

SOUTHERN ASPECT



Southern Research Station
Asheville, North Carolina

Spring 1998 . Vol. 4, No. 2



New This Issue: Our Name

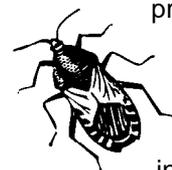
Of the many excellent suggestions we received in the Name-the-Newsletter contest, we chose *Southern Aspect* for its aesthetic alliteration, and double entendre. (Also, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *Mad* were already taken.) Thanks to all who participated for your time and interest! 🌲

Environmental Outreach in the Mississippi Delta

by Carrie Shershanovich

The Center for Bottomland Hardwood Research (SRS-4155) here has been working in the outreach department.

Dr. Nathan Schiff and Dr. Callie Jo Schweitzer presented "Why Dr. Schweitzer is Not an Insect" to Sharkey-Issaquena Academy on November 6, 1997. Dr. Schiff brought some of his insect collection, and discussed collecting and mounting insect specimens with the third through



eleventh graders.

On February 1, 1998, Carrie Shershanovich joined the team as an Environmental Education Coordinator. Carrie was a summer student program employee in 1997, and has returned to continue promoting environmental education in the Mississippi Delta region. She will stay until the end of June 1998. In addition to conducting environmental education programs, Carrie will be researching grant opportunities and writing proposals to raise money for the creation of a natural resource education center here. The center will be used for weekend and summer teacher workshops, as a collection site of natural resource education materials and curriculum guides, and by elementary and secondary schools for day trips.

Dr. Schweitzer and Carrie Shershanovich conducted a workshop for junior and senior high school girls at the Women in Science and Technology Conference sponsored by Mississippi Delta Community College's Career Equity Program on February 5. The workshop highlighted women in nontraditional careers.

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Bill Hamilton Receives Highest FS Volunteer Award

by Rod Kindlund



SRS Director Peter Roussopoulos presents Bill Hamilton with the 1997 Volunteer-of-the-Year award for Research

April 13 was a special day for Bill Hamilton and his family as he was presented the Volunteer-of-the-Year award in Asheville for 1997 in Research.

Bill's volunteering goes back about eight years when he retired from the Forest Service at the Washington Office as the lead editor in publications. Since then, he has volunteered all his time at the Bent Creek Experimental Forest near Asheville. Co-workers there had many good things to say about Bill's contributions:

"I don't know what we would do without Bill's help...we are unusually blessed to have him at Bent Creek."

"Bill is tenacious, he always completes what he starts."

"Bill's work ethic is outstanding-it is rare to find such diligence."

"We are truly blessed to have a volunteer of Bill's capabilities, someone who has accomplished a tremendous amount during his regular Forest Service tour, and is continuing his service through the volunteer program."

(con't on page 12)

From the Director's Desk...



Editor's note: This is the third in a five-part series on how the quickening pace of social change is affecting the everyday work we do and how we can adapt to make the most of it.

Adaptive Strategies for Conducting R&D Programs

Previously, I introduced the topic of accelerating social change and how our programs are being shaped to prepare natural-resource practitioners to manage adaptively. This third installment focuses on building flexibility, adaptability, and customer responsiveness into our R&D programs and our product-delivery systems.

In the past, adjustments to research priorities and program emphases were driven by Congressional direction through our annual budget appropriation, and by input from invited cooperators and customers. We revised research unit missions, unit by unit, at roughly five-year intervals. Very little direction at the Station or Agency level was invoked as guidance. This approach worked best in periods of stability, and least in periods of change. Its advantage was allowing us to protect long-term studies which now position us to rise to the complex challenges emerging in the coming century.

In previous issues I outlined some of the key forces of change affecting natural resource management. These forces, together with the expectation that timely scientific knowledge and technology will undergird adaptive responses to these forces, will affect the demands placed on our research programs in the future. We can anticipate some of these and be proactive, but the critical determinant of our future success will be our ability to respond effectively to unforeseen needs. Our principal challenge is to create the capacity for real-time responsiveness without sacrificing the long-term component of our program that ensures our sustained value to society.

We are dealing with this challenge at the Southern Research Station on two fronts. First, by strengthening the engagement of external constituents to determine how we can best meet their needs, and second, by building our internal capacity to adaptively manage of our R&D programs and the values they deliver.

External Engagement

Three basic strategies are being simultaneously pursued to strengthen our interactions with external constituencies.

- First, we are investing in communications by:
 - Streamlining and integrating product-delivery

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People Profile



Editor's note: As a continuing feature of Southern Aspect, we will profile at least one employee from around the Station per issue. Please submit your People Profile articles to the editor by the submission deadlines.

Ted Green is the SRS Mail and File Clerk, delivering mail for the past six years to the Southern Research Station and the National Forest of NC Supervisor's Office in Asheville.

"There's many things I like about working here," Ted said, "but most of all, it's the people."

Ted finds a genuine sense of community at the SRS, a quality he sees as important

not just in the workplace but also here in the Southern mountains where he was raised.

Before joining the staff at the Station, Ted served as a youth counselor at the Juvenile Evaluation Center in Swananoa. He worked with the Intensive Development Program, a specialized unit dealing with kids aged 11-18 who have been referred through the court system.

"There were all kinds of kids," he recalled, "Kids who maybe just needed a little guidance, and other kids who you wondered if maybe the emotional scars they encountered in their lives were just too deep."

Despite the high burn-out rate associated with such a career, Ted put in 11 years helping young people make better lives for themselves. Looking back on those years, he remembers kids for whom his efforts have made a difference as well as those who were more difficult to reach. There were many rewarding and some disappointing moments, but rarely were there any dull ones.

It would seem that working around unpredictable and often violent teenagers would require someone with nerves of steel. It would have to be someone capable of making quick and calculated decisions,

(continued on page 8)



Director's Desk... (from page 2)

- systems-especially publications distribution;
- Promoting external communication through e-mail and internet access;
- Creating a hyperlinked network of internet sites for the Station and key program areas;
- Adding a marketing-research capability to our Communications Office;
- Strengthening Public Affairs programs to reach a broader range of potential beneficiaries

Second, we are implementing a customer-service improvement program at the Station. This involves training in customer-service practices, receiving and processing customer feedback through interactive web sites, periodic customer surveys and focus groups, comment cards distributed with publications and other means, and plans for a biennial "stakeholder" meeting to be implemented beginning next year.

Third, we are establishing and strengthening collaborative partnerships to more effectively accomplish our mission. Our nearly seamless relationship with the Forest Service's Southern Region is one example. We are targeting relationships with other federal and state agencies, universities, private-sector organizations, and environmental and conservation groups.

While external collaboration has always been a norm for us, we are taking these relationships to a new level in the context of our "cross-cutting themes" as discussed below.

Internal Capacity

The Station is seeking to adaptively manage its R&D programs through strategies favoring adaptability, *flexibility*, and *customer responsiveness*. Central is a focus on the end products we collaboratively choose to deliver and an integrated operating environment that cross-utilizes our talents and assets to create these products.

Our recently released Strategic Framework for our science program was developed interactively with external constituents. It identifies sustainability as the over-arching driver for our efforts and three emphasis areas: measuring and monitoring resources, understanding ecosystem function, and developing sustainable management practices. It also identifies six cross-cutting themes (CCTs) that address these areas. The themes provide a framework to bring people together from diverse disciplines, work units, and organizations to provide knowledge and technology needed for sustainable resource management in a fast-changing world. More than any other strategy we have adopted, they hold the key to our success in responding to forces of change.

Cross-cutting themes are building adaptability into our programs. Where the stability of our Research Work Unit (RWU) structure is intended to sustain long-term research, we expect the CCTs to embrace change as new natural resource issues emerge. RWUs provide a "home" for staff and a stability for long-term and single-discipline research. The CCTs support integrated, holistic research that directly responds to the issues concerning our research users and partners today. We remain close to our client base and local political support by dispersing our units across the South, while CCTs provide the means to adaptively integrate our efforts across the Station and the Agency.

Cross-cutting themes are building flexibility into our programs. The broad themes allow opportunity to appropriately adjust and direct our energy to emerging needs. They provide context and flexibility for RWUs to share talents and assets with each other. CCTs also give us a forum for engaging external sources of expertise and support that further enhance our flexibility and competitiveness for outside funding. The net result is enhanced freedom to be opportunistic and entrepreneurial as we rise to address the large, complex science issues of the future.

Cross-cutting themes are building customer responsiveness into our programs by involving customers in setting program direction. CCTs were established in response to what we learned from customers in our strategic planning process. We have now an obligation to provide for continued customer involvement as we define further work. When we integrate our research in the broad framework described by the CCTs, we can be more responsive to customers looking for comprehensive, science-based guidance on managing ecosystems and the values they provide. When we engage customers in planning R&D products to drive our programs, we are in a much better position to deliver a meaningful service. The CCTs offer us unprecedented opportunity to do so.



As society's expectations about natural resource management are changing, it is critical that we prepare for what is ahead. We must build upon and protect our strengths of long-term and disciplinary research, while also building our capacity to adapt and change to stay relevant. I have outlined some of the major adaptive strategies we are pursuing at the Southern Research Station. Yet I am sure that even these will have to change as the future unfolds. I look forward with great enthusiasm to working with you, the employees and stakeholders of the Southern Research Station, to meet the science and technology challenges of the future. †

Happy Trails from Nacogdoches, Texas

by Ron Thill



The Stephen F. Austin Interpretive Trail



The Stephen F. Austin Interpretive Trail ribbon cutting ceremony attracted at least one bear

The Stephen F. Austin Experimental Forest, administered by the Nacogdoches Lab, has a new attraction. Developed as a conservation education effort between the Wildlife Habitat and Silviculture Lab and the College of Forestry at Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU), the Stephen F. Austin Interpretive Trail was completed last summer and opened for public use October 18 to coincide with the Society of American Foresters' "Walk in the Forest" event.

This cooperative project was coordinated by Project Leader Ron Thill and Paul Risk (Director, Center for Resource Communication and Interpretation, SFASU). Steve Kirkindall, a doctoral candidate in the College of Forestry, designed the trail and supervised its construction—mainly by College of Forestry undergraduate students.

This is the first major forest trail in this region designed and constructed for universal accessibility. Two separate loops, spanning a distance of 2.5 miles, take visitors into some of the most dynamic and scenic areas of the Forest. Jack Creek Loop, .9 miles in length, meanders along Jack Creek through a beautiful, older hardwood-pine forest in an ecotone between upland pine and bottomland hardwood strands of the Experimental Forest.

The Management Loop (1.5 miles) is dedicated to the demonstration of forest and wildlife management and best management practices (BMPs).

Demonstrations already in place (or soon to be initiated) include even- and uneven-aged silvicultural systems (e.g., sudden sawlog, modified shelterwood, single-tree and group selection), southern pine beetle control methods, streamside management zones and other BMPs, prescribed burning, wildlife food plantings, and longleaf pine restoration.

Although the trail is open for use, many additions remain unfunded. Plans are underway to build informational and interpretive signs, universally accessible toilets, drinking fountains, picnic tables, and perhaps even an amphitheater. To help sustain the trail and fund improvements, an account has been established in the College of Forestry to accept tax-deductible donations.



Stephen F. Austin Trail features universal accessibility

Forest Awareness Tour

During four beautiful mornings in late March and early April, over 700 fifth-grade students and teachers toured the recently opened Stephen F. Austin (SFA) Interpretive Trail as part of the second annual Forest Awareness Tour sponsored by the Texas Forest Service, the Texas Forestry Association, and the Wildlife Habitat and Silviculture Lab (RWU-4251). Participating classes came from throughout Nacogdoches County and the Nacogdoches Independent School District. Educational displays along the trail were manned by representatives from the Texas Forest Service, the SFA College of Forestry, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Champion International, International Paper, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, and RWU-4251. Shirley Burgdorf and Toni Trees represented the Lab and presented information on snake biology and conservation; they also discussed the Lab's research on several sensitive snake species, including the extremely rare Louisiana pine snake. 🌲

Virtual TAV

by Rob Doudrick

The Southern Institute of Forest Genetics (SIFG) hosted two Technical Advisory Visits last fall: a traditional one at the local Holiday Inn, and another in cyberspace.

The information on facilities, staffing, and research vision that was distributed at the Holiday Inn in spiral bound hardcopy form was also made available to everyone with access to the internet.

We had decided at one of the earliest TAV planning sessions that we needed a more efficient means of publishing information for our cooperatives. Our website seemed an appropriate vehicle. We enlisted a professional webmaster's help in redesigning our circa 1994 site to support the volume of information we wanted to present.

The SIFG TAV website now offers access to publications, staff CVs, and facility descriptions. We included for the purposes of the TAV a current research section including study plans and research agreements, which we have since decided to leave active because it attracted more interest than we had expected.

There's also a username and password accessed Information page. This shows TAV scheduling and allows for searching the site without leaving the TAV page. Also on the TAV page is an opportunity to participate in interactive discussion about the mission and strategic direction for the SIFG in the future. Of the 108 cooperators we invited to the traditional TAV, 42 were in attendance at the Holiday Inn, but nearly as many (41) participated by e-mail. Some of these later participants were in attendance at the Holiday Inn, but wished to submit remarks privately or had later thoughts they wanted to contribute.

Please visit and make comments. The address is www.muse-usa.com/sifg/. The TAV page username is "pine" and the password is "needle." You may wish to call the office (228-832-2747) or e-mail (doudrick@datasync.com), because the RWUD is already in draft form for the SIFG and we are monitoring the TAV page less frequently. ↑

Newsletter Publication Schedule

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Submission deadline</u>	<u>Publication date</u>
Summer '98	July 22	August 12
Fall '98	September 4	September 25
Winter '99	November 20	December 10

Where to Go on the Web

by Carmen Everton

<http://www.srs.fs.fed.us-information> about the SRS as well as links to other sites such as USDA, USDA Forest Service, R-8 and INFOSouth.

<http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/hrm-an> intranet site providing human resources topics such as employee benefits, employment, training, pay and leave, and awards. The site updated frequently.

<http://www.employeeexpress.gov-a> very user-friendly area allowing you to change your personnel/payroll information.

<http://www.tsp.gov-this> site lets you see how your TSP account is doing, make changes to your account, calculate your TSP in the future, and lots more.

<http://www.opm.gov-the> Office of Personnel Management.

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov-also> maintained by OPM, this site contains employment information and applications.

<http://www.nfc.usda.gov>—contains the National Finance Center Newsletter, NFC Informer, About NFC, Training Catalog, Publications, Contact Info. Employees can find out about travel and salary payments, or access current TSP information.



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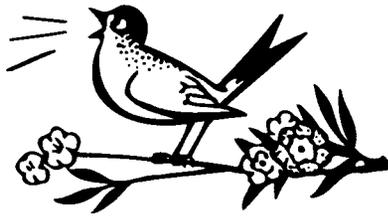
Please be sure that all photos submitted for publication in *Southern Aspect* are clear, B&W prints. No color pictures, slides, or crayon drawings! When shooting your pictures, keep the sun behind you and on your subject. Don't forget to remove the lens cap!

Accompanying news stories should be in hard copy form or in WordPerfect on diskette. Macintosh format desired but not required. Send all copy before deadline to ensure inclusion.

Southern Aspect, Editor Rod Kindlund
Southern Research Station
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Asheville, NC 28802

FY '97 Awards

During FY '97 the Station had 157 employees rated as fully successful, 322 rated as superior and 31 rated as outstanding.



Sandra Bryson
 Melissa Carlson
 Claire Payne
 JoAnne Watson
 Jan Walthall
 Robert Sikes
 Kelly Radford
 Louise Gallagher
 Phil Bailey
 Drew Selig
 Roger Best
 Tim McDonald
 James Dowdell
 Erwin Chamblis
 James Miller
 Bryce Stokes
 Juanita Crawford
 Stephanie Beach
 Cathryn Greenberg
 Tom Lloyd
 Carol Perry
 James McMinn
 Sharon Lumpkin
 Tony Blalock
 Arthur Phalo
 Gary Debarr
 Kerry Britton
 Harold Cardell
 David Swindell
 R.N. Malcolm
 Larry Broome
 Pat Outcalt
 Marilyn Vidmar
 E.O. Andrews
 Gwen Jones
 Alexander Clark
 Charles Greer
 Gary Achtemeier
 Mary Howard
 James Bowker
 Marilyn Howard
 Paul Karmanik
 Shi-Jean Sung
 Linda White
 Michael Cody
 Charles Dachelet
 Steve Schulze
 Carl Trettin
 Marianne Burke
 Roman Powers
 James Baker
 Leif Anderson
 Jim Whiteside
 Kirby Sneed
 Michael Shelton
 James Dickson

Louise Brown
 Rodney Kindlund
 M.M. Rios-Young
 Libby Bagwell
 Donna Johnson
 Jean Sanders
 Ted Green
 James Morrow
 Holly Selig
 Jim Mayo
 Robert Rummer
 Janice Jordon
 Jerry Michael
 Hilliard Gibbs, Jr.
 William Boyer
 Charles McMahon
 Preston Steele
 Erik Berg
 Tracy Hargrove
 Julia Murphy
 Michael Rauscher
 Pauline Spaine
 Ann Flanders
 Jeff Fields
 Mary Williams



QSI

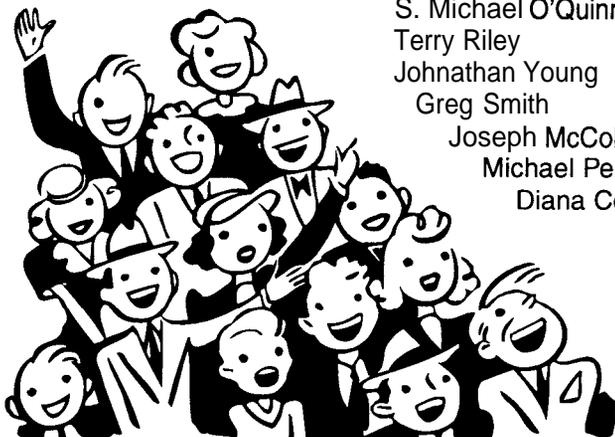
Katherine Plym
 Laura Lipe
 William Burkman
 John Kelly
 John Klepac
 Mark Eisenbies
 Denise Hutchinson

Jean Gay
 Nell Godfrey
 Jimmy Reaves
 Pam Bowman
 Linda Watson
 Ada Whitfield
 Ken Stolte

Performance Bonuses

Jim Holbrook
 Barry Miller
 Michael Walker
 Nancy Walters
 Janice Lowe
 Bernard Parresol
 Jo Padget
 George Foster
 Glenda Dyer
 Donald Downs
 Gertie Griffin
 Kim Parks
 Joan Cook
 Shelly McMillan
 Virginia Creekman
 John Zgavec
 Alan Wagner
 Robert Mangold
 Gerald Craver
 Tony Johnson

Constance Gist
 Pete Watts
 David Loftis
 Donna McHone
 Thelma Floyd
 Stanley Zarnoch
 Carol Ferguson
 Nancy Herbert
 Theodore Quick
 Judy Womble
 Marsha Conley-Miller
 Cindy Arnette
 Vickie Brooks
 Cathy Deal
 Louise Wyche
 Jill Gallie
 Lisa Johnson
 David Few
 Nancy Meadows
 Robert Clark
 S. Michael O'Quinn
 Terry Riley
 Johnathan Young
 Greg Smith
 Joseph McCollum
 Michael Persica
 Diana Corbin



Boyd Edwards
 Dale Wade
 Don English
 Shela Mou
 James Cunningham
 Michael Thompson
 Christopher Crome
 Ingrid Sather
 Dana Madsen
 Joan Walker
 Charles Harrison
 Randall Kolka
 David Tompkins
 Jinny Jones
 Jacqueline Robinson
 Mildred Tilley
 Michael Chain
 Richard Chaney
 James Granskog



Jane Hayes
 Frances **McEwen**
 Cathy Jenkins
 Linda Henderson
 Raymond Paul
 Marilyn Buford
 Louis Hawkins
 Diane **Riggsbee**
 John Pye
 Judy Binns
 Karen Sarsony
 William Otrosina
 Christine King
 Robert Eaton
 Thomas Christenson
 Billy **McDonnieal**
 Curtis **McCasland**
 Alphas Wilson
 John **Stanturf**
 Marget Devall
 Lynn Breland
 Calvin Meier
 Dexter Bland
 John Vozzo
 Deborah Ferguson
 Jim **Rosson**
 Ted Roland
 James Guldin
 Timmy Giddens
 Barbara Mercer
 Shawna Reid

Extra Effort

Linda Heatherly
 Richard Garrison
 Shelly McMillan
 William Smith
 Joan Cook
 Michael Walker
 Joe Johnson
 Carolyn Steppleton

Minnie Thompson
 Joan Norman
 Ed De Steiguer
 Terry Hains
 John Greene
 Brian Doherty
 Rodney Busby
 Wayne Swank
 Teresa Moss
 Cindi Brown
 James Vose
 Jennifer Knoepp
 Patsy Clinton
 James Barnett
 John **McWhirter**
 Wendall Haag
 Meluin Warren
 David Wear
 Linda Beck
 Jeffrey Prestemon
 Evan Mercer
 Thomas Homes
 Robert Loomis
 Felipe Sanchez
 Kim Ludoiuici
 Sandra Kelly
 Rosa Crews
 Robert Doudrick
 James Meadows
 Donald Lester
 Betty Clark
 Keith Willis
 Emile Gardiner
 Theodore Leininger
 Callie Schweitzer
 Peggy Bell
 David Lyndell
 Roger Boyer
 Martha Pagliuca
 Diane Webber
 James Forbus
 Carl Adkins
 David Combs
 Lloyd Swift

Alice Conner
 Janice Lowe
 Beverly Reid
 Vickie Brooks
 Marsha Miller
 Mark Ferguson
 Thelma Floyd
 Allen Purcell

Glenda Dyer
 M.M. Rios-Young
 Barry Miller
 Hilliard Gibbs
 William **McNab**
 Dave Loftis
 Ken Cordell
 Joan Walker
 Debbie Mahaffey
 Jacqueline Robinson
 Tim Rials
 Chris Maier
 Valerie Cooper
 Susan Fox
 Christopher **Woodson**
 Lyn Thornhill

Spot Awards

Marsha Miller
 Gertie Griffin
 Clint Louis
 Carmen **Everton**
 Cindy Arnette
 John Grace
 William Thompson
 William Howard
 Teresa Moss
 Julie Moore
 Brian Johnston

Laura Lipe
 Melba Queen
 Bryce Stokes
 Harld Rausher
 Tom Lloyd
 Decolar Terrell
 Dan Schmoltd
 Nancy Dargle
 Laurie Long
 Teresa Moss
 Jim Richmond
 Louis Hawkins
 Christopher Maier
 Felipe Sanchez
 Robert Poindexter

John Zgavec
 William Follett
 Yveta Ayala
 Donna Johnson
 Ted Green
 Emily Carter
 Virginia Gibbs
 Shela Mou
 Billy McCoy
 Christopher **Woodson**
 Teddy Mullins

Time-off Awards

Jean Gay
 Cassandra Johnson
 Shirley Burgdorf
 Roger Perry
 Rodney Buford
 Nancy Koerth
 Ron Thill
 Christopher Collins
 Toni Trees
 Richard Schoefer
 Myra Johnson
 David Few
 Haines Critz

Rodney Kindlund
 Rose Moore
 Richard Connor
 Daniel Rudolph
 Raymond Brown
 James Williamson
 Daniel Saenz



\$14,000 Challenge Cost-Share Venture on Whitewater Rafting

by Claire Payne

Don English and Mike Bowker, research social scientists in Ken Cordell's research work unit in Athens, GA, partnered with America's Outdoors in a 1993 \$14,000 Challenge Cost-Share venture focusing on the impacts and values of whitewater rafting.

America's Outdoors, a national non-profit association, represents the outfitting industry and the public they serve in policy-making to maintain access to recreation resources while pursuing a goal of responsible shared-use of America's natural resources. Its mission is the conservation and enhancement of quality outdoor experiences on our lands and waters. The association represents the interests of 440 outfitters and companies providing a wide range of outdoor recreation services and equipment to more than 2 million Americans each year. Members operate in 40 states and 50 countries.



As economists, English and Bowker maximized their research dollars output, translating the funds into:

- articles in three refereed journals—*The Journal of Environmental Management*, *The Water Resources Bulletin*, and the *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*
- presented 'Consumer Surplus Estimates of Guided Trips on Wild and Scenic Rivers' at the Annual Confluence Conference of the American River Guides and Outfitters in December 1993
- collaborated on two invited papers for the Southern Forest Economics Workers conference in 1994
- presented papers at Southern Agricultural Economics Association Annual meetings in 1995 and 1997; each paper was published as an abstract in the *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*
- Bowker wrote an invited paper for the Water Resources Planning and Management Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1997

Whitewater rafting enjoys tremendous popularity among adventure recreationists, confirmed "river rats," and novices who rely on river guides. When the Ocoee River was the whitewater rafting site for the 1996 Olympics, the Cherokee National Forest-supervised by John Ramey, now the Forest Supervisor for the National Forests in North Carolina-hosted visitors from around the world.

You can visit America's Outdoors at: www.americaoutdoors.org to check out the largest searchable database of adventure travel outfitters on the web, or their "Planning Your Trip" link-it contains information about making reservations, addressing special needs, and a guide to selecting the right outfitter and trip. If you are not online, call America's Outdoors at 423-588-3595. 🌲

People Profile (from page 2)

someone brave enough, say, to have jumped 98 times out of aircraft as a paratrooper.

That would be Ted, too. During the 1960s, he enlisted twice in the United States Army, and was part of the 82nd Airborne, 325th Infantry Division.

Considering all that, wouldn't sorting the mail pale in comparison?

"No," Ted says, "because I truly enjoy what I do. I like that it keeps me moving, doesn't confine me to a desk."

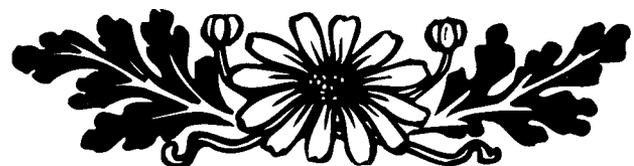
In recent years he's had two surgeries on his back to relieve pain brought on by a degenerative bone condition. The walking he needs to do during his work day has been therapeutic in his recovery.

"It's all worked out pretty well for me. I wouldn't want to sit in one place in front of a computer all day."

Although he likes to keep moving at work, when it comes to his home town, he's very settled. He speaks highly of Asheville, of the friendliness of its people, of the tranquility found in a small city.

And while he's seen the area grow over the past few decades, Ted believes it has retained its warmth. That's why he and his wife, Phyllis, make their home here. Together they have five grown children.

"It's still a very nice place to live, unlike cities that have grown too fast. I plan on being here a long time."+



Collection Published

by Melissa Carlson and Robert Mickler

The Productivity and Sustainability of Southern Forest Ecosystems in a Changing Environment, a new volume in the Ecological Studies Series, has just been published. Editors are Robert A. Mickler of ManTech Environmental Technology, Inc., Raleigh, NC and Susan Fox of the Southern Research Station, Raleigh, NC.

The studies represent the first five years of research conducted by the Southern Global Change Program, one of the regional research cooperatives of the Forest Service Global Change Program. The goal of the Global Change Program is to provide a sound scientific basis for making regional, national, and international management and policy decisions regarding forest ecosystems in the context of global change challenges.

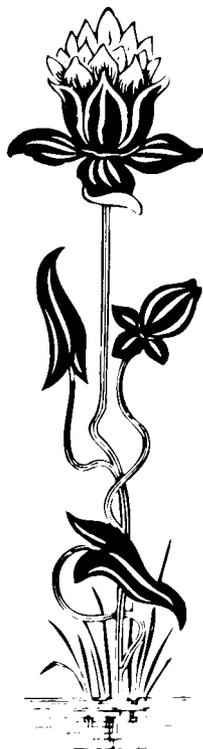
The research described in this volume was conducted by scientists and support personnel of the USDA Forest Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Energy, other federal and state agencies, and major universities throughout the southern United States.

"We are very proud to have this work in publication, which includes the studies of many scientists from the Southern Research Station," said Pete Roussopoulos, Director of the Southern Research Station. "This prestigious volume contributes to our understanding of the growth and physiological processes present in forest ecosystems in the southern United States."

The book is 865 pages, with 47 chapters in six sections covering the following topics:

- An Introduction to Southern Forest in a Changing Environment
- Global Change Impacts on Tree Physiology and Growth
- Modeling the Biophysical Effects of Global Change
- The Effects of Climate Change on Forest Soils
- Disturbance Interactions with Global Change
- Global Change and Disturbance in Southern Forest Ecosystems

The Productivity and Sustainability of Southern Forest Ecosystems in a Changing Environment is



available from the publisher, Springer-Verlag New York, Inc., 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010, for \$162.00. Phone 1-800-Springer (800-777-4643); fax 201-348-4505; website www.Springer-NY.com.

Following is a representative list of some of the papers included in *The Productivity and Sustainability of Southern Forest Ecosystems in a Changing Environment* (1998) that were authored or co-authored by USDA Forest Service scientists of the Southern Research Station (noted by geographic location).

"Influence of Drought Stress on the Response of Shortleaf Pine to Ozone," by Richard B. Flagler, John C. Brissette, and James P. Barnett (Pineville, LA)

"Environmental Stresses and Reproductive Biology of Loblolly Pine (*Pinus taeda* L.) and flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida* L.)," by Kristina F. Conner (Starkville, MS), Timothy C. Prewitt, Franklin T. Bonner (Starkville, MS), William W. Elam, and Robert C. Parker

"Ecophysiological Response of Managed Loblolly Pine to Changes in Stand Environment," by Mary A. Sword (Pineville, LA), Jim L. Chambers, Dennis A. Gravatt, James D. Haywood (Pineville, LA), and James P. Barnett (Pineville, LA)

"Predictions and Projections of Pine Productivity and Hydrology in Response to Climate Change Across the Southern United States," by Steven G. McNulty (Raleigh, NC), James M. Vose (Otto, NC), and Wayne T. Swank (Otto, NC)

"Simulated Effects of Atmospheric Deposition and Species Change on Nutrient Cycling in Loblolly Pine and Mixed Deciduous Forests," by Dale W. Johnson, Richard B. Susfalk, and Wayne T. Swank (Otto, NC)

"Soil Organic Matter and Soil Productivity: Searching for the Missing Link," by Felipe G. Sanchez (Research Triangle Park, NC)

"Predictions of Southern Pine Beetle Populations Using a Forest Ecosystem Model," by Steven G. McNulty (Raleigh, NC), Peter L. Lorio, Jr., Matthew P. Ayres, and John D. Reeve (Pineville, LA)

"Soil Effects Mediate Interaction of Dogwood Anthracnose and Acidic Precipitation," by Kerry O. Britton (Athens, GA), Paul C. Berrang, and Erika Mavity



(continued on page 10)

Environmental Outreach (from page 1)

To explain the duties of natural resource managers, they used a Project WILD environmental education activity. The response was excellent. A meeting has been arranged with Mrs. Dyan Melton, Career Equity Coordinator, to discuss the Forest Service's future involvement in the Career Equity Program.

On February 12-15, another workshop was presented by Dr. Schweitzer and Carry Shershanovich at Crow's Neck Science Workshop sponsored by Delta State University. This science workshop, which was held at Crow's Neck Environmental Center, was designed for elementary and secondary teachers and principals interested in incorporating environmental education into their schools. Since the workshop occurred on Arbor Day, activities centered around Arbor Day history, tree planting, and general tree biology. Information was distributed concerning other environmental education programs and activities available statewide and nationwide.



Arbor Day was also celebrated at a local junior high school and a local elementary school on February 19, and 24, respectively. The celebrations centered around the planting trees with the Mississippi Forestry Commission and the

completion of Project Learning Tree environmental education activities. The schools will be revisited to monitor growth and development of the seedlings. Another tree planting was at a local alternative school on March 19.

Dr. Schweitzer, Dr. Schiff, Dexter Bland, and Carrie Shershanovich acted as judges in the Mississippi Region III Science and Engineering Fair on March 25-26. Elementary students are judged on the first day, and secondary students are judged on the second day. Progress continues on ventures that began during the summer of 1997. These include:

- the collection of natural resource education materials from a variety of natural resource agencies
- the creation of a CD of all the collected natural resource education materials
- the production of a video detailing natural resource education materials and opportunities offered by participating natural resource agencies to elementary and secondary schools

The CD and video will be distributed to all the public and private schools in the Mississippi Delta region. 🌱

Collection (from page 8)

"Effects of Temperature and Drought Stress on Physiological Processes Associated with Oak Decline," by Theodor D. Leininger (Stoneville, MS)

"Effects of Global Climate Change of Biodiversity in Forests of the Southern United States," by Margaret S. Devall (Stoneville, MS) and Bernard R. Parresol (Asheville, NC)

"Detecting and Predicting Climate Variation from Old-Growth Baldcypress," by Gregory A. Reams (Asheville, NC) and Paul C. Van Deusen

"Global Change and Disturbance in Southern Forest Ecosystems," by Matthew P. Ayres and Gregory A. Reams (Asheville, NC)

"An Integrated Assessment of Climate Change on Timber Markets of the Southern United States," by Joseph E. de Steiguer (Raleigh, NC) and Steven G. McNulty (Raleigh, NC)

"Economics and Global Climate Change," by David N. Wear (Research Triangle Park, NC) 🌱



Weird Nature

How 'bout those crazy ants? They've got the largest brains in proportion to their body size of any creature on Earth, large enough to store all sorts of information, even strange items such as these:

- The garfish has green bones.
- Oak trees are struck by lightning more often than any other tree.
- Spiders have transparent blood.
- If you were to place a tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion, it will instantly go berserk and sting itself to death.
- Millions of trees are accidentally planted by squirrels who bury nuts and forget where they hid them.

What are your favorite weird nature facts? Send them to us (*Southern Aspect*, Weird Nature Facts, Southern Research Station, PO. Box 2680, 200 Weaver Boulevard, Asheville, NC 28802) so that we may publish them in our next issue! 🌱

Personnel News & Notes

Peter Koch dies

Peter Koch, former head of the Southern Forest Experiment Station, died February 14, 1998 in Corvallis, Montana from complications of lung cancer. He was 77.

He worked at the Pineville lab in timber utilization from 1963-1982. He worked with two machine manufacturers to develop three versions of headrig chippers, which square logs by converting the round sides into pulp chips, leaving little waste. He was also instrumental in devising gluing practices for southern pine plywood.

He was listed in *Who's Who in America* and published several books including *The Wood Machining Process, Utilization of Southern Pine* and *Lodgepole Pine in North America*. 🌲

Noel Cost to Coordinate Annual Forest Inventory and Monitoring in the South

The Southern Research Station of the USDA Forest Service has designated Noel Cost to lead its efforts in developing a collaborative strategy to accomplish an annual forest inventory system for the 13 southern States.

Previously, inventory of forest resources has been on a ten-year schedule, which is no longer adequate for Federal, State, and private land management planning purposes. Cost will collaborate with other agency and private sector partners to formulate and implement a process that will keep forest inventory data current. Cost had been part of the planning for developing the Southern Annual Forest Inventory System (SAFIS) in his previous position as Project Leader for Forest Inventory and Analysis.

John Kelly, Program Manager for Southern Research Station Forest Inventory and Analysis, says: "We are pleased to have Noel taking on this new role working even more closely with the States and other collaborators to conduct forest inventories that will provide current information for our customers in the public and private land management field."

Cost will also coordinate efforts to integrate the Forest Inventory and Analysis and Forest Health Monitoring programs in the South. He has been with the Forest Service since 1963, when he began his career as a timber cruiser in Forest Survey. Cost holds degrees in Biology and Forestry. 🌲

Jim Perdue Named to Forest Inventory and Analysis Project Leader Position with the SRS

The forest inventory leadership vacancy at the USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station will be filled by James H. Perdue, Deputy Regional Forester of State and Private Forestry for the agency's Southern Region, according to station director Dr. Peter J. Roussopoulos.



"We are delighted to have Jim returning to Asheville to lead our inventory program into the 21st century," said Roussopoulos. "Jim is exactly the person we need to provide leadership as we transition into an annual inventory program. His current position as Deputy for S&PF has solidified strong relationships with other agencies and private industry representatives that are crucial to making the new system work."

Regional Forester Elizabeth Estill said, "While we are sorry to be losing a valued member of our team, we look at this as an opportunity to further cement our working relationship with the Southern Research Station. It will be very difficult to replace Jim, but we will be aggressively seeking the right person to fill this critical vacancy. We're looking for an individual who can build on the outstanding initiatives that resulted from Jim's leadership."

Perdue replaces Noel Cost, who has moved into a new position focusing on collaborative coordination of forest inventory and forest health monitoring.

A native of Newton, AL, Perdue began his career in natural resource management in 1968 at the Alabama Forestry Commission. He joined the Forest Service in 1978 as a resource planning specialist in Denver. Since then, his career has taken him all over the country, including two assignments at the agency's headquarters in Washington, DC. He later served as assistant director for planning and applications at the Southern Station in New Orleans and Asheville.

Perdue earned a B.S. in forest management at Auburn University and an M.S. in natural resource policy and planning at Colorado State University. During his career, he has accumulated an outstanding slate of accomplishments including the National Shell Oil Fellowship, the Council on Environmental Quality Award for Excellence in Environmental Planning, and a Merit Award for National Leadership in budget coordination. 🌲



Volunteer Award *(from page 1)*

Bill's accomplishments include:

- Revising the Bent Creek color brochure-This widely acclaimed document has been read by scientists, academics, students, and managers from around the world. Bill either coordinated or created all of the graphics and text changes.
- Probing editorial assistance for the recent publication, "Ecological Subregions of the United States: Section Descriptions," publication WO-WSA-5-This is a nationally acclaimed publication. In the words of contributor Henry McNab, "The publication could simply not have been created without Bill's hard work."
- Developing and installing interpretive signs and exhibits for the public-Bill collaborated with other volunteers, scientists, National Forest



personnel, and private contractors to create a carefully crafted, highly useful product.

• Compiling "Oak Regeneration, Serious Problems and Practical Recommendations," General Technical Report SE-84-He edited graphics and text to develop a polished document. This landmark publication included 26 papers. Bill spent many hours on this job, donating substantially more time than would be expected from most regular employees, let alone a volunteer.

"Bill's greatest gift to the Forest Service is his staying power," said Erik Berg, Program Manager at Bent Creek. "He has consistently performed his volunteer duties since 1990. We often see volunteers who perform wonderful services for our unit, but who finish their duties in a few months. Bill has pitched in wherever he was needed over the past 7 years." 



The Southern Research Station Newsletter represents events and employee news from the research laboratories and administrative staffs in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia—the States that make up the Station's territory. This newsletter is published quarterly by the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 2680, 200 Weaver Boulevard, Asheville, NC 28802; Editor: Rod Kindlund. To submit newsworthy stories for future issues, please send complete articles by hard copy or on a diskette (WordPerfect) to the above address; call (828) 259-0509, or e-mail srs@fs.fed.us. Photographs are encouraged; send black and white prints. The USDA Policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, political affiliation, and familial status. Any person who believes he has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should immediately contact the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250 or call (202) 720-7327 (voice), or (202) 720-1127 (TDD).: Editor

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