

## 2013 KT-SAF Winter Meeting



### 2013 Winter Meeting

By David Mercker

In January, one hundred sixteen foresters and students “cruised” into Jackson, Tennessee for the annual KT-SAF winter meeting. With the theme of *Back to the Business of Forestry*, our members were enlightened on many aspects of timber markets, industry, certification, economics and more. Ten speakers from three states addressed the audience. And they were good! The perennial quiz bowl went off without a hitch (congrats to University of the South) and the silent auction fetched \$977. Thank you, everyone, for your attendance, support and commitment to our meetings. The education, networking, camaraderie and breakfast at the Old Country Store, surely justified the registration fee. Let’s do it again sometime.



## Chairman's Corner

By Tim Phelps

Greetings fellow foresters! I trust each of you is off to a quick and prosperous pace in this New Year. We have all faced many challenges over the past few years, but have much to look forward to. I, for one, look forward to serving as your new Chairman and want to sincerely thank Christopher Reeves for turning over the keys to such a clean and well organized shop.

Already this year our West Tennessee Chapter did a fantastic job in taking us "Back to the Business of Forestry" during the winter meeting. The meeting provided a refreshing and optimistic – albeit peppered with uncertainty and impending challenges – forecast of forest industry over the next few years. Attendees heard phrases such as "China is an insane market...demand is so high" and "U.S. hardwood is considered 'top shelf' around the world". On the flipside, we also heard such phrases as "we stink at promoting it" in reference to our valuable resources and missed opportunities to engage the market. A clear take-home message to students – and a good reminder to seasoned professionals – was that we have to acquire and maintain versatile and diverse skill sets in order to conduct business in today's environment. Just hanging out in the woods won't cut it. Communication, business and marketing skills are trending strengths required in the job market. Throw in fluency of a foreign language and you're golden.



Another very significant occurrence at the winter meeting was the presence of SAF leadership. Past, current and future Presidents of SAF, in addition to our Council Representative were there for the entire meeting providing opportunities for all to share their recommendations and concerns on the future of SAF. We want to send a very sincere thank you to Bill Rockwell, Joann Cox, Dave Walters and Greg Hoss for dedicating their time and attention to our state society. President Cox provided an overview of SAF's visioning process and unveiled some core language for our new brand identity – Thriving Forests. Essential Resources. A Strong Community. More on this roll out is sure to come throughout the year.

Recently, KTSAF made a strong push to grow the membership, and, thanks to great leadership from David Mercker and Christopher Reeves, we succeeded in that endeavor by being one of the few state societies to gain members over the past couple of years. It is my hope to continue this push, but to also call upon current members to take a close look not only at what SAF provides them, but what they can do to make it better serve our members. What is it that you want out of SAF, and how can you help to make that happen? Perhaps there's a society or chapter position that needs filled. Maybe it's as simple as holding a discussion on an important topic and addressing it to the executive committee for consideration. Whatever the case, get involved. Strengthening our brand will pay dividends in growing our membership.

One sure fire way of strengthening our brand is by highlighting members who already made significant contributions to KTSAF. Please consider nominating someone you know who deserves recognition this year to our Awards Committee Chairman Ben Worthington. We have not awarded a Fellow since 2008 and I believe that well holds water.

KTSAF has much to look forward to and be proud of. In fact, we are very fortunate to have the opportunity to promote our region on a national stage in the not so distant future. SAF asked if we would be willing to host the 2017 National Convention. Outgoing Chairman Reeves put this to a vote of the membership at the winter meeting and all were in favor. I cannot stress enough how huge of an opportunity this is for us to promote forestry in our region while highlighting our state society. While it is still four years away, it's not too early to begin work on this. SAF will be handling much of the logistics for the meeting, but we, as host, will be responsible for the field tours and providing volunteers to assist at the convention. If you're looking for an exciting way to serve our society, this is it!

Again, I look forward to serving as your chairman. Please feel free to contact me at any time: 615-428-5913; [tim.r.phelps@tn.gov](mailto:tim.r.phelps@tn.gov)



## 2013 Quiz Bowl

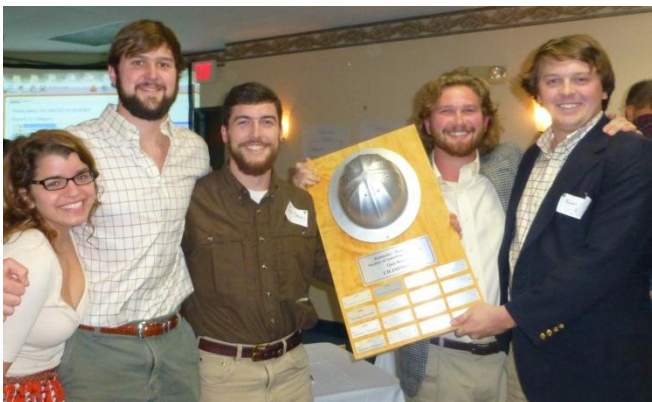
By Doug McLaren

The 2013 KTSAF meeting held in Jackson, TN was the site for the traditional student Jeopardy style Quiz Bowl. This year's event had a slight twist to the agenda; professionals were also able to be part of the event. Annually the professionals, as they watch from the sidelines, have argued that they could have scored higher than the resulting student scores. This year they had the opportunity to back up their statements. Many did take up the challenge.

The scores changed routinely in the early scoring between the three schools represented.

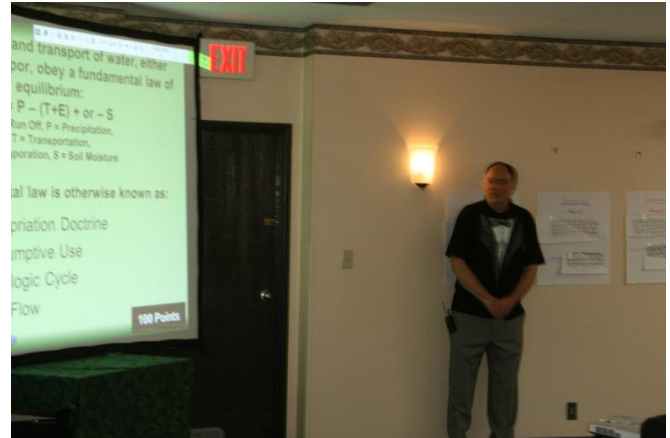
The University of Kentucky  
The University of the South  
The University of Tennessee

The first round consisted of some of the old traditional categories choices of SAF Topics, Hydrology, and Silviculture. The three teams began to show some point separation in the second round of questions when the topics turned to Dendrology, Measurements, and Forestry 101. A high spirited completion between the teams existed throughout the game and it all came down to the last questions of the second round and the Final Jeopardy question. The University of the South took home the plaque for 2013 and the "bragging rights" by accumulating the highest number of points at game's end.



**2013 Quiz Bowl Champions**  
**University of the South**

(From left) Ali Grello, Russell Dickson, Jase Brooks, John Mulloy, Robert Strange



Host and Emcee, Doug McLaren



University of Kentucky Team

As the students were accumulating points, a number of professionals in the background were adding points to their undisclosed point values being tallied as the game progressed. In the end, after all the dust had settled determining the student winners, it was found that Chris Osborne from the East Kentucky Chapter had accumulated the largest "bucket of points" for a professional.

Congratulations to all for participating! Congratulations to the University of the South for their entrance into the 2013 "Winners Circle" of the KTSAF Student Quiz Bowl Contest. All the schools might want to ask Professional Quiz Bowl winner Chris Osborne's assistance as backup coach in next year's contest. Thanks to all that participated. From the advantage point of the Jeopardy hosts - everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves attempting to keep up with the student's knowledge of forestry subjects.

Oh, some of you might be asking about the Final Jeopardy question - What is the name of the species with a sulfur-yellow colored terminal bud?

## KTSAF to Host 2017 National SAF Convention

*By KTSAF Leadership*

The Kentucky-Tennessee SAF Executive Committee and membership present at the winter meeting last month in Jackson, Tennessee voted to accept the honor of being the host chapter for the 2017 Society of American Foresters National Convention. The convention will take place in Louisville, Kentucky in late October of 2017. This is an extremely valuable opportunity for our state society and will give us a chance to showcase the region to foresters across the county!

When we last hosted a national convention in 1997 at Memphis, KTSAF was responsible for a myriad of activities and organizational obligations. Since that time, the national SAF office in Bethesda, Maryland has taken on a large amount of these duties in order to be more efficient. The national office will solicit presentations; organize the program; pick the hotel; work with exhibitors; arrange keynote speakers; and handle the registration. KTSAF will not be responsible for any of these activities.

The biggest need from KTSAF members will be volunteers. Volunteers will be needed to work the registration desk, stuff gift bags, work the silent auction, work the SAF store, assist speakers, and help out in the exhibit hall. Volunteers will need to work four- or eight-hour shifts at various activities throughout the convention. Recent conventions have needed about 30 volunteers filling shifts totaling about 125 – 150 hours.

Another important requirement from KTSAF will be the design and organizing of field tours for

the convention. Traditionally there are four, day-long tours on the Sunday after the convention and a two-day-long, pre-convention tour. Each tour will need its own coordinator, someone to ensure that all stops can be made in the allotted time. One example of a field tour could be a mini-bourbon trail tour, starting at a white oak forest while continuing to stave mill, to cooperage, and finishing at a distillery. KTSAF will also reach out to our colleagues in Indiana for potential field tours across the Ohio River.

In early 2015, KTSAF will fill two positions that will lead the organizing committee, the General Chair and Volunteer Coordinator. The General Chair will supervise all host chapter responsibilities. The Volunteer Coordinator will be responsible for the drive to recruit volunteers and organize the volunteering activities. These two individuals will be the main contacts for the national office when coordinating activities for the convention.

Four years and eight months may seem like a long time from now but it will be here before we know it! It is important that you, the KTSAF membership, are informed as early as possible about our duties as host chapter. When the call goes out, we want to encourage you all to volunteer and support your professional society! If you have a potentially great idea for a field tour and want to be an organizer let us know! KTSAF leadership will keep you posted on the details as planning begins to heat up.



## Newsworthy

The annual ***Ohio River Valley Woodland and Wildlife Workshop*** for landowners will be held at Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, Indiana on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013. The all-day event will be co-sponsored by Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio Cooperative Extension forestry programs. Three concurrent sessions will be offered with a wide variety of talks. Topics range from timber marketing, tree planting, herbicide application, salamanders, woodland beetles and tree id. More details including times, price, and location are posted at: <http://www.tristatewoods.org>

Great Smoky Mountains National Park personnel first confirmed the **emerald ash borer's** arrival last summer at front country sites near two park entrances. However, a recent discovery by a park biologist suggests that the emerald ash borer has been infesting trees in the park's backcountry for approximately the past 5 years. (*Knox News.com; December 3, 2012*)

Six state forest properties (Green River, Kentenia, Kentucky Ridge, Pennyrile, Peterson, and Tygarts) owned by the Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) and four state forest properties jointly-owned by KDF and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (Big Rivers, Knobs, Marion County Wildlife Management Area, and Marrowbone) were recently awarded **American Tree Farm certification** through the Center for Forest and Wood Certification's Independently Managed Group. The properties-totaling 43,327 acres-are owned and managed for the purpose of recreation, wildlife management, timber production, and demonstration of sound forest management methods. (*Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet; December 3, 2012*)

**Decoys could blunt the spread of ash-killing beetles.** As the emerald ash borer ravages North American ash trees, threatening the trees' very survival, a team of entomologists and engineers at Penn State University may have found a way to prevent the spread of the pests by using female decoys to lure male beetles into traps. The decoys were 40% more effective than dead females, previously used. (*Penn State News; Feb. 12, 2013*)

## News and updates about

## **YOUR KTSAF Chapter**

**could go here!**

***Please send news, articles, pictures  
and updates to:***

**Greg Bailey**  
**[greg.bailey@amforem.biz](mailto:greg.bailey@amforem.biz)**  
**(865) 248-8315**

### Important Dates:

- 📅 February 28 – National Award Nominations Due
- 📅 March 15 – Applications for District Student Representative due to your Council Rep.
- 📅 March 16 – Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Treatment Training Field Day, Morgan Co., TN. Contact: [Heather.Slayton@tn.gov](mailto:Heather.Slayton@tn.gov)
- 📅 April 12/13/19/20 – TN Healthy Hardwoods Program; Various Locations statewide. Contact: [dcmerker@utk.edu](mailto:dcmerker@utk.edu)

### **In Memory**

Richard “Dick” Wengert, 82, passed away on January 28 after a nearly 3 year battle with cancer. Dick obtained a bachelor's degree in Forest Management from Purdue University and upon graduation was drafted into the Army and sent to Korea for 2 years. During his 39-year career with the Forest Service he inspired hundreds of employees on numerous national forests in resource management practices and conservation. Dick started his Forest Service career as a smokejumper in 1950 and ended his career as forest supervisor of the Daniel Boone National Forest. After his retirement, he opened a business as a forestry consultant in 1996.



## 2013 Winter Meeting Award Winners!

### Outstanding Student Awards



University of the South  
John Mulloy



University of Kentucky  
Luke Biscan



University of Tennessee  
Cameron Stauder

### Outstanding Members



35 Years and Under  
Heather Slavton



Over 35 Years  
Dave Walters

### Herman Baggenstoss Forestry Recognition



Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Qualman

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Planted Hardwood Stand. West Kentucky

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Water flowing over weir dam. Clinch River, Tennessee

**56 Months...**

**Till the 2017 SAF National Convention**

**Louisville, Kentucky**



**Next NEWSLETTER  
Deadline is**

**Friday  
May 10, 2013**

Please supply NEWSLETTER information in Microsoft  
WORD format to:

Greg Bailey  
greg.bailey@amforem.biz

- *Articles on forestry related topics*
- *News and events from your Chapters*
- *Accompanying photographs are greatly appreciated!*

*Kentucky-Tennessee Society of American Foresters  
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