

TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

NCFA MEMBERS TO MEET IN WILMINGTON



Wilmington is a popular venue for our membership!

The NCFA's 2017 Annual Meeting, *Full Speed Ahead*, will feature a new format compared to previous meetings, but our tradition of hosting an informative speaking program and providing plenty of entertainment will be the same again this year. With its lively and beautiful downtown area, Wilmington is one of our membership's favorite destinations.

Registration materials have been mailed and are also online at www.ncforestry.org. The room rate for the Wilmington Riverside Hilton is \$155. You should call your room reservations ASAP by calling (910) 763-5900 and using the group code FOR.

Our 2017 Annual Meeting will start on Wednesday afternoon with a speaking program followed by an evening reception. The focus of the Wednesday session will be on our forest resources and markets.

Thursday morning, the membership will go back into a general session that will hear about some of the challenges our industry is successfully addressing on a short and long term basis.

The morning session will close with the recognition of the Friends of Forestry Legislative Awards.

The annual awards dinner will take place on Thursday evening followed by a Casino Night. The meeting concludes on Friday with the fourth quarter meeting of the NCFA's Board of Directors.

If you are interested in exhibiting or sponsoring at the NCFA's Annual Meeting, please contact Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3. ■

MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING EXPO & BIOMASS EXPO SITE IS IDEAL TO SEE EQUIPMENT IN ACTION

The 2017 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo will take place on September 15-16, 2017 in Laurinburg, North Carolina. The two-day Expo will be set up on a tract of timber just off of U.S. Highway 74. The gates will open at 8:00 a.m. each day.

Tickets purchased in advance are just \$15 and can be obtained online at <http://midatlantic-logging-biomass-expo.com/>. Tickets bought the day of the Expo are \$20. Children under 16 are FREE.

The Expo will feature five live demonstration areas and three chipper stations. In addition to the live show, there will be over 75 static displays.

"There will be plenty of action," stated Jack Swanner, who is leading the Expo again this year. "We have a terrific site. Some tremendous timber. The equipment folks are really excited about the show and what they will be able to demonstrate out here."

The Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo is a joint effort of the Carolina Loggers Association, Hatton-Brown, and the North Carolina Forestry Association. ■



OSHNC TRAINING AT HOWELL WOODS - THE STUMP TELLS THE STORY

By Chris Brown, NCFA Senior Director of Communications

A collection of 39 North Carolina OSH compliance officers and consultants from across the state met at Howell Woods Environmental Learning Center in Four Oaks to gain a better understanding of the logging profession and the forest products industry. The weeklong program stressed hands-on demonstrations on the safety challenges loggers face on a daily basis.

"The goal is to equip these individuals with a better understanding of our industry and some insights on what they should be looking for when they inspect a logging operation," stated Chris Brown with the North Carolina Forestry Association (NCFA). "Bryan Wagner did an awesome job reaching out to the class with his enthusiasm and knowledge. He drilled them on the do's and don'ts on proper felling technique. There is no doubting Wagner's sincerity and passion for safety training, especially when he gets into his element, which is of course, the woods. The class really responded positively to Bryan and his field exercises. We had a tremendous week of training."



NC OSH Compliance Officers examine a stump recently cut by Forestry Mutual's Bryan Wagner to see what a properly cut stump looks like.

This year's session marked a revival of the officer training partnership that once existed between the North Carolina Forestry Association, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company, Carolina Loggers Association and the North Carolina Department of Labor. The training started back in the late 1990's and continued until

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NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFCA

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

The NCFCA is the state's oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,100 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry. A private, non-profit organization, the NCFCA promotes healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners, the forest products industry, and related groups that responsibly manage and/or use forests. ■

POLITICAL NEWS & REGULATORY ISSUES

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

The 2017 North Carolina General Assembly session was noteworthy, and rather unusual, since it ended before the July 4th holiday. It marks the first time in recent history where the state actually started the fiscal year with a budget in place. The House and Senate enjoyed Republican super-majorities and worked closely on shared goals on the budget and other important issues. While Governor Roy Cooper had several disagreements with the legislature, there was not much he could do procedurally to stop the budget and/or legislation from moving forward.



North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler spoke with NCFCA members prior to Forestry Day in the Legislature that occurred in May. Forestry Day is our membership's best chance to meet their elected officials in a relaxed setting.

The forest products industry monitored about 50 legislative proposals during the session. The NCFCA sought to engage its membership almost daily in support or opposition to pending legislation.

Interestingly, several bills emerged in that were detrimental to forestry and the forest products industry. The best examples were the efforts to dismantle the Forester Registration Board and House Bill 80. The NCFCA and partners successfully reinstated the Forester Board back into the list of 33 boards that were to stay active early in the session only to see the bill get dumped and replaced with a bill that repealed North Carolina's rather infamous bathroom law. Since no further action took place on license board reform, the Forester Registration Board is still alive and well. House Bill 80 grew out of a landowner dispute over property lines. Without going deep into detail, the provisions in the bill would have been extremely cost prohibitive for landowners in addition to being a threat to their private property rights. The bill successfully stalled in committee. The NCFCA actually will be addressing property lines and map reading as part of Module 18 in an effort to prevent further disagreements between landowners that might find their way to one of the two legislative chambers.

The NCFCA also participated in important legislation regarding workers compensation insurance in House Bill 26 - Workers Compensation/Approval of Disputed Legal Fees. This bill provides clarity and predictability for insurance providers when dealing with workers compensation claims in light of a June 2017 court ruling by the North Carolina Supreme Court. In the case, *Wilkes v. City of Greenville*, the North Carolina Supreme Court affirmed a lower court's decision that a plaintiff was entitled to additional treatment for injuries not originally documented in the initial claim. This ruling essentially expanded liability for defendants in a case to include all immediate and subsequent medical treatment for injuries once a claim is admitted as "compensable" in official paperwork - forms 60 or 63 - even if the specific medical condition is not listed on the form originally.

In terms of budget items, the North Carolina Forest Service received funds for equipment to combat wildfires that was requested. The Mountain Island Education Center received funding of 3.1 million. Also of note, the long-time 1% sales tax with an \$80 cap on manufacturing equipment was eliminated so there now is no sale tax on the purchase of manufacturing equipment.

The top issue for the North Carolina General Assembly this fall surely will be redistricting - drawing new maps for the coming elections. The NCFCA will continue to monitor these proceedings as well as any other matters that may come up before the

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General Assembly officially begins the 2018 session.

Maps Matter - NC General Assembly Gets to Work on Drawing New Lines

At election time, maps matter - plain and simple. The current majority in both chambers of the North Carolina General Assembly can be traced back to 2011 when the Republicans held the majority and were able to draw the election districts for the next ten years.

The districts secured several strong leaning Republican districts, limited the number of strong leaning Democrat districts, and gave the Republicans a competitive chance in the balance of the districts.

The Republicans now own a veto-proof majority in the House and Senate, meaning Democratic Governor Roy Cooper has limited veto power on legislation he does not want to sign into law.

After a federal court ruled last year that 28 of the newly proposed districts drawn by the North Carolina General Assembly were unconstitutional, lawmakers were back in Raleigh this week to begin setting up the rules and framework for the new map development process.

The two redistricting committees in the House and Senate are bipartisan, but the Republicans have more members on each committee. The rules were finalized this week and work on the new map drawings will begin immediately. The goal is to have the new map in place by September 1, 2017.

One of the goals of the redistricting will be to avoid putting two incumbents into the same district, which has happened in the past. Also, the maps will be drawn based on 2010 census data. Obviously, North Carolina continues to grow at one of the fastest rates in the nation. Experts predict this will put urban regions at a disadvantage.

The map drawing process will be monitored closely by the NCFA and the Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee.

The FFPAC

The Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee (FFPAC) is chaired by NCFA members Ashley Faircloth and John Gray. The committee meets quarterly to discuss issues impacting forestry and the forest products industry.

The FFPAC supports candidates for state offices that demonstrate a commitment to forestry, private property rights and the forest products industry.

Last election, the FFPAC was able to distribute \$50,000 to 43 different candidates. The FFPAC also presents a legislator of the year award, entitled Friend of Forestry Award, annually. Typically, this presentation takes place at the NCFA's Annual Meeting.

The FFPAC holds fundraising events throughout the year, but its biggest event is the Friends of Forestry Reverse Raffle. Raffle tickets are sold from January through May. The winners of the jackpot split \$5,000. FFPAC members appreciate everyone who supports the FFPAC by purchasing tickets for this event.

The FFPAC heads into the fall with just over \$35,000 in its bank account after a tremendous turnout for the reverse raffle held earlier in May of 2017.

If you would like to learn more about the FFPAC, please contact the NCFA's Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 or cbrown@ncforestry.org. ■

POINT OF VIEW

TIMBER PROVIDES CERTAINTY AMID TAX REFORM QUESTIONS

By Dave Tenny, NAFO President and CEO

Working forests – those managed to grow and harvest timber – have a long history as economic drivers and valuable assets. For many rural communities, timber is the local economy – working forests support 2.4 million jobs and \$98 billion in payroll, mostly in rural communities. For the private forest owners who plant, grow and manage working forests, and for the increasing number of Americans who invest in working forests as part of their retirement portfolios, timber is an attractive long-term investment that withstands market volatility.

As they grow, working forests are an environmental asset too – filtering 25 percent of our drinking water, providing habitat for 60 percent of our at-risk species, and sequestering enough carbon to offset 12 percent -15 percent of our industrial carbon emissions annually. These valuable environmental benefits are largely underwritten by the investments of private landowners over decades, and in most cases are provided to the public for free.

As Congress embarks on the challenge of modernizing our tax code, there is one surefire way to support rural communities, the economy and the environment all at the same time – maintain provisions supporting long-term private investment in our nation's 460 million acres of privately owned working forests.

The economic viability of private working forests depends on tax provisions that recognize that growing trees is unlike any other business or investment. Timberland stewardship is uniquely long-term. Unlike business or investment cycles tracked annually or over a few years, forests are managed over decades. Timber takes between 20 and 80 years to mature, so landowners face an investment horizon of between 20 and 80 years. That means that landowners planting seedlings today won't see a return on their 2017 investment until at least 2037; trees that take longer to mature might not be ready to harvest until 2097.

As trees grow, forest owners make significant investments – often millions of dollars – in regular operating costs like road maintenance, weed control, thinning and many rounds of fertilization. Tax law allows forest landowners to deduct these operating costs, which in turn, allows them to afford forest health treatments that reduce the risk of forest fires and other natural disturbances. It also keeps other beneficial investments like research and conservation projects affordable. Tax provisions that allow the deduction of reforestation and tree planting costs encourage landowners to continue investing in trees, keeping our nation's forests abundant and strong.

The tax code also rightly treats timber revenue as long-term capital gain and properly defines timberland as real property instead of inventory. Trees are different from inventory because they are held for decades rather than days or months, and they appreciate rather than depreciate in value. Current provisions in the code appropriately accommodate these facts, treating timber as a long-term real property investment. This allows ordinary investors to own professionally managed timberlands; in fact, working forests are now part of most American's retirement portfolios.

Forest owners will always face the dual challenge of low liquidity and substantial risk. These tax provisions ensure their economic viability. Without them, forest owners will face mounting pressure to convert timberland to other uses in search of a better return on their investment. Fewer forests is not a good outcome for anyone. When it comes to the complex task of tax reform, this piece is a no-brainer – working forests are an economic and environmental asset that legislators on both sides of the aisle can get behind. *NAFO is a national organization of private forest owners committed to advancing national policies that promote economic and environmental benefits of working forests.* ■



Dave Tenny



PROLOGGER BASE CLASS CONCLUDES WITH TRIP TO MARION - OCTOBER 11-12, 2017

The final session of the NCFA's ProLogger Base Class will be held at McDowell Tech in Marion, NC this October 11-12, 2017. There is still room available for any logger wishing to earn his/her ProLogger status. The registration fee is \$250. Loggers can pre-register by submitting a registration form (mail, fax, online) or register the day of class.

The base class is held three times during a given year in the eastern, central and western parts of North Carolina.



NC SFI COMMITTEE AWARDS 2018 GRANTS

The North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee (NC SFI) met earlier this week at the NCFA's office for its third quarter meeting. One of the tasks for the committee was to approve the slate of grants submitted to the committee.

The NC SFI grant cycle runs annually from July 1 to July 1. All grant submissions are then evaluated by a grant subcommittee of the NC SFI. This group then forwards its recommendations to the entire committee.

Amy Phillips with Weyerhaeuser directed the grant process in her role as the committee's vice chair. The committee unanimously approved the grant recommendations and the following projects will be funded in 2018.

Roanoke Economic Development - \$10,000 for Sustaining Forestry & African American Land Retention and Youth Steam Summit

Appalachian State University - \$5,000 for Carbon Offset Project

Institute of Art, Landscape & Sustainable Spaces - \$15,000 for Community Youth Program Focused on Forestry and Natural Resource Education

Forest Education and Conservation Fund - \$4,000 for Wildlife Station

Forest Education and Conservation Fund - \$7,500 for ProLogger Segment on Soil Productivity and Reforestation

North Carolina Tree Farm Program - \$13,750 for Re-Inspection of Tree Farms

North Carolina Tree Farm Program - \$7,500 for Forest Landowner Outreach Summit

The NC SFI also approved direct line item funding for the NCFA's top education initiatives, including \$10,000 for the production of Goods from the Woods Boxes, \$10,000 for the Forest & Environmental Camps, and \$40,000 for the Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience.

"We appreciate the financial support from the NC SFI committee for our education outreach programs," stated NCFA Executive Vice President Pryor



Marshall Thompson teaches Tree Measurement during the NCFA's Forestry Camp in Greensboro. (continued on page 6)

Gibson. "We rely on our members to provide us with the ideas and direction for all of our programming, especially in the education arena. These funds allow us to reach more with better, allowing us to create attractive and informative materials and workshops for our kids and educators."

The NCFA's Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience (SFTE) reached just over 100 educators this year with stops in New Bern, Asheville and Southern Pines. In addition to a first-hand experience with industry professionals, each educator left with supplies and lesson plans to

SERVICE TRUCK ACCIDENTS CAN IMPACT ENTIRE CREW

by J.J. Lemire, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

BACKGROUND

On a cool March morning, at approximately 6:10 a.m., three company employees rode in a company-owned crew truck. Weather was not a factor in this accident. The weather was clear and cold, approximately 45 degrees with clear visibility. Sunrise was at 7:29 a.m. The driver of the crew truck picked up two passengers, and he let one of the passengers drive. They were en route to their job site in the south-eastern states.

In the official report, an eyewitness to the accident stated "the crew truck traveled north, suddenly veered across the center line and impacted a group of pine trees." It hit so hard that a tow hook stayed embedded in the tree when it was removed by a tow truck. The report stated that the driver never applied the brakes and eyewitnesses said the vehicle did not slow down.

Estimated speed of impact was 55 mph. There were no skid marks at the accident scene. The truck burst into flames. The fire was fueled by the trucks fuel tank and the extra diesel tank in the truck's bed.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The crew truck driver and passenger that were killed were in their late 40's to 50's. The rear seat passenger/crew foreman was in his 60's. All were experienced and the drivers' records were clean.

UNSAFE ACT

1. The truck driver and passengers fell asleep.
2. The truck departed the road and impacted a pine tree.
3. Fire erupted and killed the two individuals in the front seat.

INJURY

The driver and front seat passenger died from the impact and fire. The rear seat passenger driver suffered severe multiple injuries and burns, but he managed to crawl out through the back window. He was airlifted to a hospital.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Make sure all drivers are aware of the dangers of falling asleep while driving.
2. Make sure drivers are not fatigued, especially for the early morning trips.
3. Employers must train and educate employees on the dangers of early morning driving and to use caution on rural roads. ■

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OSHNC Training...(from page 1)

2010 when budget cuts forced the program into hibernation. Thankfully, the program was revived this year in the Department of Labor's budget and was supported further by a grant from the North Carolina Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Implementation Committee. It is hoped the program will continue as an annual or biannual training session into the future.



Mark Rasdall

"Great training," stated OSHNC Compliance Officer Mark Rasdall. "Especially the practical portions of it. The demonstrations. To me, I am a hands-on, visual kind of guy, you show me that stuff and then let me touch and feel. To me, that's the best way to learn. Death by power point is never a good thing. We eliminated a lot of that in here by having a lot of practical, crawl-walk-run method of teaching. It was outstanding."

The session started with basic introductions of the participating organizations. Gary Thorpe of OSHNC expressed on the opening day that luck is a great thing to have, but it should not be a company's safety plan.

"You train so you don't need luck," stated Thorpe. "We are here today to make sure these guys are getting the proper training."

Forestry Mutual's Chain Saw Trainer, Bryan Wagner, began the formal safety presentations with a review of proper protection equipment (PPE) and the proper felling technique he teaches at the NCFA's ProLogger base course and to policyholders throughout Forestry Mutual's five-state area of operations. The felling plan calls for loggers to 1) look for overhead hazards, 2) determine good side/bad side of tree 3) plan the escape path, 4) determine hinge thickness, cut for hinge, 5) deliver back cut to release trigger. A quick video summary of this technique can be found on the ProLogger Page on the NCFA's website, www.ncforestry.org.



Forestry Mutual's Bryan Wagner led the field demonstrations during the OSHNC Training at Howell Woods.

With the dry erase board session complete, Wagner led the group fairly deep into Howell Woods in search of a few trees he had marked earlier for harvest. The trees varied in size and shape. Wagner demonstrated how the first three steps of the felling procedure demand the logger to think critically about his surroundings and plan his escape path.

Step four of the procedure – determining and establishing the proper hinge wood thickness – is the key to the entire program. Hinge wood is a continuous line that is never cut. The hinge wood is closest to the side of the tree that has a face notch. As its name

suggests, this wood provides the hinge that keeps the tree falling in the desired direction and at a desired pace with no rebound or irregular movement by the tree's trunk from the stump area when the tree hits the ground. This is critical.

"The eight feet around the base of the tree are where the overwhelming majority of fatalities occur during felling operations," stated Bryan Wagner. "That circle – that's our danger zone. My goal is to give my guys the tools to get out of dodge safely."

Compliance officers took the time to gather around each stump to see how the hinge-wood looked on the stump.

Wagner also took the liberty of "miscutting" one tree to show how improper cuts do not provide the same stability during the tree's descent as the hinge-wood cut. Some of these unsafe felling techniques are called swing cuts, bypass and straight-through cuts. The officers had the opportunity to see what these dangerous cutting methods look like on the remaining stump.

Once a few trees were safely on the ground, Wagner revealed some cutting techniques that are designed to deal with tension wood. Tension wood is created whenever a tree or tree limb is put under pressure by the way it is laying on the ground or against another tree.

The tongue and groove cut – which calls for two offset cuts on each side of a bore cut – is one way to cut a large tree stem or limb under heavy tension without exposing the timber cutter to any danger. Once the tongue and groove cut is completed, the timber cutter can move on to another tree.

When one end of the tongue and groove notched tree is picked up by the skidder, the tree stem releases easily at the cut, leaving a distinctly shaped notch on one end and a hole in the other. If there is any movement as the tension is released, there is no exposure to ground personnel.

This technique is also useful with trees that have been blown down in a storm and the root ball is still intact. When the skidder pulls the top of the tree, the tree separates at the tongue and groove cut and the root ball inevitably pivots back into the hole it was uprooted from. Again, no ground personnel is close to the moving parts.

"Whenever possible, use mechanized equipment when dealing with storm damage," emphasized Wagner. "This will limit the exposure to ground personnel."

For some in the group, like Mark Rasdall, who is also a paramedic/volunteer firefighter, the methods were enlightening.

"A lot of times, we are called out in the middle of the night to clear roadways and things like that, a lot of the trees that we come across are extremely large," stated Rasdall. "The methods of cutting some of those – the tongue and groove cut – especially for the bigger trees, it eliminates the personnel being in the area when the tension is relieved unlike the way that we are currently practicing it. It will take a hazard out of the picture that really never needed to be there."

The training switched gears on day two with a review and demonstration of arborists Kevin Lilley and Ken Slaton. Again, Howell Woods was a great demonstration classroom. Slaton scaled a pine tree just outside the classroom, providing a glimpse of how arborists work in tandem to tackle tree work.

"Logging and arborist are two distinct and different fields," stated Kevin Lilley. "The equipment is different. The approach is different. A logger is looking at acres of trees. An arborist is looking at one tree at a time."

The program returned to the logging profession on day three and the highlight of day was a demonstration on how important PPE, especially chaps are to a timber cutter. Wagner positioned a wooden leg, equipped with a boot no less, protected by a pair of chaps in between a thick tree limb with a fork at the end. After a few cuts to the tree limb to show the saw is razor sharp, Wagner

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LANDOWNERS

TREE FARM LOSES CHAMPION WITH PASSING OF JIM LONG

NCFA staff is sad to report the passing of retired Superior Court Judge Jim Long, 80, of Caswell County on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at Alamance Caswell Hospice Home of Burlington.

Jim and his wife, Cathy, were named 2014 North Carolina Tree Farmers of the Year for their work on their family farm. Jim and Cathy were instrumental in resurrecting the Tree Farm Program in North Carolina back in 2000.

The couple volunteered countless hours since then to advance and promote sustainable forestry and the Tree Farm Program in North Carolina.

While most of us knew Jim as a top-notch Tree Farmer and true gentlemen, Jim Long was just as accomplished in his professional life.

Born February 16, 1937 in Danville, VA, he grew up on the family farm in the Semora community.

In 1955, he enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Morehead Scholar and received a degree in political science in 1959. In 1960, he enrolled in the School of Law at UNC. He served as a law clerk for NC Supreme Court Justice Clifton Moore for a year following law school graduation.

Returning to his Caswell County home in 1964, he began practicing law in Roxboro, NC with the James Ramsey law firm.

He was elected Caswell County Recorder's Court Judge that year, a part time position he held until 1970 when he was appointed by Governor Robert Scott to fill the unexpired seat of Superior Court Judge Allen Gwyn. He held the position of Superior Court Judge of the 17th district from 1970-1994, during which time he was the vice president of the North Carolina Bar Association, president of the NC Conference of Superior Court Judges, and a member of the executive committee for the National Conference of Trial Judges. Upon his retirement, Judge Long embarked upon a second career as a mediation attorney from 1994-2009, helping to draft the Rules of Mediated Settlement Conferences adopted by the Supreme Court of NC.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Catherine Carden Long; his son and daughter-in-law, J. David Long and Lynn B. Long of Greensboro; his daughter, Mary C. Long of Wilmington; and his four grandchildren, Andrew, Molly and Sarah Long of Greensboro and Cullen Nowicki of Wilmington.

Among other honors bestowed on him are the Citizen of the Year Award, Pilot Mountain, NC; NC Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service; Silver Beaver Award, Old Hickory Council, BSA; 2010 Peace Award from the Dispute Resolution Section of the NC Bar Association; and the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. ■



(l-r) Cathy and Jim Long were presented with the 2014 Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year by David Halley on behalf of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program.

NC SFI Grants...(from page 4)

their pupils about forestry and the forest products industry.

Three more Forestry and Environmental Camps are on the horizon this year. The Raleigh Camp will take place in September. A new camp at Lake Norman is scheduled for October 9-11, 2017. The Wilmington Camp will take place on October 30 - November 3, 2017. The first camp of the year was held earlier in Greensboro.

Amy Juliana, the NCFA's Education Programs Manager, will be participating in the Science Teachers Professional Development Workshop in October where she will be sharing Goods from the Woods Boxes and posters. Amy also will be recruiting teachers for next year's SFTEs.

All totaled, the NC SFI will award \$122,750 this year in grants. This marks a high-water mark for the grant program and demonstrates the SFI program's commitment to sustainable forestry and forestry education. ■

BOTTOMLAND FORESTS SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED FOR WILMINGTON

On October 31- November 2, 2017, the North Carolina Forest Service will be hosting a symposium on the results of three years of research by key members of the N.C. Forest Service, NCSU Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, and the USDA Forest Service in Wilmington at the Hilton Riverfront Hotel.

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. ■

UPCOMING LOG A LOAD EVENTS

The 2017 Log A Load River Landing Golf Tournament will take place on Thursday, October 19th at River Landing Golf Course in Wallace, NC. Tee Time is 1:00 p.m.

The cost is \$85 per player or \$320 per team, which includes green fees, cart, food, prizes (including a new car hole-in-one challenge sponsored by Bill Carone Buick, Wallace, NC) and beverages. Dinner and awards to follow immediately after golf.

If you are interested in being a hole sponsor, it is just \$200.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Brewer at (910) 620-2503 or scott.brewer@ipaper.com. ■



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OSHNC Training...(from page 5)

intentionally missed the tree limb and sunk the saw into the chaps protecting wooden leg. The saw was stopped instantly.

Compliance officers were amazed when Wagner rolled back the chaps to reveal that the wooden leg had not received a scratch. The video of this demonstration is listed on the NCFA's Facebook page.

"I am always amazed by the ability of the protective material, to stop the violent nature of the running saw chain," stated Wagner. "And, keep in mind, I have run this demonstration countless times. So I am not surprised when people who are witnessing it for the first time, are really shocked."



Bryan Wagner explains how chaps can choke out a saw after staging an accident with a wooden leg.

Forestry Mutual President Keith Biggs stepped to the podium on day four to illustrate a series of real life scenarios where a timber cutter had expired due to a mistake in his felling plan or felling execution. All of the examples were from Forestry Mutual's own files.

Biggs thanked the OSHNC officers for attending the class and providing a valuable service to the forest products industry.

"At the end of the day, everyone in this room has the same goal," stated Forestry Mutual President Keith Biggs. "We want everyone on the job to go home to their loved ones the same way they showed up that morning – upright and in one piece."

Biggs encouraged the officers to be diligent and fair in their duties. He explained to the group that Forestry Mutual has several standing "no tolerance" policies such as PPE, Lock Out – Tag Out, and proper felling. If a policyholder is found in violation of a "no tolerance" policy, they are dealt with harshly.



Forestry Mutual's Keith Biggs opened the discussion on inspecting a fatality.

"If you come on a jobsite and the loggers are not wearing PPE, please give them a citation," stated Biggs. "And if they are one of my guys, let me know. There is no excuse in this day and age for any of our guys to be out in the woods without the proper PPE."

Keeping with the design of the course, the compliance officers were then taken out to the woods where they were separated into five groups in order to tour five pre-set fatality



OSHNC Consultant Diedrick Lewis (orange shirt) led one of the groups on the fatality investigation exercise.

scenes that Wagner had staged the day before.

Officers were challenged to examine the site and piece together what could have been the cause of the tragedy. Not surprisingly, the groups quickly honed in on the stumps for clues. They also checked existing overhead hazards in addition to examining the condition of the equipment on the scene.

"The investigative piece I got out of this for OSHA and the better understanding of the things that go on in the woods as a OSHA inspector is outstanding," stated Mark Rasdall.

On Friday, in the tradition of the NCFA's ProLogger base class, the group visited an active logging job to get a close up view. No one can never say that ProLogger Tony Teague isn't a brave man!

Teague graciously opened up his logging job to scrutiny of not just one OSHNC Compliance Officers, but more like 31 and several OSHNC Consultative Services Officers as well.

OSHNC Consultants Gary Thorpe, Eric Smith, Dietrik Lewis and Chuck Murdock led a discussion on the logging operation with a particular focus on the equipment. Teague even saved the group what can be a dodgy walk into the logging woods by bringing up one of his skidders and cutters to the front of the log deck.

During the conversations, one of the compliance officers asked Teague what they personally could do to make an OSHA inspection a pleasant experience.

"Not sure about that one," stated Teague with a chuckle. "I have been inspected a few times over the years, and they have always been professional and helpful. That's all I can ask for. We try to do things the right way. We always try to be professional. That helps the process."

With the training program back on the schedule, the NCFA hopes to continue to coordinate with its partners to keep this program alive into the future. The benefits are bountiful for the forest products community. *The NCFA would like to extend special thanks to the our hosts – the staff at Howell Woods Environmental Center, including Jordan Astoskie, Meredith Massengill, Mike Rose, and Matt Morris – for their hospitality for the week.* ■



Group Photo Time! ProLogger Tony Teague (center) hosted the field day for the OSHNC Training. Thanks Tony!

TREE LINE

SEPTEMBER 2017



THANKS TO PROLOGGER TONY TEAGUE (ORANGE HELMET) FOR HOSTING OSHNC TRAINING ON HIS JOB SITE. TEAGUE BROUGHT HIS EQUIPMENT TO THE FRONT OF THE JOB AND ANSWERED QUESTIONS FOR THE GROUP.

September	
9/7	NCA Forest Management Committee, NCA Office, Raleigh, NC, 9:30 a.m.
9/15-16	Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo, Smithfield/Selma, NC
9/28-30	American Loggers Council Meeting
October	
10/4-6	NCA Annual Meeting, Wilmington, NC
10/6	NCA Board of Directors Meeting, Wilmington, NC
10/10-10/13	NCA Forestry & Environmental Camp, Lake Norman, NC
10/11-12	Prologger Base Class, Marton, NC
10/14	NC Tree Farm Annual Meeting, Wagram, NC
10/18	SLC Meeting, TBA, 9:30 a.m.
10/19	Log A Load Golf Tournament, Wilmington, NC
10/19-20	NC Science Teachers Association Meeting, Greensboro, NC
10/30-11/3	NCA Forestry & Environmental Camp, Wilmington, NC
10/31-11/1	Bottomland Forest Symposium, Wilmington, NC
November	
11/8	NC SFI SIC Meeting, NCA Office, Raleigh, NC - 9:30 a.m.
11/13-19	SAF National Convention - Albuquerque, NM
11/14-16	FMIC Board Meeting - Raleigh, NC
11/23-24	Thanksgiving, NCA Office Closed
December	
12/5-6	NCA Executive Board Meeting, NCA Office, Raleigh, NC
12/25-27	Christmas, NCA Office Closed

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

North Carolina Forestry Association
 1600 Glenwood Avenue
 Raleigh, NC 27609



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