



FLORIDA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

PINES AND NEEDLES

July - August 2013 Volume 68, Issue 4

REGISTER EARLY TO WIN!

Register for FFA's Annual Meeting by August 7 for a chance to win a \$250 gift card from Bass Pro Shops! Registration details inside!



NEW MASTER LOGGERS

Thirty-two loggers recently earned the designation of "Florida Master Logger:"

- Ernest Adkins (E & T Logging, LLC)
- Bobby Barnes (Riverland Logging, Inc.)
- Gary Black (G Black Logging, LLC)
- Robert Black (Reagan H. Fox III, Inc.)
- Kenny Brown (Harrison Logging Company)
- Donald Chestnut (G & E Timber, Inc.)
- Jacob Clemons (Clemons Timber Inc.)
- Carl Dawson (Cedar Creek Land and Timber)
- Christian Fisher (Fisher Forestry, Inc.)
- Dale R. Foster (Bitter Sweet Logging LLC)
- Timothy R. Foster (Bitter Sweet Logging LLC)
- Kim Hall (Somewhat Reliable Swamp Logging)
- Steve Hallmark (Cedar Creek Land and Timber)
- Michael Harrison, Jr. (Harrison Logging Company)
- Richard Hunter (Gray Logging, LLC)
- Josh Light (Gray Logging, LLC)
- Ernest Morris (Ernest Tree Service)
- Daniel Munden (Loncala, Incorporated)
- Daniel Padgett, Jr. (W. H. Simpson Logging, LLC)
- Godfrey Peterson (E & T Logging, LLC)
- Brady Sellars (Agri-Timber, Inc.)
- Kyle Sellars (Flatwoods Forest Products, Inc.)
- Cory Taylor (Canal Wood, LLC)
- Rusty Taylor (Sunshine Palms Timber, Inc.)
- Chris Tharpe (D & D Timber Harvesting, Inc.)
- Mickey Trouille (M & T Trouille Timber Company)
- Dean Tuten (Gray Logging, LLC)
- Jeff Watson (Kelby Andrews Trucking & Timber, Inc.)

FARM BILL PASSES CONGRESS

After a rapid turn of events, leadership in the House of Representatives split the traditional Farm Bill into two bills, first focusing on the farm-only provisions. This new legislation, H.R. 2642, passed the House in a 216-208 vote. Nutrition provisions will be dealt with separately.

This legislation offers several benefits to forest landowners:

- Protection from unnecessary permit requirements and regulations on forest roads;
- Access to new market opportunities for forest products, increasing available revenue to reinvest back into forest stewardship;
- Improved access to more conservation tools to improve wildlife habitat and forest stewardship; and
- Strengthened support for programs to fight invasive forest pests.

This bill moves the process a step forward, providing a path to conference committee with the Senate. It is hoped the result will be final, comprehensive Farm Bill legislation.

RURAL AND FAMILY LANDS PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam encourages agricultural landowners to apply for the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program. The program was established to acquire perpetual agricultural conservation easements, ensuring lands will be preserved in agricultural use while providing for the protection of natural resources.

For more information about the program or to download an application, please visit the Florida Forest Service's website at www.FloridaForestService.com.

The deadline to apply is August 29, 2013.

DEVELOPMENT OF WILDLIFE BMPs FOR FORESTRY UNDERWAY

A subcommittee of the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services' Silviculture Best Management Practices (BMP) Technical Advisory Committee met in Lake City on Thursday, July 18, to begin development of wildlife BMPs for forestry activities. The subcommittee, which includes FFA staff and members, representatives of key state and federal agencies and a representative from an environmental organization, made significant progress.

A panel of speakers will address this issue at FFA's annual meeting. Please see inside pages for details.

ECONOMIC REPORT

The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) has released a new study showing that the state's agricultural and natural resources industries are strong and growing stronger.

According to the study, the forest industry creates combined value-added economic impacts of more than \$6 billion. It also provides almost 78,000 jobs.

FIRE ASSESSMENT HIKE

In July, the Walton County Commission voted to assess property owners seven cents per acre for agricultural or vacant land. The money will be used to reimburse the county for funds it sends to the Florida Forest Service to fight brush fires in the area.

Because those funds come out of ad valorem taxes, some feel that the new assessment is double taxation. Others are concerned that it may be the start of a trend to use forestland as a new funding source for local governments.

FFA will continue to follow this issue.

Periodicals
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FFA 2013 ANNUAL MEETING: "GROWING THROUGH CHANGE" SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2013, IN PONTE VEDRA BEACH



Please join us for our 2013 annual meeting at the Sawgrass Marriott in beautiful Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

From September 3-5, meeting participants will be able to engage in exceptional educational, recreational and networking opportunities.

SPEAKERS

Our featured speakers include some of the best and brightest associated with our industry today:

Herschel Vinyard is the Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). He will address DEP's priorities, mission and direction, sharing successes and opportunities in environmental protection partnerships.

The Secretary will also discuss the importance of the future of environmental land acquisition and management, and how all of this interacts with the future of Florida's working forests.

Jim Karels is the Director of the Florida Forest Service. He will share results from the Comprehensive Statewide Forest Inventory Analysis (CSFIA) project mandated by the 2012 Florida Energy Bill. The project used remote sensing techniques and the latest FIA data for its inventory and analytical approaches.

Karels will discuss availability of timber biomass resources statewide and locally, as well as forest sustainability index throughout the state.

Dr. Ann Shortelle is the Executive Director of the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD). She will discuss recent trends in land use as evaluated within the context of water supply and water quality goals. She will also address the need for partnerships to stabilize protective land uses in key springsheds and other sensitive locations, along with mechanisms to encourage these partnerships.

Jon Steverson is the Executive Director of the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWMD). He will share ideas on the importance of working forests in achieving the NFWMD missions and goals; land conversion trends within the District; and opportunities to encourage or incentivize reforestation or afforestation.

Hans Tanzler is the Executive Director of the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). He will speak about SJRWMD activities of interest to the forestry community, including the District's land management activities, the year-long lands assessment and other issues.

Jeff Vowell of the Florida Forest Service, **Scott Sanders** of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and **Doug Rillstone** of Broad & Cassel will provide an update on the development of wildlife best management practices for forestry.

Al Morales is the Chief Financial Officer of American Renewables, the developer of the Gainesville Renewable Energy Center (GREC). The GREC is a 100 megawatt power generation facility fueled by woody biomass, scheduled to open in the fall. When operational, GREC will use approximately one million green tons of clean wood waste per year.

Topics to be covered will include an overview of the facility and its operations; fuel requirements and types; and fuel sustainability standards.

RECREATION

Timber Toppers Golf Classic: Suwannee Lumber Company is proud to sponsor our annual golf tournament on the beautiful Dye's Valley course. Sign up for the tournament on the attached registration form for a great golfing experience and networking time with other forest professionals and friends. **Tee-time is 8 AM, Wednesday, Sept. 4.**

Golf is open to all FFA members and guests; meeting registration is not required to play in the tournament.

Group Fun Run/Walk: Non-golfers are invited to join in on a Group Fun Run/Walk on **Wednesday, September 4 at 8:00 am.** Sawgrass Marriott offers a 4-mile course for everyone from ambitious athletes to sedate strollers.

Highwayman Demo: Famed Highwayman R. L. Lewis will treat art lovers to a live demonstration of his painting on Wednesday, September 4, at 10 AM.



HOTEL INFORMATION

Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa
Ponte Vedra Beach
Room Rate \$129 nightly
Phone: 800.457.4653
Group Name: Florida Forestry Association
Reserve online at www.Marriott.com
Group Code: FFAFFAA



DONATE TO THE SILENT AUCTION!

FFA's 2013 Silent Auction promises to be the best one yet! In keeping with our "Growing Through Change" theme, we are expanding our selections to include a Growers Market featuring homemade goods such as jams, jellies, honey, sauces, candies and other homegrown offerings.

Donations are greatly appreciated. All contributors are recognized in Association publications, in annual meeting registration information, at the event and during the Auction.

Many thanks to the following "early bird" supporters of this event:

ArborGen Inc. SuperTree Seedlings
Bankers South Lending & Finance LLC
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Bay Point Wyndham Resort, Panama City Beach
Bielling Site Prep & Reforestation - Jimmy, Kathy & Jesse Bielling
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Jim Karels, State Forester, Florida Forest Service
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Plum Creek Timber Company
Ring Power Corporation
RockTenn
Rodney Schwab
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Sawgrass Marriott
School of Forest Resources and Conservation, UF
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Southern Forestry Consultants, Inc.
St. Joe Timberland Company
Stan Rosenthal
Tom King (SUPERTRAK, Inc.)
Tony Wallace
Usher Land & Timber, Inc.
Wyatt R. Thomas

If you have an item you would like to donate to the auction, please contact Debbie Bryant at 850.222.5646 or Debbie@ForestFla.org

TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS

Each year, Florida's largest forestry trade show is held in conjunction with the Association's annual meeting. Exhibitors take advantage of this time to visit with the most comprehensive gathering of forest business owners and managers, landowners and professional foresters in Florida. This year's exhibitors include the following:

American Forest Management
 American Rx Fire Appliances
 ArborGen Supertree Seedlings
 Association of Consulting Foresters FL Chapter
 Bankers South Lending & Finance LLC
 Bituminous Insurance Company/Stoutamire-Pavlik & Associates, Inc.
 Blanton's Longleaf Container Nursery
 Coldwell Banker Commercial Saunders Real Estate
 Crop Production Services Farm Credit
 Flag Credit Union
 Florida Forest Service
 Florida Project Learning Tree
 Florida Tree Farm Program
 Hog Waller Mud Bog
 Humate International, Inc.
 International Forest Company
 JAXPORT
 LandMark Spatial Solutions, LLC
 Marden Industries, Inc.
 Meeks' Farms & Nursery, Inc.
 Mitsubishi Power Systems Americas
 Natural Resource Planning Services, Inc.
 Outdoor Underwriters, Inc.
 Plum Creek Timber Company
 Red River Specialties, Inc.
 Ring Power Corporation
 R. L. Lewis – Highwaymen Artist
 School of Forest Resources & Conservation @ UF/IFAS
 Superior Forestry Service, Inc.
 TerraBlue Environmental LLC

For more information about the trade show, please contact Debbie Bryant at 850.222.5646 or Debbie@ForestFla.org.

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 3, 2013

10:00 AM Trade Show Set-Up
 1:00 PM Registration Desk Opens
 5:00 PM Forestry Forward - Leadership Session
 6:00 PM Icebreaker Reception

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

6:30 AM Registration Desk Opens
 6:30 AM Tee-Time Coffee @ Registration Lobby
 6:30 AM Trade Show Set-Up
 6:45 AM Continental Breakfast @ Golf Course
 8:00 AM Golf Tournament
 8:00 AM Group Fun Run-Walk
 10:00 AM Trade Show and Silent Auction Open
 ~ R. L. Lewis, Jr.: Highwaymen Painting Demo
 2:00 PM General Session - Herschel Vinyard, DEP:
Working Forests
 3:15 PM General Session - Jim Karels, FFS: *Forest Inventory Analysis*
 4:15 PM Board Meeting
 6:00 PM Welcome Reception

Thursday, September 5, 2013

7:00 AM Early Bird Coffee
 8:00 AM Awards Breakfast
 10:00 AM Trade Show Social/Final Auction Bidding
 (closes at noon)
 12:00 PM Trade Show Teardown
 12:15 PM Master Logger Luncheon - Richard Schroeder,
 BioResource Mgt:
New Wood Markets & Wood Project Development
 1:00 PM Auction Item Pickup
 1:30 PM General Sessions:
 • *WMD Mission and Goals*: Dr. Ann Shortelle (SRWMD), Jon Steverson (NFWWMD), and Hans Tanzler (SJRWMD)
 • *Wildlife BMPs*: Scott Sanders (FWC), Jeff Vowell (FFS) and Doug Rillstone (Broad & Cassel)
 • *Gainesville Renewable Energy Center*: Al Morales (GREC)
 4:30 PM Florida Gateway College/UFSFRC Meeting
 6:00 PM Low Country Boil

SPECIAL GUEST

Congressman Steve Southerland will be our special guest at the awards breakfast on Thursday morning, September 5. He will update us on the latest news from Washington, focusing on issues of interest to the forest industry.



REGISTRATION

To register, fill out the form below and mail it to our office. Online registration is also available on our website, www.FloridaForest.org.



Please photocopy this form for each registration packet desired. For best rates, mail or fax by August 7, 2013, to Florida Forestry Association/P.O. Box 1696/Tallahassee, FL 32302 • Fax 850.222.6179 • Phone 850.222.5646

Name: _____

Company Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Registered Spouse's Name: _____

Check here if this is your first FFA Annual Meeting:

Please provide your cell phone number (for FFA staff emergency contact use only): _____

Your first name/nickname for your name badge: _____

Your spouse's first name/nickname for name badge: _____

Full registration includes: Icebreaker Reception, Welcome Reception, Awards Breakfast, all General Sessions and Low Country Boil. No registration fee is required for children, but tickets are required if they attend meals. **Cancellation policy:** In the event of cancellation, a full refund will be made if cancellation is received by FFA by close of business August 7. Refunds are not guaranteed for cancellations received after August 7 or for no-shows. To be included in the List of Registrants, registrations must be received by August 23. Attendees not registered by August 23 must register onsite at the Annual Meeting.

Registrant	Early Registration on or before August 7, 2013	Regular and On-site Registration after August 7, 2013 or at Annual Meeting	Number Attending	Amount Due
Member/Non-member	\$335	\$360		
Spouse	\$235	\$260		
Landowner Day*	\$125	\$150		
Landowner Day Spouse	\$50	\$60		

*Landowner Day includes Thursday sessions and breaks only. Spouse rates only available for spouses of those registered to attend Landowner Day.

SUB-TOTAL:

Extra Tickets for Guests/Optional Events (Full registration needed)

Event	Cost	Number Attending	Amount Due
Thursday Awards Breakfast	\$40 each		
Thursday Night Low Country Boil	\$85 each		
Golf Tournament *	\$95 each		
Master Logger Lunch**	\$40 each		

*Golf open to all FFA members and guests. Meeting registration not required.

Name/handicap of golfer _____

If requesting a special team, please list: _____

**Master Logger Lunch is at no charge only to Master Loggers registered for the three-day meeting.

TOTAL (Registrations, Extra Tickets, Golf) \$ _____

SUB-TOTAL:

I have enclosed full payment for the events indicated, or I authorize a charge below:

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ made payable to Florida Forestry Association.

VISA MASTERCARD (A 3% convenience fee will be added to your total credit card payment.)

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD _____ EXP DATE: _____

CARD # _____ Amount: _____

BILLING ADDRESS _____

Signature: _____

Pines & Needles

We invite comments and suggestions. Let us know what you think by writing us at:
 P.O. Box 1696, Tallahassee, Florida 32302;
 by phoning us at: (850) 222-5646;
 emailing: info@forestfla.org;
 or by faxing us at: (850) 222-6179

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