



# The Dogwood Times

A Publication of the Tyler County Forest Landowner Association

<http://tcforest.org/>

Tyler County Forest  
Landowner Association  
(TCFLOA)

Volume 20 Issue 2  
Summer 2018

## TCFLOA Tree Farm Tour

Tyler County Forest Landowner Association members are invited to a private tour of Ray Hensarling's farm, which includes a historic log home built in the 1800's by Robert Tolar. Mr. Josh David, Tyler County Historical Commission, will discuss the **Gilded Age of Timber in Tyler County**. A picnic lunch will be provided.

**The date is June 9 and the time is from 9:00—11:00 AM.** To reach the farm you turn west on CR 1205 from US Highway 69 in Hillister—we will display signs.

### Inside this issue:

*Spring  
General Meeting  
Summary* 2

*New \$100  
Million Lumber  
Facility* 3

*Rainfall  
Totals* 4

*Membership  
2018* 4

## TCFLOA Awards two Academic Scholarships for 2018

Seth Read and Courtney Crain were each awarded a \$1,000 college scholarship from the Tyler County Forest Landowner Association. Seth graduated from Chester High School this year and will be attending Angelina College with plans to later transfer to the Arthur Temple School of Forestry at Stephen F. Austin State University to major in spatial sciences. Courtney graduated from Spurger High School two years ago and is currently majoring in wildlife management at Stephen F. Austin State University. TCFLOA is pleased to promote forestry while supporting the membership's and the county's youth with scholarships. We express our appreciation to the Scholarship Committee members Clyde Caldwell, Barbara McCray and Jerry Hatton.

Additionally, we would like to recognize Warren High School Senior Dylan Hargroder who was presented the 2018 State Woodland Clinic individual high point award by the Texas Forestry Association (TFA). The State Woodland Clinic competition was held on April 19 at the Stephen F. Austin Experimental Forest near Nacogdoches, Texas, where over 200 students from across the state were

*(continued on page 2)*

## TCFLOA Election of Officers

Election of TCFLOA officers for 2019-2020 will be held during the Fall General Meeting. The nominees, presented during the April General Meeting, are as follows:

President: Josh Lempert  
Vice President & Program Chair: Col. Eddie Boxx  
Secretary: Oliver Hensarling  
Treasurer: Charles Zimmerman  
Directors (3): Jack Clark, Dr. Jay Fish, Betty Zimmerman  
Director (Past President): Elizabeth Parker

## CALENDAR

**June 9, 2018, Saturday**—TCFLOA Tree Farm Tour, 9-11 AM, Ray Hensarling's Tree Farm, Hillister, TX. For directions see above article. Josh David will talk about the Gilded Age of timber in Tyler County. A picnic lunch will be provided. Association members and their guests are welcome.

**August 25 2018, Saturday**—TCFLOA Board Meeting, 9:30AM, Neches Room at the Tyler County Extension Office, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville, Texas. This is a planning session - association members are invited to attend.

**September 2018, Saturday**—TCFLOA Fall General Meeting, 9:30 AM, Tyler County Extension Office, 201 Veterans Way, Woodville, Texas. Information on the program will be announced in fall newsletter.



*(Scholarships—continued from page 1)*

scored on a variety of forestry skills including tree identification, forage-wildlife relationships, tree measurements and volume determination, compass and pacing, site management concerns, and site productivity. Rex Currie, Warren High School Agriculture teacher, trains students for this annual competition.

\* \* \*

## TCFLOA Spring General Meeting Summary

The Tyler County Forest Landowner Association met at 9:30AM, Saturday, April 21, in Woodville. About 40 members and guests attended the program, presented by three speakers, followed by BBQ lunch.

**Louisiana Pine Snake:** Josh Pierce, Wildlife Biologist with the U S Forest Service in Nacogdoches, Texas, reported that the Louisiana pine snake (*Pituophis ruthveni*) has been listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Louisiana pine snakes are non-venomous constrictors that live in open pine forests, grow to over 4' in length and spend over half their time underground. They eat pocket gophers and then use their burrows for habitat.

A Louisiana pine snake was last seen in Tyler County in 1994 near Hwy 69 and Hwy 255; another was seen in the 1954-56 timeframe. While none have been sighted since, traps have been placed near Spurger/Hillister and east of Colmesneil. Josh encourages you to contact him or a local Game Warden if you see a Louisiana pine snake. They are black, brown and russet with small heads and pointed snouts.

To prevent the snake from becoming endangered, Louisiana pine snakes in zoos across the country were shipped to four institutions for breeding: the Ellen Trout Zoo in Lufkin, the Fort Worth Zoo, the Memphis Zoo and the Audubon Nature Institute in New Orleans. These institutions are currently releasing their offspring in the Kisatchie National Forest and Fort Polk in Vernon Parish, Louisiana.

Per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website, the basic responsibility of private landowners having Louisiana pine snake populations on their lands is to avoid harassing, harming, killing, trapping, capturing or collecting the snakes. As a result of this listing, there may be further restrictions for areas where pine snakes are known to occur. For example, using intensive mechanical site preparation techniques or clearing pine forests for development or agriculture use may be prohibited. The details are still under review.

**Forestry Soils:** Julia McCormick, Soil Scientist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Jasper, Texas, explained that soil properties include color, drainage classes, texture, structure, depth and PH. Soil color gives an indication of the various processes going-on in the soil as well as the minerals in the soil. For example, the red color in our soil is due to the abundance of iron oxide. Dark colored soil is generally due to the accumulation of decayed organic matter. A gray color indicates wet soil.

Drainage classes are defined to specify the how rapidly or slowly the soil drains. Sandy and loamy sandy soils drain more rapidly than thick, dark organic matter, which retains moisture and keeps the water table high. Texture refers to the relative proportions of particles of various sizes such as sand, silt, and clay in the soil. Structure refers to how these primary soil particles -- sand, silt and clay -- are clustered. For example, a structure that is 60% clay is good for crops only if it has enough granularity to allow air and water movement through it.

PH measures the percentage of hydrogen in the soil. Tyler County's soil is acidic in the 5-6 Ph range, where a PH measure of 7 is considered neutral.

Julia displayed a core sample of the pinetucky soil series that is prevalent in northern Tyler County. The top 8 inches are grayish brown fine sandy loam; the next 8-13 inches are yellowish brown fine sandy loam, followed by layers of yellowish brown sandy clay loam. The pinetucky soil, which is also acidic, is good for longleaf pines.

You can research the soil types on your property on the Texas A&M Forest Service Map My Property website at <http://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/mapmyproperty/>.

*(Continued on page 3)*



*(TCFLOA Spring General Meeting Summary—continued from page 2)*

**Surveying:** Nedra Foster, Texas Registered Professional Land Surveyor (RPLS), entertained and educated the attendees with information about the history of land surveying in Texas and Tyler County. Surveying was first practiced in Texas to define the boundaries of Spanish land grants. These surveyors used surveyors' chains that were 20 *varas* long. Each Texas vara = 33 1/3 inches.

Texas land was divided into leagues that were 4,428.4 acres and into sections that were 640 acres. Mexico would set aside 4 leagues for a city and another 4 leagues for each county's schools. Surveyors used witness trees for corners; bearings were marked with initials on trees. Only the original survey is classified as proven; all subsequent surveys are classified as opinions.

Even though we use GPS coordinates today, the vara is still the official unit of measure for land in Texas.

\* \* \*

### ***New \$100 Million Lumber Facility Set to Open in Angelina County—Texas A&M Forest Service***

LUFKIN, TX, May 2, 2018 – Angelina Forest Products, LLC announced plans to build a new softwood lumber production plant in Lufkin, Texas. The company purchased the former General Electric Buck Creek site and will begin construction of a \$100 million state-of-the-art sawmill this summer with plans to be operational in the second quarter of 2019.

During construction, the project will employ hundreds of workers in Angelina County. When completed, Angelina Forest Products expects to provide careers for more than 100 full-time employees. "This is great news for Angelina County and the surrounding counties. Our regional economy is still heavily dependent on a healthy wood and forest products industry, and this project will certainly have a significant positive impact on the area," stated State Representative Trent Ashby.

The newly formed leadership team at Angelina Forest Products has more than 100 years of experience in the building products business. Executive Vice President Stephen Raley says the company is proud to locate the mill in Angelina County, where there is a talented work force familiar with the industry. "Lufkin is the best location for the new world-class sawmill. The team is eager to continue the tradition of producing high quality building materials while providing the high quality, career oriented jobs that are so important to the families in our community," said Rawley.

"We are so excited that 3rd and 4th generations of Lufkin are joining together to create jobs for Angelina County," said City of Lufkin Mayor Bob Brown. "A sawmill creates jobs not only at the sawmill, but in the forest, in transportation and beyond. Our economy should see a positive change and we look forward to working together to help make this a success story."

"The City of Lufkin supports the Angelina Forest Products sawmill and their commitment to creating quality jobs and also providing future generations of workers, a long-term employment option in Angelina County. This is great news for East Texas, Angelina County and Lufkin," said Bob Samford, Lufkin Economic Development Director.

The sawmill will produce a full product line of Southern Yellow Pine lumber and will be capable of producing in excess of 220 million board feet annually. The mill expects to receive 600 log trucks a week from timber owners within a 100-mile radius and will ship 200 trucks of finished product per week throughout this area and other parts of the United States.



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***Rainfall Totals (inches)—Tyler Co. Emergency Management Weather Division***

	March	April
Chester	7.48	4.17
Colmesneil (4E)	9.45	5.09
Fred	9.35	5.52
Spurger	7.85	6.09
Warren (5SSE)	9.12	5.61
Woodville	9.83	3.00

*Note: When the official rain gauge is located outside the town, i.e., "(4E)" after Colmesneil, see above, means 4 miles east of town. May rainfall totals were not available for this issue; but will be included in the next issue.*

**OFFICERS & DIRECTORS  
2017-2018**

- Pres: Elizabeth Parker
- VP: Josh Lempert
- Sect: Jeffrey Parker
- Treas: Charles Zimmerman
- Dir: Betty Zimmerman
- Dir: Jack Clark
- Dir: Dr. Jay Fish
- Dir: Sarah Reinemeyer (past President)

**Tyler County Forest Landowner Association (TCFLOA)**

The Tyler County Forest Landowner Association is a non profit organization whose objectives include educating landowners about good forest management and harvesting practices, and keeping landowners up to date on matters affecting timberland operations, taxes and legislative actions.

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
**For Calendar Year 2018 - TCFLOA**

**Regular Membership:** Private non-industrial owners of five (5) or more acres of land in Tyler Co. **Dues:** \$15 per calendar year per couple. One (1) vote per membership.

**Associate Membership:** Any individual not qualifying as a Regular Member who supports the objectives of TCFLOA. **Dues:** \$15 per calendar year per individual or organization. Associate Members are non-voting.

**USE THIS FORM TO JOIN TCFLOA OR TO MAKE CORRECTIONS**

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

PHONE

APPROX # TIMBER ACRES IN TYLER CO.

E-Mail

Please make checks payable to TCFLOA, and mail to:

Charles Zimmerman, Treasurer TCFLOA, 298 County Road 2152, Woodville, TX 75979

**Membership 2018**

Check your memberships status for 2018. Look at the address label on the envelope for your status—if the year number after your name is not **18** or greater, then consider renewing your membership.

Note that we are asking for your e-mail address. This will allow us to get time sensitive information on programs, conferences, workshops, weather, or fire situations. We will **NOT** give your address to any other group, people, advertisers, etc. This information is for your board members and newsletter editor **only**.