NCFA HOSTS TWO SCHOOLS FOR FORESTRY CAMP IN WILMINGTON

The NCFA’s Forestry & Environmental Camp hosted sixth grade students from Roland Grise and Murray Middle Schools at Hugh McRae Park in Wilmington, NC. Over 600 students participated in the camp.

With so many students, it takes a big list of volunteers to make the camp successful. We would like to thank the following members who came out to Wilmington:

Hagan Blake
Mitchell Brendle
Scott Brewer
Brendan Brock
Everette Bullard
Ben Burger
Brian Council
Chuck Daniels
Jim Durham
Robby Evans
Eric Fanslau
Nate Farrior

(continued on page 5)

NCFS HOSTS BOTTOMLANDS SYMPOSIUM

The North Carolina Forest Service hosted a Bottomland and Swamp Forests Symposium earlier in Wilmington November. The goal of the workshop was to bring together individuals who are knowledgeable on bottomland forest management and share their findings.

The speakers represented the North Carolina Forest Service, U.S. Forest Service, and academic researchers from top forestry programs in the southeast. Interest was high in the topic as over 150 people registered for the program that consisted of one and a half day of lectures and followed by field tour.

The symposium cataloged the different BMP’s at the federal and state levels for forest operations within wetlands set forth in the Clean Water Act and 404 Exemption that forestry can employ by adhering to all requirements.

One of the basic questions heading into the workshop was the issue of forest management in bottomland forests. Is it sustainable? Do forests regenerate in the same species or do new (continued on page 7)

SLT COMMITTEE CONCLUDES YEAR WITH MEETING AT DRAKE LANDING

The NCFA’s Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee (SLTC) held its fourth quarter meeting at Drake Landing in Fuquay-Varina in October.

The SLTC is led by chair Chuck Daniels of Domtar. The goal of the committee is to provide guidance on the NCFA’s ProLogger training program as well as any other safety initiatives as it pertains to the forest products industry and/or trucking in the forest products industry.

The committee has a diverse makeup from within the NCFA membership, including sawmills, paper mills, wood pellets, wood dealers, loggers and several representatives from partners such as the North Carolina Department of Labor, the North Carolina Forest Service, the Carolina Loggers Association, and the North Carolina Highway Patrol. These partnerships have always been one of the committee’s strengths.

In recent years, the committee has missed direct involvement on the committee with a designated officer from the North Carolina Highway Patrol. Keep in mind, the Highway Patrol has been a great training partner in the field during the ProLogger base class sessions, providing one to two officers for each class. This is typically one of the most appreciated segments.

(continued on page 4)

The use of BMP’s guide harvest operations to protect water quality and forest health for all terrains.
North Carolina Forestry Association

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Bernard Rose
President
Boyd McLaurin
President Elect/Treasurer
Perry Hunt
First Vice President

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SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFA

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

The NCFA is the state’s oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,100 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry.

A private, non-profit organization, the NCFA 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

North Carolina Wood for the USS North Carolina! Jeff and Teresa Edwards pose for a photo with Commander Matt Lewis USN, the commanding officer of the USS North Carolina, SSN 777. The USS North Carolina is a nuclear powered submarine stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Edwards Wood Products donated White Oak that will be installed in the state room of the USS North Carolina.

NCFA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT PRYOR GIBSON TO PURSUE NEW PATH

The NCFA’s Board of Directors were notified the week of Thanksgiving that Pryor Gibson tendered his resignation as Executive Vice President of the NCFA effective December 1, 2017.

The current NCFA Executive Committee is seeking immediate opportunities in the interim to fill this vacancy until there is adequate time to identify the most qualified, permanent replacement. With the holiday season already closing in, the official search for a permanent replacement will most likely begin after the first of the year.

“I wish to thank Pryor for his service to our association and wish him great success in his future endeavors,” stated NCFA Board Chair, Marshall Thompson.

The NCFA’s Executive Board voted unanimously to appoint Frank Rackley, a former NCFA Board Chair, as the NCFA’s Interim Executive Vice President with the departure of Pryor Gibson. This is back to the future for Rackley who served as the interim leader for the association before Gibson’s arrival in May of 2014.

“After much discussion regarding multiple very qualified candidates,” explained NCFA President Bernard Rose, “It was unanimously decided that Frank Rackley should fill this vital interim position. Please support Frank in his efforts to lead the NCFA while initiating the search for the right individual to be the NCFA’s next Executive VP. This transition will begin immediately.”

Most recently, Rackley was awarded the NCFA’s Distinguished Service Award at the NCFA’s Annual Meeting in Wilmington for his lifelong contributions to forestry, the forest products industry, and the association.

The Executive Board deemed it appropriate to select an interim leader who did not project to be a candidate for the top position at the NCFA. A search committee is being created and will begin the candidate identification process over the next month.

RACKLEY NAMED INTERIM LEADER OF NCFA

(l-r) Frank Rackley accepted the NCFA’s Distinguished Service Award in October.
The NCFA’s successful Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Program runs from August 1 to August 1 annually. Landowners and the participating hunt club must be a member to be eligible for this comprehensive insurance program that covers accidents that arise from the use of firearms, tree stands and ATVS. The program has a $1,000,000 coverage for members and guests. If you have any questions about the hunt club insurance program, please contact Ann Harper at (800) 231-7723 ext. 1 or at aharper@ncforestry.org.

The photo above is the calm before the storm. Goods from the Woods Boxes are always the top attraction for science teachers at the annual conference. With NCFA and SFI billboard materials in the background, Amy Juliana and Ann Harper met with teachers and distributed over 400 Goods from the Woods boxes and Carbon Cycle posters. The event also is an ideal opportunity to promote the Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience for next year.

Just a few days later, the NCFA was out on the road again. Staff participated in the Bridging the Gap STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education Conference, distributing posters and promoting NCFA education programs.

After 21 days, 42 individuals have supported the Go Fund Me Page for the NCFA’s Business Manager Ann Harper, raising just over $7,000. The goal for the campaign drive is $10,000. We hope to reach this goal prior to Christmas!

These funds will assist Carl Harper, Ann’s son, with medical bills associated with his motorcycle accident that occurred in March of 2016. Since his accident in which he was struck while riding his motorcycle by a vehicle that ran a red light, Carl has undergone several surgeries eventually resulting in the need to amputate the lower portion of his right leg.

At this year’s Annual Meeting, several NCFA members requested a vehicle to provide assistance to Ann’s family. The Go Fund Me Page is the result.

“We are truly touched by the support and generosity of our members,” stated Ann Harper. “Thanks to everyone who has kept Carl in their prayers after his accident and during his recovery process. We certainly appreciate this fundraising effort. It means a great deal to me. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you.”

Tax reform is underway in Washington with the House and Senate releasing their respective bills. While tax reform impacts everyone, the NCFA and its partners have been tracking the existing tax provisions for forestland owners. At one point, there was some discussion of removing them. It appears that in both the House and Senate bills the existing tax provisions will remain intact. This is a good sign and the NCFA certainly appreciates our partners work in Washington, DC to keep these important forestland ownership incentives in place.

In other national legislative news, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Resilient Federal Forests Act that calls for federal forest management reforms and opportunities to assist rural communities with economic growth following a devastating 2017 fire season.

“There are many organizations that worked hard to gain the support needed to pass this important legislation over the past several years, and my hat’s off to all of them for their time and commitment to make this a reality,” stated ALC Executive Vice President Danny Dructor. “However, our work is not done just yet, and the challenge will remain to see if we can get the Senate to act on this critical piece of legislation that would provide economic relief to rural communities directly impacted by catastrophic wildfires and insect and disease infestations by years of neglect stemming from current forest management policies.”

The bill also includes language that allows sixteen and seventeen year-old sons and daughters of logging business owners to legally work on their parents job sites under parental supervision, much as those in agricultural businesses are allowed to do.

This is important piece of guaranteeing there will be a next generation of professional loggers to support the forest products industry in North Carolina and across the country.
PROLOGGER MODULE 18 CLASS SCHEDULE

Module 18 classes have started for the 2017-18 year. If you are going to host a Module 18 class, please send the information and a flyer (if available) to cbrown@ncforestry.org so we can update our schedule in a timely fashion. Thanks again to all of our member companies that host these continuing education sessions.

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The NCFA will be hosting three offerings of the ProLogger Base Course in 2018. The base course is a two-day program that is mandatory for all professional loggers who would like to earn ProLogger status. Please send call Chris Brown (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 an e-mail at cbrown@ncforestry.org if you would like to register for the next class which will be held on March 21-22, 2018 at Wayne Community College in Goldsboro.

SLTC Meeting at Drake Landing...(from page 1)

group at Drake Landing for the meeting. During his presentation, Major Johnson promised that the North Carolina Highway Patrol would ensure that a representative would be assigned to the committee in the future. And this was even before Drake Landing rolled out a tremendous lunch spread!

Before Major Johnson spoke, Forestry Mutual President Keith Biggs gave the committee an update on the Team Safe Trucking (TST) program, detailing the new training modules and other initiatives. Biggs reminded the entire committee of the dire straits that the trucking industry is in as a whole and how truck driver claims continue to dominate the loss portion of his business.

Major Johnson picked up on Biggs remarks and echoed the sentiment of the seriousness of truck safety. He noted that the North Carolina Highway Patrol has limited resources and that the Patrol cannot tackle the problem simply through enforcement. Partnerships with various industries that rely on trucking, such as forest products, is one way to achieve safer roadways and highways for everyone.

One of the interesting points in Major Johnson’s presentation was the relative minor role forest products trucking plays as compared to the entire list of trucking stops in a given year. The committee was surprised to hear that forest products represents only about three percent of the truck inspections in a given year.

Officer Sammy McKeel provided another insight to the North Carolina Highway Patrol on their use of portable scales in the state. The Highway Patrol calibrates its portable scales every 14 months, which has reduced the margin of error down to one percent. The new schedule came out of the results from a North Carolina State University study the NCFA and others participated in several years ago at a weigh station in Mebane, NC.

When asked what the most frequent problems in log truck inspections are, Major Johnson stated that 1) size and weight, 2) lights in working order, and 3) tires are the top issues.

Keith Biggs informed the committee that speed - inappropriate speed for the road conditions - is the number one problem in the claims he has witnessed.

So, summing up the trucking segment of the meeting, forest products truckers need to slow down, have their truck in proper working order, and pull a load with the “weight tolerance” in mind. North Carolina has a 10,000 pound weight tolerance for certain commodities (wood is one of them) that takes into consideration that weather conditions could add to the weight of the load during transport.

The NCFA and its partners encourage our ProLoggers to load their trucks with this in mind whether you have in woods scales or not. In other words, give your drivers some breathing room when it comes to weight as they head out from the woods to the mill.

A.J. Lang with the North Carolina Forest Service, Chuck Murdock with the North Carolina Department of Labor and Jack Swanner with the Carolina Loggers Association provided updates on their respective entities.

The NCFA’s Module 18 was distributed to participating company representatives at the meeting. The newest Module is just under two hours in length. Topics include: Oil Spill Prevention, Boundary Lines, OSHNC Consultative Services, Power Line Safety, and an SFI Overview.

After the meeting, several committee members took advantage of the fantastic surroundings and participated in shooting clays at Drake Landing. It was a beautiful day and as Bryan Wagner said, “It was a day full of sun and gun powder!”

The SLTC will meet on January 16, 2018 as part of a joint meeting with the North Carolina SFI Implementation Committee. If you would like to join the SLTC, please contact Chair Chuck Daniels at (252) 536-8398 or charles.daniels@domtar.com or Chair Elect Kenny Cain (910) 734-8824 or kcain@nc.rr.com.

Quite a Group Here!! There were a few members of the SLTC who found the time to participate in shooting clays on a beautiful North Carolina day! (l-r) Jack Swanner, Bryan Wagner, Joanne Reese, Keith Biggs, and Chuck Daniels.
The camp followed the traditional format of class sessions during the week. On Friday, the students were tested on what they had learned earlier in the week through a set of competitions.

One of the highlights of the week was the Native American presentation by Bob Alderink.

Several accidents have occurred recently that have been directly correlated to trucks traveling too close. We share these stories to elevate the awareness about truck safety among our membership.

### Scenario One

Two loaded log trucks from the same logging company were loaded with pulpwood that had overhanging logs. Since the two drivers were taking their load to the same mill, they traveled together. The weather was clear and sunny. This was their first deliveries of the day.

The two trucks traveled for 20 plus miles from the jobsite and entered a small town. They had to slow down and shift lanes due to road construction. The first driver had downshifted and slowed to the 35 MPH speed limit. He then stopped for a red traffic light. However, the second driver failed to slow down and ran into the rear end of the first truck.

Several long logs from the first truck entered the engine compartment of the second tractor. One of the logs deflected toward the driver’s side and entered the cab through the fire wall. It penetrated the driver and continued out back window. He died instantly.

Investigation into this fatality revealed the second driver impacted the logs at approximately 45 MPH.

### Scenario Two

Same situation - Different day. Two truck drivers each driving a loaded log trucks with pulpwood that had a large amount of overhang. They traveled together to deliver their loads to the same mill.

The weather was overcast clouds, but visibility was fine. It appears that the weather did not contribute to this accident.

As they traveled, the drivers kept in contact with each other via CB radio. The first driver would relay traffic information to the second driver so they could avoid trouble.

They had traveled on a four-lane highway and as they approached the town, the road went down to a two-lane route. The first driver reported that as he slowed down because of a school bus, he felt a sudden jolt to his truck followed by a loud crashing noise. He exited the cab quickly and went to the rear of the truck.

He saw the second truck had hit his truck. The driver was dead. He was struck by logs that entered the cab. To make matters even worst, this was his father that drove the second truck. He does not know why his dad failed to slow down.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avoid following too close.
- Keep safe distances to avoid these type of accidents.
- Distractions remove precious seconds needed to react.
- Reduce speed as you enter construction zones or towns.

Thanks to the forestry students at Wayne Community College for coming out on Friday to help with the competition portion of the forestry camp.
AF&PA RECOGNIZES INTERNATIONAL PAPER AS FOREST CHAMPION

International Paper (IP) was recently recognized for forest certification commitment at the American Forest & Paper Association’s (AF&PA) 2017 Annual Meeting. IP is one of only six companies to receive a 2017 AF&PA Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 Sustainability Award. The award is for our innovative U.S. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification strategy to increase the amount of FSC certified fiber used in our packaging, pulp and paper products.

A significant portion of small private forest landowners are often reluctant to take on the additional costs or administrative burden associated with certification. In July of 2012, IP formed its own FSC forest management group - Certified Forest Management LLC (CFM). CFM is managed by IP’s fiber supply team under the direction of Jeremy Poirier and provides landowners another option to become FSC certified. IP team members inform landowners about the benefits and costs of certification, develop forest management plans, conduct high conservation value assessments, monitor forest management activities over time and represent landowners during third-party certification audits.

International Paper has directly enrolled and actively maintained FSC forest management certification for 210 private landowners in ten states, encompassing approximately 520,000 acres. This growth has helped us achieve a 31 percent increase in certified fiber over our 2010 baseline and has added more than two million tons of FSC certified fiber to our supply.

NCFA HOSTS FORESTRY CAMP IN RALEIGH

The NCFA hosted a one-day Forestry & Environmental Camp in November at Kentwood Park in Raleigh, NC, hosting fifth grade students from Combs Elementary School. Thanks to our volunteers who came out on a brisk November day to share their forestry experience and knowledge with the students.

After the students participated in the course sessions by classroom, the entire group was brought together to witness the awesome Native American presentation by Bob Alderink. A mainstay in the NCFA’s Forestry Camp for years, Alderink once again did not disappoint with his engaging teaching style and informative props. The highlight of the show always includes the blowgun and of course, creating a fire out of two sticks.

The NCFA hosted four Forestry Camps this year with stops in Greensboro, Lake Norman, Raleigh and Wilmington.

SFTE DATES SET FOR 2018

The dates have been established for next year’s Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience. Registration for all three locations will start on January 8, 2018.

The SFTE will once again feature stops in the mountains, piedmont and coastal plains.

June 18–21, 2018 – Piedmont Experience, Southern Pines, NC
June 25–28, 2018 – Coastal Plains Experience, New Bern, NC
July 23–26, 2018 – Mountain Experience, Asheville, NC

Interested educators will be able to register online starting January 8, 2018 and/or by contacting Amy Juliana at ajuliana@ncforestry.org.

DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR ADVERTISEMENT OPPORTUNITY IN NCFA’S MEMBERSHIP

Naylor Publications is working on the NCFA’s Annual Directory & Resource Guide. The directory is the premier way to promote your business to the membership since most keep a copy on their desk or in their truck. The ability to use this active publication results in successful business practices and promotes growth within our industry and its partners.

In addition to covering the costs of production and delivery of the publication, the NCFA also generates a shared revenue on advertisement sales.

Here are some of more common ad choices:
- Full Page Full Color: $2,729.50
- 1/2 Page Full Color: $1,739.50
- 1/4 page Full Color: $1,049.50

If you would like to speak with someone at Naylor regarding advertising opportunities, please call or email Adam Lingenfelter, Senior Project Manager, at (352) 333-3451 or adaml@naylor.com

We appreciate your support of our membership directory!
Dr. Mike Aust, Professor of Forestry at Virginia Tech, provided an excellent overview of an ongoing study of 24 years by Virginia Tech on a site located in Alabama. The history of the property documented harvests starting in the 1700’s, 1860’s, and 1918, which was a clearcut. The study started on the property in 1986 with a harvest operation that set three distinct conditions in three different plot areas.

One plot was harvested and removed via helicopter as to minimize the impact on the landscape. The second plot was harvested and removed with a wide tire skidder. The third plot was the control. The premise was to conduct two different types of harvests and then measure vegetation, soils, hydrology, wildlife and other factors that are important to a bottomland harvest ecosystem.

In the study, Aust admitted that the goal of the experiment was to make a clear distinction in the amount of soil disturbance between the helicopter and skidder employed tracts. He joked that they ran the skidder pretty hard, estimating that nearly 52 percent of the area was rutted up to one foot or more.

Initially, Aust reported that both harvest operations made the site wetter during the growing season. It was clear that the skidder had disturbed the soil properties more than the helicopter area. It also was apparent that water movement was negatively impacted on the site that employed a skidder. With these early observations, Aust believed the helicopter site would prove to be more productive in the long run.

As the study progressed, the researchers were surprised to witness the emergence of two well stocked stands. In fact, the skidder crisscrossed track actually was home to more cypress trees and more trees per acre.

In the beginning of the study, Aust noted that seedlings dominated the regenerating hardwood stand. As time wore on, coppice regeneration (which is saplings developing from root or stump material) dominated the stand with 75% of the tupelo being from coppice and 40% for cypress.

Some of the conclusions at this point in the study proved to be surprising to the researchers and point to the resiliency of these bottomland hardwood ecosystems. Overall, the skidder area actually enjoyed better regeneration. Possible reasons might be from the slash that is churned into the wet soil and the unintentional bedding effect caused by rutting. And while the initial traffic had a negative impact on the soil, in the long run, the species were able to adapt to the conditions.

Overall, all of the parameters that the researchers monitored (soil, hydrology, vegetation, etc) proved to be impacted initially, but the full recovery of the properties demonstrate that harvesting in bottomland forests are compatible with the long term sustainability of the forest.

One of the reoccurring questions in several of the presentations was the most effective source of regeneration - natural seed, coppice and/or site prep and seedlings. While there was discussion of how natural seed could prove to fill in open spots in a site, most studies showed that the majority of successful regenerated sites were dominated by regeneration from coppice.

Also not surprising, clear cuts, which maximizes sunlight, has shown through several test studies to be the most effective way of regenerating a bottomland forest stand.

Jim Slye with the North Carolina Forest Service provided an update on a three-year project that the agency recently completed on the sampling of 25 bottomland forest sites that had documented harvests in the past. One of the questions Slye was interesting in answering was what was the makeup of the regenerated forest. A total of 18 sites had regenerated successfully with adequate stocking. Eight sites were a mixed stand of cypress, tupelo and other species. Seven sites were dominated by cypress and tupelo. Three sites were dominated by willow. For the remaining sites that were understocked, hydrology was the problem with beavers being the number one culprit for raising the water level. The workshop concluded with a full-day tour to four different bottomland forest sites.
Tree Line

North Carolina Forestry Association
1600 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27609

December 2017

Meetings & Workshops

MAY THE FOREST PRODUCTS BE WITH YOU!

DECEMBER 2017

12/5-6 NCFA Executive Board Meeting, NCFA Office, Raleigh, NC
12/25-27 Christmas, NCFA Office Closed

JANUARY 2018

1/16 NC SFI Implementation Committee and SLTC Joint Meeting, NC Farm Bureau, Raleigh, NC
1/24-26 APSAF Meeting, Greenville, SC
1/30 NCFA Board Meeting, NC Farm Bureau, Raleigh, NC

Meetings & Workshops