



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association

www.kwoa.net

KENTUCKY WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER

vol. 21 no. 1

Winter 2013

Greetings from the Head Hickory Nut

by J. Henry Duncan

The benefit of woodlands...



Our family woodlands was especially meaningful during this fall's hunting season. My 12 year old nephew from St Louis wanted to go hunting. I agreed to meet him... and we spent the most of two days in and around the woods and farm. We saw deer, turkey, squirrel and a

coyote. We failed to harvest our quota but just the opportunity to be out together among the trees and open spaces was a wonderful opportunity. Joe Ball has experienced this with his annual wildflower tour on his Tree Farm each spring.

Family forest lands offer special rewards as they provide opportunities for private, scenic spaces and places to hunt, fish and for family and friends to just walk and enjoy nature's scenic offerings.

Family and friends living in urban areas especially enjoy the woods to serve as a break from city life. I had several friends and associates traveling 2-3 hours to our woodland farm to hunt this fall.

Our 175 acres of mixed hardwood on our 450 acre farm holds added significance as it is a part of Great Great Grandfather Duncan's hardwood acreage acquired along Muddy River in the 1800s to support his leather tan yard industry. We also derive income from our managed woodland with sustainable harvests conducted about every fifteen years.

Woodlands are a valuable asset that needs to be properly managed and preserved. Passing farms and woodland to future generations is an important program that the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association is promoting and supporting.

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Partners in the woodland industry

I had the opportunity to represent KWOA at the UK Department of Forestry with other forestry leaders: KY Division of Forestry, KY Forest Industry and Consulting Foresters. We were reviewing the significant economic status and value of wood products in Kentucky and the many positives these numbers indicate. We also had the opportunity to acknowledge the interdependence that these statewide organizations have with each other. We need to work to strengthen each of these organizations for the future benefit of our woodland industry.

(continued on page 2)

Greetings from the Head Hickory Nut (continued)

KWOA/KWOF Annual Meeting at Blue Licks State Park: April 9-10, 2013

The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and Foundation Annual Meeting convenes at a different state park each year, affording members opportunities for observing forest management practices in and around nearby parks. The April 9-10, 2013 KWOA/KWOF annual meeting will be at the Blue Licks State Resort Park in Robertson County. In addition to our annual updates with forestry specialists and visits with woodland owners, the banquet guest speaker will be Dr. Keith Argow, Executive Director of the National Woodlands Owners Association from Washington DC. He will be the keynote speaker and also help us honor

Mr. Don Girton, Alexandria, KY, an outstanding KWOA woodland leader and KWOA founder.

UK forestry students are expected to attend and share their vision about Kentucky's woodlands and its future for the next generation and the Service Forester of the Year will be recognized.

Lodging is limited at the Blue Licks State Park. To reserve your room at the Lodge: Call 800-443-7008/ 859-289-5507 and mention KWOA for room reservations.

For more specifics on the meeting and agenda visit: www.kwoa.net

November Board Meeting Highlights

Constitution By-laws are under review; recommendations for amendments will be made at next meeting.

Website "info" and "editor" functions will be undergoing some changes regarding responders.

The 2013 Service Forester Award is accepting applications through the website and the newsletter.

County Forestry Organizations are being promoted through efforts by Joe Ball and meetings with Red Baker at UK regarding Extension offices leadership.

Requests in the summer KWOA newsletter for pledges to support legal action, if needed, regarding woodland tax assessment have received nearly \$4000.

The featured speaker at the KWOA/KWOF Annual Meeting will be Keith Argow, Executive Director, National Woodland Owners Association.

Keith Rogers, Co-chair of the Kentucky Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force, briefed the board on the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan.

Cooperators Reports:

KDF – Due to the recent budget there will probably be an adjustment and reduction in operation of programs from the Division in the near future.

University of Kentucky – working with KWOA on Pete McNeill scholarship. Continuing work on Kentucky forest economic impact.

Kentucky Forest Industries Association – Lawrence County road limitations. Wood Expo that is being coordinated throughout the logging and forestry community will be held next Sept. (2013) in Lexington, Kentucky. Kentucky Tree Farm is being audited from the national level in Jan. KFIA will hold its annual meeting in April.

Kentucky Farm Bureau - Annual meeting in Louisville, December 5-8 and forestry session will be December 6th at 8:30 a.m.

Next Meeting – February 21, 2013

August Board Meeting Highlights

Constitution By-laws are under review.

Website requests for information and comments will be undergoing changes.

Henry Duncan will represent KWOA at the next Governor's Blue Ribbon Tax Commission concerning KWOA's stand on tax assessment. It was agreed upon to highlight that forestry is a multi-million dollar industry only third to the poultry and horse industry; tax structure is undermining the commodity; and, the industry could grow with restructuring of the tax laws.

Guest Speaker – Tim Hughes, Director, Kentucky Division of Biofuels



**Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association**

**2013 KENTUCKY
WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION
and FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING**

Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park
Carlisle, KY

Room reservations: 859-289-5507 / 800-325-1711
April 9 - 10, 2013

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

SPOUSE/GUEST NAME _____ (optional)

TREE FARM/BUSINESS NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBERS _____

E-MAIL _____

Registration package includes:

Registration (includes dinner) - \$40 person

_____ X \$40 members = \$ _____

Send registration and payment to :

KWOA

1483 Big Run Road

Wallingford, KY 41093

Phone: 606.876.3423

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT CAN ALSO BE MADE VIA PAY PAL ON OUR WEBSITE: kwoa.net

Please make your room reservations separately with: Blue Licks State Park

A block of rooms with a special reduced rate have been reserved for KWOA. Please state that you are attending the KWOA MEETING when making your reservation.

KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

1483 Big Run Road Wallingford, KY 41093 606-876-3432

2013 MEMBERSHIP INVOICE / APPLICATION JAN. 1 – DEC. 31, 2013

- Forest Landowner *
- Business or Organization
- Professional (trained in field related to forestry or natural resource management)

*Only forest landowners have voting rights.

Please type or print.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

of Acres Owned: _____

County: _____

ANNUAL DUES

- \$30 KWOA Membership
- \$60 KWOA Membership plus National Woodland Owners Association membership

- Voluntary additional Membership payment
 - ___ Platinum Membership (\$300 and above)
 - ___ Gold Membership (\$299 - \$200)
 - ___ Silver Membership (\$199 - \$100)

The voluntary memberships will be recognized in the newsletter.

- ___ I would like to make a contribution to the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation – a 501 (C) (3) tax exempt organization, deductible as a charitable organization.

Complete this form and mail it along with your check to:

Kentucky Woodland Owners Association

1483 Big Run Road

Wallingford, KY 41093

PAYMENTS CAN ALSO BE MADE VIA CREDIT CARD OR PAY PAL ON OUR WEBSITE

2013 Annual Meeting: Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park - Carlilse

Room reservations: 859-289-5507 / 800-325-1711

April 9 - 10, 2013

(A block of rooms with a special rate have been reserved for a limited time. Please make your reservation with the Park and state that you are attending the KWOA MEETING when you make your reservation.)



Executive Committee Meeting Highlights - July 26, 2012

Guest speaker: Art Williams, Executive Director of the Kentucky Conservation Committee (KCC). KWOA is a member. KCC interacts with other organizations and legislature. Mr. Williams informed attendees that KCC is involved with three issues:

- 1) Energy – clean sources, renewables and efficiency
- 2) Biodiversity – especially road corridor management and invasives
- 3) Land Conservation – A coalition of non-profits called Conserve Kentucky and several state agencies as supportive partners are endeavoring to increase the level of resources that are available to acquire and protect important and valuable land resources.

Williams noted several bills of importance to conservation efforts that were introduced during the 2012 legislative session and passed the House but were either not considered or died in the Senate. [**Editor's note:** for more information on these bills see Art's assessment – "KCC 2012 Legislative Report" at <http://kyconservation.org>]

Williams recommended that KWOA package its proposals to the legislature and connect them to job growth, public benefits and the economic value of timber to the state's economy.

County Committees – Joe Ball wanted to review the concept of organizing the local county committee of KWOA. Ball stressed the idea that to accomplish KWOA goals it is necessary to organize at the local level. Billy Thomas reviewed the survey that had been accomplished several years ago state wide. Ball felt that work of the survey could be accomplished initially by bringing the natural resource organizations of each county together that has a relationship with forestry and natural resource issues. It was seen that tangible benefits could be accomplished by this membership.

Tax Newsletter – Corum provided a draft copy of a KWOA newsletter that had been put together to express the tax issue concerning forested land in Kentucky. It was agreed that the newsletter will be edited and sent to the KWOA membership. The letter is designed to

explain the issue and possible solicitation of funds for any potential legal issues. [**Editor's note:** that letter has been mailed to members and is posted on the KWOA website.]

"Pete McNeill Scholarship"- Billy Thomas reported that there has been discussion with the McNeill family that they were honored that a scholarship was being initiated in honor of Pete McNeill but would like to have it be a memorial to Pete as well as other forestry leaders. More information will be coming at a future date.

KWOA/KWOF Scholarship for Forestry Students – Doug McLaren reported that it will be more efficient to announce and complete the scholarship for UK students during the fall semester of the school year. The executive board approved this change in dates from spring to fall.

Division of Biofuels Director briefs KWOA board

Tim Hughes, Director for the Division of Biofuels in the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet discussed the issues facing woodland owners at KWOA's August board meeting. Mr. Hughes opened his remarks by informing board members that Kentucky derives 92% of its electricity from coal. He noted that some states have renewable energy portfolios. He described several power plants that are in operation or are proposed in Kentucky and proximate areas that are designed to use biomass. One problem for utilizing biomass is that its sources are scattered, increasing the costs of harvest and transport to facilities. Hughes encouraged board members and woodland owners to continue to communicate with him on his division's efforts to increase the use of renewable fuels, including timber management residues. For more information go to: <http://www.energy.ky.gov/biofuels>

KWOA 2013 PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENT AWARD for Foresters

Purpose:

To recognize outstanding accomplishments of Service Foresters employed with the Kentucky Division of Forestry. The applicant should have not received this award for the past three years. Nominations may be submitted by any KWOA Member.

Suggested format and guidelines for nominations:

1. Entries may be typed or handwritten. Limit the award entry to 2 pages, one side only, plus 1-2 pages, one side only, of supportive information, i.e., letter(s) of support, news articles, pictures, etc. Additional pages beyond this description will not be considered. The nomination may be submitted in an electronically word file prepared format if desired.
2. Consideration for the service award will be the demonstrated overall professionalism, the volume of work, the relationship with the woodland owner, the responsiveness to request and the sustained excellence over a period of time.
3. **Include in the application:**
 - Full name, current address and title plus e-mail address of nominee
 - Name, contact information of the one preparing the nomination
4. Other considerations, if available. Work history, achievements that particularly relate to success in working with Kentucky Woodland Owners: who benefited and what were the impacts. Additional contributions made to forestry including work on committees, task forces, and leadership positions.
5. Summary Statements of Support: Concise, well-written, easy-to-read narrative summary statement (50-75 words).
6. **TIME PERIOD:**

Entries are due in the KWOA office by February 1st. Although forestry programs require more than one year completing, the major accomplishments being considered should have been realized during the past three years.
7. Submit applications by February 1 to Karen Marshall: hickorybend@kih.net, 3740 KKY 330, Owenton, KY 40359; 502-484-0332.

KWOA 2013 Outstanding Service Forester Award

Background

The Kentucky Division of Forestry Service Foresters, stationed in the nine districts across the state, are the first line of support for Kentucky woodland owners who have a desire and need to manage their woodlands. 160,000+ woodland owners have 10 acres or more located throughout the state. The service forester's workload is demanding and important to woodland owners.

Instigated in 2010 by KWOA, the award was presented to Steve Gray, Central District, in 2011 and to Kevin Galloway, Northeast District, in 2012.

Kentucky Woodland Owners Association will recognize a KDF Service Forester for his/her outstanding achievements. Nominations may be made by any KWOA member and are due no later than February 1 of each year.

KDF will review the top three applications for accuracy and notify the KWOA awards committee for the selection. This recognition will not automatically be awarded each year if applicants do not meet KWOA selection standards.

The winning recipient and a guest will be invited to the KWOA annual meeting where the recognition and a plaque will be presented.

Please take a look at the application guidelines and consider nominating your service forester for the 2013 award.

Keith Rogers Briefs KWOA on New Agriculture Strategic Plan

Keith Rogers, Co-chair of the Kentucky Agriculture Strategic Plan Task Force, briefed the KWOA November board meeting on the content and process for the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan. Rogers was Director of Governor Fletcher's Office of Agriculture Policy from 2007-2012. This office developed the first strategic plan in effect through 2012. The focus of that plan was mainly biofuels.

The Kentucky Agriculture Council (KAC) is an umbrella group for 84 associations – mostly commodities but also included are representatives of banks, chambers of commerce, non-profit organizations, trade associations, commodity groups, state and federal agencies, and institutions of higher education. The KAC serves as liaison between private and public agricultural organizations, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Governor, and the legislature in order to develop and effectively utilize our agricultural resources to the fullest extent. KWOA is a member represented by our President, Henry Duncan.

The KAC fulfills an ongoing role as the "steward" of strategic planning for Kentucky agriculture and its rural communities. In February 2012 the KAC convened a Task Force to formulate the 2013-2018 Strategic Plan. The new plan was presented at the Kentucky Agriculture Summit in November 2012.

The new strategic plan contains seven topic areas:

1. Next generation farming – the main current focus, this group of farmers includes a significant number of retirees.
2. New market identification and development
3. Regional agriculture and rural community development – this is an effort to break cross-county barriers
4. Agriculture education – includes informal and adult education
5. Consumer education and outreach – the how and why of farming
6. Government initiatives, policies and programs
7. Policymaker education (local through federal) – a new topic that targets county judges, planning and zoning personnel, fiscal courts, etc. to assist them in setting goals and actions (the old plan used benchmarks and evaluations)

The top five issues for the new strategic plan are:

1. Agriculture Development Fund – it is currently operating on a 50% maintenance budget; the plan is to restore it to historic funding levels with an emphasis on diversification
2. Breathitt Veterinary Center, a diagnostic lab at Murray State University
3. Legislative and tax modification to increase farm income
4. Kentucky Proud program
5. Adequate support for Agricultural Experiment Stations

The final Strategic Plan will be available in January 2013 on the KAC website: www.kyagcouncil.net

Rogers also briefed board members about the Kentucky 4-H Foundation for which he is Executive Director. The foundation is a 501(c)3 with nine endowments. It has 230,000 members – one quarter of the state's youth. Members join judging teams for livestock and also forestry. The winning teams advance to a national competition held every year in West Virginia. In 2008 the Friends of 4-H was formed to recruit sponsors for the team's travel. Rogers will send KWOA more information about these sponsorship opportunities, especially for the forestry teams.

Calendar of Events



February 21, 2013

KWOA Board Meeting

KFIA

Frankfort, KY

INFO: 606.876.3423

March 23, 2013

Ohio River Valley

Woodland and Wildlife Workshop

Clifty Inn, Madison, IN

www.tristatewoods.org

April 9 - 10, 2013

KWOA and Foundation

Annual Meeting

Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park

Carlisle, KY

INFO: 606.876.3423

KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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Frankfort, KY 40601

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Jack Stickney, (14) Irvine

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Lyndle Barnes, (12) Caldwell County
Tim Freibert, (13) Louisville
Perry Sebaugh, (14) Park City

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Dr. James "Greg" Kuhns, (13) Louisville
Jim Corum, (14) Stony Fork

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Assistant Treasurer - Marsha McCartney, Flemingsburg
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Next Board Meeting: February 21, 2013 - KFIA

Members are encouraged to attend.

Kentucky Woodlands is published quarterly. We welcome articles and information for inclusion in the newsletter. Please submit copy to the address below. Editor reserves the right to edit all material for content and length.

Karen Marshall, Editor
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