** and will have to take the base course over again to re-enter the program. ProLogger dues must be paid to the NCFAs by July 31, 2014. Failure to pay dues will also disqualify a ProLogger from the program.

ProLoggers are encouraged to check with their suppliers in the coming weeks to find out when a Module 14 class will be held in their area. A complete list of classes will be highlighted in this newsletter, on our website, and as part of our weekly e-mail newsletter. ■

MODULE 14 SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location
11/5	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Roaring River VFD, Roaring River, NC
11/8	8:00 - 2:30 p.m.	OSHA Update & Module 14 New London FD, New London, NC
11/19	5:30 - 8:30 p.m.	McDowell Tech, Marion, NC
11/21	6:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Forsyth Ag Center, Winston-Salem, NC ■

DEMO FINAL NUMBERS AND CFE CREDITS

The preliminary attendance numbers are in for this year's Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. The successful show hosted close to 3,000 visitors and featured over 75 exhibitors, including a dozen live demonstrations.

If you attended the Expo and would like to obtain a copy of your CFE sheet, please check in with the NCAPL or the NCFAs to receive a copy. The complete list is on the NCFAs website under the Expo section. Click on the master file of all participants. Keep in mind that you **WILL NOT** want to print the entire document. Find your name and print your record only since it is a large file. ■



**MID-ATLANTIC
LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO**

ANTHONY ANDREWS NAMED FORESTRY MUTUAL'S E.K. PITTMAN WINNER



(l-r) Forestry Mutual's Scott McKee, Tyler Andrews, Betty Andrews, Anthony Andrews and Garrett Andrews pose for a photo at the NCFAs Annual Meeting after being named Forestry Mutual's E.K. Pittman Award Winner.

Each year, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company presents its E.K. Pittman Safety Awards to its top safety-performing policyholders in the respective states it now operates. In North Carolina, Forestry Mutual invites its winners to the NCFAs Annual Meeting.

The E.K. Pittman Safety Awards are named in honor of the first Chairman of the Board of Forestry Mutual. Pittman, who served on Forestry Mutual's Board of Directors from 1971-1984, was a strong proponent of safety in the workplace and in the woods. The Pittman Award is Forestry Mutual's most prestigious award.

This year's E.K. Pittman Award for Logger of the Year in North Carolina was presented to Anthony Andrews of Trenton, NC. Andrews began his logging career in 1978 when he went to work for his uncle. Andrews started his own company, Anthony B. Andrews Logging, Inc., in 1984. He has cut for several mills over his career but now primarily harvests softwood for Georgia-Pacific. His crew includes seven individuals and one truck driver.

Andrews, who has been a policyholder with Forestry Mutual since 2002, makes safety a top priority. His approach provides some insight to his business approach.

"You don't make it on your own," stated Andrews. "You need help. If one person gets hurt, it hurts the whole crew."

The safety program at Andrews Logging is under the expert direction of Betty Andrews, Anthony's wife. Betty visits the logging job each month to conduct the safety meetings for the crew. In addition, Andrews Logging maintains emergency response plans for each logging operation that are kept on site, requires everyone to wear high visibility clothing, and employs several special procedures for truck drivers when they visit the logging deck.

Andrews also has developed and championed a new campaign and logo for his company, "Plant, Grow, Harvests - America's Renewable Resource." The logo has been made into stickers, placed on cups and also most recently, mud flaps have been designed with the logo.



Andrews has developed his own logo to showcase the benefits of forest products.

CRAVEN COUNTY WOOD ENERGY MARKS BIOENERGY DAY WITH TOUR OF FACILITY

Craven County Wood Energy opened up its facility on October 17, 2013 to celebrate National Bioenergy Day. Bioenergy refers to any industry that produces electricity and heat from wood and other organic materials. The facility hosted tours in the morning and sponsored a luncheon.

The NCFAs Chairman of the Board, Ashley Faircloth, was in attendance and conducted an interview with News Channel 14. As the supervisor of the Hofmann Forests, Faircloth was able to provide a perspective as a landowner and from the NCFAs on the benefits power plants such as Craven County Wood Energy provide to the community.

The tours gave invited guests the opportunity to see the entire process from the deposit of wood waste into the large drums through the power generated facility and the large chip yard.

Craven produces roughly 48 megawatts of energy on a consistent basis, providing power to New Bern and the surrounding area. The facility operates 24/7 and has a staff of 28 employees. The plant utilizes over 500,000 tons of biomass annually. ■



NCFAs Chairman of the Board Ashley Faircloth (left) speaks with News Channel 14 News about the benefits of bioenergy to the state's environment and economy.



(center) Jimmy Whitford led tours of the Craven County Wood Energy facility, providing a step-by-step look at how energy is produced at the plant.

DUPONT FOREST PLANS TIMBER HARVEST

DuPont State Recreational Forest will conduct a timber harvest on 46 acres at Guion Farm starting around November 1, 2013. The start date for the work is dependent on the weather, but visitors to the forest need to be aware that there will be some periodic trail closures as well as forestry equipment in the woods.

"The harvest is in alignment with DuPont's Land Resource Management Plan," said Michael Sweat, DuPont management forester. "This harvest has been in the planning stages for a while and will not only improve the health of the forest but will address some safety concerns in this area as well."

White pines are declining in the section of forest where the harvest is planned and since a bike path winds through this section, removing the pines will help to increase safety in the area. The harvested area also will be used to educate the public by demonstrating several regeneration methods used in forestry, including some natural regeneration and the planting of shortleaf pine.

Visitors to DuPont should log on to <http://ncforestservice.gov> or the N.C. Forest Service Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NCForestService, email dupontsf.ncfs@ncagr.gov, or call 828-877-6527 for more information about trail closures. DuPont staff also will be updating kiosks within the forest as harvest continues. ■

Sell the Hofmann Forest...(from page 3)

every 11 years. Since 2000, about one paper per year has been published. Could the Hofmann be used for research in the future? Sure, but if the last 79 years of history are an indication, the answer is, probably not. Some faculty say that the Hofmann is simply too far away to conduct research there.

It also became obvious many years ago that the Hofmann was too far away to utilize for effective teaching, and the Schenck Forest, just minutes from campus, and the Hill Forest, north of Durham, were developed as teaching and demonstration forests. CNR recently spent \$1.5 million upgrading the housing, dining, and teaching facilities at the Hill Forest. In fact, the Hill Forest would be a great location for a NCFAs Board meeting. The sale of the Hofmann would not prohibit continued trips to the Hofmann, as they do now.

The critics also suggest that the decision to sell the Hofmann was done in secret. This is not true. The discussion has been long and widespread. When interest in an easement, partial purchase or fee purchase of the entire Hofmann Forest was first contemplated, the NRFB authorized expending funds for an appraisal. This took several months. In the meantime, other entities, such as the Marine Corps, a conservation NGO and commercial interests were invited to conduct their own appraisals. Naturally these appraisals are proprietary, and meeting to discuss them could not be open to the public.

Also note that although 25% of the CNR faculty and staff signed a petition to not sell the Hofmann, 75% did not sign. Likewise, literally thousands of students and alumni did not sign the petition, even though they had only heard the critic's side of the issue. The concept that there is unanimous opposition to the sale is simply not true. The argument that the Hofmann will be developed into housing is also not true. Section 10, 4,000 acres or 5% of the total, located below Highway 17 was designated for potential development some years ago. But, in addition to 20,000 acres of pocosin, most of the forest is in a flood zone, unsuitable for housing development.

Apparently the Hofmann Forest now has a potential buyer, and negotiations have been underway for several months. Quite likely they not only involve the financial value of the Forest, but whether the sale will include keeping the Hofmann name, continuing access by NCSU students, continuing current research projects, and a long-term or in-perpetuity conservation easement to keep the Hofmann a working forest. It is possible the Marine Corps and one or more land trusts may be involved as well.

We should remember that the North Carolina State College of Natural Resources has grown and has become one of the premier colleges of its kind not because it had a large forest, but because of the income from that forest. Monetizing that asset will establish the largest endowment of its kind for a natural resources college in the world. No doubt there will be a good bit of emotional sense of loss when the Forest is sold. But, this should be a business decision, not a decision based on emotion or nostalgia. The potential income from the University Endowment will restore the funds that are needed to keep North Carolina State's College of Natural Resources the premier college of its kind in the nation, if not the world. ■

NCFAs MEMBERSHIP MOURNS LOSS OF WILLIAM "BUB" PARTON IN OCTOBER

William "Bub" Parton, age 76, of Gilkey, NC, died Friday, October 4, 2013, at his home. Parton, president and CEO of Gilkey Lumber Company, had been with Gilkey Lumber since 1958. Parton's expertise in log purchasing ensured that Gilkey Lumber produced top quality lumber in an efficient manner.

Parton, a member of Little White Country Church, was son of the late Jess and Alma Parton and native of Rutherford County. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War. He was a past member of Gilkey Ruritan Club. He was a member of the Tar Heel Beagle Club.

He is survived by his wife; Mildred Ashe Parton, and two sons, Tim Parton and his wife Melanie and Scott Parton and his wife Nadja. He has four sisters: Lois Hayes and her husband Merrick; Joanne Norville and her husband the late Ray Norville; Gail Thompson and her husband Robert; Lynn Raichle and her husband Ken; and one brother: Mike Parton and his wife Gail. He has four grandchildren: Will and Savannah Parton. Matthew and Kaleb Parton.

"Bub was truly an innovator in the hardwood lumber business and was respected by his fellow sawmillers," posted Joe Denig, an North Carolina State University Wood Products Extension Agent. "When he built the "new" mill it was a true step forward for the industry and set the standard for others to follow. I always learned something or gained an insight from him when I visited him. As a person, Bub was always easy going, and I never heard him say anything derogatory. In other words, he was a good man." ■

LANDOWNERS' CORNER

WELLER ADDS NCFA'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO LIST OF AWARDS

Al Weller was presented with the NCFA's Distinguished Service Award at the NCFA's 2013 Annual Meeting. Weller spent his entire career with Weyerhaeuser Company, serving forest landowners through his dedication to his role as a forester and as a strong supporter of the ideals of the American Tree Farm System.

The award was Weller's second major recognition since his retirement from Weyerhaeuser last year after 40 years of service. Last summer, the North Carolina Tree Farm Program presented Weller with its first-ever North Carolina Tree Farm Program's Distinguished Service Award at his retirement party held at the Cool Springs Education Center in New Bern.

After graduating from Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in Forestry in 1968 and a four-year stint in the U.S. Marine Corps, Weller joined Weyerhaeuser in 1972. His career included service in virtually every aspect of the company's Eastern Region Timberlands operations, including land management, procurement and Weyerhaeuser's Eastern Timberlands Region Tree Farm Family landowner assistance program.

Weller was one of the leaders in the effort to develop and maintain the company's Cool Springs Environmental Education Center after the property was acquired in the late 1990's. He designed and built some of the shelters, laid out many of the trails and conducted educational tours of the facility for various school groups and environmental organizations.

With Weyerhaeuser's support, Weller was an early volunteer for the North Carolina Tree Farm Program, beginning in the 1970's until the program ceased to operate in the state during in the early 1990s. He served on the North Carolina Tree Farm Committee for many years, including years as the state chair. Weller conducted numerous inspections and re-inspections over the years and helped keep the program alive at the local level despite the program's inactive status.

In 2000, he was one of five volunteers to step forward and revive the Tree Farm Program in North Carolina by hosting the Tree Farm National Convention in 2002. Since 2000 up to his recent retirement, Weller served as the North Carolina Tree Farm Program State Administrator, a position that required him to process every re-inspection and new inspection report submitted by Tree Farm Inspectors across North Carolina. Weller also led the effort to conduct Tree Farm Inspector training workshops across the state. He also served as the primary coordinator for the state's first-ever third party audit. ■



Patti and Al Weller pose for a photo at the NCFA's Annual Meeting. Since his retirement, Weller has been presented with Distinguished Service Awards from the NCFA and NC Tree Farm.

TOP TREE FARM PHOTO

The American Tree Farm System held a photo contest this past year in several different categories. The photo to the right was the overall winner in the "Multi-Generation" category. The photo is of NCFA member Bryan Hulka (far right), his parents, Barbara and Jerry Hulka, and his nieces, Katherine Hulka and Helen Hulka. The photo was taken by Bryan's brother on the Hulka Family Tree Farm located in Hyde County. ■



USDA ANNOUNCES FUNDING TO DEVELOP ADVANCED BIOFUELS PROJECTS

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced in October the availability of \$181 million to develop commercial-scale biorefineries or retrofit existing facilities with appropriate technology to develop advanced biofuels. The Biorefinery Assistance Program was created through the 2008 Farm Bill and is administered by USDA Rural Development. It provides loan guarantees to viable commercial-scale facilities to develop new and emerging technologies for advanced biofuels. Eligible entities include Indian tribes, state or local governments, corporations, farmer co-ops, agricultural producer associations, higher education institutions, rural electric co-ops, public power entities or consortium of any of the above.

Applications for biorefinery assistance are due by January 30, 2014. More information about how to apply is available in the October 2, 2013 Federal Register announcement or by contacting the USDA Rural Development National Office. ■

Hofmann Forest Sale Agreement Finalized... (from page 1)

State Chancellor Randy Woodson.

"As an asset, the forest's full potential was not being realized," Woodson added. "We have an obligation to our stakeholders - our students, faculty, staff and alumni - to ensure our colleges are positioned to provide a robust academic environment that attracts world-class faculty and the best and brightest students."



Mary Watzin, Dean of N.C. State University's College of Natural Resources

Additional resources generated by the endowment will go toward promoting growth in research and academic offerings within CNR, and making progress toward the college's mission and strategic plan, which includes transforming the college into the go-to leader for solutions to natural resource challenges across the state, nation and around the globe.

"We're confident the resulting impact from Doc Hofmann's legacy will be nothing short of transformational for our college," said CNR Dean Mary Watzin. "CNR's vision is to be a world leader among universities that are creating healthier and more sustainable communities."

The transaction will not affect the existing zoning of the property which permits its use for timber and agricultural purposes, the preservation of the two existing wetlands or the existing lease for Onslow

County's Deppe Park.

In addition, the purchase agreement recognizes the Department of Defense's interest in obtaining an easement from the purchaser that would ensure long-term protection for approximately 70,000 acres of the property and formalize the military's long-standing interest in the conservation of the property.

"Hofmann Forest is a wonderful property with a long and storied connection to the communities of Eastern North Carolina, and we are committed to preserving that legacy going forward," said Walker. "We look forward to working with our military neighbors on a plan for maintaining the primary use of the land for timber and agriculture purposes."

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

- The Hofmann Forest was purchased by the North Carolina Forestry Foundation, Inc. in 1934, later named the Natural Resources Foundation. The Foundation gifted the land to the North Carolina State Endowment Fund in 1977 for the benefit of the College of Natural Resources.
- About 56,000 of the forest's 79,000 acres function as a working forest. Other activities at the forest include agriculture, hunt clubs and an Onslow County park.
- There are approximately 1400 undergraduate students in the College of Natural Resources, including about 80 in the forestry program, and over 400 graduate students in the College's MS and Ph.D. programs. The vast majority of the college's outdoor education is conducted currently at Hill Forest and Schenck Forest. ■



NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER.....	City
Anson Outdoors	Wadesboro
Big Swamp Hunting Club	Lumberton
Brother Hood Hunt Club.....	Lenoir
Charles Burdulis.....	New Bern
Coastal Carolina Clean Power, LLC	Kenansville
Earl Deal.....	Laurel Springs
Deborah Denton	Greenville
Derrill Edwards.....	Spring Hope
Flynn Hunt Club.....	Sanford
Frazier X Roads Hunting Club.....	Bailey
Cathy Goodale	Camden, SC
GPG Hunt Club	Oxford
GSW Hunt Club.....	Hubert
Carroll Harrelson.....	Florence, SC
Frank Hughes	Stafford, VA
Carole Jones	Dunn
Ann Jordan Trust Holding, LLC.....	Oakdale, MN
KFBS.....	Chapel Hill
L & F Farms, LLC.....	Kenly
Lakefield Hunting Club.....	Four Oaks
Judy Luther.....	Rockingham
McRae Family, LLC.....	Rockingham
Anges Parker Heirs	Durham
Myrna Phelps.....	Woodbridge, VA
Polecat Creek.....	Smithfield
R & R	Butner
Randolf Carl Luther	Clemmons
W. Lloyd Ratliff.....	Wadesboro
Raynor & Nelson Family Hunting Association.....	Greenville
William Sanders Farm, LLC.....	Efland
Standing Still.....	Rockingham
Stock Yard.....	Raleigh
VA Sportsman's Hunt Club	Axton, VA
Mark Williams	Elizabeth City
Marshall Williford	Windsor

2015 FOREST PRODUCTS EXPO RETURNS TO ATLANTA

The Southern Forest Products Association's 33rd Forest Products Machinery & Equipment Exposition - Expo 2015 will be held June 24-26, 2015 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. Sponsored by SFPA since 1950, this event is under the expert direction of Eric Gee.

"Expo remains a great venue to showcase advancements in manufacturing and new technologies, stated Gee, the exposition's director. "As the industry's recovery continues, we plan to grow the show in a larger hall, providing space for more exhibitors."

Expo 2013 recorded a 14% boost in attendance over the 2011 show, with displays from 154 companies covering more than 38,000 square feet. For more information, contact Gee at egee@sfpa.org. ■



A SIMPLE MISTAKE IN FIRE SAFETY

We receive injury reports each year about individuals at work and home that are severely burned or killed by fire. Many injuries are from a moment of inattention, or carelessness, or ignorance of the material or liquids being used. Mistakes are often made trying to "HELP" a fire to start or burn hotter. While fire can be useful, fire can also mutilate us, kill us, and destroy everything that took a lifetime to build. Fire will take away your work place, your job, and possibly your life.

Scenario 1 - Recently, a night watchman for a logging company was badly injured when he attempted to start a fire in a shop stove. These stoves are used everywhere and maybe you have one in your shop or home work shop. He placed some wood pieces in the stove and shove bags of trash that truck drivers had left in the area. Inside the trash bags were plastic soda bottles with the caps on. He also started to pour waste oil into a small cap to throw in the fire to help it along. When the embers from the previous day's fire ignited the trash, it caused the closed bottle to burst and threw hot embers out of the stove and onto the watchman. The embers also fell into the waste oil container (later discovered to have waste by products that contained flammable materials) and when it flashed, it threw oil and caused burns to his body.

Scenario 2 - A logging crew arrived to the job site while it was dark and the temperature was cold enough that they needed to build a fire while they awaited the daylight. The wood was in the burn barrel and the fire was lit. One of the crew members got some diesel and threw it onto the fire. Unfortunately, it flashed back at him and burned him. It was later discovered that the gas station where they filled the diesel can that morning had had gasoline pumped into the holding tank by the vendor. The crew member sustained severe burns to the hand and face.

UNSAFE ACTS & CONDITION

Scenario 1

1. Employee tried to help the fire along without knowing the hazards involved.
 - a. Employee was unaware of the glowing embers from the previous fire.
 - b. Employee did not know the contents of the trash in the bags.
 - c. Employee did not know there was flammable liquid mixed in with the waste oil.
2. Employee had the five gallon bucket of waste oil too close to the fire.

Scenario 2

1. Employee did not know there was gasoline mixed in with the diesel.
2. Employee tried to help the fire by throwing a combustible liquid onto a burning fire.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTION

1. Always know the condition of the embers and materials you plan to burn.
2. Do not try to help a fire that has glowing embers in it.
3. Be aware that pressurized containers like soda or water bottles will burst when the heat expands the gases trapped inside them.
4. Do not attempt to use fluids to help the fire burn if you do not know what they contain.
5. It is better to be safe than burned - do not try to accelerate a fire with flammable or combustible liquids.

Fire is an essential part of our live. We cannot do without it, but we must stop needless injuries that can change you for the rest of your life. Never have an attitude that you will not be injured. Be prepared by knowing what actions to take if one occurs. Good teamwork is a must. To prevent fires we must all work together.

If you have any questions about this article or have other safety questions, please contact Forestry Mutual Insurance Company at (800) 849-7788. ■

TREE LINE

NOVEMBER 2013



NCEA Forestry Camp volunteer Chuck Daniels (right) monitors the dendrology relay competition in Wilmington.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2013

- 2 NC Tree Farm Annual Meeting, Batts Tree Farm, Macesfield, NC
- 6 SLTC Meeting, Drake Landing, Fuquay-Varina, NC
- 13 NC SFI SIC Meeting, TBD
- 13-15 NC Wood Exports Conference, New Bern, NC

December 2013

- 25-26 Christmas Holiday

North Carolina Forestry Association
1600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 1
Raleigh, NC 27608
919-834-3943 / 800-231-7723

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