



TREELINE,

TENNESSEE FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

April, 2008



McNairy County Forest Landowners Association Celebrates 10 years



An Anniversary Celebration and Meeting took place recently for eighty members of the McNairy County Forest Landowners Association. There was dinner and cake preceding a most interesting presentation on Timber Management Essentials by

Dr. Wayne Clatterbuck, Professor of Silviculture with the University of Tennessee, Department of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries.

McNairy County landowners came together and gathered at Eastview Civic Center on February 24, 1998 for the very first County Forestry Association Interest meeting. This Pilot Project, introduced by Tennessee Forestry Association leaders Steve Mauney and Preston Padgett, targeted McNairy County for its active forestry and spearheaded the idea of getting area tree growers together for informative meetings presenting top resources and best management practices. After diligently contacting area residents, Pete Moditz and Donald Youngblood with the Tennessee State Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry along with Ricky Mathenia, University of Tennessee Extension, a very successful meeting was held. With ongoing guidance from TFA Executive Director, Candace Dinwiddie, and a host of others, the initial McNairy County Forestry Association began. Paul Pickens served as President with a knowledgeable Board of Directors, all of whom shared like interests of Forestry and management principles for sound practices and valuable timberland growth. Sixty-Six members signed on to the McNairy County Forest Landowners Association that evening, none knowing then that ten years later, most would still be attending meetings at Eastview with neighboring tree farmers and friends.

Since that time, and through the continued support of The Tennessee Forestry Association, the University of Tennessee, and the State Forestry, McNairy County has become, and remains, the largest county association in the state of Tennessee. For ongoing



and outstanding programs, resources and membership, it has received the prestigious #1 County Association Award from the Tennessee Forestry Association

three times and just recently was honored with the first time ever State Resolution naming the McNairy County Association #1 in the State of Tennessee citing ... 'outstanding accomplishments, congratulating and thanking the members for their dedicated and thorough understanding of our State's precious renewable resources - our forestland and wildlife habitat'.

Additional area sponsorship and membership fees help to fund various events. Donations come from area businesses such as the McNairy Co-

Op, Packaging Corp of America, Pickens & Associates, New Page, A G & N AG Supply, Hankins Forest Products, White Oak Shell, and Price Sawmill. Along with local banks such as Bancorp South, Home Banking, and Community South of Selmer and Central Bank of Adamsville, a few private members offer



their farms for on-site programming and workshops to enable better understanding of management processes. The State Dept of Agriculture, Division of Forestry continually updates the membership on new programs available for cost share and assistance in matters like Tree Farm Program and Stewardship. This support allows the McNairy Association to continue furnishing programs that inform and instruct new and seasoned forest landowners on issues of Forestry today. Dinner Meetings are held in the Spring and Fall of each year with a 'hands-on' field day, on-site annually in September. The McNairy group has participated in logging and equipment shows and has been present at many Legislative Days in Nashville, spending hours airing important concerns and comments regarding legislation and issues relating to tree farmers, loggers, and mills in our local area.

Many years have gone by with unique and diverse programs and resources entertaining and enlightening the area landowners. From that original sixty-six, the roster has grown to over 150 active and energetic Members and still, at meetings you will hear, "I'm so glad I came tonight"!

For additional information or to find out how you can become part of the 'Voice of Forestry' with the McNairy County Forest Landowners Association, please call Judi Mashburn 731 645-9384, Ricky Mathenia 731 645-3598 or Pete Moditz 731 645-3531.



Legislative Update

By: Candace Dinwiddie, TFA Executive Director

Timber Theft/Trespass Legislation Defeated in House Agriculture Committee

HB3296 by Rep. Nathan Vaughn (D) Kingsport

SB3125 by Sen. Tim Burchett (R) Knoxville

This legislation, filed by Rep. Vaughn, mandated marked boundary lines and notification of adjoining landowners before a timber harvest could take place. HB3296 also stated that "a person commits the crime of theft as prescribed in criminal code who, with intent to deprive the adjoining landowner of timber, fails to notify the adjoining property owner or survey the property as required by previous section of the bill and harvests the adjoining property owner's timber."

TFA does not condone timber theft or trespass. Our organization looked at the impacts of HB3296 and felt like this was not a realistic approach to address timber theft in Tennessee. The House Agriculture Committee voted **NO** to Rep. Vaughn's proposal. Members of the Ag Committee stated that this proposal did not address the real issue of deterring and prosecuting timber theft. The Agriculture Committee did request the Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture study timber theft in Tennessee and to determine the extent of the problem and work with TFA, Farm Bureau and others to develop workable solutions.

Green Globes Legislation Passes Both Senate & House

HB4041 by Rep. Gary Moore (D) Nashville

Other Sponsors; Yokley, Harrison, Montgomery, McCord, Sargent, Litz, Dean

SB3992 by Sen. Lowe Finney (D) Jackson

Other Sponsors; Burchett, Berke, Merrero, Ketron, Watson, Harper, Haynes, Norris, Roller, Tracy.

U.S.— Canada Softwood Lumber Agreement Update

By: J.D. Hankins, Hankins Inc.

Since the outset, Canada has jeopardized the U.S.-Canada Softwood Agreement's potential to serve as a lasting alternative to litigation over Canada's subsidized and unfairly traded export to the United States.

Canada has violated the terms of the agreement by providing new subsidies to its industry, manipulating the prices that its industry pays for government timber, failed to properly enforce export quotas, and failed to fully collect the required export taxes.

Despite Canada's cheating, the U.S. government has failed to enforce the Agreement to the detriment of U.S. producers. The United States' only proactive step has been to bring two claims to the dispute settlement mechanism provided for under the Agreement, the London Court of International Arbitration. The problem is

that arbitration as sole means to address Canada's willful violations of the Agreement has not resulted in Canadian compliance with the agreement.

In the first arbitration proceeding, the panel decided against the United States on an issue which reduced western provinces' past export tax liabilities, and ruled in favor of the United States regarding eastern provinces having over-shipped their allotted agreement export quotas. Further procedural steps are needed before the arbitrators to determine the appropriate remedy for the eastern provinces violations.

The United States has also initiated a proceeding against Canada for violating the moratorium on providing new subsidies to its lumber manufacturers. But these arbitral proceedings, which were never meant to address willful

violations of the Agreement, take time -- time U.S. lumber manufacturers and mill workers do not have as Canada continues to invent new ways to evade its full commitments under the agreement.

Members of Congress are now demanding better enforcement from our government. Please contact your elected Washington officials to thank them for their support and tell them it is imperative to you and your communities that the Softwood Lumber Agreement is enforced by our government when Canada refuses to honor it.

Only if the agreement is adhered to can it provide the full extent of the intended benefits -- that is, to allow American producers to compete on fair terms and American landowners to get a fair price for their timber harvest.

For more on Green Globes, check out the Wood Promotion Network website, www.beconstructive.com.

General Assembly Honors Larry Wayne Parson, TFA Master Logger of the Year

The Tennessee General Assembly recently honored Larry Wayne Parson of Mitchie as Tennessee Master Logger of the Year. The resolution was presented to Larry and his wife,

(Continued on page 5)



Ready to Help Tennessee Mills Meet Challenges

By: Kathy Abusow , President & CEO, Sustainable Forestry Initiative

The dramatic rise in environmental awareness means more buyers want proof that forest products are from well-managed forests and legal sources. As a result, more governments and companies are developing procurement policies that give preference to products made with fiber from third-party certified forests.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) program is well positioned to help mills in Tennessee deal with this challenge.

That's because we are a North American standard, and we know that 60 percent of the fiber in products manufactured in the United States comes from small family-owned forests that are often not certified for a variety of reasons.

We stand apart from other certification programs by addressing this head-on. Like other standards, we have a chain-of-custody certification that tracks the percentage of wood fiber from certified forests, uncertified forests, and recycled sources of supply. But what sets the SFI program apart is that our procurement requirements mean that SFI program participants can source fiber from forests that are not certified and promote responsible forest management on those lands.

This unique commitment to responsible forestry acknowledges the fact that all forest landowners play a critical role in ensuring the long-term health and sustainability of our forests, and in meeting our fiber needs. As a result, SFI program participants practice responsible forestry on the 143.7 million acres they

manage, and also influence millions of additional acres.

This stewardship ethic is especially strong in Tennessee where your state's SFI Implementation Committee won our 2007 national award for its outstanding work in promoting the SFI standard, sharing best practices and ensuring the management of your abundant hardwood forests considers the view of all stakeholders.

The SFI Standard is recognized and accepted around the world, including an endorsement by the International Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC). In 2006, the United Kingdom's Central Point of Expertise on Timber performed a rigorous assessment and found that the SFI program meets the UK government's requirements for legality and sustainability.

The SFI label is a visual cue for people who want to buy products from legal and responsible sources – similar to the recycling symbol. Customers know that when they see the SFI label on a product – whether it is hardwood flooring or furniture – that they are supporting forest operations that conserve biodiversity, protect wildlife habitat, and so much more.

For more information about the SFI program, visit www.sfiprogram.org or call Jason Metnick at 703-875-9500.



Focus on Members Hassell & Hughes in Collinwood, TN



This hardwood flooring plant and sawmill operation was founded in 1929. Today the company is under the guidance of Ralph M. Hughes, Jr., CEO and President. Hassell and Hughes Lumber Company is the largest home owned and family operated industry in Wayne

County. The Company has been in business in Tennessee for over 77 years, and over the years the company has produced many wood products to include manufactured lumber and unfinished strip flooring as well as semi-finished furniture and cabinet parts.

Hassell and Hughes Lumber Company is located at 608 Highway 13 South, Collinwood, Tennessee in south central middle Tennessee, approximately 100 miles south of Nashville, Tennessee.

Hassell and Hughes Lumber Company has been in the hardwood lumber business for many years and even produced flooring in the 50' and 60's. The flooring operation ceased in 1967 when it the flooring market declined and slowed to a standstill. With the

changing times and changing markets the company made a management decision in 1998 to return to the hardwood flooring manufacturing business. We are currently producing approximately 45,000 square feet of NOFMA certified flooring each day, operating on three shifts. Species of flooring produced is red oak, white oak, cherry, hickory and hard maple.

Currently the company consists of 230 employees and operates a saw mill with two main head rigs (band-mill), a 36 bay drop sorter, two grading chains, and a flooring mill, planer operation. In December of 2006, the pellet operation became operational. The pellets are produced under the name **Greenway** and are to be used as fuel for wood pellet stoves and for animal bedding.

Hassell & Hughes Lumber Company was one of the earliest TFA members and has been active in our association since the 1950s. Hassell & Hughes was also honored at the 2007 TFA annual convention for participating in the Tennessee Tree Farm program for 50 years. Johnny Heard, forester with Hassell & Hughes, serves as TFA Middle Tennessee Vice-President and Steve Collie, Human Resource, is Vice-Chairman of the TFA Self-Insurance Fund Trustees. TFA appreciates the support and volunteer efforts Mr. Hughes and his staff has generously given to our organization throughout the past fifty years.



TORNADO DAMAGE IN TENNESSEE

Tennessee Division of Agriculture, Division of Forestry

The tomadoes that came through West and Middle Tennessee on February 5/6, 2008 and took the lives of 32 people also affected, damaged, and/or destroyed 1,138 households. They also had an impact on Tennessee's forestlands. Over the course of the last weeks, personnel from the Tennessee Division of Forestry conducted ground and aerial surveys over 13 of the most severely affected counties to locate and determine the extent of tomado damage to forestlands.

While these figures are impressive, they may be conservative. Areas having only light damage (less than 15% of trees being affected) were not counted in this survey. There were significant areas of little or no damage within the main paths of the tomados indicating some of them traveled alternatively between the air and ground and there was very little damage to extremely young stands. While damaged acreage may be fairly accurate, estimated affected timber volumes are less so because these values are derived from Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) data collected from permanent sample points located throughout the counties, not just where the damage is located. In addition FIA data even over multiple county areas have fairly high sampling errors. However, these estimates do give us some sort of idea as to the magnitude of impact these tomados

did have in Tennessee. Timber stumpage values were derived from the latest Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin. Stumpage values were fifty percent of delivered values published in the bulletin.

As in many natural disasters affecting our forestlands, much of the timber damaged or destroyed may not be salvaged, due to the relatively small amount that may be found within the boundaries of many individual landowners or due to the damage characteristics of individual trees rendering them unmerchantable such as breaking, splitting, twisting, etc. However, in cases where the timber may have just been blown over, opportunities for salvage exist and will continue to exist until June or July when staining and decay set in

Special thanks go to:

Jack Cothran	Ward Tarkington
Jim Dale	Terry Tynes
Pete Moditz	Roy Ward
Philip Morrissey	Bill Wilkins
Doug Schnabel	Guy Zimmerman
Shannon Sims	
Clint Strohmeier	

Tennessee Tornado Damage - February 5-6, 2008

Counties Surveyed	Calculated Forested Acres w/i Tornado Path	Estimated Damage Acres	Cubic Feet/Acre (FIA Data)	Total Cubic Feet/Acre (FIA Data)	Stumpage Value/Acre (FIA Data)	Total Stumpage Value Damaged
Benton, Houston Stewart	265	133	1065	141,645	\$1,073	\$142,709
Hardin	670	335	1065	356,775	\$1,073	\$359,455
Madison	1732	1299	1065	1,383,435	\$1,073	\$1,393,827
McNairy	2497	879	1065	936,135	\$1,073	\$943,167
Hickman, Lewis, Perry, Williamson	4666	4000	1152	4,608,000	\$1,401	\$5,604,000
Macon, Sumner, Trousdale	N/A	1569	1279	2,006,751	\$1,180.00	\$1,851,420
Totals	9,830	8,215		9,432,741		\$10,294,578

FIA Forest Inventory Analysis
TFPB Tennessee Forest Products Bulletin
N/A This information was not provided



Legislative Update Continued

By: Candace Dinwiddie, TFA Executive Director



Linda, during the TFA Tree Day at the Legislature by Rep. Randy Rinks from Savannah. Larry was recognized for his commitment to environmental stewardship, sound business practices and support for his community.

The General Assembly is also honoring Tom Beasley as Tennessee Tree Farmer of the Year and the Tri-County Forestry Association as CFA of the Year. Rep. John Tidwell is sponsoring the resolution honoring Mr. Beasley and Rep. Jon Mark Windle is sponsoring the resolution recognizing the Tri-County Forestry Association. Presentation photos will be posted on the TFA website.



Hardwood Lumber Market Conditions at the beginning of 2008.

The market in a word continues to be "POOR" and more accurately, "VERY POOR" !!!

By: Doug Schnabel, Tennessee Division of Forestry, Forest Business Program Specialist

Everyone in the forest products industry knows that the market is in the dumpster and has been there for a while and unfortunately it looks as if it is going to be there for a while longer. We also know there is very little that can be done by an individual mill to affect the market, but there are a number of things that a mill can do to be able to survive the down market conditions when they come along.

We are faced with the reality of changes in the market that the industry has seen coming for some time now. The decreased use of solid wood in furniture and door products has been the norm for many years. There is a wide acceptance of price as the primary factor for choosing a product rather than quality or durability. This is accompanied with the feeling that when it falls apart, we will just go get another one and what difference does it make, we will probably be tired of it by then anyway !! This is what I call the "Bigmart philosophy" and it is tough on the quality products and producers that once manufactured wood items to be bought in America.

Enough crying about the past, what can a mill do to prepare for the future ? The first priority should be to saw as efficiently as the top mills sawing hardwood lumber. That means joining the mills with thin kerf equipment. I know you don't want to hear about buying new equipment when things are as bad as they are, but that is why those investments have to be made when the sun shines and there is some chance of capital for improvements. In my opinion a band resaw is an absolute necessity in the grade hardwood business. One of the new horizontal bands or a more traditional resaw is necessary to capture all the grade lumber that is found on all sides of most logs, without having to constantly turn the log on the carriage. A resaw can make all the difference in a mill's bottom line with grade recovery as well as a production increase. The small horizontal machines that use a woodmizer type blade are a little slower but they can be run and sharpened without the addition of a filing room.

When a mill becomes more efficient, it will of course produce more lumber, this makes the "too much production" problem worse in the short term. Longer term, the most efficient mills will have the lowest costs, will become the standard for the industry and will be able to continue in business. Another efficiency priority should be knowledge: know your yields and costs for the logs you are sawing. Yield tests give you the best picture of that information and are critical to success in a good market, let alone

a penny pinching poor one. A program of thickness measuring and monitoring can also be an important step to reducing costs for the efficient mill. When you know your sawing variation, you can determine a target size that will allow you to manufacture acceptable lumber and this will reduce log costs. Thickness monitoring can be an important part of a mill's quality control program. Another knowledge priority is employee training. Bad times require more effort to make sure every board is manufactured correctly and every bit of the grade is recovered from the log. Edger and grade training for many employees can help identify problems and the training allows each employee to know the right thing to do to get the most out of the raw material.

Another priority that is as important as efficiency in manufacturing is product marketing. One major market area for hardwood manufactures in Tennessee can be the export markets. The manufacturing of products made from American hardwood lumber has been moving to China and the Pacific Rim for some time and it looks as if that trend will continue. Furniture manufacturing has been significantly reduced in the US and there is concern about the manufacture of flooring and kitchen cabinets. The point is we have to do our best to sell our hardwood lumber to the producers, no matter where they live !! The export markets have seen a reduction in shipments this past year as well, so exporting is not the total answer either.

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has been very supportive of forest products manufacturers that are trying to enter the export markets. Tennessee has sponsored a booth at the WoodMac Show in Shanghai a number of times in the past few years and has participated with the other hardwood states to attend the show in Guangzhou, China as well. This June there are a number of Tennessee companies that are attending the show in Dalian, China and there are plans for Tennessee to sponsor attendance at the Vietnam Show next March and another Shanghai Show in the spring of 2009.

Improvements in efficiency and marketing are not a cure for a very poor market, but the bottom line is; there will be less hardwood lumber production to get more in line with demand. The trick is to make sure you are one of the facilities that keeps running and the mills in AL or WV are the ones with "Closed" on their doors. An emphasis on quality, efficiency and export markets will help in that process.



UT Extension Professor Wayne Clatterbuck Receives Award

University of Tennessee -- A University of Tennessee Extension forester is the Forest Landowners Association's Extension Forester of the Year. The organization, which is comprised of forest landowners in 17 southern states, selected UT Extension professor Wayne Clatterbuck for the 2008 honor. The purpose of this award is to recognize an extension forester for exceptional contributions to forest landowner education, issues, and services. Dr. Clatterbuck's responsibilities are in forest management education and include assistance to the county extension network in forestry, coordinator of the Tennessee Master Logger Program, forest landowner education, urban forestry, and continuing education for forestry professionals. He has been with the University since 1995.



Project Learning Tree Update

By: Tamera Coleman, TN PLT Coordinator

Pre-service teachers at colleges and universities across the state are receiving PLT training from several key PLT Facilitators this spring. Tamera Klingbyll at Lipscomb University, and Jill Norvell at University of Memphis continue to include PLT as part of their courses in life science for elementary teachers. Padgett Kelly, Cindi Smith-Walters, Kim Bailey and Susan Bradfield have all facilitated workshops for Middle Tennessee State University students. Leslie Suters dedicated a full day at an off-site location to PLT with her students at Tennessee Tech. All together these workshops add 124 new PLT educators to the roll.

PLT continues to reach teachers already in the classroom. Kim Sadler conducted a workshop for Rutherford and Cannon county teachers earlier this spring. Tim Roberts will conduct a similar workshop for teachers and master gardeners in Memphis later this month. Three cheers for all of these PLT Facilitators and many others who have workshops coming up this summer and fall!



Teacher's Conservation Workshops

East TN Teacher's Conservation Workshop
June 22-27, 2008
University of TN
Knoxville, TN

West TN Teacher's Conservation Workshop
July 13-18, 2008
Pickwick Landing State Park
Pickwick Dam, TN

To registration or for more information call TFA. The pre-registration must be received by June 2 for Knoxville and June 16 for Pickwick.



2008 Master Logger Class Schedule



TN Master Logger 5-Day Course Crossville, TN @ Roane State College

Wednesday, May 28th, Safety
Wednesday, June 4th, BMP's
Wednesday, June 11th, CPR/First Aid
Thursday, June 19th, Silviculture
Thursday, July 10th, Business/Graduation

TN Master Logger Continuing Education Classes

Wartburg/Lone Mountain State Forest	April 23	Stream Crossings
Parsons/TN Timber Show	April 25 & 26	Log Bucking
Dunlap/Mtn. Valley Bank	April 30	Stream Crossings
Pikeville/Little Mountain Video Shop	May 1	Stream Crossings
Dover/Cindy's Restaurant	May 6 & 7	Stream Crossings

Other locations are also being planned. If you need a class in your area, please contact L.M. Sceals at 931-209-1397.

TFA is partnering with the Tennessee Dept. of Agriculture to increase training opportunities for master loggers and other forest resource managers and owners. In 2008, the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program (TAEP) will provide 50% scholarship tuition to loggers attending the initial 5 day workshop and Master Loggers who attend continuing education classes.

Tuition for the 5 day course is \$150.00, and \$70.00 for continuing education classes.

The Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program will REIMBURSE participants 50% of the tuition upon graduation of the 5 day class as well as completion of the 1 day continuing education class.



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Tennessee Healthy Hardwood Field Days Spring Dates

During the past two years, the Tennessee Healthy Hardwood field days have become a tradition for county forestry association members, other landowners, and those interested in good, sustainable forest stewardship to attend.

The 2008 theme is "Forest Management for Non-game Wildlife" with TWRA as the primary speakers. The Tennessee Tree Farm Committee is also providing Biltmore sticks for all participants.



Dates for the 2008 Spring workshops are:

May 17 Tully State Forest in West Tennessee
May 31 Prentice Cooper State Forest in Middle Tennessee

To register or for more information call the TFA office at 615-883-3832. There is no fee associated with attending these field days but please register in advanced for meal purposes. Walk-ins will be accepted.

Tennessee Healthy Hardwoods sponsors include: Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Division of Forestry, The US Forest Service, The Tennessee Forestry Association, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Tree Farm Committee, and The University of Tennessee Extension.



Trooper Corner

Sgt. John W. Harmon, Tennessee Highway Patrol

Are you prepared for a Federal DOT Audit?

Which will include....

- Free preempted random & post accident drug test under part 40 of the federal motor carrier safety regulations.
- Maintenance files on Truck & Trailers
- Driver qualifications files
- Time records/ log books on your drivers



For More information on how to be prepared for federal DOT audit, contact your local THP ACES Trooper at your local headquarters.

Contact TFA to learn more about how this service works. Or you can contact Sgt. John Harmon at 800-305-2201, ext. 2312.

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