

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

THE YEAR IN REVIEW...

At first glance, 2012 may be a year that we all might acknowledge as one of the toughest in the 101 year history of the North Carolina Forestry Association. Surely, it is the most tragic. The association lost its long-time leader, Bob Slocum, who died at age 62 after he suffered a fall in October. The economy continued to tread water as the national November elections loomed on the horizon, impacting production and job creation across the state.

Through it all, however, the NCFA membership proved to be resilient in its support of their association. Members of the NCFA's Executive Committee were asked to step forward and provide more hands-on guidance than any of their predecessors. The Board of Directors were asked to make quick decisions to ensure the NCFA continued to function as the state's leading forestry voice.

Individual members and member companies continued to be loyal to their association, maintaining their membership dues and participating in association events.

The NCFA leadership and staff are extremely appreciative of the membership's support this year.

"We lost a great man and a great voice for forestry, there is no question about it," stated Assistant Executive Vice President Jack Swanner. "We are thankful for the support we have received from our membership during this tough time. In spite of all that occurred over the year, we were able to make some legislative strides for our membership and we are confident there are better days ahead for our association."

One member in particular, Larry Tombaugh, Dean Emiritus from North Carolina State University's College of Natural Resource, put down his fishing pole for a few months when the NCFA's Executive Committee summoned him to lead the association while Slocum was on medical leave from February through April. Tombaugh, a former NCFA President, did an outstanding job under extremely difficult circumstances.

"We are truly grateful to Dean Tombaugh for his time and efforts as our interim leader," stated Swanner. "His management style and familiarity with the association were really important to our ability to continue to serve our membership and continue

to play the key role we play as the state's leading voice for forestry."

In terms of the legislative session of 2012, the NCFA supported Senate Bill 749 that made several motor vehicle law changes, including an increase in the weight tolerance for the trucking of agriculture and forest products. The tolerance was increased by 6,000 pounds, providing a truck with a 90,000 pound total weight. The old figure was 84,000 pounds. The bill was signed into law, Session Law 2012-78, in June.



The NCFA supported the increase in the weight tolerance for the trucking of agriculture and forest products.

The association held another successful Forestry Day in the Legislature in June. Over 85 NCFA members participated in the event which drew lawmakers from both chambers. Prior to Forestry Day, the Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee (FFPAC) held a reverse raffle, raising over \$18,000.

The FFPAC supported a total of 57 candidates in 2012, posting an overall 51-4 record overall. In the fall election, the FFPAC was 51-1 and will have 48 members of the General Assembly that it has supported in the past year.

In addition to legislative work, the NCFA's ProLogger program graduated three new classes of ProLoggers through its base course program. The program now has roughly 1,400 ProLoggers in good standing, meaning they have completed the base course and the mandatory annual training requirement.

The NCFA remained committed to its several education initiatives that raise the awareness of the importance of forestry and the forest products industry. The NCFA ran two environmental camps for sixth grade students. One took place in Greensboro and another was held in Wilmington. The NCFA teamed up with North Carolina State University's Extension Forestry to conduct two Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy in Asheville and New Bern. The NCFA also published a new poster, the Carbon Cycle, in the fourth quarter of 2012. It has been an immediate hit with the teachers.

On the communications front, the NCFA continued to reach out to its partners and the media with information on the health of our forests and updates on the industry. The association added an electronic newsletter to augment its print communications and website as a source of information for members.

The association held its annual meeting in Asheville at the Grove Park Inn. The weather was perfect, the speaking program



NCFA member Greg Decker hosted teachers participating in the Sustainable Teachers Academy.

was strong, and Sheriff J.B. Smith entertained the crowd with his sense of humor.

It was a challenging year but the NCFA continued to serve its membership just as Bob Slocum would have expected. ♦

LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY

AFFAIRS...

In the political arena, the NCFA staffs the North Carolina General Assembly with two lobbyists in addition to participating on any active study and/or environmental committees. NCFA staff also stays active with partner agencies and groups concerned with the environment.

Through this involvement, the NCFA is committed to educating our elected officials and public policy decision makers with facts about forests, the forest products industry and the long term investment that forest landowners must make as part of their forest management goals.



(l-r) NCFA Executive Committee Member Marshall Thompson posed with Senator Michael Walters and Representative Bill McGee during Forestry Day. The annual event is a great opportunity for NCFA members to interact with lawmakers over lunch.

The NCFA actively participates in the law-making process at the state level and provides input to any national issues that may impact forestry in our state.

At the state level, the association engaged in discussions and supported several initiatives, including Senate Bill 749 which addressed a bump in the weight tolerance for the trucking forest products, the study commission on potential tolling for I-95, House Bill 237 which made modifications in workers compensation laws, and the possibility of moving the North Carolina Forestry Museum into the Department of Agriculture.

The truck weight tolerance increased the tolerance from 4,000 pounds to 10,000 pounds when transporting materials within 150 miles of the point of origin. The tolerance is important considering that a load of logs or wood chips may be impacted by weather conditions. The new tolerance puts total truck weight up to 90,000 pounds. After this law went into effect in June, members reported a decrease in the amount of weight tickets their truckers were issued.

The NCFA's Board of Directors established position on the possible tolling on I-95: "The North Carolina Forestry Association is opposed to tolling on I-95 in North Carolina and will join with other organizations to oppose tolling on I-95. In the event that tolling on I-95 occurs, the NCFA supports an exemption on tolling for forestry and agriculture."

The amendments to the workers' compensation were reviewed by the NCFA in conjunction with representatives of (continued on page 7)

NCFA ANNUAL MEETING...

Over 225 NCFA members and spouses attended the NCFA's Annual Meeting at the Grove Park Inn that focused on the "Winds of Change."

The meeting brought together speakers that provided members with valuable insights into the physical, political and philosophical changes on the horizon for forestry.

Ryan Boyles, North Carolina's State Climatologist, started the program with how weather patterns are measured and what hazards can impact forests.

John Davis, who is one of the NCFA's most highly rated speakers, provided a preview of the November elections.

North Carolina legislators, Senator Don East and Representative Roger West, addressed the membership on the state of the North Carolina General Assembly.

NCFA members heard next from Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Troxler and U.S. Forest Supervisor Kristin Bail. Bail noted that the review process for the two of North Carolina's National Forests, the Pisgah and the Nantahala, will start in 2013.

The luncheon speaker was Sheriff J.B. Smith and his Texas-size humor was a big hit with the membership.

Tom Bradshaw, the Director of North Carolina's Statewide Logistics, outlined how North Carolina will be looking to expand what North Carolina's ports can do for businesses.

The NCFA and Forestry Mutual presented their annual awards on Thursday evening. The Coconut Groove Band provided the post-awards entertainment.

The meeting concluding on Friday with a meeting of the NCFA's Board of Directors. ♦



Mickey Blake made this putt during the Timber Hackers Golf Tournament.



John Davis previewed the November election, predicting that Pat McCrory would prevail in the race for governor.



Comedian J.B. Smith provided some humorous insights to being a lawman in Tyler, Texas.



The band Coconut Groove had the dance floor full during the Thursday night awards dinner.



NCFA members did some whitewater rafting as part of the recreation events.

EDUCATION...

Education has always been an important part of the NCFCA's mission and 2012 was no different.

Some of the highlights include the support and coordination of two Forestry and Environmental Camps, two Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academies, the delivery of Good from the Woods boxes to science teachers at their convention, and the production of a new poster highlighting the carbon cycle.

In August due to budget constraints, the NCFCA found it necessary to downsize its staff, resulting in the loss of education director, Jennifer Grantham. She had built many strong relationships within the association and the education ranks throughout the state.

Grantham's efforts in building the NCFCA's program are certainly recognized by NCFCA staff, the NCFCA's Executive Committee, and the entire membership.

The NCFCA remains committed to education and will be coordinating through partnerships with our existing education partners such as North Carolina State University's Extension Forestry, North Carolina Tree Farm Program, Project Learning Tree and the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee, to provide the appropriate staff and financial support for our education programs.

The NCFCA appreciates all of our members who have donated their time and money to establish so many successful education programs over the years. The benefits of education programs may be hard to quantify, but reaching out to the state's educators and school children with a positive message about forestry surely pays dividends in the future and it is at the heart of what the NCFCA is trying to accomplish as an organization. ♦



Ed Listerman with Culp Lumber Company was one of the NCFCA members to volunteer to teach at the NCFCA's Forestry Camps.



The NCFCA supports the Arbor Day Poster Contest each year. Jennifer Rall with the North Carolina Forest Service is shown here with the top three entries.



The NCFCA continued its poster series with a new Carbon Cycle poster. The poster has been a big hit with educators.

FOREST MANAGEMENT...

The NCFCA's Forest Management Committee meets three times a year and provides guidance to the NCFCA on forestry issues facing the state.

In 2012, the committee responded to the news from the North Carolina Forestry Service that Cogongrass had been spotted in some counties in the southern coastal plain by developing a position statement for the NCFCA.

The statement asserts that Cogongrass must be prevented from becoming established in North Carolina. Towards that end, the NCFCA believes the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, through the Plant Protection Division and the North Carolina Forest Service should receive funding for the development of statewide early detection, monitoring and eradication plans. The NCFCA's Board of Directors approved the position at the association's October meeting. *"The NCFCA strongly supports a coordinated, proactive and strategic effort to avoid the economic and environmental damage that Cogongrass infestation would cause North Carolina's farms and Forests."*

The Forest Management Committee, which is chaired by Weyerhaeuser's Bryan Hulka, has also addressed the issue of the inconsistent application of the Present Use Value Tax manual by some counties. The program is supposed to be guided by a manual that is developed by a technical committee that contains staff members from the NCFCA and N.C. Farm Bureau. Over the years, there have been discrepancies on how the rules are applied from county to county. NCFCA staff is going to again address this issue in a collaborative effort with the Farm Bureau.

The committee, which provided guidance to North Carolina's Division of Water Quality on the development of a general permit (General Permit NCG 560000) for aerial application of pesticides, reported that permit is now in place and companies that are required to apply for it have reported no issues with receiving and/or maintaining their permit. ♦



Cogongrass was spotted in some counties in North Carolina in 2012. This is a file photo from the University of Georgia.



This group shot of the teachers participated in the Sustainable Forestry Teachers Academy held in New Bern. A group of teachers also attended the Academy in Asheville.

SAFETY, LOGGING & TRANSPORTATION...



The ProLogger program continued to roll along in 2012 with roughly 1,300 ProLoggers maintaining their status by completing Module 12, which was the annual training requirement. The program also graduated 65 new ProLoggers through three base classes in Whiteville, Williamston and Marion. The ProLogger program has close to 1,400 participants.

The NCFA's Jack Swanner took an active role in personally delivering the Module 12 training, making several stops across the state to field questions about the module or any other issues facing ProLoggers. In addition, Swanner organized a workshop with the North Carolina Highway Patrol that was held at McDowell Community College in June for area loggers and truckers of forest products. The meeting was extremely productive for the participants and led to a follow up scale study that the NCFA was asked to be a participant. Swanner hopes to build on these relationships with state agencies in 2013. ♦



ProLoggers in Marion pose for a photograph during the field day portion of the NCFA's ProLogger base course.

NCFA PARTICIPATES IN SCALE STUDY

In November of 2012, the NCFA participated in a scale study coordinated by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol that reviewed the three types of scales that the patrol uses to weigh trucks as part of their enforcement responsibilities. The three systems are a platform scales found alongside the highway in permanent weigh stations, portable scales and mobile scales.

The study is part of the North Carolina Highway Patrol's desire to provide the most accurate and reliable service possible and involved the concrete and forest products industry.

"Today is an extension of our growing relationship with the North Carolina Highway Patrol," stated the NCFA's Jack Swanner. "Captain Phillips and the guys out here right now are demonstrating their commitment to applying the laws on the books in a fair and equitable manner. This study should go a long way in clearing up any of the confusion on how the weighing methods may impact a final weight reading. We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of it."



(l-r) Jack Swanner, NC Highway Patrol Captain Chris Phillips, and Ron Phillips with Canfor Southern Pine at the scale study.

The study was conducted by North Carolina State University and the complete results will be available in March of 2013. ♦

FORESTRY MUTUAL...

Forestry Mutual continued to grow its business in 2012, increasing the company's premiums to nearly \$16 million as the company now serves North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Keith Biggs, Forestry Mutual's President, attributes a modest portion of the company's new business to the company's boost in its AM Best rating to B+. He also believes the success stems from the company's focus on its policyholders. Forestry Mutual understands it cannot always be able to offer the lowest prices, but the prices will be competitive and he is confident that the services offered will be superior to the competition.



*Keith Biggs
Forestry Mutual
President*

Forestry Mutual continued to identify trends and reach out to its policyholders with safety specific messages. A few of the top concerns in 2012 were trucking injuries and Lockout-Tagout accidents. The company continued to work with partner state agencies, state forestry associations, and logger groups to reach out with its safety message.

Forestry Mutual is one of the key partners in delivering the NCFA's ProLogger base course, especially the field day portion on Friday when Bryan Wagner or Greg Helton, Forestry Mutual's chain saw trainers, demonstrate proper felling technique.

The company also made an investment in new computer technology to enable all of its policyholders to be able to pay their premiums and report claims online.

CTW FOREST PRODUCTS HONORED



(l-r) Sarah and Ben Twiddy, Wayne and Alissa Cale, and Forestry Mutual's Eddie Campbell pose for a photo after CTW Forest Products was named the E.K. Pitman Award Winner.

Forestry Mutual presented CTW Forest Products with its top safety award, the E.K. Pitman Safety Award, as its North Carolina Logger of the Year at the NCFA's Annual Meeting. E.K. Pitman was the first chair of Forestry Mutual, serving from 1971-1984. The safety award rewards businesses that show a genuine concern for the safety of their workers, going beyond the minimum safety requirements to ensure a safe and productive workplace.

Based in Windsor, North Carolina, CTW was formed in 2004 by Wayne Cale, Ben Twiddy and Jimmy Witherspoon. Originally formed as a swamp logger/sawmill operation, the company switched over to harvesting pine trees in 2007. CTW runs two crews with Wayne and Ben leading their respective crews. ♦

COMMUNICATIONS...

The association's communications efforts promoted the forest products industry while producing support materials and publicity for the NCFA's legislative, education and ProLogger training programs.

These efforts led to several placements in daily and weekly papers across the state as well as local radio and television stations. The association also successfully submitted articles to several trade publications.

In addition, the NCFA added to its communications outreach to members by adding an electronic weekly update that is delivered to members' email addresses and a Facebook page. The weekly update is posted each week on the home page of the website and on the association's Facebook page. Members can sign up for these updates on the webpage or by contacting Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or (800) 231-7723 ext. 3. The Facebook page features updates on NCFA activities and upcoming schedule. The association continued its production and distribution of its monthly newsletter, TreeLine, which also can be found on www.ncforestry.org. Updates on issues and the latest ProLogger schedules and class listings are updated regularly on the webpage.

Working with the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee (NC SFI SIC), the NCFA developed a new website for the NC SFI SIC, which can be found at www.ncsfi.org. The new site provides important updates for committee members as well as information for the general public.

The association also produced new displays for workshops for both the NCFA and the NC SFI SIC.

BEASLEY RETIRES FROM FOREST SERVICE



(l-r) Dianne Beasley received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from State Forester Wib Owen.

Dianne Beasley, the Internal/External Affairs Director for the North Carolina Forest Service, retired after a 30-plus year career in July of 2012.

At her awards dinner, State Forester Wib Owen presented Beasley with Order of the Long Leaf Pine on behalf of Governor Beverly Perdue. The award is one of the highest honors the governor can bestow on a North Carolina citizen. Created in the 1960s, the award is given to residents

in recognition of a proven record of service or some other special achievement.

Beasley received the NCFA's Distinguished Service Award in 2011 and has been the chair of the NCFA's Public Affairs Committee for several years in addition to serving on several other NCFA committees. ♦



Chris Brown, the NCFA's Director of Communications, fields questions about Forestry Day in the Legislature from a member of the media.

FRIENDS OF FORESTRY PAC...

The Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee (FFPAC) raised over \$58,000 in the 2012 election cycle through a reverse raffle event, contributions from a direct mailer and contributions from the Committee of 100. The FFPAC was able to support 57 different candidates with a campaign contribution and distributed at total of \$46,100 this election cycle.

FPAC Chairman Charles Jones was pleased with the support for the FFPAC. He is encouraged by the response from the forestry community and hopes more members will contribute to future fundraising campaigns.

"We appreciate every one who took the time to write a check to the PAC," stated Jones. "Being involved in the political process is one of the most important things any of us can do."

The FFPAC maintains a Committee of 100 that includes individuals who pledge \$500 annually to the FFPAC. Committee of 100 members automatically earn a position on the FFPAC's Board of Directors, are included on political updates during the year, and have a special event around Forestry Day to acknowledge their participation. ♦



(l-r) NCEA members Allen Plaster, Senator Harry Brown and Charles Jones posed for this photograph during the NCFA's Forestry Day.

NC SFI SIC...

The North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee (NC SFI SIC) completed several significant projects in 2012, including the awarding of their first-ever round of grants as part of a new outreach program. The NC SFI SIC program awarded seven grants, totalling \$101,700. The following are the grants that were approved for 2012.

1) Wake Soil and Water Conservation District, Keeping the Farm Workshop - \$1700. 2) Forest Education and Conservation Foundation, Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy - \$40,000. 3) Forest Education and Conservation Foundation, NCFA Forestry and Environmental Camp Program - \$10,000. 4) Forest Education and Conservation Foundation, N.C. Science Teachers; Association Professional Development Institute - \$10,000. 5) Forest Education and Conservation Foundation, Skid Trail Rutting Video - \$15,000 6) North Carolina Tree Farm Program, Direct Landowner Outreach - \$10,000. 7) North Carolina Tree Farm Program, Implementation of Forest Stewardship MOU and Field Inspections of "at risk" Tree Farms - \$15,000.

The grant guidelines are posted online at www.ncsfi.org. If you should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact: Jim Durham, International Paper at (910) 362-4748 or at Jim.Durham@ipaper.com. ♦



The NC SFI SIC updated its website in 2012. Check out www.ncsfi.org

REAVIS EARNS NCFA'S TOP HONOR...

Jim Reavis was presented with the North Carolina Forestry Association's Distinguished Service Award at the NCFA's 2012 Annual Meeting that was held at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville. The award is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated distinguished contributions to forestry, North Carolina's forest products industry, and the NCFA.

"Jim has been a strong advocate for forestry and our association's mission throughout his entire career," stated NCFA President Ashley Faircloth. "His leadership through his time on our executive committee helped shape many of the successful programs we have in place today. We are pleased to present this award to Jim in recognition of all of his time and effort over the years."

From 1991-2006, Reavis spent 15 straight years on the NCFA's Board of Directors. He served as the NCFA's President in 1998 and as its Chairman of the Board in 1999. Since coming off the board, Reavis has remained active on several committees within the association.

Reavis, a graduate of North Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in forestry, started his professional career with Louisiana-Pacific located in Roaring River, North Carolina, in 1976 as an Area Forester. Over the next 35-plus years, Reavis climbed the corporate ladder at Roaring River while helping the facility achieve impressive safety and production results. The facility at Roaring River is one of Louisiana-Pacific's largest facilities in the nation, producing exterior siding. In 2002, Reavis was named the Plant Manager, a position he held for the past 10 years.

Reavis is an innovative leader who has always focused on increasing productivity through encouraging technological improvements, effective safety programs and active employee involvement in all initiatives in the workplace. This philosophy was extremely successful at his facility in Roaring River and it also helped the NCFA create several successful programs such as the ProLogger program and the Forestry & Environmental Camps.

The NCFA's Forestry and Environmental Camp, which hosts sixth grade students in a multi-day camp at a local park, is one of the association's most popular education programs. The camp hosted by Louisiana-Pacific in Wilkes County is the largest camp the association sponsors in terms of student participation. Several Louisiana-Pacific employees are involved with the planning and implementation of this camp.

In addition to his work with the NCFA, Reavis also served on the American Pulpwood Association's Board of Directors (1991-1999) and was member of the Wilkes County Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors for a number of years. Jim was also a member of the Society of American Foresters and chairman of the North Carolina Division. ♦



(l-r) NCFA President Ashley Faircloth presented Jim Reavis with the NCFA's Top Award at the NCFA's Annual Meeting.

2012 LEADERSHIP

2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jeff Hanks <i>Chairman of the Board</i>	Marshall Thompson <i>Piedmont Vice President</i>
Ashley Faircloth <i>President</i>	Ken Stuart <i>Western Vice President</i>
Allen Plaster <i>President Elect-Treasurer</i>	Michael Walters <i>Chairman of the Board</i>
Ray Allen <i>First Vice President</i>	Forestry Mutual Insurance <i>Jack Swanner</i>
Frank Rackley <i>Eastern Vice President</i>	<i>Assistant Executive</i> <i>Vice President</i>

2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allen, Ray	Jones, Charles
Ashcraft, David	Kenley, Charles
Beasley, Dianne	Kiker, Jason
Brewer, Scott	Lassiter, Tom
Brown, Bob	Listerman, Ed
Cain, Kenny	Logan, Chris
Cooper, Bob	Lumpkin, Parker
Corey, Billy	McCollum, Keith
Crawley, Steve	Newcomb, Stephen
Culp, John	Owen, Wib
Davis, Joel Henry	Parton, Patrick
Decker, Greg	Patram, Cyndi
Doster, Tony	Phillips, Ron
Durham, Jim	Plaster, Allen
Faircloth, Ashley	Rackley, Frank
Graham, Ted	Raynor, Fay
Gray, John	Ricks, Riddick
Hanks, Jeff	Rose, Bernard
Hardin, Fred	Shaffer, Rodney
Hazel, Dennis	Snyder, William
Henson, Steve	St. John, Marc
Howard, Brad	Stuart, Ken
Hulka, Bryan	Thompson, Marshall
Hull, Maurice	Thrash, Dale
Hunt, Perry	Walters, Michael
Inman, Tom	Wiseman, Mark
Jackson, Jimmy	

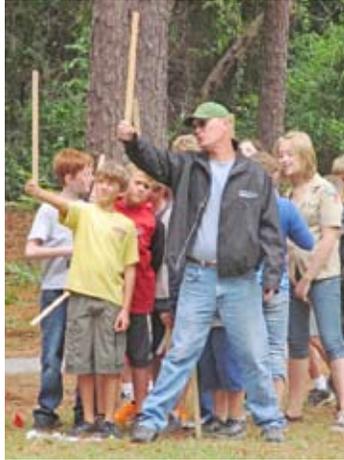
MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIAL

REPORT.....

The NCFA's membership remained strong with 3,963 active members, generating a total dues revenue of \$460,351. Over the past four years, membership dues have been on the decline because of the sluggish economy since several membership categories are based on production.

The association was slightly over its projected budget due to extenuating circumstances in 2012. Consequently, the association used roughly \$90,000 out of its reserve fund. It is important to note that the projected budgeted draw out of the association's reserve fund was at \$55,000 for 2012. The association has built up this fund over the years for insurance during slower economic times. The reserve funds are healthy and the NCFA once again received a clean audit of its financial reports.

The NCFA's membership has been stable over the past six years, losing roughly 100 members. The association has formed a membership task force to look at our current membership and possible growth areas. ♦



Percy Lunsford instructed students on Tree Measurement during the NCFA's Forestry Camp held in Wilmington.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT (continued from page 2)

Forestry Mutual Insurance Company and were deemed favorable for the business community.

The NCFA has been a supporter of the North Carolina Museum of Forestry since its founding. In the end, it was decided that the timing was not right to seek a new home agency for the museum in 2012.

On the national scene, the NCFA provided input on the pending U.S. Department of Labor's H2-B Labor Wage Rule, the ongoing litigation on Forest Roads, the EPA's release of a new Boiler Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) Rule, NPDES Permits and Aerial Application of Pesticides, Federal Truck Weights and the development of the next Farm Bill. ♦



(right) Jack Swanner makes a point during a biomass tour of an active logging job. The informational tour was hosted by the N.C. State University's Extension Forestry. The goal was to educate public and private entities about the potential of biomass.

NC TREE FARM PROGRAM...

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program selected Dwight and Judy Batts of Macclesfield as the 2012 North Carolina Tree Farmers of the Year. The Batts have been Tree Farmers since 2002 and are extremely active in the program. Batts spent eight years in a leadership role with the program. While he is no longer involved on the state committee, Batts was recruited to serve on the American Tree Farm System's National Woodland Committee.



Judy and Dwight Batts were the North Carolina Tree Farmers of the Year for 2012.

A member of NCFA's Board of Directors, Batts is also an active member of the Wilson County Forestry Association, having been named Wilson County's Tree Farmer of the Year in 2001.

Batts, who is retired after a successful career with Abbott Laboratories, is a fourth generation farmer/forestland owner. His Tree Farm totals 350 acres of forestland and is spread over three tracts within a few miles of each other. Dwight and Judy reside on the Batts Farm, which has been in the family for over 100 years and totals 160 acres.

WELLER RETIRES FROM WEYERHAEUSER

When Al Weller announced his retirement, forest landowners lost a true champion. Weller has been an integral part of the American Tree Farm Program in North Carolina throughout his career that began in North Carolina back in 1972. He and Dave Woodmansee re-invigorated the Tree Farm program in North Carolina in early 2000 after it had gone dormant in the 1990's. In recognition of Weller's outstanding leadership and service, the North Carolina Tree Farm Program presented Weller with the program's Distinguished Service Award in August of 2012.



(l-r) Dave Woodmansee, Al and Patty Weller pose for a photo with a recognition plaque from Tree Farm.

TREE FARM BY THE NUMBERS

When the North Carolina Tree Farm Program restarted in 2000, the goal was to create a program of active Tree Farmers who were interested in sharing information about the positive impact that the Tree Farm program can have on the state's environment and economy. Starting with a database of over 2,000 landowners, the program has sought to streamline its database to reflect its active and certified membership. The program has reached out to its membership and now has solid membership figures supported by certified Tree Farm status.

There are currently 802 certified Tree Farms in the state with a total acreage of 231,313. In 2012, the program added 86 new Tree Farms with a total of 17,329 acres. The program hosts workshops for landowners annually and several workshops for Tree Farm Inspectors. The group wraps up its year with an annual meeting, typically in the same location as the NCFA to encourage members to attend both meetings. ♦

THANKS TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

Golf Tournament

CanFor Southern Pine
Edwards Wood Products
Gilkey Lumber Company
Hartley Brothers Sawmill
Pruitt Lumber Company
Valwood

Sporting Clays

CanFor Southern Pine
Edwards Wood Products
Iron Horse Auction Company
Timber-Mart South
Tri-State Land & Timber
Valwood Inc.

Coffee Breaks

Claybourn Walters Logging
Domtar - Marlboro Mill
Jake A. Parrott Insurance Agency
Pinnacle Trailer Sales

Business Lunch

Pennsylvania Lumbermen's
Mutual Insurance Company

Welcome Reception

Chatham Lumber Company
Duke Energy Carolinas
Forestry Mutual Insurance Co.
Jordan Lumber & Supply
Louisiana-Pacific at Roaring River
Resource Management Service
Tri-State Land & Timber
Uwharrie Lumber Co.

President's Reception

Aegis Administrative Services
Bristol Industries
Chatham Lumber Company
International Paper - Fiber Supply
Jordan Lumber & Supply
Louisiana-Pacific at Roaring River

President's Awards Dinner

Canal Wood
Columbia Forest Products
Davis-Garvin Insurance
Farm Credit Associations of NC
Georgia-Pacific
International Paper - Raleigh

President's Awards Dinner

Josey Lumber Company
Kapstone Kraft Paper
Weyerhaeuser Company

Exhibitors

Arborgen
BB&T Insurance Services
Bodenhamer Farms & Nursery
Davis-Garvin Insurance Co.
Forestry Mutual Insurance Co.
N.C. Forest Service
N.C. Forestry Museum
N.C. Professional Loggers
N.C. Project Learning Tree
NC SFI SIC
Pennsylvania Lumbermens
Mutual Insurance Company
Resource Management Services
Weyerhaeuser Company

The Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo will take place on **September 20-21, 2013** in the same Smithfield - Selma area that hosted the first Expo back in 2011. The NCFEA is once again teaming up with Hatton-Brown Publishers the and North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers (NCAPL) to sponsor the Expo. This year's Expo will feature even more education opportunities for visitors, including the chance to complete the annual training requirement for ProLogger. The NCFEA has been sponsoring a logging demo since 1981.

MID-ATLANTIC
LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO

