



Kentucky Woodland Owners Association

# KENTUCKY WOODLANDS Newsletter

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Fall 2008

## **Member Alert!** **Legislative Interim Committee Hearing** **Re-scheduled for October 8**

KWOA members are encouraged to attend KWOA's re-scheduled presentation to the Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources on October 8 in Frankfort. This introductory meeting is a rare opportunity for KWOA to bring to legislators' attention the value of Kentucky's wood industry to the state's economy and the woodlands that sustain it. KWOA plans to discuss potential state strategies to strengthen this increasingly threatened natural resource.

If you would like to attend the meeting with the interim committee, please confirm the exact time and location by calling the Kentucky Forest Industries Association office at 502-695-3979.

Members are also encouraged to write and/or call their legislators (see Joint Committee members list) encouraging them to attend this important meeting. Suggested points to include in your correspondence are as follows:

- Kentucky's timber industry contributes \$8.7 billion a year to the state's economy.
- With some modest policy changes we could double that figure by providing management

incentives to woodland owners that would improve the quantity and quality of high-grade timber.

- Its 423,000 woodland owners are a key component of that economic impact.
- Those factors include wildfire threats, forest health, low-grade trees, competitive disadvantage with other states and overseas and timber theft.

### 2008 Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Sen. Tom Jensen [Co-Chair]
- Rep. Jim Gooch [Co-Chair]
- Rep. Tom McKee [Co-Chair]
- Sen. David E. Boswell
- Sen. Ernie Harris
- Sen. Dan Kelly
- Sen. Bob Leeper
- Sen. Vernie McGaha
- Sen. Joey Pendleton
- Sen. Dorsey Ridley
- Sen. Richie Sanders
- Sen. Brandon Smith
- Sen. Damon Thayer
- Rep. Royce W. Adams
- Rep. Scott Alexander
- Rep. John A. Arnold
- Rep. Johnny Bell
- Rep. Dwight D. Butler
- Rep. Mike Cherry
- Rep. Hubert Collins

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# 2008 Interim Joint Committee Agriculture and Natural Resources

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- Rep. James R. Comer
- Rep. Tim Couch
- Rep. Milward Dedman
- Rep. Mike Denham
- Rep. C. B. Embry
- Rep. Jeff Greer
- Rep. Keith Hall
- Rep. Richard Henderson
- Rep. Jimmy Higdon
- Rep. Charlie Hoffman
- Rep. Reginald Meeks
- Rep. Brad Montell
- Rep. Tim Moore
- Rep. Fred Nesler
- Rep. David Osborne
- Rep. Sannie Overly
- Rep. Don Pasley
- Rep. Tanya Pullin
- Rep. Marie Rader
- Rep. Rick Rand
- Rep. Tom Riner
- Rep. Steven Rudy
- Rep. Dottie Sims
- Rep. Jim Stewart
- Rep. Greg Stumbo
- Rep. Tommy Turner
- Rep. Ken Upchurch
- Rep. Robin L. Webb
- Rep. Susan Westrom

Contact information for your legislator may be found at the following website: [www.lrc.ky.gov/Committee/interim%20joint/Ag&NR/members.htm](http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Committee/interim%20joint/Ag&NR/members.htm) or by calling the Capitol Annex: (502) 564-8100.

Emails may be sent to legislators via the following website: [www.lrc.ky.gov/whoswho/email.htm](http://www.lrc.ky.gov/whoswho/email.htm)



My address has changed.  
Please send my KWOA newsletter to:

Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail information to: KWOA  
Hutton & Loyd Tree Farm  
1483 Big Run Road  
Wallingford, Ky 41093

# KWOA Seeks a Few Good People

If you like the company of concerned professionals, want to make a difference in the future of Kentucky's woodlands and can attend four meetings a year in Frankfort (lunch provided!), consider serving as a KWOA board member or officer. Term lengths for board members are three years with one third of the board either rotating off each year or accepting another term. The board of directors consists of three members representing each of four regions (north, east, central and west) of the state. Officers (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) serve one-year terms.

The KWOA membership will vote on the 2009 slate of nominees at its annual meeting, set for March 20-21 at General Butler State Park. If you

are interested in being nominated for a board or officer position please call or e-mail a member of the nominating committee:

Karen Marshall  
502-484-0332  
hickorybend@kih.net

Bob Bauer  
502-695-3979  
bob@kfia.org

Robert Tindall  
859-583-1085  
rtindall@thisleweedfarm.com

## *Credits:*

Newsletter editor – Karen Marshall

Mailing – Kentucky Forest Industries Association

KWOA website – Robert Tindall

## Family Woodlands School: a school for sustainable woodland management in Kentucky

Plans are being made for the development of a woodland management school for Kentucky's woodland owners. If you have attended one of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Courses this school is for you. It is designed to provide woodland owners that have participated in forestry continuing education programs in Kentucky with in-depth training in woodland management. In technical terms it is a school in sustainable woodlands management. Examples of specific areas of training include how to use new and emerging markets for carbon and biomass for improved management, use of GPS and mapping to improve planning, how to use current cost-share programs to improve your woodlands, training in techniques to improve timber, wildlife and protect the ecosystem. One important aspect of the school is that participants will bring information and materials on their woodlands to the school and will develop detailed and improved plans for their woodlands as part of the school. The school is being developed by Forestry Extension at the University of Kentucky in conjunction with the Kentucky Division of Forestry and will partner with the same organizations that sponsor the Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Courses. The first school will be conducted next year and surveys are now underway to determine the exact subject areas that will be included and the length and dates for the school. Stay tuned for further information.

# Highlights from KWOA Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

## August 26, 2008

*[Editor's note: These highlights are taken from draft minutes that will be read and approved/amended at the next quarterly meeting.]*

### **ATTENDANCE**

Betty Williamson	Jim Corum
Mark Lee	Stephen Perry
Billy Thomas	Steve Bullard
Harvey Mitchell	Hugh Archer
Felix Taylor	Tim Freibert
Pat Cleary	Scott Shouse
Tad Norris	Greg Kuhns
J. Henry Duncan	Pete McNeill
William Green	Bob Bauer
Robert Tindall	Karen Marshall
David Henderman	Leah MacSwords
Steve Coleman	Bige Hensley

### **TREASURER'S REPORT - MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

The KWOA account balance was \$13,585.97. We have not been billed for the dues to NWOA and will need to pay those dues when they are billed. We have 172 members for 2008 at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Harvey Mitchell from Grass Roots Marketing Company spoke to the group. Grass Roots works with various Ag organizations in the state helping them develop videos, pamphlets, web sites, brochures and press releases.
2. Timber Theft - Pat Cleary and Bob Bauer attended a Timber Theft meeting on July 8 which was held in Whitesburg with Rep. Leslie Combs. At the meeting Pat recommended that harvesting sites be published, that KWOA has an input into any proposed bills, that timber theft be clearly defined and that the loggers on the "bad actor" list be shut down. Bob Bauer also attended a meeting with the Justice Cabinet. Bob stated that the Justice Cabinet doesn't support making timber theft a felony. Bob suggested

to the Justice Cabinet that the fines imposed on "bad actors" be enforced and collected. A discussion ensued concerning what KWOA could or would do concerning the question of timber theft. David Henderman suggested that KWOA should compose a bill of our own concerning timber theft. Leah MacSwords stated that we would need to have a draft of a bill by Oct. 1 in order to find a legislator to present it for us. Due to the time restraints of the meeting, it was suggested by President Corum that we table the matter.

3. Annual Meeting - Henry Duncan will be in charge of the 2009 Annual Meeting with Greg Kuhns acting as a consultant. After studying the surveys from the 2008 Annual Meeting, it was decided to hold the 2009 Annual Meeting at General Bulter State Park and to hold it on March 26 & 27. An alternate date would be March 21 & 22 and an alternate location would be Barren River State Park.
4. Nominating Committee - Karen Marshall agreed to chair the nominating committee for 2009 with Robert Tindall and Bob Bauer also serving on the committee.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. 2008 Interim Joint Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources - We have been given 10 minutes on October 8, 2008 to speak before the committee at, tentatively, the Capitol Annex. A rough draft of our presentation was presented. Final drafts of our presentation will be posted on the KFIA & KWOA websites. Karen Marshall suggested that we send letters to the legislators on the committee presenting the important points of our presentation before the meeting.
2. Farm Bureau - Bige Hensley announced that the forestry committee of Farm Bureau will be meeting in September and that there will again be a forestry conference at the Farm Bureau convention in December.

## Highlights from August 26 Quarterly Meeting

*(continued from page 4)*

3. Stephen Perry - Stephen Perry, KWOA member, asked the members present several questions concerning the marketing of ash. What is the status of the ash bore situation? How do you market your ash? What happened in other states to ash timber prices and how did other states handle getting rid of their ash? Karen Marshall reported that emerald ash bores had been found in traps on her farm in Owen County. Quarantine restrictions were discussed but no one had any firm answers for Mr. Perry's questions.
4. MACED - Scott Shouse reported that MACED had suffered a setback. People enrolled in the carbon sequestration program would not be allowed to sell carbon credits dating back to 2003. The first sales of carbon credits in Kentucky will be at the end of November for inventories performed in 2007. A second sale will occur at a later date for inventories performed in 2008.
5. Property Tax Appeal Update – Jim Corum provided an update on his property valuation assessment. His case is still pending in the Court of Appeals. The PVA assigned a proper fair cash value to his property for tax purposes but Jim's case argues that his property should be assessed and taxed on its agricultural value.
6. Kentucky Conservation Committee - Greg Kuhns announced that the Kentucky Conservation Committee will be holding ITS annual meeting on Sept. 20, 2008.
7. Wood Expo - Bob Bauer announced that the KFIA would be holding its Wood Expo on Sept. 19 & 20, 2008 in Madisonville. Bob also handed out the flier and registration forms for the expo.
8. Moving of the KWOA administrative offices - Henry Duncan asked about the status of the idea to move the administrative offices of the KWOA from Hutton-Lloyd to the KFIA offices. KWOA will keep the administrative offices at Hutton-Lloyd.

## Mark your Calendar for KWOA 2009 Annual Meeting

KWOA is already planning for its 2009 annual meeting at General Butler State Park in Carrollton March 20-21.

KWOA Vice President Henry Duncan is making arrangements with the park. He has secured meeting space and accommodations at the park at its reduced "off-season" rate of \$54 per night for a single room and \$81 for a double. (That block will be available until February 18th.)

More information and registration forms will be available on the KWOA website and in the winter newsletter. Thanks to everyone who provided comments on the 2008 meeting and suggestions for the 2009 event.





# State Forestry Agencies Develop Property tax Assessment Guidelines for Woodland Owners

Within a few years woodland owners will have the satisfaction of knowing their property value has been assessed by a new uniform set of guidelines to be used by all the property valuation assessors in the state. Currently, PVAs use several different methods to make their assessments. Identical properties in neighboring counties can be assessed at dramatically different values.

Many woodland owners are burdened by what may be unduly high woodland property taxes. The tax rates may discourage them from investing more money in their woodlands for timber stand improvement and forest health, thereby further decreasing the potential for the property to return an income. Others are pressed to the point of selling their woodlands to developers, permanently ending any prospects for them or their heirs to access this sustainable resource.

The basis for the new assessment guidelines is being developed by UK's forestry department and the state forestry division in cooperation with the state property valuation office and revenue department. The new process will be based

on soil productivity which is more representative of the income-producing potential of the property. The grant-funded project will use digital soil surveys to develop the assessment tables for each county. It also includes funds to provide training for all PVAs on the new system. Because calculations for the land expectation value assume the potential of the land to produce revenue from timber, the process will benefit landowners who manage their woodland property to its full potential.

For more information contact the project leads:

Dr. Tamara L. Cushing, Department of Forestry, University of Kentucky,  
tlcush2@uky.edu

Diana Olszowy, Kentucky Division of Forestry, Diana.olszowy@ky.gov

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



*Woodland Owners Short Course participants gain insight into the wood industry.*

**KWOA appreciates the support of the Bradley/Murphy Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Trust for the WOSC. The Trust wishes to encourage, promote and develop through education and the free market system the stewardship of forest and related natural resources in the private sector.**

## Master Tree Farmer 2008

Due to budgetary issues, the Master Tree Farmer 2008 Satellite Series were not able to be shown via Kentucky Educational Television (KET). However, there is still hope for Master Tree Farmer in Kentucky. While it is not possible to broadcast Master Tree Farmer via KET in real time, UK Forestry Extension is obtaining first generation copies of all three nights of the program and will conduct the program over the internet at a later date. They will do this through the use of webinar technology that is available at a number of Cooperative Extension county offices in Kentucky. It is their hope that they can schedule the program for three nights this winter.



### *Calendar of Events*

**November 1, 2008**  
**Tri-State Woodland Wildlife Workshop**  
**Prairie Heights High School**  
**245 S 1150**  
**East LaGrange, Indiana**

**December 3 - 6, 2008**  
**Kentucky Farm Bureau Annual Convention**  
**Forestry Conference included**  
**Galt House, Louisville**

**March 20-21, 2009**  
**KWOA Annual Meeting**  
**General Butler State Park**  
**Carrollton**

**KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

c/o KFIA  
106 Progress Drive  
Frankfort, KY 40601

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**DIRECTORS**

**North Zone**

Peter McNeill, Flemingsburg (08)  
Fred Kirchoff, Frankfort (09)  
Karen Marshall, Owenton (10)

**East Zone**

Felix Taylor, Annville (08)  
Mark Lee, Frenchburg (09)  
Pat Cleary, Prestonsburg (10)

**Central Zone**

Dr. James "Greg" Kuhns, Louisville (08)  
David Henderman, Louisville (09)  
Hugh Archer, Lawrenceburg (10)

**West Zone**

Bill Green, Mayfield (08)  
J. Henry Duncan (09)  
Tim Freibert, Louisville (10)

**Directors at Large**

Bob Bauer, Frankfort (08)  
Robert Tindall, Perryville (09)  
Doug McLaren, Lexington (10)

**Emeritus Director**

Don Girton, Alexandria

**OFFICERS**

President - Jim Corum, Stoney Fork  
Vice President - J. Henry Duncan, Versailles  
Secretary - Betty Williamson, Madisonville  
Treasurer - Pete McNeill, Flemingsburg

Next Board Meeting: Nov. 20, 2008  
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.

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