The NCFA’s Annual Meeting in Wilmington concluded on Friday with a meeting of the association’s Board of Directors. The fall meeting is the last board meeting of the year and brings the group up-to-date on programming and finances. There have been several positive achievements in training and education areas. The NCFA continues to remain on target to meet its budget heading into the fourth quarter.

This year’s Annual Meeting employed a new format - the speaking program was split over two days.

On Wednesday, the meeting kicked off at 1:00 p.m. with an afternoon of speakers. Joe Clark with Forest2Market, Patrick Cumbie with Arborgen and Henry Randolph provided viewpoints from the forest market, forest stand improvement, and landowner values in their presentations. The program concluded with an update on North Carolina’s ports from Bethany Welch.

With the USS North Carolina under construction, the evening reception was moved to the IronClad Brewery. While the brewery had an array of flavors on hand, the Canal Wood Boys had the shrimp going with a BIG-TIME low country boil. Several members commented that it might have been the best meal they had ever had at an annual meeting. It was a great start to the social activities!

On Thursday morning, the speaking program was kicked off by International Paper’s Mike Macedo, who reported on what his company projects going forward. ProLogger C.W. Freeman and his son Darren were up next and gave an overview of their business and the challenges they face on a daily basis in the woods and on the roads. Forestry Mutual’s Jimmy Locklear and Team Safe Trucking (TST) Jeremiah O’Donovan updated the membership on TST’s newest initiatives. Todd Adams, Cameron Winfrey and Tom Lenfestey of the Adams and Howell Law Firm provided professional insights to corporate law as it pertains to selling or purchasing a business and/or developing a succession plan for a business. Attendees then broke for various activities such as golf, shooting, shopping and a water tour of Wilmington.

Thursday evening featured NCFA awards presentations. Frank Rackley was awarded the NCFA’s Distinguished Service Award. Scott Smearman was named the NCFA’s Educator of the Year. The evening festivities continued with a Casino Night, a DJ, and a silent auction. The auction raised over $10,000 for the NCFA’s education programs. The NCFA staff would like to say THANK YOU to all of the members who came out to participate in a great meeting in Wilmington. Also, a special thanks to our volunteers, our sponsors and our exhibitors. Without their support, our meetings would not be possible. Next year, the NCFA’s Annual Meeting will be in Raleigh on October 10-12, 2018.

OVER 240 MEMBERS AND GUESTS PARTICIPATE IN THE NCFA ANNUAL MEETING IN WILMINGTON

MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO CANCELLED DUE TO HURRICANE THREAT

With Hurricane Irma spinning on a path that included North Carolina on several models, the Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo was cancelled. Jack Swanner, the Executive Director of the Carolina Loggers Association, released the following statement after conferring with exhibitors and expo partners:

“Out of concerns for the safety of vendors and attendees, the show management has cancelled the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. Rather than “ride the fence” for a few more days, show management believes it best to make the “no go” call now before exhibitors begin shipping equipment toward the show site. The 2017 show will not be rescheduled. Thank you for your understanding. Sincerely, Jack Swanner” (continued on page 4)
North Carolina Forestry Association

Political News & Regulatory Issues

NC DEQ ENCOURAGES SMALL FOREST PRODUCTS FACILITIES TO APPLY FOR AIR PERMIT EXEMPTION

Recent revisions to the air quality permitting rules may now make it possible for small forest products facilities to apply for an air permit exemption. The rules were revised to exempt the smaller companies that have little impact on air quality. Staff believes this exemption should include several of the smaller wood products facilities across North Carolina.

In very technical terms, companies may be exempt from obtaining a permit under 15A NCAC 02Q .0300 if their facility: (1) Has actual particulate (PM10), SO2, NOX, VOC, CO, HAP, or TAP less than 5 tpy, each; AND (2) Has actual total PM10, SO2, NOX, VOC, CO, HAP, or TAP aggregate emissions less than 10 tpy.

NCFA members can find more information on this exemption and a worksheet that helps guide you through the process online at https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/air-quality/air-quality-permits/application-forms-instructions/permit-application-permit-exemption-and-registration-small-facilities. The simplified worksheet will help companies to determine if they are eligible for an exemption or not.

SCOTT SMEARMAN EARNS NCFA’S EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Scott Smearman with Domtar Paper Company in Bennettsville, South Carolina, was honored with the North Carolina Forestry Association’s Educator of the Year Award for 2017 this past month at the NCFA’s Annual Meeting in Wilmington, NC.

The Educator of the Year Award is presenting to an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to forestry education in North Carolina.

“We are pleased to present Scott with our Educator of the Year Award,” stated current NCFA President Bernard Rose.

“As chair of the Education Subcommittee on the North Carolina SFI Implementation Committee and a member of the NCFA’s Education Committee, Scott has been instrumental in developing positive changes in several of our education programs, especially our Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience.”

“In addition to his committee work, Scott volunteers regularly for our Forestry & Environmental Camps. These camps are taught by our members and are designed for sixth grade students across the state. We appreciate all of his efforts. He has helped to make our education programs better and something that we are all extremely proud of.”

A North Carolina State University graduate with a degree in Forestry, Smearman is currently the District Procurement Forester at Domtar’s Marlboro Paper & Pulp Mill in Bennettsville, SC. He started his professional career with Willamette Industries plywood mill in Moncure, NC as a procurement forester.

When Weyerhaeuser Company acquired Willamette Industries in 2002, Smearman was named the Procurement Manager for Weyerhaeuser’s plywood mills in Moncure, NC and Chester, SC. After another shifting of corporate ownership of the plywood facilities, Smearman joined the staff at Weyerhaeuser’s Marlboro Pulp and Paper Mill in Bennettsville, SC as a District Procurement Forester in 2006. In 2007, all of Weyerhaeuser’s fine paper mills became Domtar properties.
There are more than 5,000 wood and paper products that we use and enjoy every day. This year, in celebration of National Forest Products Week, the NCFA is hosting an essay contest for students in 3rd-12th grade. An elementary, middle and high school essay will be selected as winners.

The NCFA would like to thank our partners - The North Carolina Forest Service and North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee for their support of this new initiative.

Winners will receive a $200 visa gift card. The teacher of the winning essay will also receive $100 visa gift card for classroom materials and a scholarship to attend the 2018 Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience.

Due Dates: Essays will be due on the last day of National Forest Products Week (October 20, 2017). Winning essays will be chosen by November 20 and contestants will be notified by December 1.

Other Education Opportunities This Fall

Wilmington Camp: We need your help for the 2017 Forestry and Environmental Camp in Wilmington. From Monday, October 30- Friday November 3, sixth grade students from Roland Grise and Charles Murray Middle School will be participating in hands on activities about the field of forestry and wood products industry. Camp will be held at Hugh McRae Park from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Friday. To sign up for camp, please email Amy Juliana your activity and date preference.

Branching Out with North Carolina Forestry Association is a new education initiative that offers FREE forestry education outreach programs for kindergarten through eighth grade students in the North Central Region of North Carolina (Chatham, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, Lee, Nash, Orange, Person, Vance, Wake, Warren, and Wilson Counties). Programs are one hour and are available to public, private or home school groups. Programs are correlated to North Carolina Essential Standards. Minimum class size of 10 students preferred. Visit our website or contact Amy Juliana for more information. Request a program today!

For more information on any of these education programs, please contact Amy Juliana at (800) 231-7723 ext. 2 or ajuliana@ncforestry.org.
NCFA MOURNS LOSS OF BETTY ANDREWS

Betty Sue Stroud Andrews, 60, of Trenton, passed away on September 28, 2017. Betty was the wife of ProLogger Anthony Andrews and mom to ProLoggers Garrett Andrews and Tyler Andrews.

Betty, a member of Twin Rivers Baptist Church in New Bern, was a huge proponent of logger safety and frequently accompanied Anthony whenever he made a safety presentation as part of the NCFA’s ProLogger program. NCFA staff always appreciated her support!

In lieu of flowers may be made to Twin Rivers Baptist Church, 804 US Highway 70 E, New Bern, NC 28560 in Betty’s memory.

MODULE 18 TRAINING TO START IN OCTOBER

Member companies will begin hosting Module 18 continuing education classes in October. Module 18 is the required class for ProLoggers to remain in the program. The deadline for taking this class and paying membership dues is June 30, 2018. Class schedules will be posted on the ProLogger page of the NCFA’s website, www.ncforestry.org, and in the NCFA’s weekly e-mail newsletter, Zipline. If you have any questions, please call Chris Brown at the NCFA at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

NCFS ISSUES UPDATE ON COGONGRASS

The North Carolina Forest Service is spreading the word on two new spots of Cogongrass that were found in Pender County in August 2017. These are the sixth and seventh detection of the invasive weed in N.C. since 2012.

The first detection of Cogongrass in the state was in Pender County in 2012. Subsequent finds in Stanly, Martin, Scotland, Wake, and the two additional sites in Pender County indicate that this weed is not going away without a fight.

At each location, the NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division attempts to eradicate the weed using a combination of herbicide, fire, and mowing.

The weed may not look like much, but its ecological impacts are significant and what lands it on the Top 10 Worst Weeds list. It is an aggressively-growing plant that covers large areas and out-competes native species. Essentially, in areas where Cogongrass has taken root, little else can thrive because of allelopathy (meaning the roots emit a chemical that kills other plants).

If you believe you have found a patch of this aggressive weed, you are encouraged to contact Bridget Lassiter, a NCDA&CS Weed Specialist, at (919) 707-3749 or newpest@ncagr.gov.

NC STATE FORESTRY CLUB TO HOST ROLLEO ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017

North Carolina State University will be hosting the 86th Annual Rolleo on Saturday, October 28th, 2017 at the Carl Alwin Schenck Memorial Forest, Raleigh, N.C.

The Rolleo will feature Collegiate Timbersports in a day long competition. The physical competition begins at 10:15 and will go until 5:15. A fundraiser lunch will be available for purchase.

For further information please contact Forestry Club President Dell Conner at jconner@ncsu.edu or Club Vice President Mike Bottorff at mrbottor@ncsu.edu, or club advisor Dr. Joseph Roise at forestry@ncsu.edu.

DOMTAR AND CLA DELIVER WATER TO FLORIDA

The dynamic duo of Jimmie Taylor and Matthew Havens of Domtar shared driving duties post Hurricane Irma to deliver a truck full of water furnished by the Carolina Loggers Association (CLA) to a central drop center in Callahan, Florida. The water was distributed to individuals recovering from Hurricane Irma.

Mid-Atlantic Logging...(from page 1)

North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler also issued a release that the Governor had directed the Department of Public Safety to temporarily suspend weighing those vehicles used to transport livestock, poultry or crops.

This is a typical request prior to a severe weather pattern and/or storm. The Governor has also declared that the maximum hours of service for drivers prescribed by N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-381 should be waived.

The NCFA followed up these announcements with several safety reminders about the danger of dealing with storm damaged timber and tension wood. The release included a link to a segment dealing with storm damaged timber and tension wood. The release included a link to a segment dealing with storm damaged timber and tension wood.

The NCFA staff would like to thank all the members of the Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee that volunteered to get the proposed site ready for the show.

Since live logging demonstrations rotate areas of the country on different schedules, it appears at this point that the next live expo in North Carolina will take place two years from now in 2019.

FORESTRY LICENSE PLATE “First in Forestry” license plates are available for purchase from the NC Division of Motor Vehicles online and at offices throughout the state. $20 goes toward forestry education programs in the state on each purchase.
Columbia Forest Products hosted its annual Appreciation Dinner in Marion in late September, hosting over 350 people. In addition to treating the crowd to a tremendous barbecue dinner, Columbia recognized a few of their top performing suppliers over the past year.

Columbia’s Loggers of the Year were brothers Greg and Justin Moretz and Larry Moore. The top quality Log Supplier of the Year was Billy Rathburn.

In addition to the awards, Columbia Forest Products raised over $1,600 for Log A Load for Kids with a shotgun raffle.

Prior to dinner, Bryan Wagner and Greg Helton conducted Forestry Mutual’s Chain Saw Challenge just outside the pavilion. Each competitor had to complete three tasks while practicing all the proper safety techniques, such as PPE and hand positioning.

The first task was four small bore cuts within a limited area. The goal was to have four separate cuts without touching each other or leaking to the outside of the log.

The second was the execution of a bore cut that was defined by paint. The final test was to make a face notch cut in order to drop the log in a certain direction. While the logs actually were not completely felled, Wagner and Helton have a simulator system that judges how accurate the cut is to landing the log.

For the third time in four years, Randall Vess emerged the winner in a crowded field of a talented group. Vess set the tone early as he was the first competitor, setting the score to beat. And, it was not lost on his fellow competitors.

“Randall did it again, he had a really good round,” stated one competitor to another as they both stepped towards the staging area to take their turn at the Challenge.

The top four was rounded out by Brian Fox, Forrest Sutton and Mike Carr.

“These guys always do a great job,” stated Bryan Wagner with Forestry Mutual. “The margin of victory is never very big.”

As Greg Helton announced the overall winner, he stated that there might be some ground work being done for next year’s competition.

“I heard that the guys might be starting up a petition - a petition to make Randall sit out of next year’s competition,” stated Helton with a chuckle.

Mike Carr commits to his open face notch under the watchful eye of Bryan Wagner as Greg Helton keeps the score.

(l-r) Greg Helton, Bryan Wagner and STIHL’s Mike Preddy presented Randall Vess with a chain saw for his victory in Forestry Mutual’s Challenge.

(left) Billy Rathburn was recognized by Columbia’s Marvin Bagwell as the Top Quality Log Supplier.

Columbia’s Hank Swinney presented Larry Moore with Columbia’s Logger of the Year Award.

The crew of (l-r) Greg Moretz, Clay Boykin and Justin Moretz were honored by forester Stacy Bentley as Columbia’s Loggers of the Year for their efforts over this past year.
RACKLEY HONORED WITH NCFA’S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Frank Rackley was presented with the North Carolina Forestry Association’s Distinguished Service Award at the NCFA’s 2017 Annual Meeting that was held in October in Wilmington, NC.

The award is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to forestry in North Carolina, the forest products industry, and the NCFA.

“It is my pleasure and honor to present Frank Rackley with our Distinguished Service Award,” stated current NCFA President Bernard Rose. “Frank may be the only person in the history of our association to serve on the executive committee and then also serve as our executive vice president on an interim basis. He is one of those individuals who is always ready to step up, roll up his sleeves, and make sure things get done. This association is deeply indebted to Frank, and we are happy to recognize him for his efforts over the years.”

A graduate of North Carolina State University, Rackley spent his entire professional career with Weyerhaeuser Company in New Bern, NC.

He was always a great proponent of the NCFA and encouraged his staff to be involved with the association. Rackley joined the NCFA’s Executive Committee and progressed his way up the association’s leadership ladder. He served as a treasurer, president and then board chair.

After retiring from Weyerhaeuser, Rackley was coaxed out of retirement for a few months in 2014 as the association’s executive leader during a search for a new executive director. Rackley volunteers to teach at the NCFA’s Forestry & Environmental Camps, which are designed for sixth grade students, in Greensboro and Wilmington on a regular basis. Rackley still is active with the NCFA as a Board of Directors member and a member of the association’s Annual Meeting Committee.

WESTERN N.C. SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY CONFERENCE

The Western North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Conference will take place on October 30, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Registration opens at 9:00) at the North Carolina Arboretum (20 Frederick Law Olmstead Way, Asheville, NC). The workshop will include updates from the U.S. Forest Service, N.C. Forest Service and Haywood Community College; North Carolina legislative issues impacting forestry; Upland Hardwood Silviculture for Multiple-Use Forest Management; and a field tour of Silvicultural Treatments on Bent Creek Experimental Forest. To register, mail your $40 registration fee payable to the N.C. Tree Farm Program to: N.C. Tree Farm Program, 1807 Dunwick Court, Apex, NC 27532. Please include your name, address and email with your check.

EASTERN FOREST INSIGHT CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 24-25, 2017

The 2017 Eastern Forest Insight Conference will take place in Wilmington on October 24-25, 2017. The conference is sponsored by IFCO, Forest Landowners, and Dougherty and Dougherty.

Group Photo Time! (l-r) Tim Beard with NRCS Conservation, Reggie Speight with U.S. Representative G.K. Butterfield’s office, Reba Green-Holley with the Roanoke Center, Bernard Rose with Kapstone Paper Company, and Ebonie Alexander with the Black Family Land Trust pose for a photo at the SFLR meeting held in September.

The Sustainable Forestry Land Retention Project is dedicated to providing more information and resources to minority landowners in the northeast corner of North Carolina and southeastern corner of Virginia. The SFLR now has close to 150 landowners participating in this outreach program that provides valuable updates to conservation and cost share programs at the local, state and federal level.

A comprehensive field tour is planned for November 2nd which will cover major types of bottomland forest systems. Special discounted guest rooms are available in limited quantities. The bottomland group rate is $139. This 1.5-day conference and extensive field tour are sponsored by the North Carolina Forest Service. A comprehensive field tour is planned for November 2nd which will cover major types of bottomland forest systems.

The research considerations included overall assessment of the existing forest types in the region, best management practices for harvesting and water quality, and the potential for restoration efforts for natural and human influenced sites.

A comprehensive field tour is planned for November 2nd which will cover major types of bottomland forest systems. Special discounted guest rooms are available in limited quantities. The bottomland group rate is $139. This 1.5-day conference and extensive field tour are sponsored by the North Carolina Forest Service.

More details on the workshop can be found at go.ncsu.edu/bottomland-symposium. Please contact Kelley D. McCarter at (919) 515-9563 or at kelley_mccarter@ncsu.edu for more information.

Sign up for the NCFA’s weekly e-mail newsletter by typing in your e-mail into www.ncforestry.org.
THANKS TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

(l-r) Doug Burleson with Canfor Southern Pine, Garrick Logue of N.C. State and Jadie Andrews with Boise Cascade pose for a photo at the IronClad Brewery during the Wednesday night reception.

Bill Hanks Lumber Co.
Boise Cascade Wood Products
Canal Wood, LLC
Canfor Southern Pine, Inc.
Chatham Lumber Co.
Columbia Forest Products
Corbett Timber Co.
Domtar Paper Co., LLC
Edwards Wood Products, Inc.
Ezzell Trucking, Inc.
Farm Credit Associations of NC
Forestry Mutual Insurance Co.
Georgia-Pacific W&FS, LLC
Hartley Brothers Sawmill Inc.
H.W. Culp Lumber Co.
International Paper Co.
Iron Horse Auction Co.
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Jordan Timberlands
Kapstone Kraft Paper Corp.
Liberty Woodyard Inc.
Montgomery Community College
Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Ins. Co.
Pinnacle Trailer Sales, Inc.
Resolute Forest Products
Shaver Wood Products
Shoeheel Land Management
Toney Lumber Co.
Tri-State Land & Timber LLC
Troy Lumber Co.
Uwharrie Lumber Co.
WestRock, CP
Weyerhaeuser Company
Williams Forest Products

THANKS TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING EXHIBITORS

(l-r) Jason Watson with Arborgen and Brett Goulding of Campbell Global pose for a photo during one of the breaks.

Arborgen, Inc.
Ascendum Machinery
AssuredPartners
BBandT Insurance Services, Inc.
Blanton’s Longleaf Container Nursery
Bodenhamer Farms & Nursery
Forestry Mutual Insurance Company
IFCO
NCP Coatings, Inc.
NC SFI State Implementation Committee
Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Company
Pinnacle Trailers
Pinova

These two know one or two things about handling seedlings. (l-r) Former N.C. Tree Farmer of the Year Riddick Ricks and Louie Bodenhamer of Bodenhamer Farms & Nursery share a laugh during the NCFA’s Annual Meeting.
Frank Rackley received the NCFA's Top Award from NCFA President Bernard Rose in Wilmington.

Meetings & Workshops (l-r) Frank Rackley received the NCFA's Top Award from NCFA President Bernard Rose in Wilmington.