



KENTUCKY WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER

www.kwoa.net

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Summer 2017

Annual Meeting Highlights

Thanks to the presenters and cooperators who made the KWOA 2017 a success. KWOA appreciates the time, travel and expertise of the many professionals who participated in its annual meeting at Natural Bridge State Park. Their expertise, availability for questions and dedication to their various roles in private woodlands management inspired and clarified the future for woodland owners attending the annual meeting. Presenting at the meeting were:

Brown Foreman Corporation
Christopher J. Will, ACF,
Central Kentucky Forest Management, Inc.
H&S Lumber Mill
Kate Robie, Retired Timberland Investment Professional

Kentucky Division of Forestry
Kentucky Forest Industries Association
Powell Valley Millwork
University of Kentucky Forestry Extension
University of Kentucky Department of Forestry

Annual Meeting begins with site visits to Powell Valley Millwork and H & S Lumber



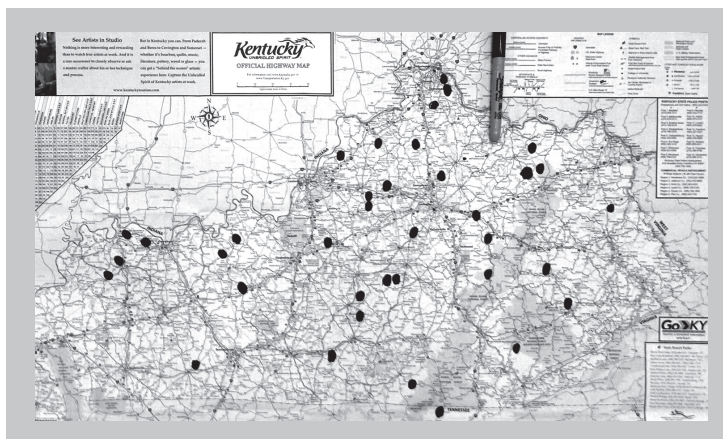
*Attendees discuss log grading during site visit to H&S Lumber Mill.
Photos by Karen Marshall*



Attendees follow a single board from raw lumber to finished product at Powell County Millwork.

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Departs



Meeting attendees marked their home/woodlands locations on a map that shows a decent representation from all parts of the state.

A Message From Your President

It was good to see several new faces at the 2017 annual meeting. I want to say Thanks to everyone who attended, and special thanks to those who helped organize and conduct the program. In addition to the program sessions, the annual meetings provide an opportunity to share experiences with other active wood-

land owners. A 2018 annual meeting committee will be formed soon. If you would like to serve on that committee, please let me know. If you have suggestions for program topics please let me know about those also.

-- Frank Hicks, KWOA President

Salt River Watershed Watch 2017

The Salt River Watershed Watch project plants trees, shrubs and grasses in riparian areas to improve water quality. The project is designed to raise awareness of the importance of the riparian zone, and the important part it plays in water quality. It is supported by the Virginia Environmental Endowment, Kentucky Woodland Owners Association, UK Extension Service and Jefferson County Extension Office. The project focuses on Breckinridge, Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham and Shelby counties but will work anywhere in the basin.

The project was completed in March 2017. SRWW volunteers and project partners planted 1500 trees, 500 shrubs and 300 grasses/sedges and forbs on 4 sites in Jefferson, Meade and Nelson counties. It is planning to work with project

partners to continue this project in the future. For more information about the project go to: **www.srww.org**. A March 13, 2017 Project Report for Riparian Corridor Enhancement in the Salt River Basin can be found on the website's news page.

The project is a pilot that hopes to be the lead on a statewide project. It is looking for landowners to provide property for riparian planting sites. If you own land along a creek you may nominate it. We will secure agreements with the landowners to allow us to come onto the property and they need to be willing to provide maintenance of trees/shrub seedlings for at least the first two years.

If you know of a site with habitat that would be classified as "marginal" or "poor" please email Stephen Perry, Riparian Corridor Enhancement Project Manager, at **sperry40055@att.net**.

UK Forestry Extension Taking the Lead on Establishing a White Oak Partnership

Interest and demand for white oak timber supply is extremely high which has raised some concerns about the long-term sustainability of this invaluable resource. To address this concern, the Sustainability of White Oak Timber Conference was held at the Kentucky Forest Industries Annual Meeting on April 4, 2017. This conference was hosted by UK Forestry Extension—this is the second white oak meeting they have organized to address white oak supply in the last few years. Approximately 100 people attended the one day Sustainability of White Oak Timber Conference which provided information to industries dependent upon white oak and organizations/agencies associated with these industries. State and national experts provided updates on oak stand development, current forest inventory and monitoring, the issues affecting future white oak supply, and the need to establish a White Oak Partnership. There was overwhelming support amongst those in attendance to create a White Oak Partnership to address the following:

- Proper monitoring of white oak growth and drain
- Resources focused on addressing white oak threats
- Economic modelling associated with determining white oak availability
- Elected officials and governmental organizations understand the importance of this resource
- Development of a National White Oak Initiative to help protect and improve white oak sustainability

If you would like to learn more about the White Oak Partnership please visit **www.ukforestry.org** or call Dr. Jeff Stringer at **859.257.5994**.

Douglas McLaren Named KFIA Communicator of the Year

From the KFIA newsroom:

Doug McLaren, retired from University of Kentucky Department of Forestry in Lexington, KY, was recently honored as the 2016 Kentucky Forest Industries Association Communicator of the Year at the Kentucky Forest Industries Association (KFIA) 52nd Annual Meeting in Lexington.

McLaren has reached all segments of the forest products supply chain through his leadership and communication efforts as vice president of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association.

McLaren has been influential to his profession, community and region aggressively communicating the issues that affect the wood industry all the while promoting professionalism by encouraging others to get involved in outreach efforts.



KFIA Executive Director Bob Bauer (r) presents Doug McLaren (l) with the Kentucky Forest Industries Communicator of the Year award. Photo courtesy: KFIA

Jack Stickney Named Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year

From the KFIA newsroom:

Jack Stickney from Irvine, Kentucky was recently honored as the 2016 Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year at the KFIA 52nd Annual Meeting in Lexington. Stickney was selected from a number of nominations submitted to the state Tree Farm Committee from throughout Kentucky.

Stickney's 100 acre Tree Farm in Estill County, Kentucky is managed for a wide range of benefits including timber production, wildlife and recreation. The tree farm is also used for numerous educational purposes for environmental classes and has also hosted a regional woodland owners short course.

Jack is a KWOA board member for its eastern zone.



Steve Gray, KY Tree Farm Chairman (right) presents Jack & Teresa Stickney with the KY Tree Farmer of the Year Award and a STIHL Farm Boss Chain saw donated by Bryan Equipment Sales. Photo courtesy: KFIA

Josh Frazier Receives Outstanding Service Forester Award

Josh Frazier, service forester for northeastern Kentucky, received KWOA's Outstanding Service Forester Award at this year's annual meeting.

Frazier has been employed by the Kentucky Division of Forestry for more than eleven years. He became a Service Forester for northeastern Kentucky in 2008.

Josh's love of the land is demonstrated by his dedication to good forestry, his enthusiasm for his job and his willingness to work with landowners and encourage them to be involved in managing their forests.



Josh Frazier accepts KWOA Outstanding Service Forester Award from Frank Hicks, KWOA President. Photo by Billy Thomas, UK Forestry Extension

Intergenerational Transfer of Family Farm is Cyclical, Not Linear

"Don't worry, I'll take care of you" is the ultimate conversation stopper, says Steve Isaacs, UK extension coordinator for farm management, in the complex and often unpleasant and unproductive dialogue between family generations regarding what will happen to the family farm.

Family farm succession is about more than legal and tax implications according to Dr. Isaacs who is also director for the UK Tax Education Program. It is about the transfer of assets, management, leadership and, yes, debt in a cyclical process.

Isaacs stressed that the first priority in this cycle is assuring an adequate retirement income for the parents. The estate tax is a paper tiger for most people; "death taxes don't destroy family farms... families do."

Isaacs recommended engaging a transition team familiar with farmland issues that could include an attorney, accountant, financial planner, lender, extension educator and/or business consultant. This team's function is to identify and generate ideas, technical information, evaluation and suggestions.

He suggested conducting the transition discussion at a neutral location, not at the family kitchen table. He advised treating siblings fairly, not necessarily equally and include spouses in the discussion. A facilitator and recorder should summarize and document the items on which the family has agreed. With some guidance and a transition plan, Steve says the conversation by the entire family can become "Here's how we're going to take care of things."



*Steve Isaacs de-bunks popular myths about how to transfer the family farm.
Photo by Billy Thomas, UK Forestry Extension*

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics there are only two categories of workers that are older than farmers – school crossing guards and Walmart greeters. Dr. Isaacs will be conducting a full day session on this subject in the near future. Check the KWOA website events page for that announcement.

James Wright Steps up to KDF Top Position

James Wright, most recently Acting Fire Chief at the Kentucky Division of Forestry, stepped into the Director position on April 16. He replaces Bill Steele who held the post since February 2016.

Wright graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry. He has over 20 years of service with the Division of Forestry. Wright has risen through the division ranks holding the title(s) of Service Forester, Chief Forester, Regional Forester and Acting Fire Chief.

Herb Loyd Recognized at Annual Meeting

Dr. Herb Loyd, one of KWOA's six founders, was recognized for his contributions to the association by Donald Girton at the 2017 annual meeting.

Loyd was born and raised in rural West Virginia. His interest in forestry came by a circuitous route that started with military service in Germany and acquaintance with a German forester.

That experience prompted Herb to acquire forest property in Fleming County in the early 1980's and begin active management. Herb has hosted numerous meetings and field days at his tree farm.

Herb's involvement with KWOA has been extensive since serving on its organizing committee in 1994 and subsequently as treasurer, director, vice president as well as education and policy committee chair. He participated in developing the association's articles of incorporation, by-laws, its initial strategy focus and its 2004 position statement.

In his tribute to Herb Loyd, Girton (also a KWOA founder) commented that what he had learned to appreciate about Herb was his "passion for woodland resources, implementation of programs based on sound policy and problem-solving that leads to positive outcomes."



Herb Loyd (right to left), one of KWOA's founders, was recognized by another founder, Don Girton, with Frank Hicks, current president and Jack Rentz, previous president. Photo by Billy Thomas, UK Forestry Extension

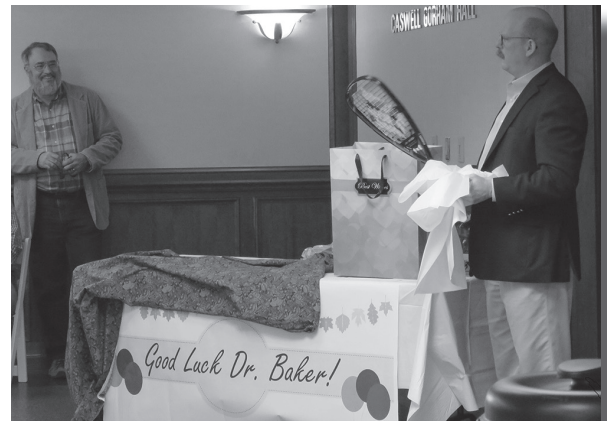
UK Forestry Department Chair Red Baker Accepts Position at University of Florida

Dr. Red Baker has left the UK Department of Forestry to accept a position at the University of Florida. Dr. Jeff Stringer, Extension Professor of Hardwood Silviculture and Forest Operations, is serving as Interim Chair of the department.

Terrell "Red" Baker assumed the position of chair of the forestry department in 2010. Baker came to UK from New Mexico State University. His assessment of his new duties at that time were that "The bones of this department are very strong. There's a group of very motivated faculty and staff who are 100 percent committed to making good things happen. I view it as part of my job to help them do that, to help them be successful."

Dr. Baker was a regular at KWOA events and a valuable resource throughout his tenure at UK. His thoughts regarding his departure from UK: "I am proud of what we accomplished together over the last 7 years. I am confident the department will continue to do great things and I look forward to hearing about its many successes to come in the future."

Red began his new position in his home state at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences as the new director of the UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation on April 1.



Dr. Baker accepts farewell gifts as Jeff Stringer, interim chair, enjoys the moment.



Cliff Taylor, Frank Hicks and Henry Duncan carried KWOA appreciation to Dr. Baker's farewell luncheon.

Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation Scholarship Recipients for 2017

Congratulations to Jack Lemmon and Taylor Conrad who were chosen as this year's recipients for the U.K. Kentucky Forest Leadership Program (KFLP) Scholarship sponsored by the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation (KWOFF)! The scholarships are made available for high school students interested in learning more about Kentucky's natural resources as well as the academic and career opportunities in this field. The students were required to complete a scholarship application that highlighted their interests in natural resources as well as their involvement in natural resource related extra-curricular activities. In addition, the applicants had to write an essay describing their interest in natural resources and environmental sciences and why they are important to Kentucky. To accompany their applications the students also had to obtain a two letters of recommendation, one from a teacher or advisor and one from their parent or guardian.

Jack and Taylor came with high recommendations from their teachers and county extension agents. Their letters of recommendations detailed their involvement in the National Honor Society, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, as well as conservation clubs within their schools. Their letters of recommendation also indicated the youth had a great love of the outdoors, great work ethic and strong leadership skills.

Jack is a high school sophomore at Model Laboratory School in Richmond Kentucky who sees the Kentucky Forest Leadership Pro-

gram as a way to get hands-on experience with professionals in forestry and wildlife and he is excited to learn what they can teach. Taylor is a junior at Simon Kenton High School in Kenton County. Taylor wants to attend KFLP because he is passionate about environmental science since it gives him a chance to connect with nature and do his part in conserving it.

KFLP is lucky to have strong students like this participating in this program and the coordinators of the program are grateful to KWOFF for providing scholarships to assist students who want to learn about Kentucky's natural resources.

For more information about U.K.'s Kentucky Forest Leadership Program and the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation Scholarship visit <https://kflp.ca.uky.edu/> or contact Laurie Taylor Thomas at laurie.thomas@uky.edu or 859.257.2703.

Working Forest Caucuses

submitted by Jack Rentz

During the past year both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate have formed bipartisan caucuses to pursue common legislative objectives relating to privately owned forests. The House of Representatives' Working Forest Caucus was formed in 2016 by two Democrats and two Republicans, and this group now has 68 members. According to one of the founders, Bruce Westerman (R-Arkansas), a graduate forester, "Working forests are our number one renewable resource. Healthy working forests promote clean air and clean water. There is no downside to a healthy forest."

The Senate Working Forest Caucus was formed in 2017 by Senators Angus King (I-Maine) and Jim Risch (R-Idaho), also a graduate forester. This caucus now has 11 members. According to Senator Risch, "This caucus will serve as a resource to those families and communities that rely on working forests, while advancing policies that support and encourage responsible, active forest management."

The formation of these caucuses represents a positive step toward the interests of woodland owners being reflected in public policy. However, there is an important ingredient missing in both of these groups, and that is the lack of either of the Kentucky senators or any of the Kentucky

congressmen in their membership.

By way of comparison, the bourbon industry has a congressional caucus, and the two co-chairmen are congressmen from Kentucky. This is a good thing, but what about us, the woodland owners? How do we get our issues represented?

In order for us to be heard, our elected representatives have to be at the table. The best way to make that happen is for them to hear from us, the voters. If you believe that Kentucky, a state with a substantial dependence on the forest industry, should be represented in the Working Forest Caucuses, please contact your senator and congressman today, and ask that they join their caucus. Phone numbers are listed below.

SENATE

Mitch McConnell	202-224-2541
Rand Paul	202-224-4343

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District 1 James Comer	202-225-3115
District 2 Brett Guthrie	202-225-3501
District 3 John Yarmuth	202-225-5401
District 4 Thomas Massie	202-225-3465
District 5 Harold Rogers	202-225-4601
District 6 Andy Barr	202-225-4706



Register Now!

Woodland Owners Short Course

August 12, 2017 - Laurel County

August 26, 2017 - Warren County

September 23, 2017 - Kenton County

This
could
be
YOU!

To register visit ukforestry.org

2017 Calendar of Events



June 23 – 25

Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards Program

(UK Forestry Extension)

Robinson Forest

INFO: www.ukforestry.org

August 12

East Woodland Owners Short Course

(UK Forestry Extension)

Laurel County

INFO: www.ukforestry.org

August 17

Next regular KWOA board meeting

KFIA Office

106 Progress Drive, Frankfort

INFO: www.kwoa.net

August 26

West Woodland Owners Short Course

(UK Forestry Extension)

Warren County

INFO: www.ukforestry.org

September 15 - 16

Kentucky Wood Expo

Masterson Station Park,

Lexington

INFO: www.kfia.org

September 23

Central Woodland Owners Short Course - (UK Forestry Extension)

Kenton County

INFO: www.ukforestry.org

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Henry Duncan, (18) Versailles
Steve Perry, (19) Pendleton

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Jack Stickney, (17) Irvine
Jerry Adams, (18) Catlettsburg
Walt Rybka, (19) Morehead

CENTRAL ZONE

Jerry Brown, (17) Louisville
C. Michael Rich, (18) Georgetown
Harry Pelle, (19) Bradfordsville

WEST ZONE

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Lyndle Barnes, (18) Princeton
David Hartman, (19) Bowling Green

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Next Board Meeting: August 20, 2017 - 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.

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