Georgia’s Vanishing Forests:
State losing timberland to residential and commercial development
As I write this, the Society of American Foresters accreditation team has just completed its on-site review of our School and its programs. The team’s report, due next fall, will determine continued accreditation of our forestry major. We certainly presented the School in the best possible light, and thanks to all of you who provided input and helped in this effort.

Much is happening in the School, as you’ll see in this new, color edition of the Log. But I’d like to mention a few highlights of this semester.

I am pleased to announce the addition of two new faculty, who will arrive this summer. Dr. Nate Nibbelink, coming to us from the University of Wyoming, will teach GIS/remote sensing. This core course is increasingly important as forest technology develops. Also joining us will be Dr. John Maerz, a herpetologist from Cornell University. He fills a gap in our wildlife faculty. The health of frogs, salamanders and other “herps” is increasingly thought to be an indicator of environmental change. We are fortunate to have both of these fine scientists joining our already outstanding faculty.

Dr. Rod Will, here since 1997, will be leaving us in June for Oklahoma State University. Rod will be sorely missed, not only for his patient, persistent style in the classroom, but also for his significant research in forest ecology. Rod has been a great colleague, and we wish him and his family all the best.

We’re especially proud of our Wildlife Society student chapter, which took first place at the Southeastern Forestry Conclave in Florida. They won by a wide margin, an indication of their depth of knowledge and preparedness. The Forestry team took third overall at their Conclave competition, held in Nacogdoches, Texas, missing out on second place by just two points. We applaud all these students for their involvement in extra-curricular activities, which is so important to a well-rounded education.

Four of our students, three undergraduates and one graduate student, were recently selected for membership in the Blue Key National Honor Society—Sara Johnson, Scott Stanfill, Evan Sussenbach and Nina Wurzburger. Congratulations to these students for their hard work and commitment to academic excellence.

Finally, allow me to do what every dean must do: ask for money! Better put, I ask for your participation in this year’s fund-raising events. Our spring Phone-a-thon will soon begin, and it would be a great boost if we could get 25 percent alumni participation (currently, about 19 percent of our alums contribute to the School). While large gifts are certainly wonderful, we depend on those $10 and $20 gifts as well.

Your gift might enable a student group to attend a scientific meeting or event. Our students, sometimes four and six to a room, attend professional meetings to present papers. Your gift may be pooled with others to provide a scholarship or assistantship, help a student in need, or enable us to purchase equipment for a field exercise. Please become or continue to be a contributing alumni in 2005. We need your support now more than ever.

Best wishes to you all. Please stop by if you’re in the area.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Porterfield
Pages 4, 5
Georgia Losing Forest to Development

Page 7
Warnell students tour Jimmy Carter’s farm, timberlands

Page 13
Interview: Bruce Bongarten, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Page 18
Alumni On The Job: Eric Somerville: Hydrologist

On the cover:
A new study shows Georgia will lose another 5.6 million acres of forests to development by 2010.

Editor
Helen Fosgate

Graphic Design
J.P. Bond

www.uga.edu/wsfr

The Forester’s Log is an Alumni Association publication. It is published twice a year in the fall and spring.

Submit news items, questions and address changes to:
Helen Fosgate, editor
The Forester’s Log
Warnell School of Forest Resources
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30601
hfosgate@forestry.uga.edu
A new study by forest economists at the University of Georgia and the U.S. Forest Service portends a loss of millions of acres of forestland across Georgia in the coming decade, along with the economic, aesthetic and watershed protection it provides.

“Land markets, manifested through timber taxes, are changing rapidly,” said UGA forest economist David Newman, co-author of the study. “And unlike some other states, Georgia has few incentives in place to stop or even slow this conversion.”

The study shows low-density residential and suburban growth is having a greater than expected impact on land prices—and the sustainability of timber supplies in the South. Spurred by rising land values and higher property taxes, several large forest products companies sold off their Georgia timberland holdings in recent years.

 Authored by Newman and colleague David Wear, a U.S. Forest Service scientist in Durham, North Carolina, the study was published in the December 2004 issue of the Journal of Forestry. In it, researchers say about 25 percent of industrial timberland in Georgia will be in a high-conversion class in the next few years.
“We used Georgia as a case study for the effects of rising timberland prices because it is representative of the kinds of land-use dynamics occurring across the South,” said Newman.

Researchers say the biggest changes—and losses of forestland—will occur along the I-85 corridor in the Piedmont and coastal areas of the Southeast. And, unlike some other southeastern states, which provide tax benefits based on land productivity types, Georgia has no such “brakes” in place to slow land conversion. Rising property taxes cut profits for timberland companies but often force individual timberland owners to sell as well, reinforcing the cycle.

“The Georgia study helps us see the situation from the perspective of the landowners,” said Wear, “especially those in the urban fringe, where land changes are occurring so quickly.” Wear was co-leader of the 2002 Southern Forest Resource Assessment, an effort by multiple state and federal agencies to evaluate factors influencing forests in the southeastern U.S.

Researchers used spatial patterns of assessed forestland prices in Georgia to make predictions about the future use of lands in quickly developing areas. For the study, they viewed land valued at $800 per acre and above in a high-conversion class; that is, land that is likely to be sold and converted from production forest land to other uses in the next five years.

Using price and other predictors such as population density, household income and farm earnings, researchers project that by 2010 another 5.6 million forested acres in the state across 33 counties will convert to subdivisions, roads and other commercial development.

“And these estimates of the potential impact of development on timberland prices are conservative,” said Newman, “because our research includes only counties that have five or more industry-owned timberland tracts. As a result, we did not even look at counties in the northernmost region, which represent about 25 percent of the state.”

The researchers point out that forest land isn’t necessarily “lost” when sold. Many large tracts, divided and sold to as “woodlets,” remain forested and are bought by owners to use for aesthetic and lifestyle purposes. Still, the trend creates a system in which a major portion of timberland will be owned by those with little or no knowledge or experience in forest management.

“The real strength of the Georgia study is that it uses specific land values, and price is the strongest evidence of where future growth is likely to occur,” said Wear. “It also shows that development pressure is going to have a significant effect not just in Georgia, but on timberland across the South.”

…unlike some other states, Georgia has few incentives in place to stop or even slow this conversion.”
2004 Staff Award Recipients

Jay Brown (left), research technician III at Whitehall Forest, Donna Gallaher (center), coordinator of the Master Timber Harvester Education Program, and David Higginbotham (right), fisheries research coordinator II, are the 2004 Staff Award recipients in the Warnell School of Forest Resources.

The $1,000 awards, which were presented during Homecoming weekend, are provided annually by the Warnell School of Forest Resources Alumni Association to recognize and reward outstanding support personnel.

Silent Auction Supports GSA Activities, Non-profits

The Warnell Graduate Student Association hosted the 8th annual Graduate Research Symposium at WSFR in February. For the third year in a row, Warnell GSA combined the symposium with a silent auction fundraiser.

The 2005 auction was even more successful than prior years thanks to the generosity of the Athens and WSFR communities. Faculty, staff and students generously bid on the items. The final proceeds totaled more than $1,100 and will be divided evenly between funding the activities of Warnell GSA and local non-profits that work on natural resource management issues.

Warnell GSA would like to thank the kind support of our many donors:

- Don Amici’s
- Healthy Gourmet
- Ann Peden Jewelry
- Helping Hands Event Planning
- Artworks by Lydia
- Homeplace Gifts
- Barbara Trotter
- Honeybaked Ham Co.
- Barberito’s
- Kaleidoscope
- Beth Wright
- The Loft
- Big City Bread
- Big City Bread
- Beth Wright
- Big City Bread
- Birds I View Gallery
- Big City Bread
- Bluebird Café
- Mia Madonna
- Bonnie Kepler
- Mrs. Susan Cooper
- Border’s Books and Music
- Nature’s Outpost
- Charbon’s
- Parrot’s Hair Salon
- Charmar Flowers and Gifts
- Play It Again Sports
- City Salon and Spa
- Reed’s Odds ‘N Ends
- Dr. Bob Reinert
- Sam’s Club
- Dr. Joe Meyers
- Smoothie King
- Dr. Mike Conroy
- The Grit
- Fook’s Foods
- The Foundry Park Inn and Spa
- Franklin Gun Shop Inc., Georgia
- The Tuscan Market
- Ornithological Society
- The Wildlife Society
- Good Dirt
- Toula’s Gifts
- Harry’s Bissett’s
- Wanda’s Hallmark
- — Angela McMellen, President
- Warnell Graduate Student Association

Biomass Conference scheduled for Aug. 29-31, 2005

The School will host a conference on the “Status, Trends and Future of the South’s Forest and Agriculture Biomass” at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in August. Designed for educators in the public and private sectors, the conference will include information about commercialization, potential uses and applications of biomass; the challenges, issues and barriers of biomass use; harvesting and transport systems; environmental and ecological issues; and the planning and financing biomass projects, among other topics. A field trip includes a tour of an experimental bioconversion facility.

Contact Dr. Ben Jackson, bjack@arches.uga.edu 706.542.9051 or 706.542.2194 for more information.
WSFR DOMINATES SOUTHEASTERN WILDLIFE CONCLAVE COMPETITION

The UGA student chapter of The Wildlife Society dominated at the Southeastern Wildlife Conclave March 5 and 6, 2005 at the University of Florida. The team took 1st place overall among the 17 southeastern schools competing.

Contributing to the overall victory was the team’s first place in the Wildlife Quiz Bowl and first place in the team field competition. In addition, the team took five other firsts, three seconds and one third place in the 14 individual events.

Now, true to his promise if the team won, Dean Richard Porterfield must sing the UGA alma mater at the School’s Annual Wildlife Supper on April 30th.

Faculty club advisors are Drs. Steven Castleberry, and Michael Mengak.

New WSFR Courses Support Curriculum

With the exception of FORS 3810, Society and Natural Resources, which is a new addition to the core, most of the new courses are electives aimed at freshmen and sophomores. Others are for graduate students. Many of the courses were developed by our newest faculty members, who responded to the need/demand.

FORS 1020. Introduction to Water Resources (Rasmussen)
FORS 1100. Natural Resources Conservation (Fisk)
FORS 2100. International Issues in Natural Resources and Conservation (Carroll)
FORS 4140. Introduction to Wetlands (Rhett Jackson)
FORS 4350/63540. Conservation Genetics. (Nairn)
FORS 5610/7610. Prescribed Fire in the ForestEcosystem (Wimberly)
FORS 5650/5670. Aerial Photogammetry in Forestry (Bettinger)
FORS 7550. Contemporary Forest Products (Schimleck)
FORS 8010. Forest Business Seminar (Izlar)
FORS 8180. Principles of Forest Land Treatment (Morris)
FORS 8330. Landscape Ecology (Wimberly)
FORS 8560. Quantitative Approaches to Conservation Biology (Jim Peterson)
FORS 8450. Advance Forest Planning (Bettinger)
FORS 8470. Self-Referencing Models for Environmental Sciences (Cieszewski)
FORS 3810. Society and Natural Resources (Core Requirement) (Warren)
In spite of a rapidly changing market, “timberlands remain a good investment option,” according to Dr. Clark Binkley of Hancock Timber Resources Group, especially in a time when alternative investments appear over-priced or seem poised for capital losses. Binkley was one of the many speakers at the Timberland Investment Conference, hosted last October by the Center for Forest Business.

The three-day event, held at Chateau Elan in Braselton, Georgia, featured financial advisors, academics, financial analysts, lawyers, bankers and land managers who spoke about issues affecting timberland ownership and investment returns. They addressed the uncertainty of timberland returns, rapidly changing prices, various investment vehicles and the shifting legal climate.

“We haven’t had a timberland conference in the East in many years, and we thought it was about time,” said Bob Izlar, director of the School’s Center for Forest Business. “After all, the investment land base is here in the South, and Atlanta is home to several major financial institutions that have timberland as a large part of their portfolios.”

Close to 200 people attended the conference, some from as far away as Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Denmark, Uruguay and Canada. More importantly, said Izlar, they represented every sector of the timberland market – private, public, federal and state agencies, industry as well as individual landowners.

“This conference will bring together scientists using diverse models who might not otherwise meet and collaborate,” said Winn. “We hope it will also help to identify common problems and resource needs shared among investigators.”
WARNELL STUDENTS MEET JIMMY CARTER, TOUR CARTER FARMS, INC.

By: Helen Fosgate

PLAINS, Ga. – Students in the Warnell School of Forest Resources visited Carter Farms, Inc. in November, to learn about the stewardship and land management philosophy of former President Jimmy Carter and his forestry consultant, Blake Sullivan, who conducted the tour.

Sullivan, who studied business at UGA before graduating from Columbus State University, then earned a master’s degree in forestry at Duke University, has managed the Carter Farms, Inc. since 1982, when the Carters returned from Washington, D.C. He spent the morning with the 50 or so students, then arranged for them to eat lunch with the former president at Mom’s Restaurant in downtown Plains.

The first stop on the tour was at the edge of a cotton field, which had recently been harvested.

“TThe Carter farm is a multiple use farm,” said Sullivan. “The land, located in Webster and Sumter Counties, has been in President Carter’s family for 100 years this year. Mrs. Carter’s family farmed around here even before that, and her family land is now included in Carter Farms, Inc. as well.”

Sullivan said when the Carters went to Washington, they put their farmland in a blind trust, and much of it sat idle during their years in the White House. Upon their returned, Carter asked Sullivan, a registered forester and owner of Sullivan Forestry Consultants, Americus, Ga., to help them rehabilitate the land and diversify their holdings.

“While Mr. Carter doesn’t necessarily require that his land makes a profit, he does expect it to make enough to cover the property taxes and expenses,” said Sullivan. “And, when the farm is profitable, those profits are divided among the Carters and their children.”

Sullivan’s management recommendations included planting trees on the less productive farmland and where crops couldn’t be irrigated. Today, most of the land is in pine trees, much of it planted under the CRP program.

“But we still grow crops, including cotton, soybeans, 20 acres of pecans—and of course, peanuts,” said Sullivan, grinning. “As long as President Carter owns this land, we will grow peanuts.”

Most of the crop land is leased to sharecroppers on a 50/50 split, meaning both the costs of production and the profits are shared equally.

“We don’t just lease the land because then we become what the IRS calls a ‘passive investor.’ So we actively share in the farming operation with our farmers,” said Sullivan. “We rotate peanuts, cotton—and then a grain crop, usually corn or wheat—on the third year.”

Sullivan said Mr. Carter likes to hunt turkeys, so they manage year-round food plots just...
for that purpose. Much of the forestland is leased to deer hunters to offset property taxes.

“We manage the deer herd, too, conducting age and gender surveys so we can let the hunters know what to cull,” said Sullivan. “And we have a relationship with our hunters, which is important. We even host a cookout, so we get to know each other.”

At another stop, students saw a 16-acre stand of slash pines that Carter planted by hand in the mid-1950s. While a forester might see the trees as ‘over-mature,’ Sullivan said they are off-limits to him.

“Mr. Carter likes to see those trees,” said Sullivan, nodding toward the trees across a dirt road. “It gives him a lot of pleasure to see them grow, and to walk among them. That’s a part of his value system.”

Sullivan said he and Carter meet every other month, touring the fields and forests in a truck, so they can discuss various management options.

“President Carter is very interested in the details,” said Sullivan. “Not only does he want to know what varieties of agricultural crops we planted, but the yields per acre. So I have all that information when I meet with him.

As far as the forests, he enjoys intensive as well as selective harvests. He has no problem with clearcutting, if that’s what needs to be done. We try to be good stewards of the land and to practice forestry in a way that promotes Mr. Carter’s value system. We’ve thinned the trees you see around us twice already, and next we’ll have a controlled burn in here,” he continued. “These areas that were [log-loading] ramps, will be planted in food plots. We usually keep food plots less than an acre in size, as long as there’s enough sun to get to the ground. Otherwise, they don’t grow well. And we have made a conscious decision not to rake straw under our pines because of the loss of water and nutrients.”

The students saw the infamous pond where, in the early ‘80s, President Carter was approached by an “attack rabbit” as he fished from a small boat. The hapless rabbit, spooked from the bank by a horde of reporters, sprang into the pond and headed straight for the President’s boat.

“Just about any animal can swim if scared enough,” said Sullivan with a chuckle.

The group’s last stop, in a two-acre stand of tall, straight Paulownia, afforded some students their first look at these odd, smooth-barked trees. As they gathered around, Sullivan recounted his not-so-favorite experiment with the trees.

“One thing Mr. Carter loves is woodworking,” he said, the hint of a smile in his face. “And one time someone gave him a hand made wooden bowl made of Paulownia. He loved that bowl, so he decided we should plant some of the trees. So we planted two acres—and I gotta say, even though these trees are fast-growing, they require a lot of tending. What you see here represents a tremendous amount of labor and nurturing. These trees send out suckers that need to be pruned. So there’s always something to do in here. These trees are about five years old, and I figure so far we’ve spent about $1,200 an acre on them. They’re just not competitive, at least here in the U.S., with the limited end user markets.”

Sullivan told the students it is crucial today to look at forestry with a world view.

“That’s why it’s important to attend these conferences, like the Timberland Conference your school just sponsored in October,” said Sullivan. “They give you a global perspective on the markets around the world, and that’s what you have to understand in order to be competitive today,” he continued.

“If you grow trees, you’ve got to use them because otherwise, you won’t be able to afford to practice proper land stewardship. And not only is that important and very satisfying, it’s also the right thing to do.”
2005 Graduate Symposium Winners

The research grant awards are as follows:

**Forest Resource Management and Policy**
- Chad Lincoln ($300)
- Tamara Cushing ($200)
- Elizabeth Doxon ($100)

**Forest Biology Soils and Hydrology**
- Josh Romeis ($300)
- Nina Wurzburger ($200)
- Jason Nedlo ($100)

**Fisheries and Wildlife**
- Kirsten Hazler ($300)
- Jay Scott ($233)
- Jill Gannon ($233)
- John Sabine ($233)
- Audrey Owens ($100)
- Diarra Mosley ($100)

The UGA Forestry Club took third overall at the 48th Annual Southern Conclave, held in March at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

Facing stiff competition from two powerhouses, the University of Arkansas and S.F. Austin University, the WSFR team captured the following honors:

- Overall Team competition, 3rd Place
- Physical events, 3rd place
- Technical events, 3rd place

Faculty Club Advisor is Dr. Pete Bettinger

THREE WSFR STUDENTS NAMED TO WHO’S WHO IN AMERICAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Three undergraduate students in the School were named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities for 2004-05. Evan Sussenbach (left) a junior from Columbus, Scott Stanfill (center), a senior from Albany, and Erin Moore (right) a senior from Marietta are majoring in water and soil resources. The Who’s Who designation recognizes outstanding academic and extracurricular accomplishment as well as leadership.
Faculty/Staff News

Bruce Beck, professor and eminent scholar of environmental systems analysis, together with former grad students Femi Osidele and Wei Zeng, received an award from the American Society of Civil Engineers for Best Theoretical Paper of 2003 published in the Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management. The article was about the uncertainty of the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Loads) approach to watershed management. Beck’s work with Osidele on applications analyses used in assessing nationwide priorities for cleaning up hazardous waste sites received $76,000 to support a third year of research. Beck was also awarded part of a two-year $1.5 million grant to examine the effectiveness of Best Management Practices (http://forestrybmp.net). Cassidy will also manage the web site for Forestry Best Management Practices (http://forestrybmp.net).

Cecil Jennings, leader of the Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit and adjunct associate professor of fisheries in the University of Georgia’s Warnell School of Forest Resources has been named a Fellow in the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists. Jennings is widely recognized for his research on fisheries ecology and management and fish population dynamics. His research looks at the effects of environmental disturbances and conservation initiatives on the fate of fish populations in marine and freshwater ecosystems, especially rivers and estuaries. He and his graduate students have conducted research on fishes in most of Georgia’s rivers and estuaries, a few large reservoirs and on coral reefs in the Caribbean. They use a combined approach of field studies and manipulative experiments to evaluate the history of fishes and their responses to exploitation, habitat alteration and various management guidelines.

Jennings teaches two courses, one on scientific communication and another on the life history of fishes. He directs the work of numerous graduate students, research support staff and administrative staff in the Georgia Fish and Wildlife Unit, housed in the School. Jennings was promoted to unit leader of the Georgia Fish and Wildlife Unit in 1997 and to associate professor in 1999.

John P. Carroll, associate professor of wildlife ecology and management, received an Outstanding Service Award from UGA’s African Studies Institute for his contributions to the success of the African Study Abroad Programs. Carroll developed and teaches the annual Maymester course, “International Issues in Wildlife Conservation,” in which he leads a group of about 15 students to South Africa. He spent the month of December 2004 as visiting professor at the University of Freiburg, German where he delivered 16 lectures on small game management and international wildlife issues. He was elected chair of the International Working Group of The Wildlife Society, and he was invited to serve as an associate editor of the Journal of Wildlife Management.

Mike Conroy, adjunct professor of wildlife management, completed his PhD on the historical development and dynamics of shortleaf pine in East Tennessee.

Steven Castleberry, assistant professor of wildlife management received a $147,087 grant from the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement to study the factors influencing bat communities on managed forest lands in the southeastern Coastal Plain. Cooperators include NCASI, Weyerhaeuser, International Paper, Plum Creek and Mead/Westvaco. He and Mike Mengak, assistant professor of wildlife management, received $93,570 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study habitat selection and factors influencing population abundance of the endangered Key Largo woodrat.

Kim Coder, professor of forest ecology, was appointed to the editorial board of Arborist News, the journal of the International Society of Arboriculture.

Daniel Cassidy, post-doc in public service and outreach came to the School in January to coordinate the Sustainable Forestry for Bioenergy and Bio-based Products Initiative. Funded through a $1 million NRCS grant, the program’s purpose is to develop educational modules about woody biomass harvesting and processing. Cassidy will also manage the web site for Forestry Best Management Practices (http://forestrybmp.net). He came to UGA from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, where he received $93,570 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study habitat selection and factors influencing population abundance of the endangered Key Largo woodrat.
CARTER VISIT TEACHES LIFE LESSONS

By Kate Spear

I went to Plains to meet Jimmy Carter and see his land. What I got was an amazingly profound lesson in how to live.

As students in Dr. [David] Newman’s Forest Resources Policy class last fall, we traveled to Plains. Our visit to Carter Farms ostensibly was to study management practices of the multiple-use farm and timberlands that have been in Carter’s family for a century and afterwards, have lunch with the former President.

Prior to the trip, my knowledge of Jimmy Carter was admittedly meager. I wasn’t born until after his presidency and had only a passing, “headline-glancing” awareness of Carter’s life since. I was vaguely aware that some thought his presidency rather unaccomplished.

That term hardly describes the Jimmy Carter who enthralled our group with insight, challenges and inspiration during lunch at Plains’ landmark restaurant, “Mom’s Kitchen.” (Don’t laugh, the Dalai Lama’s eaten there, and by chance, we met Willie Nelson inside)!

President Carter’s resume, if you will, certainly is impressive enough in itself: Naval Academy graduate, Governor, President, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, author, humanitarian, philanthropist, and international peacemaker.

Still, it does not do the man justice; it fails to capture his compassion, his zeal, his vision, his humanity.

At Jimmy Carter’s core is a strong religious faith, evidenced by his decision to forego the more lucrative aspects of a former president’s life and instead return to small-town Plains. “What matters in the eyes of God,” he paraphrased the Apostle Paul, “is that which cannot be seen: justice, compassion, love, humility. That which is rich in my life are things that cannot be seen as well—helping others, love for my family, my home, for Plains. This is where we will spend the rest of our lives.”

Helping others is the foundation of Carter’s work today. “Foreign aid is crucial,” he said, expressing concern over an ever-widening rift between the rich and the poor throughout the world. “For every $1 the U.S. gives in foreign aid, countries such as Norway and Sweden give $17. Because of globalization, the whole world can now see what we, in developed countries, have. In the face of such extreme poverty, this causes comparison, then envy, then animosity. Terrorists feed on this plight and take advantage of it. Too often, people here view people in other parts of the world as subhuman. And so their suffering and deaths somehow do not matter. The future of developing nations depends on the policies of countries like ours. There is a growing chasm between the two, and how to bridge this gap is the biggest problem our world faces today.”

Carter’s extraordinary vision is not limited to the world’s peoples; it extends to the environment as well. He proudly told us, “I told Rosalynn the other day, if I could come back in another life, I’d want to come back as a forester or game warden.” He emphasized the necessity of caring for the natural world because, quite simply, “it is the stewardship of God’s creation.”

As one disheartened by the intolerance, bigotry and jingoism of some in our country, I was comforted by President Carter’s words. “Issues shouldn’t be politicized to create moral division. This shouldn’t be called Christianity. Christianity is about love for all. I worship the Prince of Peace—not the prince of war.”

The passion and dedication Mr. Carter exudes moved many of us to reconsider how we perceive the world’s problems and what we’re going to do about them. To see a person of his stature exhibit such empathy and humility gave me hope for our future. I left Plains inspired and renewed, ready to accept Carter’s challenge: “I hope your generation will create change—that you will make a difference in the world.”

(Kate Spear, who is majoring in wildlife ecology and French, wrote about Croatia in the fall 2004 issue of the Log).
**Chris Fonnesbeck**, post doc working with Mike Conroy and Jim Peterson, was hired by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission as an associate research scientist.

**Gary Green**, assistant research scientist in forest recreation, received a $25,000 grant from the National Parks Service, the Tennessee Valley Authority, Fermata Inc., the UGA Research Foundation and the WSFR to examine motivating factors behind peoples’ participation in outdoor recreation.

**Dale Greene**, professor of forest engineering, took first place in the Forest Resources Association’s 2004 Southeastern Technical Division Technical Writing Competition. He and co-author Ian Conradie received a plaque and a $200 check. Their paper, “Log Truck Weight Policy Reaps Positive Results,” went on to win the FRA National Technical Writing Award, which earned them another plaque and check for $500. Conradie is now a consultant in Santiago, Chile. Greene, along with WSFR alums and former Georgia Forestry Commission directors John Mixon and Fred Allen, was appointed by Governor Perdue to the Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters.

**Kris Irwin**, public service associate, was named Georgia Project Learning Tree Facilitator of the Year for the third year in a row. He was recognized for his efforts in organizing and conducting six PLT workshops in 2004.

**Gail Lutowski**, education program specialist at the Mary Kahrs Warnell Forest Education Center, was named Georgia Project Learning Tree Educator of the Year for the third year in a row. She was recognized for outstanding efforts in delivering Project Learning Tree programs and for her support of PLT across the state. She was also named the 2004 Project WILD Facilitator by the Environmental Education Alliance of Georgia.

**Daniel Markewitz**, associate professor of soil site productivity, has been invited to deliver the keynote address at the 7th Annual International Symposium on the Geochemistry of the Earth’s Surface in Aix-en-Provence, France in August 2005. Markewitz’s work on a forest drydown experiment with NASA’s Large scale Biosphere Atmosphere Project in Brazil was the subject of a CNN report.

**Brooks Mendell**, visiting assistant professor of forest finance, received a three-year appointment on the SAF Investment Committee. The committee manages the endowment and Foresters Fund for the Society of American Foresters.

**Joe Meyers**, wildlife research biologist, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, authored Birds of Georgia (UGA Press), which is now available online in the New Georgia Encyclopedia. www.newgeorgiaencyclopedia.org. In it, he describes the history of ornithology, geographic features, habitats and bird communities, bird extinctions and restorations in Georgia and other highlights. The New Georgia Encyclopedia provides an authoritative source of information on topics relating to the state and is available to anyone with Internet access.

**Jacek Siry**, assistant professor of forest economics, was appointed to the Herty Foundation Board of Trustees by Governor Purdue. Siry came to WSFR in 2002 from North Carolina State University, where he developed a multi-product timber demand model. He received the UGA President’s Venture Fund International Travel Award. He also served as guest editor for the Southern Journal of Applied Forestry.

**Robert Teskey**, distinguished research professor of forest physiology, was awarded a National Science Foundation grant for $100,000 to study the internal recycling of carbon dioxide in trees. This research will explore whether carbon dioxide, released from root and stem respiration, is captured internally and recycled through photosynthesis so that it can be reused by trees.

**Robert Warren**, professor of wildlife ecology and management was named a Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor. A 2000 recipient of the Josiah Meigs Award for Excellence in Teaching, Warren and other Meigs winners at UGA were notified in late last year that the award had been elevated to a distinguished professorship. The change was approved by the Provost’s Office and the Georgia Board of Regents, a move they hope conveys the importance of superior teaching at UGA.

Warren, who came to UGA in 1983, was selected as one of eight Senior Teaching Fellows by the UGA Office of Instructional Support and Development in 1998, and in 1999 he was invited to be an inaugural member of the UGA Teaching Academy. He was the first recipient of the WSFR Alumni Association’s Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1994. In 2001, he received the Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Award, which is open to faculty in agriculture, food and consumer sciences, environmental design, forest resources and veterinary medicine.

Warren currently teaches four courses, including Introduction to Fish and Wildlife Management, Wildlife Physiology and Nutrition, Senior Project in Forest Resources Management, Field Methods in Wildlife Research and Management. He also directs the work of 10 graduate students.
A conversation with Bruce Bongarten

Editor's note: The School recently completed a major curriculum revision and an in-depth self-study. In their wake, Bruce Bongarten, associate dean of academic programs, talks about what we learned from these revealing examinations.

What are we doing right?

In exit interviews, our graduating seniors emphatically tell us that we provide an outstanding learning environment. They tell us that our teachers are remarkable in their knowledge and that despite time constraints, our faculty and staff always make time for them.

Alumni support has allowed us to provide this extraordinary environment—from scholarships and graduate assistantships to the undergraduate writing tutorial program. I strongly believe that when a community of people work together, the whole is greater than the parts, and I think we have that here.

What can we do better?

The School needs to think of itself in broader terms than it has historically. We’re seeing shifts in land ownership and use, and we must have programs that address this new reality, both for our graduates and for society.

If we don’t adjust to society’s needs, others will claim that territory and leave us with limited opportunity to educate the next generation of resource managers. We have to recognize our traditional strengths but not allow them to inhibit our growth into the full array of renewable resource subject matter. If we are to survive as an autonomous unit, growing our School is essential.

So, what does that mean in specific terms?

The School has undergone a curriculum revision that clarified our objectives. It affirmed that much of what we’re doing is valid. But it also identified a few areas where changes are needed. Interviews with alumni, employers and professional societies have been helpful in drawing these conclusions.

We added a course, “Society and the Environment” to help our students understand how people relate to their natural resources. Many of our graduates find themselves in situations where they will work directly with the public. The course is designed to look at the use of land and natural resources in a historical context. It will address practical and ethical issues that will provide our students with the background and tools they need to understand peoples’ different values.

In forestry, we’ve added a mandatory three-week summer camp to enhance field skills. We’ve also added a forest health and protection course to make our students more aware of management practices that are essential to forest health and sustainability.

Some people will say, ‘Okay, you’ve added these new courses, so what did you take away?’ We’ve made room for them by repackaging some courses to do away with redundancies. The new curriculum is more efficient, especially in the forestry major.

In the wildlife major, we’ve made the curriculum more flexible to allow students choices, depending on their career interests. We’ve also re-named the Forest Environmental Resources major to Water and Soil Resources to provide a more comprehensible description of its content. This major also fills a notable gap in the University’s offerings, given the importance of water resources in Georgia and the southeast.

We will also add a Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism major by negotiating with the College of Education to assume a portion of their Recreation and Leisure Studies major. We expect this will add about 25 to 30 students to the School.

In what specific areas do we need to improve as a School?

First, the School is remarkably homogeneous in its ethnic and gender make-up. This lack of diversity does not serve our School or our professions well. This is not a political correctness thing. We simply must find ways to attract a more diverse student body if our professions are going to be heard by society as it makes decisions about the use of forest lands and the resources they harbor.

Continued on page 16
Stuckey Timberland, Inc. establishes endowment

Stuckey Timberland, Inc., in Eastman, Georgia, has set up an endowment to support communications and professionalism in the Warnell School of Forest Resources. The endowment, established as a $50,000 challenge grant, will support a seminar series designed to raise the communications and professional skills of graduates as they enter business and management careers in forestry and natural resources.

Andy Stone, president of Stuckey Timberland, Inc., said the idea was “an easy sell” when he proposed it to company owners, Bill Stuckey, sister, Lynda Stuckey Franklin, and seven other family shareholders last year. Bill Stuckey is a former Congressman and businessman, who now lives in Washington, D.C. Lynda Franklin, whose business interests include real estate and banking, in addition to timber production, is now semi-retired and living on Sea Island, Georgia.

The late Sylvester and Ethel Stuckey, started selling pecans from roadside stands in the 1930s. They later made their pecans into candies and, along with the pecans, started selling at their first roadside store. Their first store grew into more than 400 Stuckey Stores, familiar to travelers across the country. They also began buying forestland, and today Stuckey Timberland, Inc. includes more than 35,000 acres in central Georgia.

“This family has always believed in giving back,” said Stone. “What communications skills I have, I learned on the job from Bill Stuckey. I was very fortunate in that, because I was insecure about my communications skills when I entered the business world. That’s why I see this seminar as an important way to help.”

Stone, a 1974 alum of the School, initially went to work for a forestry consulting company based in Mississippi before moving to Eastman in 1977 to take a job with Stuckey Timberland, Inc. His son, Brian, earned a BSFR in 1999 and was among the first students to complete the MFR in 2001. Brian is currently working as an appraiser for Forest Resource Consultants in Macon, Georgia.

For more information or to make a donation to the Stuckey Timberland Endowment, contact Development Director Mary McCormack (706-542-1011), mmccorma@forestry.uga.edu.

Bruce Bongarten

Secondly, given the current budgetary situation, we need to look carefully at the services we provide and provide those that society needs and is willing to pay for—across teaching, research and service.

Another great need, if we’re going to continue to improve, is to increase our financial resources. With respect to instruction, my highest priority is scholarships, not only for the top students, but for financially needy students. We must open doors to those who might not come here otherwise. That’s very important and goes hand-in-hand with increasing diversity.

We need a “facilities fund” that would allow us to modernize labs and other instructional facilities so we can provide the best possible learning environment. The state readily provides monies for new buildings but very little for maintenance and upgrading, and that is every bit as important, maybe more so.

We also need to provide more study abroad opportunities, especially for those with limited financial resources. There is no quicker way to change a student’s perspective and open a world of possibilities to them than traveling to a foreign country. Skills are important, but the biggest single benefit of education is opening minds to new possibilities.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21
• Alumni Golf Tournament & Lunch Catered by the Varsity
• Alumni School Tour
• Whitehall Mansion Open House
• Alumni Social

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22
• Annual Alumni Association Meeting
• Game Day Bar-B-Q
• Football Game (UGA vs. Arkansas)
**WSFR has reserved 250 block seats for this game. Tickets will be available to order July 2005. Football ticket sales are limited to a maximum of 8 per person, and priority will be given to those who participate in Homecoming activities.**

ROOM BLOCKS AVAILABLE AT:
• Courtyard Marriott . . . . . . . . . 706.369.7000
• Holiday Inn . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 706.549.4433
• Foundry Park Inn . . . . . . . . . . . 706.549.7020

Please look for your flyer with details in July. Contact Bridget Harden: 706.542.0713 for more information.

2004-2005 WSFR Student Ambassadors

Very front row: Tyler Clemons, Jay Chupp

2nd Row: Austin Meadows, Mandi McElroy, Scott Stanfill, Emily Crosby, Ashley Dillard, Susan Pierce, Justin Tyson

3rd Row: Alan Zeigler, Bob Carlson, Michael Westbrook, Ryan Whitelaw, Chad Lincoln, Andrew Saunders, Christie Stegall, Evan Sussenbach, David Duncan

Not Pictured: Robert Simmons, Tal Robinson, Erin Moore, Jason Nedlo

Student ambassadors represent the WSFR at University functions and off-campus events, assist with recruitment, serve as job placement interview assistants, conduct tours and make presentations to groups with special interest in the School. For more information about the Student Ambassador Program, contact Amanda Newman, anewman@forestry.uga.edu (706-542-1465).
At least once a week I am amazed by the beauty of the places I work,” says Eric Somerville with a sincere smile on his face. Eric has just reeled off a long list of these locations, which include many remote sites in the southern Appalachians, and next month Puerto Rico. He is a project scientist with Nutter and Associates, an Athens-based environmental consulting firm owned by Wade Nutter, WSFR professor emeritus of hydrology.

The company began primarily specializing in land treatment, designing and supervising the redistribution of partially treated wastewater over designated land areas. Today it deals with many issues involving water and soil interactions, including wetland restoration and mitigation, stream recovery, water quality and more. Eric spends much of his time in the field gathering spatial and temporal data on watersheds. He then designs and implements plans to restore or even create specific habitats. In many of his projects, he creates or restores riverine wetlands by removing soil from an overly aggraded river bank or raising the water level by placing carefully designed structures in the river bed. This in turn also helps to restore valuable benthic habitat, which is missing from most southeastern streams as a result of early 20th century farming practices.

Eric graduated from UGA in 1992 with a bachelor’s in landscape architecture, then went on to earn a master’s in forest hydrology in 1996 with a focus on wetland functional assessment. His first job was at a consulting firm in Jacksonville, Florida, where he says “got his feet wet, so to speak.”

In 1998, Eric got an environmental scientist position with the EPA. During the next four years he worked with contractors and other state and federal agencies in Tennessee and Kentucky on compliance with the Clean Water Act. Most of his work dealt with permit evaluations, enforcement, and routine checkups of work sites. But on the morning of October 11, 2000, that routine was ominously shattered when a 75-acre coal slurry retention pond collapsed into a complex of underground mine shafts, shooting millions of gallons of semi-solid waste into two adjacent valleys in Martin County, Kentucky. The spill swallowed houses and roads, streams and vegetation. The barrage of sediment into the river system put cities as far away as Cincinnati, Louisville, and St. Louis on alert, and nearby towns in both Kentucky and neighboring West Virginia halted all water intake for days.

It was characterized as the South’s biggest environmental disaster, and it was now Eric’s responsibility to supervise its clean up and provide oversight for the restoration of affected streams and floodplains. The $50 million cleanup bill was footed by Martin County Coal Corporation, which is owned by Fluor Corporation, a multinational energy conglomerate. Stories about the spill and its effects were featured on 60 minutes, National Public Radio and in newspapers across the country.

Eric was awarded a Bronze Medal for Commendable Service for his supervision of the clean up effort. He left the EPA 15 months later to take a more hands-on position at Nutter and Associates. He says the area has still not fully recovered ecologically, and long-term effects may be plentiful.

Eric is currently writing a textbook chapter on the history of federal wetlands regulation in the U.S. and he is interested in pursuing a PhD, studying sediment transport in headwater streams. He encourages all students interested in hydrology to get their certification as a licensed hydrologist from the American Institute of Hydrology as early as possible.


(Brooks Camp is a junior majoring in hydrology and soils/environmental assessment. Contact him at campt@owl.forestry.uga.edu ).
Fred C. Gragg, of Mobile, Alabama, has been named the 2004 Distinguished Alumnus in the Warnell School of Forest Resources. The award, the School’s highest honor, recognizes outstanding service to the School, the University of Georgia and the forest resources profession.

Gragg, who earned a bachelor of science in forestry at UGA in 1936, worked for International Paper Company for 43 years, starting as a conservation forester and retiring as senior vice president of woodlands. During his long career, he lived in nearly every Southern state, as well as New York, Washington, and several foreign countries. He also served as manager of IP’s public affairs program and was the company’s senior advisor on policy and national issues.

“In addition to significant contributions to forest management, Fred’s legacy is a spirit of cooperation, courtesy and fairness in his dealings with others, and that includes landowners, industry colleagues and forestry organizations,” said Richard Porterfield, dean of the Warnell School of Forest Resources. “Fred has always been a forthright leader and a steadying influence in our profession. We are very proud to name him our 2004 Distinguished Alumnus.”

Gragg began work with International Paper Company during the Great Depression, when nearly all of the forestlands were in the hands of farmers and rural landowners. With the economy reeling, he quietly began promoting the benefits of managing forests for timber and pulp. Throughout his career, he was a credible and effective liaison between private landowners and the forest products industry.

“Fred Gragg has been a fierce competitor as well as a friend for more than forty years,” said Jim Fendig, a long time forest industry executive who is now retired and working as a consultant. “He is the epitome of the professional forester and an example for all of us to follow in our professional as well as personal lives.”

Gragg has been an active member of several professional forestry organizations, including the Society of American Foresters, where is a Golden Member. He was elected an SAF Fellow in 1979 and is a past chair of the Southeastern Section of SAF. In 1999, he received the SAF’s prestigious Award of Excellence for the General Practice of Forestry, which recognizes his outstanding contributions to the profession and industry. He was inducted into the Alabama Foresters Hall of Fame in 1987. He lives in Mobile, Alabama, with his wife, Anne.
Class Notes

2000s

Ret Tiner (BSFR 2003, MFR 2005) has new contact information: 16356 Damascus-Hilton Rd., Damascus, GA 39841, rettiner@hotmail.com

Jessica Leonard (right) (BSFR 2004) is working as a raptor intern at the Alabama Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, where she administers to sick and injured owls, vultures, hawks. Visit the Center’s web site at http://www.awrc.org

Eric Jenkins (MFR 2004) has new contact information: 4600 University Dr., Durham, NC 27707, Eirikr2@yahoo.com

Richard Cary (BSFR 2003) is an environmental specialist in the Augusta, GA office of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. He conducts erosion/sedimentation and compliance inspections. Contact number 706.792.7744.

James “Crisp” Gatewood, Jr. (BSFR 2001), 128 Georgia Hwy 49 North, Americus, GA 31709, president of Gatewood Forestry Services, LLC, has been appointed to the Herty Foundation Board of Trustees by Governor Perdue. Gatewood, who previously worked as a field forester for F&W Forestry Services, Inc. is a registered forester in Georgia and also holds a Georgia real estate license. He is a member of the Albany Board of Realtors, the Georgia Association of Realtors, the Tall Timbers Research Station and Southwest Georgia Prescribed Fire Council.

1990s

Rebecca McArther Shanahan (BSFR 1999) and Seth Adam Shanahan (BSFR 1999) 7429 Cochise Bend Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89113 were married in July 2004 in Hawaii. They both work for the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

Lane Garwood (BSFR 1999), whose name appeared in the fall 2004 issue of the Log under two addresses, lives at 751 San Fernanado Dr., Smyrna, GA 30080, and works in Marietta at ATC Associates. Reach Lane by email at: lanegarwood@hotmail.com

Brian P. Davis (BSFR 1998) has a new address: 140 Dunwoody Circle, Griffin, GA 30223

Bailin Zhou (PHD 1997) 10880 Chatburn Way, Duluth, GA 30097, bailin.zhou@ipaper.com is a biometrics section manager with International Paper as of October 2004.

David M. Hutchinson (BSFR 1996) 410 Fox Bridge Lane, Winterville, GA 30683

Bradley F. Fields (BSFR 1996) 206 Country Club Drive, Greensboro, NC 27408, brad@familydesign.net is owner of Piedmont Land & Timber, Inc. P.O. Box 9663, Greensboro, NC 27429. He is loving the business, being self employed and has “no regrets with my forest education!”

Mark Whitney (MFR 1991), was named assistant chief for the Game Management Section of the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources. He was previously regional supervisor of game management for Northeast Georgia. He will supervise statewide and regional programs, including the Private Lands Program and the Bobwhite Quail Initiative. He lives in Oxford, Georgia with wife, Shawn.

1980s

Chiyn-Ming Liu (MS 1985) 7F6.22.Lane 89. Ning-Hsia Road, Taichung, Taiwan 407; cmliu@fcu.edu.tw
Dan Forster (BSFR 1986, MS 1988) was promoted to director of the Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources last October. He was formerly assistant director of the division and before that, directed the non-game programs of the Georgia DNR. In his new role, he will oversee all phases of the WRD including law enforcement, wildlife management, game and non-game programs and activities as well as educational programs and facilities.

Todd Holbrook (BSFR 1981) was appointed assistant director of the Wildlife Resources Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources last fall. He served as section chief for eight years prior to his new position. As assistant director, he will serve as principal wildlife and fisheries resource management advisor to the director of the Georgia DNR, oversee implementation of the organization’s strategic plan and review proposed legislation for its impact on wildlife. He lives in Conyers with wife, Lisa and daughters, Sara and Avis.

1970s

David Wallace (BSFR 1970)182 Lower Harmony Rd., Eatonton, GA 31024, is a consulting forester with Forest, Land and Water Services in Eatonton. He is also involved in land clearing and forestland development. Recently re-married to Cynthia Sammons Beckham.

Bill Fletcher (BSFR 1975, MS 1990) was named chief of the Game Management Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources last November. He was previously assistant chief of game management. He will direct the work of regional supervisors and assistant chiefs in coordinating statewide wildlife programs, develop the state’s game management budget, oversee federal aid funding and supervise wildlife research and survey efforts. He lives in Flowery Branch with his wife, Beth.

1960s

Thurman Ewell Lyle, Jr. (BSF 1969) 1917 River Point Drive, Albany, GA 31701, Lyle5tgs@bellsouth.net retired after 30 years service with Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources. He was chief of operations for 16 years in the Parks & Historic Sites Division. He is moving to Albany to semi-retire with wife, Petra.

John W. Taylor, Jr. (BSF 1966, MS 1968, PhD Entomology 1971) is an IPM specialist with the USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Section, STE 8625, 1720 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30509. He develops and implements integrated management strategies for native and non-native forest pests.


1930s

Ernest A. Hasenbalg (BSF 1939) P.O. Box 484, Gauley Bridge, WV 25085
In Memoriam

L. W. “Hoop” Eberhardt (BSF 1936), 91, died Sept. 20, 2004. He served 35 years with the UGA Cooperative Extension Service, serving as director for his last eight years. He was executive director of the Georgia Cotton Commission for seven years, served on the Georgia 4-H Foundation Board, the 4-H Advisory Committee and was past president of the College of Agriculture Alumni Association.

Sanford P. Darby, Jr., (BSF 1949, MS 1950) 83, of Macon, Ga., died Monday, February 7, 2005. Mr. Darby was born in Vidalia, graduated from Richmond Academy in Augusta, and studied forestry at UGA. He was an Army veteran of WWII, and then worked for the Georgia Forestry Commission, where he rose to chief of reforestation. He retired as director of the Surface Mined Land Use Board. He was named Man of the Year by both the Georgia and Federal Wildlife Federations. He was a member of Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

William “Bill” Trundle (BSF 1962) died Sept. 7, 2004. He worked for Georgia Craft in Talbaton and Dallas, Georgia. He was a real estate appraiser for TVA for 18 years. He raised beef cattle on his farm near Ringold, Georgia for the past 22 years.

Rhen Bishop (BSF 1965, MF 1967), former extension forester and county extension director in Dougherty County, died on November 6, 2004 in Albany, Georgia.

Charles H. Fitzgerald (BSF 1942) 82, former faculty member who taught silviculture, died Sept. 30, 2004 in Monroe, Georgia.

Sanford P. Darby, Jr., (BSF 1949, MS 1950) 83, of Macon, Ga., died Monday, February 7, 2005. Mr. Darby was born in Vidalia, graduated from Richmond Academy in Augusta, and studied forestry at UGA. He was an Army veteran of WWII, and then worked for the Georgia Forestry Commission, where he rose to chief of reforestation. He retired as director of the Surface Mined Land Use Board. He was named Man of the Year by both the Georgia and Federal Wildlife Federations. He was a member of Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

Hank Haynes (BSF 1948) 83, died February 17, 2004 after a hard fought battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). A leader in the forest and timber industry, he worked for Union Camp and Bag for 31 years, where he was a great champion of genetic tree improvement programs and research on forest health and sustainable forest management. Rather than rest after his retirement from Union Camp, he came to the School in 1981, where he developed and taught three courses on forest business management and wrote a plan for the Center for Forest Business. He was also lead fund-raiser for the School during the Knapp years and secured the School’s major endowments and investment properties, upon which the School still depends. After he retired, he continued to raise funds for the School and to help manage its properties across the state. Most recently, he served as president and chief investment officer of Timbermax, LLC, were he created an investment of more than 100,000 acres, managing it through his company, Timberland Manager, Inc. He accumulated many honors and awards for his contributions to forestry and education. In 1986, he was elected a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters, and in 1992, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Warnell School of Forest Resources. Over his long career he served as Chair of the Georgia Board of Foresters, Chair of the Southern Industrial Forestry Research Council, Chair of the American Pulpwood Association and Chair of the Southeast Section, Society of American Foresters.

Robert “Bob” Williams (BSF 1959, MF 1960) of Kennesaw, Georgia, died December 6, 2004. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 30 years, the majority of it in the regional office in Atlanta, where he was in the budget office. He founded Salacoa Valley Farms in Cherokee County, a wholesale and cut-your-own Christmas tree farm, which he managed for 20 years. He served as president of the Georgia Christmas Tree Growers Association. He also raised and trained Tennesse Walking Horses.

Benjamin Hall Hudson, II (BSF 1939), 87, of Columbus, Georgia died on Dec. 17, 2004. He owned and operated Cherokee Lumber Co. for many years.

Agriculture Alumni Association. He received the USDA Superior Service Award and was named Progressive Farmer Magazine’s Man of the Year. He initiated the 4-H Forestry and Naval Stores Camps in Georgia with funding from the forest industry. He also led the campaign to raise funds for Rock Eagle 4-H Camp. He was inducted into the Foresters Hall of Fame in 1987.

In Memoriam

Robert “Bob” Williams (BSF 1959, MF 1960) of Kennesaw, Georgia, died December 6, 2004. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 30 years, the majority of it in the regional office in Atlanta, where he was in the budget office. He founded Salacoa Valley Farms in Cherokee County, a wholesale and cut-your-own Christmas tree farm, which he managed for 20 years. He served as president of the Georgia Christmas Tree Growers Association. He also raised and trained Tennesse Walking Horses.

Sanford P. Darby, Jr., (BSF 1949, MS 1950) 83, of Macon, Ga., died Monday, February 7, 2005. Mr. Darby was born in Vidalia, graduated from Richmond Academy in Augusta, and studied forestry at UGA. He was an Army veteran of WWII, and then worked for the Georgia Forestry Commission, where he rose to chief of reforestation. He retired as director of the Surface Mined Land Use Board. He was named Man of the Year by both the Georgia and Federal Wildlife Federations. He was a member of Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

William “Bill” Trundle (BSF 1962) died Sept. 7, 2004. He worked for Georgia Craft in Talbaton and Dallas, Georgia. He was a real estate appraiser for TVA for 18 years. He raised beef cattle on his farm near Ringold, Georgia for the past 22 years.

Rhen Bishop (BSF 1965, MF 1967), former extension forester and county extension director in Dougherty County, died on November 6, 2004 in Albany, Georgia.

Benjamin Hall Hudson, II (BSF 1939), 87, of Columbus, Georgia died on Dec. 17, 2004. He owned and operated Cherokee Lumber Co. for many years.

Hank Haynes (BSF 1948) 83, died February 17, 2004 after a hard fought battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease). A leader in the forest and timber industry, he worked for Union Camp and Bag for 31 years, where he was a great champion of genetic tree improvement programs and research on forest health and sustainable forest management. Rather than rest after his retirement from Union Camp, he came to the School in 1981, where he developed and taught three courses on forest business management and wrote a plan for the Center for Forest Business. He was also lead fund-raiser for the School during the Knapp years and secured the School’s major endowments and investment properties, upon which the School still depends. After he retired, he continued to raise funds for the School and to help manage its properties across the state. Most recently, he served as president and chief investment officer of Timbermax, LLC, were he created an investment of more than 100,000 acres, managing it through his company, Timberland Manager, Inc. He accumulated many honors and awards for his contributions to forestry and education. In 1986, he was elected a Fellow in the Society of American Foresters, and in 1992, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Warnell School of Forest Resources. Over his long career he served as Chair of the Georgia Board of Foresters, Chair of the Southern Industrial Forestry Research Council, Chair of the American Pulpwood Association and Chair of the Southeast Section, Society of American Foresters.

Agriculture Alumni Association. He received the USDA Superior Service Award and was named Progressive Farmer Magazine’s Man of the Year. He initiated the 4-H Forestry and Naval Stores Camps in Georgia with funding from the forest industry. He also led the campaign to raise funds for Rock Eagle 4-H Camp. He was inducted into the Foresters Hall of Fame in 1987.

Charles H. Fitzgerald (BSF 1942) 82, former faculty member who taught silviculture, died Sept. 30, 2004 in Monroe, Georgia.
The Warnell School of Forest Resources offset lithograph is by celebrated Athens artist, Jill Leite, whose work is collected by University officials, faculty, students and generations of alumni.

Watercolor print available: double-matted in beige over burgundy and professionally framed in mahogany, or unframed. A brief history of the School is included. A percentage of the proceeds from sales of this print will benefit the UGA Foundation for the benefit of the Warnell School of Forest Resources.

Officially licensed by the University of Georgia.

For online ordering: www.jillleitestudio.com or call the Jill Leite Studio: 706.549.4442

$35 Print Only (size: 10” x 14.5”)

$175 Framed Print (size: 18” x 22”)

(GA residents please add 7% sales tax).

Shipping: Add $5 for prints, $20 for framed prints.
Audrey Owens, a graduate student in wildlife ecology, won first place in the Wildlife Art Competition at the 2005 Southeastern Wildlife Conclave. Her pen and ink drawing of a hatchling iguana, (right) competed with entries from 17 other schools, which included painting, drawing, sculpture and free form. Audrey’s drawing was among five first place finishes for the WSFR team in individual events at the Conclave.