

International Forest of Friendship Newsletter
June 2015 Induction Ceremonies and Plans for 2016 (our 40th Anniversary!)

Welcome to this third edition of the Forest's newsletter! The focus is on the honorees who were inducted in ceremonies in Atchison on June 20, 2015, and other events during the Forest's 39th year. This newsletter includes:

- 2015 Induction Ceremonies and Speakers
- Links between Kansas State Forestry and the International Forest of Friendship
- 99s Attendance
- Plans for 2016 (our 40th Anniversary!) and Beyond

2015 Induction Ceremonies and Speakers

Following an enormously enjoyable Friday evening cocktail party at the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison on June 19th, nineteen honorees were inducted into the Forest on the morning of the 20th. The ceremonies were held in the Fay Gillis Wells gazebo, surrounded by the waving flags of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 36 territories and foreign countries which have trees in the Forest. The weather was beautiful. Within the Forest's overall theme of "World Friendship through Flying" (www.ifof.org), this year's theme was "Flying and Forests," linking aviation and aerospace with the Earth's green spaces. This topic combines several rich and diverse categories, such as smokejumpers, wildland fire aviation, remote sensing and analysis of forests and other ecosystems, forest and habitat management, precision agriculture, and other activities.

The honorees were:

- The late Don Agen, of Palmyra, WI, sponsored by the Wisconsin Chapter of the 99s and the Palmyra Flying Club
- Dr. Greg Asner, of Baltimore, MD, sponsored by Lin and Linda Wells
- Carol Ann Brackley of Katy, TX, sponsored by the West Houston Airport
- Joanne (Giovanna Minutillo) Campbell of Oakland, NJ, sponsored by the North Jersey Chapter of the 99s
- Carolyn Williams Clarke, of Salt Lake City, UT, sponsored by the Utah Chapter of the 99s
- Tracy Davenport of Champlin, MN, sponsored by 99s Past President Elaine Morrow and 49 ½ Glenn Morrow
- David Gitelman of Port Orange, FL and Rochester, NY, sponsored by Marcia Gitelman
- Marcia Gitelman of Port Orange, FL and Rochester, NY, sponsored by David Gitelman
- Dorothy (Dot) Hornsby of Midland, MI, sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the 99s
- Dr. Christine Kettunen of Ashtabula, Ohio, sponsored by the Lake Erie Chapter of the 99s
- The late Joyce Malkmes of Vero Beach, FL and Stony Brook, NY, sponsored by a group of friends and admirers
- Leonard (Lenny) Ohlsson of Daytona Beach, FL, sponsored by Pat Ohlsson
- Thuy Pieper of Champlin, MN, sponsored by Elaine and Glenn Morrow
- Jack Reynolds of Bolivar, MO, sponsored by Jan Hoynacki
- Patti Sandusky of Maple Lake, MN, sponsored by 99s Past President Elaine Morrow and 49 ½ Glenn Morrow
- Ann Shaneyfelt of Olathe, KS, sponsored by the Northeast Kansas Chapter of the 99s

- The late Heather Sifton, of Gormley, Ontario, Canada, sponsored by the First Canadian Chapter of the 99s
- John Stanton Tokar of Audubon, PA, sponsored by Judith Anne Lane Bolkema Tokar
- Aileen Watkins of The Woodlands, TX, sponsored by the Watkins family

A photo of the honorees is below:



Honorees at the 2015 International Forest of Friendship

- Front row: second from left: Pat Ohlsson (accepting for Marcia Gitelman), Tracy Davenport, LaJean Firminhac (accepting for Thuy Pieper), Joanne Campbell, Carolyn Clarke, Carol Brackley
- Second Row: Wendy Hammerstone (accepting for the late Joyce Malkmes), Catherine Kettunen, Maria Lamira (co-accepting for Don Agen), Ann Shaneyfelt
- Third Row: Lenny Ohlsson (honoree and also accepting for Dave Gitelman), Aileen Watkins, Greg Asner, Patti Sandusky, John Stanton Tokar, Laurie Probst (co-accepting for Don Agen), Jack Reynolds

Not present or not in picture: Dot Hornsby and the late Heather Sifton. Linda Wells accepted their awards, which will be mailed to them or their chapters. Photos of the individual honorees, and other attendees, are posted on the “International Forest of Friendship” page on Facebook.

In addition to the inductees, we honored Geoffrey “Craig” Hunt, who was killed on October 7, 2014 when his S-2T airtanker crashed while performing fire-fighting duties during the Dog Fire near Yosemite National Park. A 13-year veteran pilot of Dyncorp International under contract with CAL FIRE, and former naval aviator, Craig was 62. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Sally, two daughters, two brothers and a sister.

We also dedicated a tree to Marjorie and Arthur Anderson, longtime supporters of the Forest and members of its Forest’s Committee. Marjorie flew on to New Horizons on December 14, 2014 and will be greatly missed.

We had three speakers this year. During the ceremony, Larry Biles, Kansas State Forester, spoke about the Kansas Forest Service and its relationship to the International Forest of Friendship (see below). After lunch, Art Hinaman, Assistant Director, Aviation in the Fire & Aviation Management division of the Forest Service headquarters in Washington, spoke about aviation and the Forest Service. Dr. Greg Asner, our principal speaker, addressed his work with the Carnegie Airborne Observatory (CAO) in airborne mapping and monitoring ecosystems. His videos from the aircraft and description of the extent of drought damage to California forests were exceptional. Greg's fascinating TED Talk on "Ecology from the Air" is at http://www.ted.com/talks/greg_asner_ecology_from_the_air?language=en

Links between Kansas State Forestry and the International Forest of Friendship

One of the highlights of the 39th year was strengthening the ties between the Forest and Kansas State Forestry. This spring three members of the Kansas Forest Service--Mr. Larry Biles, State Forester, Mr. David Bruton, District Forester and Mr. Mitch Lundeen, Water Quality Forester—planted a Swamp White Oak in the Forest to represent the IFOF's links to state forestry in Kansas, which was re-enacted in a ceremonial event on June 10. These links go back more than 40 years to 1973, when planning for the International Forest of Friendship began among the 99s, the city of Atchison, and the Kansas State University, Kansas Forest Service as a bi-centennial gift to the nation, a vision that was realized in 1976.



(L) Ceremonial planting of Swamp White Oak on June 10, 2015. From Left, Kathy Carrigan; Paul Tauke, State Forester, Iowa and Chair of the National Association of State Forester's Forest Resources Committee; Lin Wells; Larry Biles, State Forester, Kansas Forest Service; and Steve Koehn, Director, Cooperative Forestry, USDA Forest Service. (R) Mature Swamp White Oak.

The Swamp White Oak (*quercus bicolor*) is a striking tree with attractive peeling bark, especially on young trees. The lustrous, lobed leaves have a two-tone appearance, dark green on top with a silvery-white underside, which turn an orangeish-gold to yellow in mid-autumn. It has a very large range in America's north central and northeastern mixed forests, grows rapidly, can reach 60 to 80 feet tall, and is long-lived. It is one of the more important white oaks for lumber production. In the fall when acorns drop this tree attracts wildlife such as deer, ducks, and geese, as well as other animals. Some 400 Swamp White Oak trees are being planted in the September 11 Memorial Plaza in Manhattan.

99s Attendance

Twenty-seven 99s attended the ceremonies, some as honorees, some as sponsors, some returning for the friendship and camaraderie that are hallmarks of the Forest.



99 Attendees at the 2015 International Forest of Friendship Ceremonies

Caption

Row 1: Sally VanZandt, Tracy Davenport, LaJean Firminhac, Joanne Demarest Campbell, Carolyn Clarke, Carol Brackley, Jan Hoynacki

Row 2: Judy Tokar, Gayl Henze, Marilyn Patierno, Pat Ohlsson, Donna Tucker, Judy Benjamin Godfrey, Chris Kettunen, Ann Shaneyfelt, Elizabeth Frankowski, Michele Stauffer,

Row 3: Wally Funk, Elaine Morrow, Patti Sandusky, Maria Lamia, Laurie Probst, Shannon Osborne

Row 4: Jerry Ann Jurenka, Carol Sutton, Tracy Leonard, Aileen Watkins

Special thanks are due to Laurie Probst, Pat Ohlsson, and Elaine Morrow for their efforts to get attendees this year.

Plans for 2016 (our 40th Anniversary!) and Beyond

We are particularly looking forward to next year's induction ceremonies, which will be on June 17-18 (Fri-Sat), 2016. This will be the Forest's 40th anniversary! The focus for 2016 will be on "World Friendship through Flying," and the emphasis will be on international activities. We hope to have wide involvement from the 99s international chapters and others around the world.

Even as we prepare for 2016, we will be working to strengthen the ties forged this year with the Kansas State Foresters and with the U.S. Forest Service. As noted in our second newsletter in March, there is an enormous amount of activity underway worldwide within the "Flying and Forests" category. We hope to build on the 2015 theme to develop partnerships between the Forest and many other organizations. In addition to activities around Atchison, this could include ties with agriculture-based businesses, as well

as other aviation and aerospace organizations in Kansas. We'd like to work with the Explorers Club in their explorations of the biosphere, and leverage the explosion of opportunities in open source Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) development. The use of aviation, remote sensing and related data analysis in precision agriculture could be a collaborative area. Another potential set of ties would be to collaborate on educational projects, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) areas, while adding Art and Design (to make it STEAM). This could be done together with organizations like Rotary International, Challenger Center, Young Eagles, Girls Fly, etc. In sum, this year's events could be the basis for a very rich web of cooperation.

We would welcome discussions on these topics with anyone or any organization that's interested and would like to explore several types of relationships going forward:

- (1) Following up on this year's "Flying and Forests" events;
- (2) Encouraging greater participation in ongoing Forest activities around Atchison; and
- (3) Developing an understanding of how we might work with partner individuals and organizations on future activities at the Forest. Upcoming themes include:

2016: "World Friendship through Flying"—Focused on international activities and the Forest's 40th year.

2017: "Flying, Forests, and the Future"-- Emphasizing contributions by people under 35.

2018: "Security and Solace through Flight" – Especially military aviators, flying medical staff, Angel Flight, etc.

2019: "Discovery through Flight" – Honoring those who have "pushed the envelope" in all aspects of aviation and aerospace.

Within the Forest leadership, Leonard Buddenbohm was elected as Co-Chairman and Kathy Carrigan has become Executive Director. Pat Carrigan and Kay Baker remain on the committee, and we thank them very much for their service and for continuing to serve.

We'd greatly appreciate your feedback on any aspect of the Forest and this newsletter. Suggestions for honorees and outreach opportunities would be welcome. Please feel free to reply directly to the transmittal e-mail (forestoffriendship@gmail.com) or via the website (www.ifof.org) which has more information about the Forest and points of contact, as well as sponsoring and reservation procedures.

Other contact information is:

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Office Phone: [913-367-1419](tel:913-367-1419) or Cindy Apple [913-208-5661](tel:913-208-5661)

All the best.

Leonard Buddenbohm and Lin Wells
Co Chairmen

Help us keep the Forest Growing! The Forest is a 501c3 and your donations can help sustain the Forest's upkeep and improvements. There's a PayPal link on the website for your convenience.