President’s Corner
Sam Coker, President CUFA 2004-2006

Fall is finally in the air! What a pleasant relief to a very busy and stress filled summer. I don’t know about you but I have had my fill of dreadful news about hurricanes and all the other catastrophes so prevalent in the news. Fall is the season we all look forward to for great weather and outdoor gatherings. It’s time for a change! Time for some fun!

Fall is not however a time without difficult weekend decisions. Let’s see.

Will we dove hunt or go watch the Tigers play? Will we deer hunt or go shrimping? Will we do yard chores or go to homecoming? There now, I’ve given you an easy one. We need everyone to join us for the CU Forestry Alumni Picnic that will take place in front of Lehotsky on November 5th at 10:30 a.m. Bring your family or friends. The older I get the more I realize the importance of friends and relationships in our lives. So come and renew old acquaintances, make some new ones, and catch up on what is going on in the Forestry and Natural Resources Department. It will also be interesting to hear from the staff and fellow alumni about the effects of the hurricane season on our forest industry.

I would also like to urge everyone to designate the Forestry and Natural Resources Department whenever you are asked to give to the Clemson Fund or even better just send your donation directly to the department and designate your choice from the array of funds which the Association sponsors. It’s a great way to support your school, student scholarships, or other CUFA programs.

News from your Forestry Alumni Association

On the patio of Lehotsky Hall on a warm fall day in October, 2004, about 50 forestry alumni, family and friends had a reunion with departmental faculty and conducted the Annual Business meeting for the Association. Randall Johnson presided over the meeting as the outgoing President and noted the following:

Continuing Officers are:
Sam Coker — President 2004-2006
Randall Johnson – Past President
Executive Secretary – Vic Shelburne

Executive Council:
Helen Mohr – 2nd year
Parker Hill – 2nd year

Michael Mills was nominated and elected President-elect for 2004-2006 and Deidra King Holt, Tim Shirley and Don Robinson were nominated and elected to begin two year terms on the Executive Council.

We reviewed the status of various funds and scholarships which are administered by the Clemson Forestry Alumni as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clemson Forestry Alumni Account</td>
<td>$8,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bing Cool Student Support Fund</td>
<td>$9,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koloman Lehotsky Memorial Fund</td>
<td>$40,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaine Potts Memorial Fund</td>
<td>$6,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William A. Shain Scholarship</td>
<td>$18,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mark Your Calendar

Annual Homecoming Meeting and Picnic.
Saturday, November 5, 2005. Patio of Lehotsky Hall at 10:30 a.m.
Both Dean Calvin Schoulties and Chair Pat Layton made presentations on the state of the College and Department respectively. Knight Cox, Manager of the Clemson Experimental Forest gave a brief history of the Forest and updated the group on the possible plans to develop some of the lakeshore (see related article this newsletter). We ended the formal business meeting by recognizing Mr. Randall Johnson as the President of the Alumni Association for the past two years and Mr. Knight Cox as the Outstanding Forestry Alumnus for 2004.

Mr. Knight Cox  
Outstanding Forestry Alumnus 2004

The Clemson University Forestry Alumni Association was pleased to present its Outstanding Alumnus Award for 2004 to Mr. Knight Cox who received his Bachelor’s Degree in Forestry and his Master of Forestry from Clemson in 1977 and 1985 respectively. Knight is presently the Forest Manager of The Clemson Experimental Forest, a position which he attained in 2003 after working as the Associate Forest Manager beginning in the late 1980s. Before that, he worked under Dr. Dave Van Lear as a research forester, a position which began his professional employment after graduation.

Author or co-author of 14 publications, Knight is a great example of a forester who has taken advantage of continuing education in the forestry profession to improve his knowledge base. He helped pioneer the use of GPS and GIS technology on the Clemson Experimental Forest in the late 1980s and taught some of the earliest short courses in its application to forestry. Professionally, he is a Registered Forester in South
Carolina, a Certified Forester and Certified Forest Auditor in the Society of American Foresters, and a Certified Prescribed Forest Manager. He is a member of the Nature Conservancy, The Forest History Society, and the Society of American Foresters where he has held numerous leadership positions. He has been the Keowee Chapter Chair, the South Carolina Division Chair, and most recently completed a two year term as Chair-elect and Chair for the three state Appalachian Society of American Foresters. In 2000, he was a Merit Award recipient for the Appalachian SAF. And in 1992, he was the President of this Clemson Forestry Alumni Association. He has always been an advocate for the Clemson Experimental Forest as a teaching, outreach and research resource and goes out of his way to accommodate the many demands by fellow staff, faculty, students, administrators and most of all, the public. With all these accomplishments and responsibilities, Knight remains a good-natured forester who always seems to make time for the smallest request.

SO who will be the Outstanding Alumnus for 2005? Come to the Homecoming Picnic on November 5th to find out!

The State of the Clemson Experimental Forest

As all forestry alumni know, the Clemson Experimental Forest is one of Clemson University’s truly unique assets. The 17,500 acres are more than just a large University forest which surround the campus. The very fact that it is a self-sustaining operation (i.e. no state funds) comes as a surprise to many. In fact, there have been a lot of surprised people over the past 12 months when they learned how valuable the forest was to Clemson University. Many of you may recall that last year at this time, the University was beginning a discussion within the “Clemson University Community” to look at the feasibility of perhaps privately developing some of the Clemson Experimental Forest lakeshore and other Land Utilization Project lands (notably the Y-beach area) which Clemson took ownership in 1954 from the Federal Government. At this past Alumni meeting, Mr. Knight Cox gave a very interesting history of the Clemson Experimental Forest and informed the gathering about the built-in restrictions against developing these lands, barring Congressional override. Since that time, the University community has come to some common ground in its discussions that development at this time is not in the near future. We all likewise learned a lot about the big picture of Clemson University’s needs versus the long-term future of the Forest. A lot of education occurred on all sides of this question and now there are a lot more people who have come to appreciate this wonderful asset. Check out:

- [www.scwf.org/articles/index.php?view=474](http://www.scwf.org/articles/index.php?view=474) for a lay person’s view of the forest
- [www.apsaf.org/sc/chapters/keowee.htm](http://www.apsaf.org/sc/chapters/keowee.htm) for a position statement by the Society of American Foresters
- Also, the Clemson Experimental Forest now has its own website: [http://www.clemson.edu/cef/](http://www.clemson.edu/cef/)

We need all alumni to keep abreast of this issue.

Department of Forestry and Natural Resources: An Update

OK, in a nutshell, here are some heavy duty statistics to ponder:

**OUR STUDENTS**
- 72 active graduate students (05-06)
- 90 WFB undergraduates (04-05)
- 85 FOR undergraduates (04-05)
- 78 ENR undergraduates (04-05)

**OUR RESEARCH**
- 97 active grants
- Total value of active grants $6,416,000
- Total value of 04-05 grants $2,436,000
OUR OUTREACH

- 28 workshops
- Conducted 35 plus programs, radio and publications
- Major national awards — Master Tree Farmer and Master Wildlifer Programs
- National award — Life at the Water’s Edge

There are a lot of great things going on in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources too numerous to list here. Check out the Departmental website for information on workshops, faculty, publications etc. Go to: www.clemson.edu/forestres/

Time Passages

Dr. David Van Lear, Robert Adger Bowen Professor of Forestry, retired in March 2005. Dr. Van Lear started his career at Clemson in 1971, teaching nearly 35 years, most notably Silviculture and Fire Ecology. A very accomplished Forest researcher (this newsletter is not long enough to extol all his awards and research), suffice to say that Dr. Van Lear was awarded the Barrington Moore Memorial Award by the Society of American Foresters for his significant forestry research. Look for Dave around Clemson leading Lifelong Learning courses on the Clemson Experimental Forest and of course up in the mountains with his fly rod.

He lived in India until the age of 13. In 1935, he returned to the United States and lived with one of his uncles on a farm in Virginia. He attended Virginia Military Institute and Virginia Polytechnical Institute before discovering his love of forestry. He moved to Durham, NC to study forestry at Duke University. In Durham, he discovered the other great love of his life, Katherine Spain. They were married in December 1943. He was a veteran of WWII. He completed all of his academic work at Duke. After a few years with the US Forestry Service in St. Paul, Minnesota, he joined the newly created Forestry Department at Clemson in 1959 where he taught forestry for 27 years, notably forest economics and valuation. He was charter scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 235 in Clemson where he led many memorable scouting expeditions. He loved working with wood and designed many memorable creations in his basement workshop.

Dr. Curtis Hutto, MF 1983, and Ph.D. 1998 Curtis Jay Hutto, of Midlothian, Virginia died unexpectedly on Monday, September 26, 2005. at age 49 after a day in the field. Curtis was a graduate of Utah State University and received his Master of forestry (‘83) and PhD. (‘98) from Clemson University. He taught forestry at Horry Georgetown Technical

Dr. John R. “Bob” Warner, age 83, formerly of Clemson, died March 31, 2005 at his home. Bob Warner was born to missionary parents in Nagpur, India on February 27, 1922.

Dr. Bob Warner circa 1972
College (1983-1994) in South Carolina and was most recently a Natural Area Steward for the Commonwealth of Virginia. Clemson Alumni and colleagues from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation gathered recently to pay tribute to Curtis.

The Lowcountry Alumni Experiences

Harbison State Forest was the site the fifth year in a row for the so-called Forestry Alumni Spring gathering. A lot of great Frogmore stew and fellowship were the highlights of the early May evening. Next year’s date is Thursday May 11 at 6:30 at the Harbison State Forest once again. The menu? Frogmore Stew once again. Put it on your calendar and this time we promise to do a better job passing the word. See pics on this page for the fellowship!

Digging in to the Frogmore Stew

Not so recent grads . . .

Amy and Deidra catch up

Mostly recent grads say howdy

Deidra Holt wins one of many door prizes from Kirby Player
Need a few Volunteers

If you live in South Carolina, please be aware that the Champion Tree (sometimes known as the Big Tree) Program is alive and well. All those trees that Dr. Schoenike measured back in the 60’s – 80’s have been remeasured, photographed and locations determined by GPS. We now have a website, www.clemson.edu/champtree, which is easily accessed and you can find your favorite state Champion tree by name, county, or by an array of measurements. Chisolm Beckham (MFR 2003) and Bill Jordan (MS Plant and Environmental Sciences 2003) spent endless hours tracking down Dr. Schoenike’s finds and needless to say have added many updates for Hugo-destroyed and the like. Of course, since the website was released and advertised, we have had numerous new nominations. And needless to say, it is not easy to just go out and measure a tree if it is a long way from Clemson. What we need are a few volunteers around the State who would be willing to get out their d-tape, clinometer (or altimeter) and GPS unit and check out nominations for us as they come in. A digital pic of the whole tree, the crown from below, and the trunk are also needed along with any other pics (leaves, fruit, etc.) that might be interesting. If you are interested in being on our volunteer list, e-mail Vic Shelburne (vshlbm@clemson.edu) and let him know the counties you can cover. And likewise, be on the lookout for Champion trees in the field. If you think you have a contender, go the website and check out the current champ for comparison. If it is within 5 points, we will co-list it. And note the “most wanted” list on the website.

Walk the Campus in a New Field Guide

Okay, Dendrology was a long time ago and those campus walks to Chemistry and Math are but a blur, but now a new Campus Field Guide is available to help you relive your dendrology learning curve or just smell the virtual flowers or relearn your campus trees once again. The Nature of Clemson – A Field Guide to the Natural History of Clemson University was a collaborative project between five faculty in Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, Forestry, and Biology Instruction. A flier promoting the Guide is at the end of this newsletter. Check it out. No Quiz at the end!

Forest Resource Management Curriculum Changes

The Forest Resource Management undergraduate curriculum had some minor changes made to it over the past year. First of all, summer camp did NOT change. Seems like that is a common rumor that we have to stamp out every now and then. Changes were as follows. We created a common freshman year with the Wildlife and Fisheries Biology curriculum and the Environmental and Natural Resources curriculum. This was a fairly easy process and welcomed by new students since many know they want to major in some area of forestry and natural resources but just are not sure when they first enter. We eliminated the 10 hours of free electives that had been mandated by the University up until this change. Basically, the University required us to remove them because of the pressure to get all curricula down to 120 hours over 4 years (15 hours/semester). Other changes: required GIS course added, senior seminar added and other minor changes in hours (up and down). The total hours now required is 126 including the 7 hours of summer camp. If you want to check out the details of the curriculum, go to www.registrar.clemson.edu/publicat/catalog/2005/afls.html and scroll down alphabetically to the Forest Resource Management curriculum.
Outstanding Student Chapter SAF

Congratulations to the Clemson Student Chapter of the Society of American Foresters for winning Third place in the SAF Outstanding Student Chapter competition. The national award is based on membership, student activity in professional forestry affairs, community service in forestry and leadership at the student level. Steve McCullers was the President of the Chapter last year and Dr. Geoff Wang was the advisor. A contingent of forestry students recently travelled to the National SAF meeting in Fort Worth to receive the award.

Faculty Hiring Underway

With the pending retirement of Dr. Tom Wooten in January, we are now in the process of searching for a Harvesting/Operations faculty member. The search is now closed, and we have some great candidates whom we will be interviewing in the coming weeks. Ideally, we will have a new faculty member in this area by Spring. Watch for the announcement in the Spring newsletter.

Update

The next page is our update/solicitation page. Please let us know how you are doing and any changes. This web format really changed the response rate (it went down drastically) so we are considering a return to hard copy for the Spring edition.

The Clemson Forester

We are working to scan Clemson Foresters from the 1960s through the 1990s. Look for them on the Forestry and Natural Resources Departmental web site under the Alumni link.
Notes, comments and items of interest for future newsletters or Clemson World: (email to vshlbrn@clemson.edu OR write below and mail Dr. Vic Shelburne, Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-0317.

Your Name
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Your donations to support the Department and Alumni projects have been a blessing. Thank you. Please continue to support our work.

We need your support of projects!

Please consider joining your fellow alumni and supporting CUFA projects and/or Department Foundation.

Make check payable to Clemson University Foundation – Forestry Alumni

I would like my contribution to be distributed as indicated below:

a. $_____ for CUFA Operations/Alumni programs
b. $_____ Bing Cool Student Support Endowment
c. $_____ William A. Shain Scholarship
d. $_____ Elaine Potts Memorial Fund
e. $_____ Harrison Freeman Lathrop Scholarship
f. $_____ CU Foundation–Forest Resources Excellence

___ I have enclosed my company’s matching gifts form.

Send your contribution to:
Annual Giving Office
Clemson Fund
PO Box 1889
Clemson, South Carolina 29633-1889
The Nature of Clemson:  
A Field Guide to the Natural History of Clemson University

Explore the Clemson University campus with faculty authors from the South Carolina Botanical Garden, Planning and Landscape Architecture, Forest Resources, Biological Sciences, and Horticulture.

Focusing on common plants and animals in an easy-to-use format, this field guide is both a reference to and a remembrance of the natural history evident throughout campus. Detailed zone maps for campus areas provide location information and numerous photographs and illustrations accompany the text. Proceeds support continued printing of the field guide and biodiversity education.

Discover the Nature of Clemson!

TO ORDER:

1) By phone:
   Call the South Carolina Botanical Garden at 864-656-3405 to place an order via credit card.

2) By mail:
   Fill out the information below and mail to:
   SCBG, 102 Garden Trail, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-0174, attn: Field Guide.

3) Online:
   Order via the web at www.clemson.edu/scbg.

Order form:  Make checks payable to CU-SCBG.

Name: ________________________________
Address: _____________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
                      (zipcode) ____________________________
Phone: _________________________ e-mail __________________________

Card type: Visa  MasterCard  Bank debit card
Card number: ________________________________
Expiration date: ________________________________
Signature: ________________________________________

Quantity: _______ X $18.95
Tax (6%): _______ $ 1.14
Shipping: _______ $ 5.95
(for add'l books, please add $2.95 each)

TOTAL: _______
The Nature of Clemson: A Field Guide to the Natural History of Clemson University

interprets frequently visited campus areas, includes campus landmarks, and encourages observation of the natural world.

The field guide includes:
- common plants and animals
- natural history information
- Clemson University landmarks
- engaging text
- lots of illustrations
- easy-to-use maps
- non-technical in scope

Discover The Nature of Clemson!