



KANSAS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

www.KSForestryAssociation.org

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Kansas State University Forestry Research Area

The Forestry Research Area, leased from the US Army Corps of Engineers beginning in 1964, is adjacent to Tuttle Creek State Park, and was formerly used by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as an aquaculture station. The oldest plantation, planted in 1967, contains black walnut and northern red oak.

For over 40 years, the late Wayne Geyer was the principal researcher at the site. Research conducted here has resulted in 24 refereed publications, 58 proceedings articles, book chapters, and

Extension bulletins. Starting in 2008 several acres were “sub-leased” for the Willow Lake Student Farm. The newest research project was planted by Charles Barden in 2009, involving the Edenspace hybrid poplars for cellulosic ethanol. In 2010, the Wildlife and Outdoor Enterprises Management (WOEM) program faculty began conducting a practicum with students on the western end of the property. Most recently, the Kansas Forest Service has established conifer trial plantings at the site, to find substitutes for Scotch pine and eastern red cedar. The research area also hosts frequent tours and field days for the Walnut Council and other groups.

Several of the older plantings have had new projects begun on them. For example, the 1974 walnut establishment plot had a crop-tree release study installed on it in 2004, and the 1988 walnut progeny test planting began to be converted to a seed orchard in 2007, while the

1992 bur oak provenance test planting began conversion to a seed orchard in 2015. Because we have records on the source of each tree in these plantings, they are often sought out by other researchers. Recently a scientist from Notre Dame collected cuttings from the bur oak plots, to study the genetics and tendency to hybridize of this important species.

Several groups provide volunteer labor at the station, including the Kansas Forestry Association, Kansas Chapter of the Black Walnut Council, and student clubs. The station’s operating budget comes from federal McIntire-Stennis funding. -- Charles Barden, PhD



Upcoming Events

- *Ongoing through May 1* – Order spring conservation seedlings online at www.kansasforests.org or call 888.740.8733
- *February 22, 9am-3:30p* – NW Kansas Community Forestry Workshop – Western Kansas Agricultural Research Centers, 1232 240th Ave, Hays, KS 67601 – Contact jseirer@ksu.edu
- *March 9, 9am* – KFA Board Meeting – KDWP Office, 300 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka, KS
- *April 24* – Kansas Forest Service 130th Anniversary/Arbor Day Festival – KFS Office, 2610 Claflin Road, Manhattan, KS

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Please Welcome Our Newest KFA Board Members!



Debra McDaniels

Debra is a retired registered nurse, and private landowner in Topeka, Kansas. A member of the Walnut Council since 2012, Debra began attending KFA board meetings in 2015. With her chainsaw and a brushcutter, Debra single-handedly completed a National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) timber restoration of her 4 acres of land. Debra values the "big picture" of forestry, and the future of our environment. Look for Debra at farmers' markets in the Topeka area selling her handcrafted wooden furniture, and baskets crafted from invasive honeysuckle.



Floyd Schmidt

Floyd is a landowner, conservationist, pyrotechnician, and semi-retired orthopedic sales rep who has always lived on the family farm in Vinland Valley, Kansas. Floyd met his wife, Sue, at Emporia State University, where he received a Bachelors in Music Education in 1968. Their two children live with their families in Lawrence, KS.

Floyd no longer works the farm, but it still produces corn, soybeans, wheat, and hay. Floyd is involved in the continued care of 8 acres of restored native prairie - curtailing invasive trees and plants in buffer strips, promoting conservation of wildlife and pollinators, and maintaining a certified tree farm established in 1976.

Floyd's two grandsons are woodland caretakers-in-training, who love to hunt morels in the spring. Floyd is an avid runner, beer "snob," and volunteer with his church's EcoTeam. He also serves on the research committee investigating childhood trauma with Justice Matters in Douglas County.



Wayne White

Born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and raised primarily in the Kansas City metro area, Wayne has lived on small farms most of his adult life. He lives with his wife, Sandra, on an 80-acre farm in Jefferson County, Kansas, where they grow apples, pears, berries, firewood, timber, hay, and a variety of vegetables and herbs. Forestland health, high-diversity native grassland mixtures, and land management practices that protect and enhance carbon sequestration and ecological diversity are central interests.

Wayne has a PhD in sociology from Kansas State University, has taught sociology and political science, and worked as a legislative lobbyist, grant writer, and program administrator. Wayne owns and cares for forest and grassland in Kansas and Ontario, Canada. His book, *Biosequestration and Ecological Diversity: Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change and Environmental Degradation*, was published by CRC Press in 2013.

Notes from the 2016 Walnut Council Meeting



The 2016 Annual Walnut Council meeting, held in Lawrenceburg, Indiana July 31 through August 3, was attended by approximately 160 people from 12 different states, including 10 attendees from Kansas. Walnut growers and enthusiasts came together to discuss the differing climates and growing conditions of their geographic regions.

Some of the topics covered included pruning techniques, thinning strategies, effects of genetics, lumber evaluation, and management of mixed plantations. Technical presentations covered topics such as invasive species control, thousand cankers disease, longhorned beetle, and tick disease and prevention, to name a few.

The meeting featured the latest research and management data, and gave attendees the opportunity to connect with loggers, research experts, marketing specialists, and other woodland owners/operators. Differing opinions on methods and techniques often lent to interesting discussions.

For those not actively involved in woodland management, optional tours were available to give an understanding of the cultural and historical aspects of the Lawrenceburg area. The meeting provided invaluable learning experiences for novice and expert walnut growers alike.

The 2017 Walnut Council annual meeting will take place June 11 - 14 in Lafayette, Indiana. For those interested in attending, please visit www.walnutcouncil.org/annual-meeting for more information.

-- Floyd Schmidt

Special thanks to...

Former Board Members: Dennis Morriss, Richard Rees, Kevin Church

Fall Forestry Field Day Hosts: Cal & Pam Ammons

Kansas Forest Service: Jennifer Williams, Kylie Rethman, Josh Volk

Welcome New KFA Members!

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|------------------|--------------|
| Ron & Karen Bell | Hal Meadows |
| Russ & Pat Brehm | Tish Oberley |
| Darin Reiss | Lyle Shenk |
| Todd Brown | |



**Congratulations
Michael & Kathy Bovaird,
2016 Forest Stewardship and
Tree Farmers of the Year!**

Member Benefits Update!

As a member of KFA, you are eligible for a 7% discount from Forestry Suppliers, Inc. Use code KKS when placing an order online or over the phone – www.forestry-suppliers.com – 800.752.8461



2610 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS. 66503

The KFA would love to hear from you!

What have you been doing with your land?

What would you like to see KFA doing for you?

Help KFA to save money and trees, go paperless!

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically in the future, please contact Julie Sharp with your email address at: jsharp.kfa@gmail.com

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