



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association

www.kwoa.net

KENTUCKY WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER

vol. 25 no. 3

Fall 2016

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Please join the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and the University of Kentucky Forestry Extension

The Oak and Bourbon Industry in Kentucky

October 26, 2016
Clermont, Kentucky

This one-day educational program about Kentucky's white oak and bourbon industry will begin at Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest in Clermont, KY. Your registration includes a visit to and talk about the Bernheim Research Forest, a talk on white oak management and bourbon barrels, a boxed lunch and a tour of the Jim Beam® Distillery in Clermont, Kentucky.

Begin at Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, 2499 Clermont Rd, Clermont, follow signage to the Garden Pavilion (I-65 Exit 112 - 20 miles from downtown Louisville).

Agenda

- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Bernheim Forest Field Tour
(dress accordingly)
noon – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch and “White Oak and Bourbon Barrels”
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. - Jim Beam® Distillery tour

Register at www.KWOA.net
by October 21 by 4 p.m.

- \$25 – KWOA Members
- \$30 – Non KWOA Members

Space is limited! Register early!

Kentucky Woodland Owners Association is one of 36 state affiliates of the National Woodland Owners Association, with a diverse membership interested in woodland management.



Forestry Webinar Series

November - December 2016 - 7 p.m. (Eastern)

Kentucky woodland owners and other interested individuals are invited to attend a Forestry Fall Webinar Series at your local extension office. The Forestry Fall Webinar series is an excellent opportunity for woodland owners and those with an interest in forestry to get a significant amount of information in a relatively short time, without having to drive great distances to attend. All webinars last approximately 1 hour.

All webinars, expect December 6, qualify for 1 hour of Master Logger continuing education credits at hosting Cooperative Extension Offices.

November 1, 2016

Kentucky Forest Health Update

Presenter: Ellen Crocker, Forest Health and Research Center and UK Forestry Extension and Abe Nelson, Kentucky Division of Forestry

This webinar will summarize this year's forest health issues in Kentucky and the surrounding areas. We will focus on major problems, such as the spread of and damage caused by the emerald ash borer. In addition, we will highlight localized issues that were observed throughout the state as well as touch on several potential future threats to be aware of.

County Extension Offices hosting this webinar: Carroll, Edmonson, Floyd, Grant, Harlan, Lee, Letcher, Menifee, Ohio, and Warren

November 10, 2016

Implementing a Sustainable Timber Harvest

Presenter: Christopher Reeves, UK Forestry Extension

During this webinar woodland owners will learn that it's more than just trees when it comes to sustainability. Water, soils, special sites, rare species, and aesthetic beauty also need to be protected or maintained. Woodland owners will learn about Best Management Practices to protect water and soil quality, information and databases on rare plants and animals, how to protect special sites such as cemeteries and rock shelters, and many other recommendations that you may have not considered during a timber harvest.

County Extension Offices hosting this webinar: Carroll, Carter, Clay, Floyd, Grant, Hart, Knott, Lee, Letcher, Ohio, and Rowan

November 22, 2016

Marking Your Woodlands Property Boundary

Presenters: Laurie Thomas, UK Forestry Extension and Scott Shouse, Central Kentucky Forest Management, Inc.

Your woodlands are facing numerous threats whether you realize it or not. This presentation will help you to determine if your woodlands and the trees in it are healthy or not. We will also focus on how to improve your woodlands and keep

them productive.

County Extension Offices hosting this webinar: Boyd, Carroll, Clay, Edmonson, Floyd, Grant, Harlan, Knott, Lee, Letcher, Lyon, Meiffee, Ohio, Rowan, Warren, and Wolfe

December 6, 2016 -

Preventing Wildlife Damage on Your Property: Tree Plantings, Gardens, and Ornamentals

Presenter: Matt Springer, UK Forestry Extension

Wildlife on your property can provide hours of enjoyment through birdwatching, photography, hunting and many other activities, but they can also cause problems in many situations. Issues often arise with wildlife when home owners plant trees, ornamentals, or backyard gardens. This webinar will discuss some common wildlife issues relating to your property including how to identify the wildlife causing the problem, preventative measures, and in the worst case scenario how to legally and ethically remove individuals that are causing extensive damage.

County Extension Offices hosting this webinar: Boyd, Carroll, Clay, Edmonson, Floyd, Grant, Harlan, Knott, Lawrence, Lee, Letcher, Lyon, Meiffee, Ohio, Rowan, Warren, and Wolfe

Please note: Master Logger credits not available for this webinar.

December 15, 2016

Caring for Your Woodlands

Presenter: Billy Thomas, UK Forestry Extension

Do you want to make your woodland as productive and healthy as possible? This program will provide woodland owners with a practical approach to caring for their woodland. Topics will include the importance of developing a plan to care for your woodland, explaining some of the most common woodland management practices, and identifying organizations and resources to assist and sometimes offset the expenses of woodland management practices. All woodland owners can benefit from attending this program.

County Extension Offices hosting this webinar: Edmonson, Floyd, Grant, Greenup, Knott, Lee, Letcher, Lyon, Meiffee, and Warren

For more information, call your local County Extension Office or visit https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/webinars_upcoming

 University of
Kentucky

Cooperative Extension Service
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment
Forestry Extension

Volunteer Opportunities With Salt River Watershed Watch

by Steve Perry

The Salt River Watershed Watch (SRWW) was recently awarded a generous grant for a project to plant trees, shrubs and grasses in riparian areas to improve water quality.

The SRWW has committed to plant 1,000 – 2,000 trees, shrubs, and grasses in riparian areas as a way to improve water quality. It will focus on Breckinridge, Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, and Shelby Counties where it has the highest concentration of volunteers, but it will consider working anywhere in the basin. The project is designed to raise awareness of the importance of the riparian zone, and the important part it plays in water quality.

SRWW is looking for land owners, to help in implementing this mini-grant. If you have a stream that is in need of riparian revegetation please contact Steve Perry, Riparian Corridor Enhancement Project Manager, at sperry40055@att.net. Site selections will be completed by the end of October. Planting will be in late November. The SRWW has teams of trained volunteers that will be doing site prep work and planting trees, shrubs and grasses in late November.

More information about the project, including the grant application, is available on the News page of the Salt River Watershed Watch website: www.srww.org or contact Steve Perry at the above email address. If you know of a site with habitat that would be classified

as “marginal” or “poor”, or if you would like to volunteer to help prep and plant this fall, then please email Steve Perry, Riparian Corridor Enhancement Project Manager, at sperry40055@att.net.

Membership Renewal Reminder

The KWOA membership fees for 2016 were due at the beginning of the year. If you have not renewed, you can continue to receive the benefits of membership by mailing a check today, or renewing on our website, www.kwoa.net.



The annual fee is \$30, or \$60 if you wish to add membership to our national affiliate, the National Woodland Owners Association. Checks should be payable to Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and mailed to our office at P.O. Box 694, Maysville, KY. 41056

The logo for Salt River Watershed Watch features the words "SALT RIVER WATERSHED WATCH" in a bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The text is white and set against a dark, rounded rectangular background.

LOG A LOAD FOR KIDS

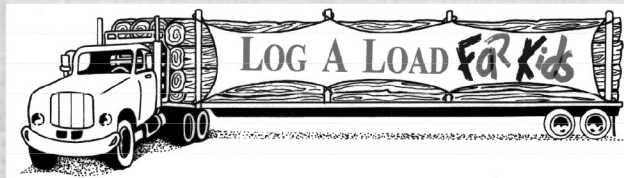


Pictures Courtesy of Kentucky Children's Hospital and KFIA

The Kentucky Forest Industries Association (KFIA) is sponsoring Log A Load for Kids - a campaign to raise funds for the Kentucky Children's Hospital who help treat ill and injured children. All funds raised in Kentucky through Log A Load for Kids remains with the Kentucky Children's Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky.

Please complete a Log A Load for Kids pledge card today to commit your support to our most renewable resource - our children. Make check payable to Log A Load for Kids. Help us help even more children this year.

Did You Know: The Log A Load for Kids Program originated in South Carolina in 1988 to demonstrate logger commitment to community service and professionalism. The concept was for loggers and wood supplying businesses to donate the value of a load of logs to a Children's Miracle Network affiliated hospital. Funds were used in treating ill and injured children. Kentucky started the program in 1997 and has raised over \$425,000 for the Kentucky Children's Hospital.



KFIA'S Log A Load for Kids

PLEDGE CARD

Please accept the attached contribution or send a statement for my contribution to (Please print):

Name _____ Company _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____

My Pledge Total

Make check payable to Log A Load for Kids. (check one)

<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$350	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200
<input type="checkbox"/> \$450	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
<input type="checkbox"/> \$400	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____

Pledges to be collected by local LOG A LOAD FOR KIDS representative or mail card to:

Kentucky Forest Industries Assn., Attn: Log A Load for Kids, 106 Progress Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601

Questions concerning contributions? Contact Michele Brewer at Michele@kfia.org or your local chairman West KY Chairman Mervin Strader - 270/604-1741, East Co Chairs: Amy Conley - 606/783-1568, Melissa Conway - 606/523-9480

What is Log a Load For Kids?

Log a Load for Kids, completing its 26th anniversary is using *trees*- America's green renewable resource to create miracles for sick and injured *children*. It is a fund raising opportunity for loggers, the forest industry community, and state forestry associations to work together to raise money for local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Log a Load has chapters in 27 states and has raised over \$44 million nationally.



One Hundred Percent of the money raised by the Kentucky Chapter of Log A Load stays in Kentucky and benefits the Kentucky Children's hospital located in Lexington, KY. Kentucky has contributed over \$425,000 to the children's hospital since the program started here in 1997 and has funded two \$250,000 endowments, numerous wooden murals and total remodeling of the Children's Rehabilitation Room.

The Kentucky Log A Load For Kids Committee raises funds through direct contributions from loggers and industry contacts; various fund raisers held by mills; events held at regional meetings and miscellaneous KFIA meetings; and a silent auction at the Kentucky Wood Expo.

GET INVOLVED— Consider getting involved with Log a Load at your company. Hosting a raffle or other fund raiser at your company is a great way to raise money for this worthy cause. This fall KFIA is designating October as the month to collect log and mill donations to support Log A Load. Feel free to contact KFIA for ideas on fundraisers or help getting started.



East Kentucky Co-Chair

Amy Conley

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e-mail: aconley@diamond-forest.com

Melisa Conway

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West Kentucky Chair

Mervin Strader, Strader Brothers

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Spring Board Meeting Recap

May 19, 2016 – KFIA Office, Frankfort

Members considered convening the August board meeting at the state fair to also coincide with the Kentucky Agricultural Council's fall meeting.

Membership:

Jack Rentz reporting: 183 members at the end of 2015. Considerable discussion and general consensus that the woodland owners short courses (WOSC) are our best bet for attracting new members who are actively managing their properties. Goal to ramp up our presence at the WOSC's, confirmed that we have board members hosting or attending the next 3. Motion carried to continue doing the one-time free memberships for a period of 5 years so we can evaluate the effectiveness of complimentary memberships on overall active membership. Committee will discuss new membership classes such as non-land owners, woodland managers.

Forest Assessment and Taxes:

Jim Corum continues to pursue a legislative approach, promoting better understanding of taxation for forested lands among legislators. Considerable discussion of taxation ensued. Illinois and Indiana tie stewardship to tax relief.

Annual Meeting & Future KWOA Programming:

The March 8-9 2016 meeting at UK Jabez was excellent and good location. Evaluations from the meeting were distributed to facilitate forming committees (especially for the next annual meeting); board members were asked to initial their top 3 areas of interest. The Executive committee will develop committees. Indiana Woodland Owners Association (700+ members) is very interested in a joint meeting; Doug McLaren is looking at a Louisville bourbon industry tour. The goal is to be open to the public with a discount for members.

Kentucky Division of Forestry:

Bill Steele reporting: Bill has a Blog on the new KDF Facebook page! The division is running ahead on 4% budget reductions and hopes to carry over to the 9% required next year. Hiring freeze keeps staff below the 154 cap and attrition is rising. Nursery status unclear but the bourbon industry needs white oak for cooperage; the nursery is a source for white oak. Tourism also sees forest health as an economic and safety issue. Example of "management works": Pennyriple State Forest harvest got \$1,400/acre versus surrounding private harvest at \$500/acre. Bottom line: Managed woodlands are more productive and we need a fully staffed KDF to help.

Kentucky Conservation Committee (KCC):

Lane Boldman reporting: KCC met with Sen. Carpenter regarding timber theft; he is not opposed but an aide asked him to hold off. (See KFIA report below.) Regarding the nursery, the funds were appropriated out of the general fund; the governor's veto does not remove the funds; it just takes the restricted use off and leaves decisions to the commissioner.

Working with Conservation Districts:

Jerry Adams reporting: Conservation districts are tasked to develop annual and long range plans. Members encouraged to see website for meeting dates, call ahead, ask to be on agenda, attend and introduce KWOA as available to help in planning related to woodland management. The districts can encourage NRCS to put more emphasis on forestry. KWOA encouraged to get involved.

Facebook:

Jerry Adams explained: In your search engine type KWOA Facebook then hit "Like" to get our posts. If you read a post you can "Like It" and that lets others know there is interest in the item. Then hit "Share" to share the like with all your friends on Facebook. It's kind of like a pyramid scheme communication device but you have to be on Facebook to do it.

Administrative Office Duties:

Marla Jackson and KWOA office is now in downtown Maysville: P.O Box 694, Maysville KY 41056. Phone 606.782.1317.

University of Kentucky:

Billy Thomas reporting: KY Woodland Owners magazine has good article on timber theft. UK is close to hiring a Forest Economist to replace Stainback and expand coverage on economic impact of forestry in KY. Funding secured for 2017 MWSP, flyers distributed to encourage participation. See www.UKforestry.org. Renee Williams won Outstanding Extension Associate Award.

Kentucky Forest Industries Association:

Bob Bauer reporting: Prescribed Fire bill passed requiring KDF to be notified in advance. Training next year. Task force on timber theft in place for 6 years; it is an uphill battle. Action is blocked in



KWOA members toured Somerset Hardwoods in Pulaski County.

Spring Meeting (cont.)

the Senate. Bottom line: lack of criminal enforcement; the only legal cases moving forward have a consulting forester involved. Their Annual Meeting in April in Louisville very successful. KFIA donated a beautiful wood art piece to UK Children's Hospital section; it is very popular. Go see it!

Natural Resources Conservation Service:

EQIP info sheet distributed; concern is focusing on larger acreages. In addition to the usual business items, the May 19th meeting delved into interesting and substantive discussions of several issues and opportunities of interest to woodland owners. These respectful roundtable discussions are an invaluable component of the board meetings. All members are encouraged to attend these meetings and take advantage of this top notch gathering of some of the best minds in forestry for both questions and participation.

One topic that bears watching is controversy over certain agricultural zones in the Lexington area that are held by developers who pay only a fraction of the property taxes that are assessed on most properties in that area. However, board members noted that if such properties are taxed at the commercial valuation rate they will be more likely to have to be developed to produce enough income to pay the taxes.

Another item of interest to woodland owners is the short supply of white oak for the cooperage industry. Expanding bourbon distilleries as well as home breweries are increasing the demand for oak barrels. The state's two nurseries have increased their white oak seedling plantings. The forestry division representative commented that sponsorship from the bourbon industry would be most welcome!

Request for Information

[Editor's note] Occasionally the KWOA info line receives an out-of-the-ordinary request. The letter below from an aspiring author seeks background material about living in the woods in the mid-nineteenth century. Readers are invited to converse with the author and share their family memories of this time and place in Kentucky history. (KWOA does not endorse or promote the pending publication.)

SEEKING KENTUCKY HISTORY INPUT for MY NOVEL

My name is Lee Rhodes and I'm working on a Civil War historical fiction novel involving a cursed female spirit tethered to a broken-down Southern mansion in Kentucky. The new owner who has addiction problems comes across this spirit when he visits the house for the first time. The spirit, the house, and the owner all are in need of *The Fix* (the book's title). When the spirit, Leila, was a small child she lived in the woodlands of Kentucky with her parents, but is abandoned by her father to live alone in their cabin when the mother dies. Leila is 6 or 7 years old when this happens and lives by herself for about a year until she found by Irish gypsies. I am seeking background information about the life and times in the Kentucky Woodlands from 1840's -1860's when my character lived in the woods with her family and then as child by herself. Information about the wildlife, and the edible and poisonous botanicals would most helpful, as well as cooking methods or anything else you may consider pertinent.

From NW Indiana, I was raised by my mother and grandmother who were born and raised in Berea, KY. As a young girl, I visited there many times and recently lived in Lexington for a few years. I'm currently semi-retired and live in NW Arkansas for the time being. Anyone interested in sharing their insights or knowledge about the Woodlands or the stated time period in Kentucky would be most appreciated.

You may reach me at lee.j.rhodes@hotmail.com. Please respond by December 31, 2016. I'm not on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. I'm just too busy researching and writing!

2016 Calendar of Events

October 26

Oak and Bourbon Industry in Kentucky
Clermont, KY



November 1 - December 15

Forestry Webinar Series

Visit the website for more information:
www.forestry.ca.uky.edu/webinars_upcoming

November 17

Next Regular Board meeting

KFIA Office
106 Progress Drive
Frankfort

February 16, 2017

First meeting of the 2017 year

Summer Board Meeting Recap Cont.

August 18, 2016 – KFIA Office, Frankfort

Committee Reports:

Forestry Assessment and Taxes -

Uniform Tax Laws - Jim Corum reported that an appeal at the Harlan County circuit court was initiated but no response has been heard. Concurrently Harlan Farm Bureau forwarded a note to the state organization of Farm Bureau discussing fair representation in assessing timber value. Dr. Jeff Stringer from the University of Kentucky responded to a request from the state of Kentucky to discuss a method of uniform statewide methodology for evaluating a fair value of timberland. Corum also provided several handouts to further explain some of his discussions.

Annual Meeting -

Set tentative dates of March 28-29, 2017 at Natural Bridge State Park.

Membership -

216 members (140 paid state + 76 complimentary memberships through WOSC and 2 other UK Extension programs). Discussed ways to encourage complimentary members to be involved. Agreed on sending a one page letter to the 76 new complimentary members and maybe even MACED (to distribute to their group). Jerry Adams volunteered to help draft the letter.

Conservation Districts:

Frank Hicks reported being well received. He encouraged members to talk to these folks and share some key points of KWOA meeting discussions. Managing woodlands & clean water issues are shared concerns. Get on their email list to know when their meetings are. Jack Stickney & Steve Coleman are good resources with knowledge of Conservation Committees.

Indiana Woodland Owners:

Doug McLaren reported on plans for a joint meeting with Indiana Woodland Owners. Indiana has a large group of mostly southern Indiana owners that would like to meet with us separately in the spring. Possibly look at Brown Forman for the spring joint meeting. A one-day single species oriented program focusing on white oak phenomena is planned on Wed. Oct. 26 from 10 AM to 4 PM as a UK Extension fall event: tour Bernheim Forest (south of Louisville), lunch meeting at extension office with Dr. Stringer sharing the UK report on economic aspects, then Jim Beam tour. Program to be offered to KWOA members at cost, with a slightly higher price to non-members. This is one week before the Indiana annual meeting.

Cooperator Reports:

Kentucky Conservation Committee:

Hugh suggested KWOA working with KCC to draft letter to legislature to encourage clarifying fair & uniform property tax laws. Lane will work on this.

Riparian Buffer Watershed Management:

Steve Perry reported on Salt River Watershed Watch (stream monitoring) \$2,500 grant to plant buffers to be implemented by March 1, 2017: looking for landowners who own a creek bank outside Jefferson County. The goal is to plant 4 demonstration sites. Volunteers will do the site prep, planting and maintain it for one year. Additional funding for landowners may be available through the Farm Bill (EQIP). KDF nursery can't supply seedlings this fall but may be able to provide some next year. Sept. 20, 2016 at Greg Kuhn's farm a promotional event to provide volunteer training. KWOA brochures will be distributed. Steve will send Riparian Corridor Enhancement in the Salt River brochure to Karen for the website.

Tree Farm System:

Steve Gray reported Doug McLaren is new chair. He and Doug attended a tree farm meeting in Seattle. National is cautiously moving forward on certification process in the tree farm system to go into effect in 2019. Compared to other states Kentucky is doing well, especially in coordination among interested organizations. We owe a lot to the support from KDF & KFIA. KY Tree Farmer of the Year Field Day is Oct 12, 1:30 pm to 5 pm at Herb Davis's in Casey County. Suggested KWOA provide KACF with brochures for their clientele and ask KACF (Chris Will) to share website links.

UK Forestry:

-Jeff Stringer: UK is in the process of hiring an economist this fall to run economic analysis. With the 2 prior new hires, we can expect more programs and working with other organizations. Looking at hiring geneticist to address industry needs in terms of production and disease. Ellen Crocker, Post- Doc in Forest Health, got some funding to expand forest health efforts, perhaps a process in place to act quickly in addressing big issues (disease or natural disaster) with the federal government. Just about fully staffed and from an economic perspective the department is doing well.

-Billy Thomas thanked KWOA for supporting the 2016 WOSC's. Of 176 attendees about 55 had never attended a class before. They have 35 applicants for the next class of Master Woodland Stewards; they will select 25 to participate.

-Outreach suggestions: Now is a good time to ask county agents for forestry programming. Tell agents about KDF as a support system for forestry programs (as opposed to commodity programs). Ideally counties would offer one forestry program each year. 4H is also receptive to forestry programs. Encourage a forestry component in the next ag field day.



Summer Board Meeting Recap Cont.

News:

Red Baker has been rehired. Pete McNeill Forestry Scholarship has been endowed; perhaps KWOA could include something at the Annual Meeting to celebrate Pete's contribution to forestry in KY.

KDF:

-Bill Steele reported KDF has authorization to hire four (forester NE KY, Morgan Co. nursery, & 2 TBD). Still losing people faster than can be hired.



-White oak is the buzzword that prevented closure of the nurseries. Cooperage people approached the governor and DNR for white oak seedlings. DNR Commissioner & 2 deputies have been out to physically see the nursery; this helped get the positions funded. KDF doing a promotional planting with Jim Beam of 150 white oak 2-yr. old seedlings at Knobs State Forest this fall.

-General discussion: Steve Gray asked about planting white oak seedlings in old ash sites. Jerry Adams asked about interest in better management of standing timber sites for white oak.

-AML (Abandoned Mines Lands) has reclamation funds; KDF is applying for a share working with Green Forests Works.

-Fire season is upon us and there is interest in an enforcement arm to deter arson. Also a bloodhound deal using some F&W staff to save money by reducing insurance exposure and work toward an enforcement arm. Arson Enforcement could reduce fire-fighting costs and that money could be added to the KDF budget. Maybe even incorporate timber theft enforcement.

-Rangers and regional foresters have now been trained at Robinson Forest on the new BMP's.

-Log prices as usual subsided a little over the summer. Not all white oak will make staves. White and chestnut oak prices helped by the stave shortage. Staves topped out at \$1.30/bd. ft. Both white and red oak flooring demand is strong. A lot of top grade red oak goes to China so price goes up in the winter. Hickory and poplar depressed recently, especially low grades. Market generally strengthens in the fall. Walnut is good.

-Ash market is flooded. Emerald ash borer now confirmed in more counties; it will be statewide. Dying ash has become a safety concern in state parks.

**Stringer reported a build-up of Ambrosia Beetle in dying trees in Henry Co. turning ash from lumber into pallet logs, thus lower price. This may shorten the salvage time on ash. There is no natural resistance to EAB. Purdue is looking into genetic modi-*

fication similar to American chestnut but nothing yet. The chestnut regeneration program is slowly improving.

-Pam Snyder reported: KDF has requested a new MOA with NRCS. NRCS relies on KDF for forestry expertise and there used to be reimbursement to KDF. The new NRCS Commissioner, Woodward, has cut that out. The white paper asks for \$250,000 to cover KDF hours (doesn't even cover mileage, paint, etc.).

***A motion for KWOA to do a letter supporting KDF's MOA. by Jerry Adams, seconded by Joe Ball, carried.*

NRCS:

Cliff Drouet reported there are currently 11 NRCS certified TSP consultants statewide (and some of these are out of state residents). USFS & NRCS pooled funds to hire a shared forester in eastern KY. 82 cost-share contracts now obligated for a total of \$1 million in forest mgmt. plans, brush mgmt., tree planting 10 acres, and FSI 2788 acres. Figures will be firm after Oct 1, when the applications, compliance, and completion tallied. Not enough applicants in east KY to obligate available funds. Contact Cliff for exact stats.

KFB:

Bige Hensley reported that it is time for county farm bureaus to send in policy recommendations for the 2017. Meeting Oct 10 to set these goals. KWOA members encouraged to contact their agent before that to request resolution for KFB to include forestry in policy goals.

KFIA:

Bob Bauer reported 4 meetings planned. No Expo this year (every other year). This year KFIA is participating in Wood Products Manufacturers Assn. meeting. Not much going on legislatively. The idea of timber theft enforcement and education is being presented to County Attorneys Assn. The Timber Theft Trespass Study report will be shared to help them understand the issue. 62% report theft tracks to landowner boundary issues. Taxes are a big issue but the change for managed forests is not huge. Coal Severance Tax is ending so reducing any taxes is a challenge. In eastern KY going after loggers will in turn raise the cost of logging and landowners lose out. KWOA could align with KFIA in dealing with Road Bonding issue in Breathitt Co. In Boyd Co. an Emergency Ordinance requires \$90,000 bond for logging on any county road. If this is enforced no owner will be able to log. Last issue of the NWOA magazine has an article on California Regulations affect on logging.

Next Regular Board Meeting Thursday, November 17, 2016. The first meeting in 2017 will be Feb. 16.



Kentucky Family Forest Owners Rule!

Article submitted courtesy of the Family Forest Research Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

If we are interested in the conservation of the forests and woods of the United States, we must be interested in those who control its fate: the forest and woodland owners. Woodland owners make decisions related to land use and forest management that impact the forest, and these decisions influence the wealth of benefits these forests and woodlands provide, from timber supply to water supply to carbon sequestration to wildlife habitat.

The USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis program, through the Family Forest Research Center (FFRC; www.familyforestresearchcenter.org), conducts the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS; www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/) to better understand: who owns the woodlands, why they own it, what they have done with it, and what do they intend to do with it. The results presented below are based on responses from 221 randomly selected woodland ownerships with 10+ acres in Kentucky that participated in the NWOS between 2011 and 2013.

- **Family Forest Owners Dominate:** Woodland ownerships control 73% of Kentucky's woodland, which is more than any other ownership group.
- **Size of Holdings Makes a Big Difference:** The average woodland ownership in Kentucky has 55 acres of wooded land. 61 percent of the ownerships have relatively small holdings between 1-9 acres, but 94% of the woodland area is owned by ownerships with 10 acres or more.

- **Beauty, Wildlife, and Nature are What Matter:** The most commonly cited reasons for owning woodland in Kentucky are related to beauty and wildlife, as well as passing land on to children, privacy the wooded land provides, and nature protection.
- **They Love Their Land, but they are not Engaging:** The vast majority of owners, 85%, agreed or strongly agreed with the statement "I want my wooded land to stay wooded." But most are not involved in traditional woodland management practices.
- **They are Old(er):** The average age of woodland owners in Kentucky is 63 years with 41% of the woodland owned by people who are at least 65 years of age.

Conclusions

People interested in woodland conservation must also be interested in those who own the woodland. Across Kentucky, families and individuals own a significant number of acres, and this land has great potential for conservation.

Additional Information

For more results from this survey, visit the U.S. Forest Service's National Woodland Owner Survey website at www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos.

To learn more about the services and resources available to woodland and forest owners in your state, contact your local forestry agency or association (<http://www.familyforestresearchcenter.org/landowners/>).

WOSC 2016 in Review

by Billy Thomas

Thanks to everyone that was able to attend one of the three regional Woodland Owners Short Courses this year. I would also like to thank the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association for their continued support of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course (WOSC). More



*Bobby Ammerman demonstrates the use of a sander as WOSC attendees prepare to finish their own cutting boards.
Photo by: Renee Williams*

than 175 people attended the 2016 WOSC this year representing almost 20,000 woodland acres. There was also a very wide distribution of counties represented as attending woodland owners owned land in sixty different counties.

The first WOSC was held on July 16 at the Henry County Extension Office and the Sherman Dotson farm; we then traveled to Breathitt County for the July 30 WOSC that was held at the UK Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability and the James Mullins farm; the final WOSC was held on August 13 at the UK Research and Education Center in Princeton and the Lyndle Barnes farm (a KWOA board member).

In addition to attending indoor presentations and visiting nearby woodland owners the attendees of the WOSC were exposed to the wide variety of organizations and programs available to assist them in the care of their woodlands. KWOA board members Jerry and Portia Brown, Frank Hicks, Dave Hartman, and Lyndle Barnes did a great job addressing the WOSC attendees at each of the events where they explained what KWOA was all about and encouraged everyone that was not already a member to get involved with KWOA.

As part of the program we administer a pre-evaluation and post-evaluation of the program to not only see how much knowledge is gained but also which topics attendees would like to see in the future. The top three categories requested at the 2016 WOSC were: woodland health, growing timber, and managing wildlife. All of these topics are well represented at UK Forestry Extension educational programs and will continue to be so in the future. We also asked attendees to share a quote with us that we can use to promote the WOSC and a sampling of those quotes is below:

- o If you have land and trees, even a small acreage you will learn a lot.*
- o A wonderful learning experience and a great introduction to available resources.*
- o Take care of your trees today and they will take care of you tomorrow.*
- o Grow Timber Grow Kentucky.*
- o You don't know what you don't know until you know.*
- o The WOSC is essential for any landowner who endears to be a good steward.*
- o This information will help me better manage my woods.*
- o If you're lost in your woods this class will help you get out.*



Preliminary plans for the 2017 WOSC are already underway so if you have topics you would like to suggest we address in the East, Central, and West regions of Kentucky please let me know by emailing (billy.thomas@uky.edu) or calling me (859.257.9153).

Pete McNeill Forestry Leadership Scholarship Endowed

Because of our shorter lifespans, those of us that work with trees may never see the trees we plant or nurture achieve their full potential. However, we do expect that our efforts will not only improve the land, but also benefit current and future generations. This belief was a central focus when the Pete McNeill Forestry Leadership Scholarship was formed, specifically to honor the legacy and many contributions of a man who made our profession, our industry, and the world better than he found it.

Due to the graciousness and generosity of the Pete McNeill family and other donors, we are pleased to announce that the Pete McNeill Forestry Leadership Scholarship is now endowed at \$25,000 and has awarded its first scholarship recipient for the 2016-2017 academic year.

However, the fund still needs contributions to keep growing the endowment and awarding more scholarship dollars to forestry students. Currently, the fund awards one - \$1,000 scholarship a year. Pete's family would like to grow the scholarship to a minimum of \$50,000 to award one - \$2,000 scholarship annually or two - \$1,000 scholarships annually. Please join us and help grow this worthy endowment to support forestry students at the University of Kentucky. This scholarship honors Pete and his family

while supporting future foresters so that they too might improve our forests and natural resources. If you are interested in contributing to Pete's legacy as a leader within the forestry community in Kentucky, please call or email Amy VanMeter at 859.257.7211 or amyvan@uky.edu.

McNeill Family Statement

The McNeill family was thrilled to learn that the Pete McNeill Forestry Leadership Scholarship is fully endowed and that deserving UK Forestry undergraduates can now benefit from the benevolence of so many donors.



The Pete McNeill Family: The McNeill Family Helped set up the The Pete McNeill Forestry and Leadership Scholarship which will help support future foresters throughout the state of Kentucky. Pete second from right.

Pete grew up on a dairy farm deep in the mountains near West Jefferson, North Carolina where he learned the importance of good stewardship and sustainable agricultural practices.

In 1943, at the age of seventeen, he voluntarily

enlisted in the US Navy and served for two years in the Pacific Theater. He then enrolled at Berea College where he earned a BS in Agriculture in 1951. There he also met and married Anna Lou Planck. After graduation they returned briefly to his home community in North Carolina where Pete farmed while teaching improved agricultural principals to returning veterans. They relocated their young growing family in 1953 to Fleming County, Kentucky where Anna Lou was

Pete McNeill

Scholarship (cont.)

raised and invested in a small timber tract which they enlarged over the years ultimately to several hundred acres.

In 1964, Pete was granted an opportunity to work for four months in South Korea to study their hydroelectric power system with seven other men – some from private power companies, some from rural electric cooperatives. He returned with a deepened dedication to reforestation after examining the extensive destruction of woodlands there during the Korean Conflict. Pete resolved to expand his land holdings and committed to planting what became thousands of trees while managing the forests. He firmly believed in leaving the land and trees in better shape than he found them, and worked to instill these values in his family as well as other tree farmers.

He learned to make selective harvests followed by reforestation as well as improvements in water quality under the advice and recommendations of Kentucky Foresters and UK extension specialists. Those practices gained his selection as our country's National Tree Farmer of 1988.

Pete always enjoyed walking through the woods with family and friends, especially on Sunday afternoons between church services. We hope that his love of nature and forest resources will be passed to future generations through this scholarship.

Robinson Forest Update

Robinson Forest is truly unique in all that it has to offer. From the camp to the fire tower, from Clemons Fork to Coles Fork, Robinson Forest provides opportunities rivaled by few locations. Robinson Forest is brimming with activity and it's an exciting time to be here. This excitement is evident in the diversity and quantity of users, courses, and research at the forest.

In the past year, there have been 31 active research projects and 19 of these projects originated within the UK Department of Forestry. Other UK departments such as Entomology, Geography, and Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering have ongoing research at Robinson Forest. Because of all that Robinson Forest has to offer, research at Robinson Forest reaches far beyond the University of Kentucky. Projects are underway by Eastern Kentucky

(continued on page 14)



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association

**KWOA is dedicated to
promoting
economically and
environmentally sound
forest management.**

**Visit our new Web site...
www.kwoa.net
to learn more.**

Robinson Forest (cont.)

University, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Robinson Forest is truly a unique location to conduct research and has a lot to offer to any entity or organization.

In addition to providing countless research opportunities, Robinson Forest is an incredible outdoor classroom and laboratory for teaching and extension programming. University of Kentucky students majoring in Forestry, English, Biology, Natural Resources and

Environmental Science, and Entomology take courses at Robinson Forest. Students from Centre College, Eastern Kentucky University, and North Carolina State University use Robinson Forest. For years, UK Forestry Extension has trained forestry and natural resource professionals at Robinson Forest. From Florida to Alaska, U.S. Forest Service personnel have participated in trainings held at Robinson Forest. Private woodland owners are now participating in a Master Woodland Stewards Program conducted at Robinson Forest. Last year Robinson Forest also hosted 53 middle school students from across eastern Kentucky as part of a Youth Natural Resource and Environmental Science Academy.

An exciting trend is an increase in groups using the Robinson Forest camp that aren't our traditional Robinson Forest users. Groups from the University of Kentucky's Office of Sustainability as well as Family and Consumer Sciences are visiting Robinson Forest. The Breathitt County Senior Citizens Center hosts yearly retreats. The forest is also host to a retreat for military families of service men and women. We even saw Robinson Forest's dining hall host a "Baking Boot Camp"!

Despite your distance, background, or interests, Robinson Forest has something for everyone. Have You Been to Robinson Forest Lately? If not, it's time to check us out and see for yourself the exciting opportunity that is Robinson Forest in Clayhole, KY.

For more information on Robinson Forest or to schedule a visit, please contact Chris Osborne at 606-666-9995 or Robinson.Forest@uky.edu.

White Oak Supplies and Our Woodlands
For Loggers and Woodland Owners

October 18, 2016
Marshall County Extension Office,
1933 Mayfield Hwy, Benton, KY 42025
6 - 8:30 p.m.

Topics:

- Benton Stave Mill - Information on Startup and Demand
- Changes in White Oak Markets
- How to Grow High-Quality White Oak
- Logging and High-Quality White Oak Production
- Jim Beam and Responsible Harvesting

Dinner is Free, but advanced registration is required.

You must pre-register for the program, by calling the Marshall County Extension Office at 270.527.3285.

KENTUCKY MASTER LOGGER
APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION
3 hours Master Logger CEC

Sponsors:

- JIM BEAM**
- AMERICAN STAVE COMPANY**
- KENTUCKY DIVISION OF FORESTRY**
- University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Cooperative Extension Service Marshall County**
- University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Forestry Extension**

Joined FERN Yet?

What is it?

A new group, the Forest Education and Research Network (FERN), is being formed to improve our understanding and management of both public forests and privately owned woodlands.

Members of this network will have the opportunity to participate in a range of different

activities, from helping in scientific research, to educational workshops, to testing new forestry tools. By joining the Forest Network you can play an important role, working with researchers and natural resource professionals on issues of concern to your woodlands.



Who can join?

FERN is recruiting members from a wide variety of backgrounds! Whether you are a woodland owner, a land manager, an educator, an Extension professional, a student, or just someone who cares about the health and sustainability of our trees, please consider joining FERN.

Who is coordinating this?

The Forest Network is a joint effort of the University of Kentucky Department of Forestry, Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, and the Forest Health Research and Education Center.

Interested in joining or just learning more about the network?
Email Ellen Crocker,
e.crocker@uky.edu



In Remembrance...

KWOA Appreciates Long-time Board Member Yancey Clark

Yancey Clark, KWOA board member for the central region, died August 27th in Danville at age 86.

In remembrance Henry Duncan, board member and a past KWOA president, commented that Yancey was a dedicated friend and supporter of KWOA. He never missed a board meeting. He and his wife Carol were faithful participants in KWOA annual meetings. He always had good ideas and suggestions toward positive programs. He will be sorely missed.

Credits:

Newsletter editor – Karen Marshall
Mailing – Kentucky Forest Industries Association
KWOA website – Karen Marshall

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Past President - Jack Rentz, Wallingford

Next Board Meeting: November 17, 2016 - KFIA

Members are encouraged to attend.

Kentucky Woodlands is published quarterly. We welcome articles and information for inclusion in the newsletter. Please submit copy to the address below. Editor reserves the right to edit all material for content and length.

Karen Marshall, Editor
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