

# 46TH ANNUAL SAF / SFRC SPRING SYMPOSIUM

## FAMILY FORESTS: SUSTAINING A LEGACY



**April 30 - May 1, 2019**

Roland T. Stern Learning Center  
at the Austin Cary Forest



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**WELCOME** and **THANK YOU** for joining us for the 46<sup>th</sup> SAF / SFRC Spring Symposium.

Sponsored by the **UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation** and **Florida Division Society of American Foresters**, this year's Symposium is exploring topics and strategies that landowners and forestry and natural resource professionals in a variety of sectors can use to help family forests remain productive and intact into the future, and provide for the many benefits valued by family forest landowners and society. Topics include landowner associations, forest product markets, new landscape planning approaches, forest certification, economics, hurricane recovery, genetically improved southern pines, wildlife habitat provisions, intergenerational land transfer, and more!

Our **Sponsors and Exhibitors** are of tremendous importance in making this event possible. Please take some time to visit with them today and thank them for their support.

This event is a big team effort. A big thanks goes to everyone that helped in the planning, preparation, and or promotion of the Symposium: Dr. Michael Andreu, Dr. Terrell "Red" Baker, Mike Branch, Scott Crosby, Charlie Farr, Jon Gould, John Holzaepfel, Kari Hurst, Karen Johansen, Dave Lewis, Mark Milligan, Dr. Pat Minogue, Sarah Rushing, Scott Sager, Bonnie Stine, Kim Scotto, and Ben and Louann Williams.

This event has been approved for a total of **7.5 Cat. 1 and 2.0 Cat. 2 SAF CFEs**. Make sure you sign the CFE sign-in sheets for each day you attend.

Presentation notes will be linked at [http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring\\_symposium46.html](http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring_symposium46.html)

Sincerely,

Chris Demers  
Spring Symposium Chair  
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Jib Davidson  
Florida Division SAF Chair  
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## 46<sup>th</sup> Spring Symposium

Sponsored by the UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation  
and the Florida Division Society of American Foresters

### *Family Forests: Sustaining a Legacy*

April 30 - May 1, 2019

- AGENDA -

Tuesday April 30 – Full Day Session	
7:00 – 8:00 am	<b>Exhibitor Setup</b>
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Registration, Sign in</b> (Patio Entrance)
8:00 – 8:45 am	<b>Association of Consulting Foresters Business Meeting</b> , Mark Milligan, F4Tech
<b>Sponsor Exhibits</b>	Chair: Kari Hurst, Natural Resource Planning Services
8:00 am	<b>Continental breakfast, exhibits, and networking</b> (Annex and Deck)
9:00	<b>Opening</b> , Dr. Terrell “Red” Baker, Director, UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation (SFRC); and Chris Demers, Spring Symposium Chair, SFRC <b>Welcome, and update from the School of Forest Resources and Conservation</b>
9:15	Dr. Richard Brinker, District 10 Board Representative, Society of American Foresters <b>“Update on the Society of American Foresters”</b>
9:50	<b>Break</b>
10:10	<b>Session 1</b>
10:20	Dr. Keith Argow, President, National Woodland Owners Association <b>“Sustaining your bottom line as a woodland owner”</b>
11:00	Chris Demers, Extension Program Manager, SFRC <b>“Partnerships, communication strategies, and resources for family forest landowners in Florida”</b>
11:45	<b>Lunch</b>
12:30 pm	<b>Florida SAF Awards</b> , Jib Davidson <b>Sponsor Recognition</b> , Kari Hurst

## Tuesday April 30 – Continued

1:00 pm	<b>Session 2</b>
1:05	Mike Branch, Director of Operations and Regulatory Affairs, Florida Forestry Association <i>“Hurricane Michael impacts, recovery, and lessons learned”</i>
1:45	Jonathan Smith, Price Editor, Timber Mart-South <i>“Florida forest product market trends”</i>
2:25	Dr. Tim Martin, Professor, SFRC <i>“Reforestation Florida timberlands with genetically improved southern pines”</i>
3:05	<b>Refreshment Break</b>
3:20	<b>Session 3</b>
3:25	Laura Bosworth, Southern Manager, American Tree Farm System, American Forest Foundation <i>“The Landscape Management Plan: Enhancing landowner engagement and forest certification”</i>
4:05	Jib Davidson, Columbia Timber and Environmental Services <i>“When to harvest: Economic drivers of your pine stand rotation”</i>
4:45	Anthony Grossman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission <i>“Wildlife habitat provisions of family forests”</i>
5:30	<b>Social Hour on Deck</b>
6:30	<b>Barbeque Dinner by Hills BBQ</b>

## Wednesday May 1 – Morning Session

7:30 am	<b>Continental Breakfast</b>
8:00	<b>FL SAF Business Meeting</b> , Florida Division Society of American Foresters <b>Austin Cary Forest Campus walk-around for landowners</b> , Dr. Michael Andreu, SFRC
9:30	<b>Session 4</b>
9:40	Charlie Farr, Florida Tree Farmer <i>“The need for and development of the North Florida Prescribed Burn Association”</i>
10:20	David Lewis, Southern Forestry Consultants <i>“Family timberland partnership case study: The Register Family Partnership”</i>
11: 15	<b>Conclusion of Morning Session</b>

### Wednesday May 1 – Lunch and Afternoon Session: Later Life Planning

11:30	<b>Lunch</b>
12:15 pm	<b>Later Life Planning Session</b>
	12:15-1:45 <b>Financial and Estate Planning Strategies</b> , Dr. Michael Gutter, Associate Dean, UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service
	1:45-2:15 <b>Succession Planning</b> , Chris Demers, SFRC
2:30	CFEs, Adjourn

**The 2019 Spring Symposium is approved for 7.5 Cat. 1 and 2.0 Cat. 2 SAF CFEs.  
Please make sure you sign the CFE sign-in sheet for each day you attend.**

Presentations will be linked at:  
**[http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring\\_symposium.html](http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring_symposium.html)**

# **46<sup>th</sup> SAF / SFRC Spring Symposium**

## **"Family Forests: Sustaining a Legacy"**

### **Presenter Bios and Abstracts**

Presentations will be available at  
[http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring\\_symposium46.html](http://sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/spring_symposium46.html)

#### **Dr. Keith Argow**

Director  
National Woodland Owners Association  
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Dr. Keith Argow is the President of the National Woodland Owners Association in Washington, DC and publisher of National Woodlands Magazine, the largest circulation forestry magazine in the U.S. He holds a degree in Economics, two degrees in Forestry and a PhD in Political Science. A woodland owner himself with working forests in three states, he was with the U.S. Forest Service as a Research Forester and District Ranger, a forestry professor at N.C. State and Virginia Tech, and is a Certified Forester.

#### Presentation Abstract

Keith will speak with us today on "Woodland Owners taking Responsibility for their Own Future." He will cover 10 Things we can do the Make Sure we have a profitable and secure future.

#### **Laura Bosworth**

Regional Tree Farm Manager- Southern  
American Forest Foundation  
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(912) 333-0602

Laura Bosworth is the current ATFS Southern Regional Tree Farm Manager. She has been with American Forest Foundation (AFF) one year, starting last year as the Innovative Certifications Manager. She resides in Jacksonville, Florida and hails from the great Midwest. After earning her bachelors in forestry from Iowa State University she moved to the South and worked for the Georgia Forestry Commission as a county forester and then as the longleaf specialist. In her most recent role as the Tree Farm Regional Manager her primary duties are working to support and grow the ongoing work within the Southeast as well be a point of contact and support for the southern program.

### Presentation Abstract

The American Tree Farm System has been a long-standing well regarded program for many decades, focusing on landowner engagement, recognition, support, and more recently providing certification. In order to strengthen, grow, and increase our impact across the nation through the Tree Farm Program, we are developing, testing, supporting and using new tools to help reduce barriers for landowners and the natural resource professionals who serve them. During this presentation we will cover some of the work done in Florida specifically, the value of the ATFS program at large, and emerging approaches to address barriers.

### **Mike Branch**

Director of Operations & Regulatory Affairs

Florida Forestry Association

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Mike's family has a rich heritage in forestry, beginning with his great-grandfather who rode the North Carolina turpentine woods. His father, Eugene Branch, worked for the Florida Forest Service for 21 years and then moved to Lake City to work for Rayonier for 22 more years. Keeping with the family tradition, after high school, Mike worked two summers with Rayonier while going to school at the Lake City Community College. He then transferred to the University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation and worked with Container Corporation of America one summer, helping with their forest inventory and laying the foundation for a lifelong career. Over the next 38 years, Mike worked his way up in the forest industry in a variety of capacities. Most of that time Mike was based in Fernandina Beach, working for Container Corporation of America, and a few other company names. In 2015, Mike and his wife Julie moved to Tallahassee, where Mike now serves as the Director of Operations and Regulatory Affairs for the Florida Forestry Association.

### Presentation Abstract

Hurricane Michael made landfall on October 10, 2018, as a Category 4 hurricane, but just a few miles per hour under a Category 5. It was also one of the most intensive hurricanes to ever make landfall in the State of Florida, or the United States, and the winds topped 155 MPH. This Hurricane was unprecedented, leaving damage across an 80-mile wide swath that included 11 counties. The above gives you a feeling of an enormous amount of power, and it was the most catastrophic event I have ever seen. Timber damages ranged from catastrophic (95% loss) to severe (75% loss) and moderate (15% loss), for an estimated 2.8 million acres. Salvage efforts began a few weeks after the Hurricane, and they were only able to salvage about 15% of the damaged timber. That was mostly because the trees were twisted and broken off between 8 and 20 feet, it was very wet weather, and one of the paper machines in the area was down. With only about 15% of the downed trees able to be harvested, it will leave the remaining area in an incredible state of danger for catastrophic wildfires, and with a high risk of infestation by invasive plants and pests.



**Dr. Richard Brinker**

District 10 Representative  
Society of American Foresters  
brinkrw@auburn.edu

Dr. Richard W. (Dick) Brinker has been Dean and Professor in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences at Auburn University since 1998 and retired as Dean Emeritus in 2011. From 1988 to 1998, Dr. Brinker held a joint extension and teaching appointment at Auburn, and was involved in coordinating extension education activities for professional loggers, foresters, and landowners. He has been a very active member of the Society of American Foresters. He was past chair of the Southeastern Society of American Foresters (Alabama, Florida, and Georgia) and is the current District 10 Board member.

**Jib Davidson**

Owner  
Columbia Timber and Environmental Services  
jib@columbiatimber.com  
(352) 375-1473

Jib received a Bachelor of Science in Forest resources and Conservation with a major in Forest Management from the University of Florida in 1978. He began his career in 1977 as a forester working for Georgia-Pacific Corporation. While with Georgia-Pacific, he started work on a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and graduated in 1983. Jib is currently enrolled in Auburn University's Graduate Certificate program in Forest Finance and Investment. In 1984, Professor Don Post and Jib started a forestry consulting company in Gainesville. In 1989 Jib and Norman McRae formed Columbia Timber Company. Their sister company, Untied County Real Estate and Auctions, markets properties and specializes in land procurement for investors and family offices, primarily timberland and farms. He is a Certified Forester, licensed real estate broker, and a Master Logger who holds memberships in the Society of American Foresters, Florida Forestry Association, Realtor's Land Institute, and Forest Landowners Association. In addition, he is an avid sailor who enjoys all things Rotary along with Wayne Smith and his wife Mitzi.

**Presentation Abstract**

Timberland investment drivers are well known but are rarely quantified. Landowners often focus on minor investment drivers without placing their emphasis on the important drivers. The significant investment drivers will be reviewed along with the importance of establishing rotation age and its interrelationship with timber prices and how trees grow. A review of historical timber prices will find that timberland, when incorporated into an investment portfolio, can still provide positive returns.

**Chris Demers**

Extension Program Manager

University of Florida IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation

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Chris manages the Florida Forest Stewardship Program serving Florida forest landowners, foresters and natural resource professionals. The mission of the program is to help and encourage private landowners to manage their forest resources for long-term environmental, economic and social benefits. The program provides workshops, tours, extension publications, web resources, email updates, social media, and other resources. Chris has been active in the Society of American Foresters for most of the last 20 years. He currently serves as the Continuing Forestry Education Coordinator and Spring Symposium Chair for the Florida Division SAF. Chris has a BS in Forest Management from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (1994) and a MFRC from UF School of Forest Resources and Conservation (1999).

**Presentation Abstract**

Since 1990 the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Stewardship Program has served some of the technical and educational needs of private nonindustrial forest landowners. Over the last 8 years, Forest Stewardship Program partners and others in Florida have been working together in new ways to provide assistance to, and communicate with, private landowners in a more focused and coordinated strategy called Florida Land Steward. This presentation will provide some background on this strategy, current resources, and some new initiatives to increase and enhance engagement with private landowners.

**Charlie Farr**

Vice President

North Florida Prescribed Burn Association

chf51951@gmail.com

Charlie Farr lives in St Johns County along with his wife, Mary. They farm trees and keep horses on their conserved land. He is a certified prescribed burner and retired family physician.

**Presentation Abstract**

The North Florida Prescribed Burn Association (NFPBA) was organized to facilitate the safe and effective use of prescribed fire by promoting landowner cooperation and providing the resources, education, and training necessary to return fire to its place as a tool for ecosystem restoration and maintenance. Charlie's discussion will include the purpose and need for the NFPBA, the history of the organization, how being part of a PBA can benefit landowners, and what essentials for founding a PBA are necessary.

**Anthony Grossman**

Statewide Administrator, Landowner Assistance Program  
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
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Tony Grossman administers the Landowner Assistance Program at the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission where he has served since June of 2018. Mr. Grossman provides guidance and support for rural landowner assistance projects statewide; monitors and analyzes program accomplishments; and is responsible for funding, development, and administration of wildlife habitat assistance programs for private landowners in Florida. Mr. Grossman also served as the Conservation Programs Manager for the Florida Forest Service from 2007 to 2018 where he led the agency's forest landowner assistance programs including the Forest Stewardship Program. He was a founding member of the Florida Land Steward Partnership, an association of agency staff dedicated to improving service to Florida's private landowners. Tony received his Bachelor of Science in Forest and Natural Resources Management at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana in 1984. He provided landowner assistance for the Indiana Division of Forestry for seven years, followed by 14 years operating a natural resources consulting business in Indiana, Ohio & Kentucky. In 2005, he moved to Reno, Nevada and worked for the Nevada Department of Wildlife, providing inter-agency coordination, technical guidance and supervision to mitigate wildlife impacts from development projects, and wildfire rehabilitation. Tony has served as a Tree Farm Inspector, Project Learning Tree Facilitator, on the Board of Directors of the *Indiana Woodland Steward*, and Society of American Foresters Indiana Chapter Chairman.

**Presentation Abstract**

Private landowners own approximately 70% of Florida lands and are critical to meeting Florida's economic and resource needs while providing critical wildlife habitat. FWC is working to better understand and meet the needs of private landowners as they protect and enhance wildlife habitat on Florida's working lands. Information will be provided on FWC's roles and responsibilities to the citizens of Florida. Key findings from past private landowner surveys will be highlighted; and new and innovative programs and practices to enhance private lands management will be discussed during this presentation.

**Dr. Michael Gutter**

Associate Dean and Associate Professor  
University of Florida IFAS  
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Dr. Michael "Mike" Gutter is the Associate Dean for Extension and State Program Leader for 4-H Youth Development, Families and Communities for the University of Florida/IFAS, Dr. Gutter earned his BS in Family Financial Management and his PhD in Family Resource Management

from The Ohio State University with a specialization in Finance. His research focuses on examining how socioeconomic status, financial education, personal psychology, and financial socialization are related to financial behaviors. His current work focuses on the intersection of finances and health outcomes with emphasis on financial toxicity in cancer patients. Dr. Gutter's outreach focuses on improving financial behaviors by increasing knowledge, skills, and access to services.

#### Presentation Abstract

This session will discuss the need to establish the financial vision for your future in order to make decisions about your retirement and business interests. We will highlight some of the issues, strategies, and have a basic understanding of next steps you can take toward securing your family's financial future.

#### **David Lewis**

Vice President

Southern Forestry Consultants, Inc.

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(850) 997-6254

David S. (Dave) Lewis is a 1979 graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Forest Resources and Conservation. He spent the first ten years of his career in timber procurement and has spent the remaining 30 years in forestry consulting, land management, and real estate sales. Dave has been a Registered Forester in Georgia since 1989 and a Society of American Foresters Certified Forester (CF) since 1996. He is also a member and past Florida Chapter President of the Association of Consulting Foresters (ACF). He has been a Florida licensed real estate salesman since 2002. Dave is Vice President of and principal in Southern Forestry Consultants, Inc., as well as being a principal in Southern Forestry Realty, Inc. He is currently the Immediate Past President of the Society of American Foresters, as well as a former District 10 Board member for SAF, a former Chair of the Southeastern Society of American Forestry (Alabama, Florida, and Georgia), and a former SAF Florida Division Chair and Choctawhatchee Chapter Chair. Dave is a licensed commercial pesticide applicator in Florida and Georgia, and a Certified American Tree Farm Inspector. Dave is also a managing member of his family's cattle and timber farm, Ridgcrest Farm, LLC, in Jefferson County, Florida. Dave attends Element 3 Church in Tallahassee, and he is married to Mona with two grown children, Jacob and Abby. Hobbies include hunting, fishing, travel, and following sports of all kinds.

**Dr. Tim Martin**

Professor

University of Florida IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation

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Tim Martin has been on the faculty at the University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation since 1997. He received a B.S. in Forest Management from Oklahoma State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Tree Physiology from the University of Georgia and University of Washington, respectively. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in natural resource management and tree physiology, and does research on forest biology and silviculture in southern pine forests. Much of his research has involved participating in or leading networks of researchers focused on understanding forest dynamics across multiple scales, including the AmeriFlux eddy covariance network, and the regional PINEMAP loblolly pine climate adaptation and mitigation project. With Gary Peter, he is a co-Director of the Forest Biology Research Cooperative, a regional industry-university collaborative focusing on interdisciplinary applied research in southern pine plantations.

**Presentation Abstract**

Genetic improvement of southern pines, coupled with the development of silvicultural technology, has led to remarkable increases in planted forest productivity over the past five decades. Most tree breeding research and application has been led by university-industry cooperatives located at three universities in the region. This talk will summarize past, present, and potential future advances in the science of tree improvement, and will address how forest landowners can capitalize on the range of available genetics to plant productive, resilient forests.

**Jonathan Smith**

Executive Director

TimberMart-South

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Jonathan Smith is Executive Director with TimberMart-South. In addition to operational management, he is also responsible for the quarterly publication of TimberMart-South's *The Journal of Southern Timber Prices*. With over 10 years of experience at TimberMart-South, he has a thorough understanding of price data, timber markets and mill capacities. Prior to joining TimberMart-South, Jonathan worked as a procurement forester with Cooper Marine and Timberlands. He is a Georgia Registered forester with experience managing timber sales and land management activities. Mr. Smith earned an undergraduate degree in Biology from Georgia College and State University and a Master of Forest Resources degree from the University of Georgia.



### Presentation Abstract

This presentation will include a look at global and domestic end use markets, supply and demand, and raw material inventories and how these affect local product prices across the US South. TimberMart-South will also provide a look at how the US South compares to the rest of the world, highlighting key market indicators and trends over the last 30 years. We will also discuss Southern softwood sawmill industry expansion, including recent announcements, a look at where capacity gains are located across the region, and what kind of impact this expansion will have on stumpage markets moving forward. Lastly, this presentation will take a more in-depth look at Florida specifically and its position as one of the strongest industrial timber markets in the South.

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