

THE TRAIL BLAZER



The Appalachian Society of American Foresters

Spring 2023

APSAF Web site: www.APSAF.org

National SAF Web site: www.eforester.org

“Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.” ~ General Colin Powell

by **Ed Zimmer**

2023 APSAF Chair



First, a little about me for those of you who didn't read my scintillating bio when I was elected to this exalted role in APSAF.

I've had a 32-year (so far) career in forestry, all in Virginia except for one week in 1987 where I pulled weeds in a now-defunct Maryland state tree nursery. You'll have to buy me a beer to get the rest of that story.*

About 14 of those 32 years were spent in forest industry in a variety of roles, from land management, to procurement,

and materials and equipment purchasing at a wood products mill. Since joining the state in 2004, I have held several leadership roles in both the eastern and central portions of Virginia, and I currently proudly serve as the Deputy State Forester for the Virginia Department of Forestry. Prior to attending forestry school at West Virginia University, I served five years in the US Army as a combat engineer/demolitions specialist. I used to joke I served so long ago that we were still fighting the Russians, but it looks like we are back to doing that again. But it was so long ago that when I was stationed in Germany it was called West Germany and countries still had names like Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and the Soviet Union. On the personal side, my wife Terri and I have been married for over 40 years and have four children and three grandchildren.

It was while serving in V Corps in Central West Germany that I first met and witnessed General Colin Powell's exemplary style of leadership, and I have followed his career and life ever since. This probably won't be the last article for the *Trail Blazer* that is headed by a quote from General Powell, but this particular one struck me as particularly *apropos* for what I wanted to say for my first column.

I am a devoted news junkie, mostly via podcasts for national and world news and via online versions of newspapers for local and regional news. Anyone who follows any news at all can see there is a lot wrong with the world we live in and a lot of the people espousing solutions to these problems are either horribly misguided or nefarious (or both). It can be easy to retreat into an attitude of pessimism and acceptance of the status quo, because the problems seem so enormous and outside what any single person can appreciably influence. And that is where the words of General Powell come into play.

As leaders, whether in our jobs, our families, or our communities, if we look for the places we can influence and attack those problems with a purpose and a sense of optimism regarding the outcome, we can motivate those around to strive for similar outcomes, often beyond the scope of our original efforts. Our attitude, whether good or bad, will directly impact the attitudes and the efforts of those around us and will either doom the project to failure or make success significantly more likely and greater in nature than we could have originally hoped for.

How does this sentiment apply to forestry and APSAF? Great question! Just like everything else in the world today, it is easy to identify the problems we face as resource managers. Invasive

The Trail Blazer

The quarterly newsletter of the Appalachian Society of American Foresters. ©2023

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Charles F. Finley, Jr., CAE

The *Trail Blazer* is published to provide information and stimulate discussion among the members of the Appalachian Society, SAF. Send comments to

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species, land conversion for green energy, climate change, are just a few of the seemingly insurmountable problems we regularly discuss. But we also know that healthy, vibrant forests can help solve these and other problems, and that we know how to create and maintain healthy, vibrant forests in our communities. Can I solve climate change by working with landowners to reforest cutover lands and afforest old fields? Of course not, but I can be a small part of the solution and possibly inspire others to do the same. But only if I believe such a solution is possible by the actions I am taking, which sounds a lot like an alternative definition for optimism to me.

In closing, I look forward to meeting many of you over the next year and learning more about the great work APSAF members are doing across the region. Please reach out to your local chapter and division leadership if you want to get more involved in the society and bring some optimism to our work. ~Ed

ed.zimmer@dof.virginia.gov ✉

** So far 13 six packs of Bud Light have been offered to hear the rest of the story! He won't accept anything but craft beer.*



DUKE SAF SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY 25 MARCH 2023

- 7:45AM** Registration opens + coffee
- 9:00AM** Opening Keynote: Tara Keyser
- 10:30AM** Breakout Session #1
Kelly Oten
Carolyn Copenheaver
- 11:30AM** Breakout Session #2
Jim Clark
Paul Manos
- 12:15PM** Lunch + Table Expo
- 1:30PM** Fire in Practice Panel
- 3:15PM** Closing Keynote: Katie Rose Levin

<https://tinyurl.com/safsymposium>

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Did you know APSAF is on Social Media?

If you were at the 2022 and 2023 Winter Meetings, during the awards ceremonies, the past interns were recognized for their hard work posting information about meetings, CFE credits, #treeIDTuesday, and overall providing the public and APSAF followers information about what we do in forestry and natural resource management. Many of you might already follow us on Instagram and Facebook, but we know many do not.

So why social media? Social media platforms are a wonderful way to reach SAF members and provide updates on when and where to get CFE credits, meet with your fellow foresters and learn about new technologies, techniques, and breakthrough research. More importantly, social media is a way to connect to the general public and show we are more than cutting trees and growing pines in lines. We provide essential wildlife habitat and protect our homes from wildfire with prescribed fire and thinnings. Our forest management strategies benefit a range of birds and other wildlife and early successional species. We know this, but our neighbors may not.



Every year we pick an undergraduate or graduate student from each of our three states, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. This year we have returning intern [Caroline Fitzgerald](#) for Virginia. She is an undergraduate student at Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources and Environment studying Environmental Conservation and Society with a concentration in Education and Outreach. Our North Carolina intern is **Lauren Gonzalez**, a Ph.D. student at North Carolina State University in the department of Forestry and Natural Resources working on forestry and entomology, focusing on the pesky hemlock wooly adelgid. **Pan Tankersley**, an undergraduate forestry major, is our South Carolina intern.

She is currently studying Forestry Resources at Clemson University and is excited about all things forestry, conservation, and restoration.

So if you didn't know APSAF was on social media, now you do, and we hope you Follow, Like, and Share our love of forestry through Instagram and Facebook. Test your knowledge with #treeIDTuesday by commenting on the post, and learn about a SAF leader or new member with our #spotlightSaturday. Reach out if you want your chapter's meeting time and location shared, or to share meeting photos afterward. We are here for you to share content with you and to tell the public about what we do and love.

by **Trisha Markus**, APSAF Social Media Manager

Graduate Research Assistant Ph.D. Student
Forestry and Environmental Conservation
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[instagram.com/appalachian_saf](https://www.instagram.com/appalachian_saf)

[facebook.com/appalachiansaf](https://www.facebook.com/appalachiansaf)



News, Continued page 4



Boots on the ground ... to these upcoming SAF and APSAF Meetings

APSAF Board of Directors Meetings, by zoom

April 3, May 1, June 5, July 10, August 7,
September 5, October 2,
December 4, and January 2024, TBD

2023 State meetings–


- South Carolina, Clemson, June 7-8
- North Carolina, Rocky Mount, July 19-21
- VA Summit April 26-28, Williamsburg

2024 APSAF Annual Meeting We're working on it

2023 National SAF Meeting October 25-29, Sacramento, California "Forestry: It's in our DNA"

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The Forest History Society presents
Conversations in Forest History

*The History of the “Two-Fisted Ranger”:
From Myth to Reality*

with Rachel D. Kline

March 9, 2023



When you think of a forest ranger, what image comes to mind?

Depending on whom you ask, the US Forest Service ranger may be either a super hero or super villain—a forester who is either the moral and knowledgeable face of conservation, or the embodiment of an overbearing federal government. For more than a century, these perceptions have taken on mythical proportions that have been reinforced in literature, movies, and television. And although public perception likely hasn't changed much, the job has evolved greatly. In reality, the mythical ranger you are thinking of has likely been a District Ranger—a midlevel manager who is the backbone of the agency. What has historically been the role of the district ranger, and who is the district ranger of today? Join historian Rachel Kline as she explores the history, myth, and reality of the Forest Service district ranger—and what all this may mean for the agency in the era of ecosystem services management and climate change.

Rachel Kline is a supervisory historian for the USDA Forest Service who holds a Ph.D from the University of New Hampshire. In 2022, she discussed women's forgotten contributions to the "land ethic" discussion in the United States.

This webinar has been approved by SAF for 1 hour of CFE credit in Cat. 1. By the time you receive this *Trail Blazer* this webinar will be over, BUT it might make for a good chapter program if they recorded it and would loan it out.

Contact Laura Hayden, laura.hayden@foresthistor.org

APSAF Adopt-A-Student Program

By Andrea Kolarova, andrea.kolarova@duke.edu, Duke Student Chapter of SAF, Class of 2023

The 2023 APSAF Winter Meeting in Columbia, SC offered much for students to enjoy: a pre-conference social at The Grand, an opportunity to present research projects, and scholarships from the KPF Educational Endowment Fund to offset the cost of attendance. For me, the best aspect of the conference was the “Adopt-A-Student” mentorship program. Seven Duke students - myself included - coordinated with Pat Straka to match with professionals in attendance that have experience in our individual fields of interest.

Our mentors represented a range of careers in the forest sector: private industry (consulting foresters, Weyerhaeuser), government workers (state cooperative extensions, state foresters), non-profits (The Nature Conservancy), and others (research foresters and science communicators). The most obvious benefit of this program was the chance to explore career options with our mentors. They provided insights into sector trends and information about what their day-to-day job is like. This can inform which classes we should prioritize in school or generate ideas on where to look for internships. Similarly, even if you don't know your dream job yet, a mentor can share general professional advice to help you grow as a young forester. Another benefit of this program is that it helps get you plugged into the community. Your mentor becomes a familiar face in the room, and he or she can introduce you to more folks at the conference.

To any students reading this: I recommend you sign up for the Adopt-A-Student program when you next attend APSAF. It is a fantastic way to grow your network and to grow in this profession. To any professionals reading this: consider volunteering to be a mentor to a student (or two!). This is a great opportunity to meet students and to spread knowledge and advice to the future generation of foresters. **Andrea Kolarova**, Master of Environmental Management, 1-828 290-7789.

A glimpse into the APSAF community as a student attendee

As a conga line started to form behind a seasoned forester with his accordion, weaving around tables filled with donated forestry related items being auctioned off to help more students like myself attend SAF conferences such as this one, I realized that I had found my tribe. As someone who came to forestry late in life after a career in chemical engineering, it was refreshing to see that the community I was about to join did not take themselves too seriously. Everything about the APSAF conference was great for students. From the financial help through the KPF funding, the mentorship program, the alumni socials, the student presentations, and the involvement of students in introducing speakers, the entire focus of the conference felt like an open-armed welcome to forestry students, who made up nearly 20% of the conference attendees. My hunch is that this was at least partially thanks to the fact that Susan Guynn, the APSAF chair for the past year, directed her attention to getting students more involved in SAF. Susan had visited our student chapter at Duke University earlier in the semester, offering advice on how to get the most from our SAF memberships.



I also attended APSAF in 2021 as a first year Master of Forestry student when the conference was in Asheville. There were several engaging presentations during that meeting that left me wanting to learn more. In fact, several Duke students were so enthralled by the talk Carolyn Copenheaver gave on the environmental history of the American Chestnut, that we invited her to speak at our 2023 SAF Symposium this spring. This year, as a second-year student, and with only a few short months left before graduation, I was reassured when many of the talks and presentations were on topics that I had a deep understanding of from my studies at the Nicholas School: topics such as carbon credits and conservation easements. I left with a sense of pride that despite my imposter syndrome from my non-traditional background, I was now ready to enter the world of forestry. A world where people are welcoming and generous. ~**Christine Martens**, Duke Master of Forestry candidate, class of 2023, christine.martens@duke.edu

Hello Pat,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to thank you again for a fun and successful APSAF this year. The extra effort you put in to find the Duke students professional mentors was fantastic; we all made great connections through our pairings. My mentors shared great advice and I made some important contact with potential employers (Weyerhaeuser and Sappi).



Additionally, the work you do with the silent auction to raise money for the KPF Fund means a lot to us. With the increased focus on students and student membership retention, the KPF Fund makes a big difference. Combined with the additional school funding I received, I was able to keep the trip to APSAF within my budget and therefore kept APSAF affordable. Thank you so, so much for your care and dedication to the next generation of foresters.

If there are other volunteers who are deserving of thanks, please pass along my message to them as well. With appreciation, **Andrea Kolarova**

Your 2023 Leaders in the State Divisions



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APSAF 2023 Annual Meeting

The South Carolina Division SAF hosted the **2023 APSAF Winter Meeting**, January 25-27 in the heart of the capital city of Columbia. The theme of the meeting was **"The Changing Nature of Forests: Products, Services and Values,"** which focused on the many values we get from our forests, beyond lumber and paper, such as carbon credits, conservation easements, recreation, cellulose-based textiles, pine straw, and 5000+ chemical by-products of kraft pulping.

The meeting kicked off with a 6:30 breakfast and a warm SC welcome from Scott Phillips, SC State Forester and Representative Murrell Smith, Speaker of the SC House of Delegates. You can see the full agenda with the names of all our speakers online at the registration link. See the APSAF website at: <https://www.apsaf.org/new-events>.

Several pre-conference workshops included **"The Business of Pine Straw,"** and two mill tours vis-à-vis poles and firewood at **South Carolina Pole & Piling, Inc.** and **Wedges Firewood**, supplier of firewood for restaurants, campgrounds, and retail locations in SC, NC, and Georgia. The third pre-conference workshop was brought back by

popular demand: **Forest Herbicides**, led by Colby Lambert, NC State University.

NEW THIS YEAR was a **Student Social Event** at the The Grand on Main, once home to a 1900s Vaudeville House & Theatre. Of course, the traditional Silent Auction and Raffle was going on throughout the meeting to raise funds for Funderburke Fund and Foresters Fund, both important APSAF educational initiatives.

The meeting finished with a **Christian Foresters Fellowship** devotional Friday morning. Three cheers and a bottle of rum to Barry Graden (Chair, 2022 SC Division SAF) and all the Meeting team members for pulling off such a "great-in so many ways" informative and fun meeting. Many thanks to Seth Plank for serving as the official photographer. The sampling on these two pages does not do justice to the hundreds that he captured. ✨



Lots of firewood ready for market

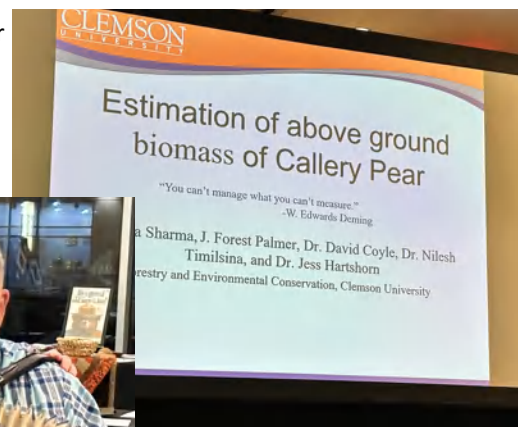


Albert B. Coffey shows off his 50 year SAF membership certificate.



Michael Downey, center, receives Young Forester Leadership Award from Susan Guynn and David Powell, right, outgoing, excellent chair, VA SAF division.

Liz Bourgeois (and husband David) receives The Volunteer Service Award from Susan Guynn.



Mike Skinner, silent auction meister, with hat, slips Allan Mills another dollar and starts a Conga line. \$3300 raised!

MORE ↗



2022 APSAF Chair, Susan Guynn presenting Richard R. Braham with his 50 year certificate.



Ed Zimmer, APSAF Chair for 2023 and Barry Graden show off the South Carolina Governor's Declaration of Welcome to APSAF.



It was record attendance, 20% of whom were students. Above, Ed Zimmer praises Tara Dickson for her great job as Chair of the NCSAF Division.

Forestry students from Duke and some of them taking a tour of the 26,692 acre Congaree National Park with the tallest known loblolly in the world, 167 feet tall.



After they played for 20 minutes Pat Straka put a cardboard box in front of the two minstrels with a note: *They will stop playing as soon as \$100 is donated to the raffle.* In no time at all \$91 was raised! Charlie Finley on his watermelon uke; Allan Mills on his vintage squeeze box.



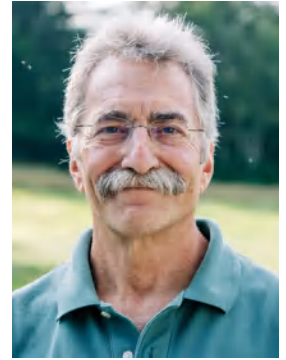
News items page



Rebecca Barnard, SAF President-Elect, attended the APSAF winter meeting in Columbia, SC, AND was the person who won the raffle. She donated half of her winnings back to APSAF for the KP Funderburke Fund and half to the National Wild Turkey Federation for their meeting (50th Anniversary) in February. THANK YOU for attending.

Virginia Summit KEYNOTE SPEAKER: "CARBO"

April 27, 9:30 AM - 10:30. Summit's Keynote session, titled, "The Evolution and Future of Forestry Consulting from its Roots to Today," is sure to inspire. Forestry industry veteran, **Richard "Carbo" Carbonetti**, will give his outlook on the field of consulting forestry, how rapidly the expectations for foresters have changed, the key challenges facing the industry, including workforce development, the changing demographics of landowners, how forest products affect Virginia's economy, and more. This event serves as the summer meeting for the Virginia Division. Details from Corey Connor, VFA, 804-278-8733.



New membership categories

According to the March 2023 Forestry Source last November SAF conducted a comprehensive membership portfolio analysis, which has resulted in fewer membership categories and then a need to update the SAF By-laws.

By now you have probably read of these changes, but we will attempt to summarize the new categories below.

1. Combine the platinum and gold membership types into a new "Premium" membership; dues at \$180.
2. Combine the silver and full memberships into one "Full" membership, \$125.
3. Create an "Affiliate" membership for those working in the forestry profession but without a forestry degree. \$75.
4. Broaden the "International" membership type to include those working in forestry but who are not US citizens or permanent US residents. Dues \$6-180 according to country.
5. Decrease dues for "transitional" members and create a 5-step sliding scale based on number of years from post-grad from \$35 -\$75.
6. Decrease dues for students to \$25.
7. Maintain level dues for "retired" membership at \$85.

At its December 2022 board meeting the board approved these changes and a motion to change the bylaws, pending approval of the new bylaws by the full membership this coming May.

Reminder

Forestry CFEs Opportunities:

If you are looking/need CFE credits, consider watching one or more recordings and take a quiz at the Southern Regional Extension Forestry site <http://www.forestrywebinars.net/> Lots of topics here to choose from! Upcoming ones you can join live AND past recordings available "on-demand" for CFE credits too! And as always, check the CFE Event Calendar at www.eforester.org.

Trail Blazer Publication Calendar

Issue	Submission deadline	Trail Blazer sent now via email, to you by:
Summer 2023	JUNE 1	July 1
Fall 2023	SEPTEMBER 1	October 1
Winter 2023-24	DECEMBER 1	January 1
Spring 2024	March 1	April 1

Leadership Academy back for 3rd year

After two wildly successful years, the APSAF Leadership Academy will be held in-person again in 2023. This year the program will be held **April 3-6** at the Summit Environmental Education and Conference Center at Haw River State Park in Browns Summit, NC. This fully immersive professional development opportunity begins in the afternoon of Monday, April 3rd and departs after lunch on Thursday, April 6th. Participants can expect to engage with peers across the profession and learn about leadership and management competencies, principles, and tools that will impact their work, community, and volunteer efforts with SAF or any other natural resource association.

To maximize participant value, the number of participants is limited. The registration deadline was February 3. Program costs are \$250 for SAF members and \$450 for non-members. If you have questions for next year contact **Greg Cooper**, greg.cooper@tnc.org (828) 350-1431 x 107.

Joe Trihey
Forester / Member

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NORTH CAROLINA: WHAT'S NEW IN THE OLD NORTH STATE?

Nathan Gatlin, NC Division Chair. Favorite quote: "A man's character may be learned from the adjectives, which he habitually uses in conversation." Mark Twain

North State News

by **Nathan Gatlin**

NC Division Chair

Spring has sprung in North Carolina, though we are just transitioning from February into March! All this warm weather, though, is getting everyone bustling and making their way outdoors a little earlier than usual. I am excited to see a more energetic spirit beginning to thrive in the NC Division SAF. More people are wanting to participate, and the division is operating the most effectively that I have seen. Keeping momentum up like this can only lead to good things.

Speaking of which, the NC Division is bustling and has some exciting events coming up:

- On March 18th we will participate in the city of Elon's Arbor Day Celebration. The event will be a forester's dream as we share forestry knowledge with interested participants and plant trees in Beth Schmidt Park.
- Duke University's SAF Chapter will host the 13th annual Forestry Symposium: Forest Resiliency in the Face of Climate Change on March 25. For information email me. See the promo below and on pages 2 and 13.
- The APSAF Leadership Academy, helmed by Tom Davidson, will once again be hosted in Haw River, April 3-6.
- As summer kicks into gear, the North Carolina Summer Meeting will occur in Rocky Mount, July 19 through 21. The Tar River and Albemarle chapters have been hard at it, preparing a great conference that you will certainly want to attend.

I hope to see you out and about at one of these events this year. ~Nathan, gatlinnp@gmail.com

Chapter reports

Tar River Chapter Met on February 7.

Croatan Chapter

Last December 8 we hosted a holiday oyster roast. Over 40 people including chapter members, family, and friends gathered at Cool Springs to finish out 2022 in style. We were even fortunate to have a group of Wayne CC students join us.

The chapter is off to a strong start in 2023. On January 18 we completed our 1st Adopt-A-Highway clean-up day for this year. We collected 12 bags of trash. The following week, many of our chapter members traveled to Columbia, SC for the APSAF annual meeting.

On March 14, the Croatan Chapter will be a Southern Flying Squirrel Sponsor for the 2023 Coastal Envirothon. In addition, many chapter members have also volunteered to help at the event.

The Envirothon program is an event for high school and middle school teams to compete in a natural resources-based field day. The NC Coastal Envirothon is a qualifying event for the state Envirothon competition and is held annually at the Cool Springs Environmental Education Center. The student teams will compete against one another to win a spot at the N.C. State Envirothon later this spring.

On Saturday March 18, the Croatan chapter is also sponsoring a PLT work-

shop. The workshop will be free to attendees, and lunch will be provided. CFEs will be available as will CEU renewal credits. This workshop qualifies for Criteria I in the EE Certification Program (K-8). Registration is required!

To register go.ncsu.edu/ncpllt_cool-springs. The deadline is March 10.

We are currently planning our 1st chapter meeting of the year, and we look forward to sharing those details in our next update.

Piedmont Chapter

Our chapter is doing well. We had our highest attended meeting in February with 16 people at Three Bulls Steakhouse in Clemmons. Jason Watson, Manager and Reforestation Advisor with AborGen spoke about the benefits of containerized seedlings. Our next meeting is March 2nd, and we will have a presentation from Aaron Loucks, Wildlife Livestock Health Program Director with the NC Dept of Agriculture. We are also looking at a joint meeting with the Pisgah Chapter at the end of March or beginning of April as they visit the NC Forest Service nursery in Crossnore. ~

25 March 2023	07:45 AM	Registration opens Grainger Hall
	09:00 AM	Keynote: Tara Keyser USFS Research Forester
	10:00 AM	Coffee Break Grainger Hall
	10:30 AM	Breakout Session #1 Kelly Oten & Carolyn Copenhaver
	11:30 AM	Breakout Session #2 Paul Manos & Jim Clark
	12:15 PM	Lunch Grainger Hall
	1:30-2:45 PM	Fire in Practice Panel Field Auditorium
	3:15 PM	Closing Keynote: Katie Rose Levin Executive Director, TreesDurham
	Duke SAF Symposium:	
	Forest Resiliency in the Face of Climate Change	

Michael Downey, VA Division Chair, favorite quote: "Never tell me the odds." Han Solo

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The Virginia Report

by **Michael Downey**
Virginia Division Chair



I would like to start by thanking everyone for this wonderful opportunity to lead the VA Division for this year. I am honored to be following in the footsteps of past leaders who have made Virginia successful in forest management.

Now more than ever, we need to encourage young professionals to be more involved with their local chapters and APSAF. Involvement is the number one way we can spread awareness and drive for success in this industry.

Of course, we all know there is no better way to network than with like-minded individuals and discuss the evolution and future of forestry. With this being said, I would like to challenge each chapter to mentor at least one young professional to take on an executive role within the chapter. Being a member of SAF and working with individuals who have the same ambitions is how we as professionals can reach out to our communities and articulate the importance of sound forest management practices. Over the years, I have had the privilege of knowing some great foresters and silviculturists, many of whom have had ties with SAF and APSAF.

If you haven't signed up for the APSAF Leadership Academy, it is a great opportunity to learn new skills or fine tune them. Our very own Tom Davidson, LeadershipNature, has led this program for multiple years, and I strongly suggest that if you are wanting to take on a leadership role within APSAF or within your organization, this is a perfect opportunity to do just that. Forestry has become more than just the "dirt" forestry that we once knew. As foresters we must adapt to the changing demand of landowner's objectives and the massive increase in rural development.

We will continue the tradition of the CFE Extravaganza in September. This is great opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues and earn some CFEs.

Lastly, the upcoming VFA Forestry Summit will be held at Williamsburg Lodge in Colonial Williamsburg, Wednesday April 26 to Friday.

It combines the annual meetings of the Virginia Forestry Association and the Association of Consulting Foresters with the summer meeting of VASAF.

I look forward to many great things to come this year and hope to see many of you in person. ~Michael Downey

Chapter Reports

Rappahannock Chapter, Mark Books, CF, Chair

This engaging event was held on Wednesday December 7, entitled "Hardwood Tour of Burke Properties in Caroline County, and Hardwood Initiative talk by Joe Rossetti, Hardwood Forest Habitat Initiative Coordinator Virginia Department of Forestry."

The chapter wishes to thank the following for their efforts in providing an excellent tour, discussion, and presentation. **John Magruder** for organizing the tour and to his client **John Burke** for allowing us to tour his land. **Joe Rossetti** of VDOF for his excellent insights. **Neil Clark** for providing the van and mad driving skills. And finally, Roma's Italian Restaurant in Bowling Green, for the meeting space and delicious meal.

I need to find the reference that describes white oak and acorn production. The study was for fertilization, but it also captured how acorns come from only some trees.

Also I will keep looking for the reference where value is found in timber, and percentage of trees that hold the most value.

Also, I forgot to include these in my follow-up information from last week. In the first stand we looked at, the American Holly was controlled using basal applied triclopyr ester (Garlon 4). **Jerre Creighton** performed a study there to determine the amount of her-



bicide that needed to be applied to be effective. The results of that study can be found here: <https://dof.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/RR-137.pdf>.

Secondly, I stated that a large percentage of value in hardwood stands is found on just a few trees per acre, but I couldn't recall the exact numbers. I've not been able to find the underlying research, but I'd be willing to work with someone to re-create this in some Virginia stands, if any of you SAF members would be interested. Another source with the same table identifies the forest based on as being Coopers Rock State Forest near Morgantown, WV.

The next chapter event was on, March 3 in Chester. The chapter partnered with **Jennifer Gagnon**, VFLEP Coordinator and several others, to organize the introduction to Forest Carbon Markets Conference. See [Introduction to Forest Carbon Markets | Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program | Virginia Tech \(vt.edu\)](#)

Virginia Tech Student Chapter

By **Natalie Hedrick**, Student Chapter Chair

At the very end of the fall semester, we held a tree identification field trip, which was a great learning opportunity for students new to forestry and a refresher for upperclassmen. **John Peterson** and Jennifer Gagnon graciously hosted a BBQ dinner for all attendees at their farm afterwards.

The Virginia Tech Student Chapter had a busy start to the spring semester! First, five chapter members attended the APSAF meeting in Columbia, SC, January 25-27. Students attending included **Natalie Hedrick** (Chapter Chair), **Connor**

The topic of the meeting focused on the forest products and services that many don't see, like carbon credits, conservation easements, pine straw revenues, textiles and chemical by-products. It was a great opportunity to network with professionals within the industry of forestry and learn about their careers and potentially find an employment opportunity or internship within forestry. **Connor Austin** presented a poster and was able to compete with other students for a prize. Students also visited a mass timber building, (photo above) with the primary load-bearing structure made of engineered or solid wood.



Austin (Chapter Vice Chair), **Alex Adam** (Chapter Membership Coordinator), **Steele Foley** (Chapter Member), and **Ethan Elder** (Chapter Member). The members attended different sessions of workshops, presentations, and activities.



For our February meeting, the Chapter ventured outdoors to one of Virginia Tech most memorable hikes, to Bald Knob. **Caroline Norris** (Chapter Secretary), **Nick Sandy** (Chapter Treasurer), and **Rebecca Barkman** (Graduate Student Representative) enjoyed a hike on the Bald Knob 3.7-mile trail with some elevation. Bald Knob is

Keep going 🖱️ 🖱️



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a moderate loop with stunning views of the New River Valley and West Virginia.

The Chapter is looking forward to our March meeting, and this will be a joint meeting with the VT Forestry Club. We are excited to hear from Guest Speaker, **Brad Carico**, from the Department of Forestry (DOF). He will speak to both groups about the opportunities the DOF has to offer.

Mountain Gateway Community College

By **Jacob Rak**, Chapter Secretary

This year has started off running, for the MGCC chapter! Students are already busy with many exciting outdoor labs. First year students are scaling and grading logs at a local



sawmill for their Forest Mensuration 1 lab and experiencing the thrills of tree climbing and pruning in their Urban



Forestry class, while second year students are sawing logs at MGCC's on-site sawmill. Forest Mapping and Mensuration 1 are also in full swing, with the students spending much of their time out in the woods learning how to navigate and calculate the forest.

Our new Timbersports team just competed in their first competition at Virginia Tech's 2023 Timberbeast and are scheduled to compete again in April in Cumberland, MD. A number of first year students have also teamed up with the

Virginia Highlands Wood Duck Club to help clean and monitor wood duck boxes set up on campus and elsewhere throughout the Alleghany Highlands. Students have also had many unique opportunities to visit and tour various forest product manufacturers, including barrel, OSB, and composite manufacturers located around VA and WVA.



Soon, the end of the spring semester will be over and our students will be beginning their summer internships. After this especially wet winter, everyone is looking forward to the summer and the good weather that it will bring about! 🌿

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A word about the Treasurer's Report for February 27, 2023, by Ed Stoots

Tony Doster and I continue to meet virtually where needed concerning the Treasurer duties changeover that is still in process. Currently Tony is acting Treasurer for a couple of reasons:

- To close out expenses and incomes from the recent winter meeting, and to do that he still needs access to the accounts, purchased cards, etc.
- The following other accounts will need to be transferred: Pay Pal, We Pay, Constant Contact, Square, & Quicken (is an APSAF Account).
- A computer (laptop) for the Treasurer has been purchased and delivered to me. It is a laptop purchased from Dell. The unit is an Inspiron 15 Laptop and was purchased at a total cost of \$1,233.91.
- A copy of the current Quicken Files was shared with me from Tony to have Quicken loaded onto the new computer. Quicken was loaded using the email and password established by Tony when Quicken was purchased—but the data base is not “live” yet. We are exploring ways to share Quicken “live” through the mobile web feature with Quicken.

The new APSAF bookkeeper has been selected—Susan Culbertson—susan@controllersetc.com, 540-344-4538 www.controllersetc.com, and a contract to work for APSAF is in process of being drafted. Susan's duties will run through the calendar year of 2023; both parties will reassess at the end of the year. To send over expenses to be entered I have established an email account through Google, apsaftreasurer@gmail.com, that will be used to send items to Susan that she can access. This way, things can be kept separate from her regular work. Ultimately when completely set up we should consider sending most all information that the treasurer needs to act on to this one email address that can, in turn, be passed onto each succeeding APSAF treasurer. Susan's role for 2023 will be to set up QuickBooks from the Quicken account with a starting financial date of January 1, 2023. Then once set up, the treasurer will guide her in the coding of expenses and incomes into the program when received.

A QuickBooks program has been purchased through TechSoup by me with a one-year subscription for \$75.00. The version is QuickBooks Online Plus, 1-Year Subscription, for up to five Users. The program is expected to be delivered within 10 business days after 2/25/2023 when it was ordered. Five users will allow the bookkeeper access, the treasurer and up to 3 other folks. I suggest that we consider adding at least 1 or 2 other users and folks to the banking accounts—the reason being, if something were ever to happen to the treasurer others could step in as needed. The recommendation is that the Secretary be added, along with the APSAF Chair-elect who serves a three-year term and would have access.

A credit card has been ordered for me, but has not been delivered yet. Tony continues to run the day-to-day duties for income and expense processing. See our net worth statement on the next page.





Register here! Includes lunch, breakfast and coffee!




For speaker schedule, visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/safsymposium>

Forest Resiliency in the Face of Climate Change

7:45am - Registration opens
9am - Opening Keynote
10:30 - Breakout Sessions
12:15 - Lunch
1:30pm - Fire Panel
3:15pm - Closing Keynote
4:15 - Evening Send-off

Duke Society of American Foresters
Annual Symposium

25 March 2023



Dowdy's Forest & Land Management

Matthew Dowdy

540-967-1707

535 Vigor Road Louisa, Va 23093

Matt@DowdysForest.com

The Treasurer's Report

by Tony Doster

TDoster@resourcemgt.com



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www.dof.virginia.gov

APSAF Net Worth - As of 2/28/2023 (Includes unrealized gains)

Account	12/31/2020 Balance	12/31/2021 Balance	12/31/2022 Balance	2/28/2023 Balance
ASSETS				
Cash and Bank Accounts				
APSAF First Citizens Business Ch...	0.00	0.00	42,000.89	59,214.04
APSAF First Citizens Savings	0.00	0.00	25,315.96	25,318.11
APSAF Paypal	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 0286	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 5486	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 5586	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD 12-17M Fixed 6586	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CDs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Citizens Basic Business Chec...	17,638.72	81,156.88	0.00	0.00
First Citizens Money Market Savings	10,023.41	9,940.97	0.00	0.00
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	27,662.13	91,097.85	68,316.85	85,532.15
Investments				
APSAF First Citizens Brokerage	0.00	0.00	224,228.55	224,221.76
KP Funderburke Endowment Acco...	0.00	0.00	128,991.74	133,160.20
Old APSAF First Citizens Brokerage	57,383.71	62,001.38	0.00	0.00
Old KP Funderburke Endowment	132,566.95	150,840.90	0.01	0.01
TOTAL Investments	189,950.65	212,842.27	353,220.29	357,381.96
TOTAL ASSETS	217,612.78	303,940.12	421,537.14	442,914.11
LIABILITIES				
Credit Cards				
AJ Lang - Triangle Chapter XX4748	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Alex Thompson - Sandhills - XX0856	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Anne Margaret Braham - Triangle ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Barry Graden - SC Division XX4986	0.00	0.00	97.82	0.00
Clara Clark - Catawba - XX5900	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
David Powell - VA Division SAF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ed Stoots - APSAF Visa XX4069	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Citizens Visa Business Credit ...	0.00	57.61	0.00	0.00
Gary Blank - NCSU Student - XX3...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
George Chastain - Winyah Chapter...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Henry Higgins - Old Hickory - XX62...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Herbert Nicholson - Pee Dee Chap...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jeff Pardue - Piedmont Chapter XX...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jennifer Gagnon - VA Tech Studen...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jim Schroering - VA Division SAF ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jim Schroering - VA Division Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
John Jackson - Edisto Chapter XX...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kenneth Sterner - Rappahannock ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kyle Peer - Blue Ridge Chapter XX...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Laura Hayes - Old Hickory - X9741	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Leah Rathbun - NCSU Student - 9...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madison West - SE Chapter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mary Beth Hanson - Waccamaw C...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Michael Downey - Va Div - Visa XX...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Olakunle Sodiya - NC Division XX3...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Old First Citizens Keowee Chapter ...	0.00	6.35	0.00	0.00
Pete Hancock - Tar River Chapter ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ricky McCutchen - Pee Dee Chapt...	0.00	0.00	0.00	294.00
Robert Sparks Keowee Chapter Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scott Danskin - SC Division SAF X...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Steve Grindley - Central Carolina S...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tara Dickson - Croatan Chapter Visa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tom Brant - Enoree Chapter XX9391	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tony Doster - APSAF Visa	0.00	0.00	85.00	1,233.91
TOTAL Credit Cards	0.00	63.96	182.82	1,527.91
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0.00	63.96	182.82	1,527.91
OVERALL TOTAL	217,612.78	303,876.16	421,354.32	441,386.20

SOUTH CAROLINA—ALL THE NEWS (SHO NUFF)

Pushkar Khanal, SC Chair. Favorite quote: “The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened.” ~ Mark Twain

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Updates from the Palmetto State

by **Puskar Khanal**, SC SAF Division Chair & Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Clemson University

The SC Division had a busy fall session with successfully organizing the 2023 APSAF meeting in Columbia. SC SAF Immediate Past-Chair, Berry Graden, did a great job leading the conference planning team, culminating in a successful and well-attended meeting with inclusive, engaging, and memorable events for all foresters. I hope you attended the meeting and got the opportunity to socialize, network, and share ideas.

SC SAF has a new leadership team for the year 2023. Dr. Puskar Khanal will be the new state chair, while **Scott Danskin** and **Ricky McCutchen** will assume the Treasurer and Chair-Elect, respectively. **Berry Graden** will take the Immediate Past-Chair position. The 2023 SC SAF Executive Committee held its first meeting on February 28 over zoom and discussed the possibility of meeting in person for future meetings, which would increase interaction and coordination among local chapters and members. The Executive Committee plans to recruit young foresters into various subcommittees that have remained vacant for some time and were not much of a priority during COVID times.

Chapter updates & activities

Keowee Chapter: The Keowee Chapter has a new leadership team for this year, with **Nilesh Timilsina** (Clemson Faculty) and **Trisha Markus** (Graduate Student) in President and Treasurer positions, respectively. The Chapter had its first meeting and workshop on February 27, where **Peter C. Madden**, President and CEO of the US Endowment & Forestry Communities, shared his perspectives on regional and national forestry and forest-industry issues in the United States. Besides, Keowee Chapter is the host chapter for the SC Summer Meeting this year.

Central Carolina Chapter: **Steve Grindley** will serve as the Chapter Chair this year.

Pee Dee Chapter: **Teddy Thompson** will serve as the chapter chair, while **Tres Hyman** will be the Treasurer for this year. **Herb Nicholson** will be the immediate Past-Chair.

Old Hickory Chapter: **John Hiott** and **Hank Higgins** will be joint co-chairs, while **Laura Hayes** will be the Chapter's Treasurer this year.

Edisto Chapter: **Asija Rice** will be the new Chapter of the Edisto Chapter this year. **Liz Bourgeois** will serve as the Treasurer.

Winyah Chapter: **George Chastain** will chair the Winyah Chapter this year. The Winyah Chapter hosted a successful SC Summer meeting in Georgetown last year. The meeting was a mix of presentations and field demonstrations, which the attendees appreciated.

Enoree Chapter: **Michel Mills** and **Mike Keim** will co-chair the Enoree Chapter this year. The Chapter has been selected to host the 2024 SC SAF Summer meeting, and preparations are underway to host it at the Newberry Firehouse Center, Newberry, SC.

Santee Chapter: **Gary Bratton** will chair the Santee chapter, and **Ward Gatlin** will serve as the Chapter secretary for this year.

Horry Georgetown Student Chapter: The Horry Georgetown student chapter is in the preliminary stage of selecting a faculty adviser after **Brain Clark's** retirement.

Clemson Forestry Student Chapter: **Stephen Peairs** serves as the faculty adviser of the Clemson SAF Forestry Student Chapter. The student chapter actively participated in the Keowee Chapter meetings and showed well at the APSAF meeting in Columbia.

Save the Date

The SC State Division will host the 2023 summer meeting in upstate South Carolina. The Keowee Chapter has started preparations for this in-person summer meeting from June 7-8 at the Carriage House (148 Discovery Lane, Clemson, SC 29631) inside the SC Botanical Garden. This year's state meeting theme is "**Management and Utilization of Forests in Changing Times.**" The meeting will highlight sustainable forest planning in the Clemson Experimental Forest and CLT utilization in the Clemson main campus with a mix of site visits, expert-guided tours, presentations, and demonstration events. Registration will be announced in the next few weeks. We hope to welcome you and your family to Clemson this summer.

by Puskar N. Khanal, Assistant Professor
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Still more 

Words of Wisdom from SAF Golden Member Van Hoffman

by Mike Bozzo

Van Hoffman just recently received his 50-year certificate after about two years of attempts—Covid and other reasons delayed my meeting with Van. However, it was a day well worth the wait as we shared lunch and then took a field trip to his pine plantation just outside of Chapin on Lake Murray from where the picture is taken.

Van joined SAF in 1969 soon after beginning his career with the South Carolina Forestry Commission (SCFC) promoting forest management to private forest landowners with the likes of fellow foresters **Howard McNair** and **Mace Coleman** in the Florence District. At that time there was an expectation that young foresters should join their professional society, the Society of American Foresters (SAF). In Florence, the local SAF chapter met monthly at the Chicken Basket Restaurant for fellowship, food and thought.



The photo is of Van at his plantation outside of Chapin on Lake Murray. I took it the day I met him and talked to him about his career and thoughts about SAF. by Mike Bozzo

Presenters were brought in to update the members on the advances in the science of forestry. Often times topics included updates on new forest technologies or forest management practices. With such an active chapter, young Van soon learned that forestry was truly a profession, a profession he was proud to be a member of and a professional career he was glad to have chosen.

Van left the SCFC after two years and spent the next 44 years with the land department of SCE&G in Columbia, South Carolina. He now is retired but still attending SAF activities.

Van's thoughts on the professional society are as such...a professional organization's activities and membership certainly reflect on the status of the profession. In those early years, the interac-

tion (mentoring) and fellowship (shared experience) with the more experienced foresters (i.e. Coleman, McNair, Koons, Wilson, Handley, who also were SAF members) was invaluable. "And I believe my involvement in SAF provided real value—expertise, knowledge and fellowship. Such value comes from the application of skills and knowledge acquired through college training (Van is a Clemson grad) and experience."

Van would go on to say that while most of us practice certain skills in our particular

areas of expertise, our professional society should help keep us cognizant of the bigger environmental picture, while we as individuals are focusing on specific forest landowner prescriptions that meet their goals and objectives. And as professional foresters the public demands that we protect and promote the forests while practicing sound silviculture practices.

So, what characteristics does Van think are important to a profession—professional knowledge, proper demeanor and appearance, competency, reliability, honesty, integrity, ethical conduct and the ability to communicate ideas clearly. As a member of a professional society that promotes these characteristics and values the responsibility associated with being called a professional, a professional forester ensures that forestry is practiced properly and the public is protected from inexperienced or unqualified individuals.

Van goes on to say he is proud of SAF and its efforts in supporting and strengthening the registration process while promoting public awareness of the profession of forestry.

And in his final words he urges young foresters first to become a member of SAF and then to be actively involved with their local chapters and take advantage of the opportunities that foster leadership. And one day you will be mentioned as one of those experienced foresters that mentored some young forester into their professional career.

To Van, we say congratulations and thank you for being the professional many other foresters have looked up to for your professionalism and involvement within SAF. ☞